Information on the refund of transportation costs for pupils

The education authority (Schulamt) in Darmstadt is responsible for all pupils residing in Darmstadt.

The following provisions shall apply to the refund of transportation costs for pupils, purs. to Sec. 161 of the Hessian Education Act:

1. Primary school (class 1 – 4)
   A claim to a refund of the transportation costs is given when the shortest reasonable walking distance between the pupil’s home and the appropriate school is more than 2,000 m.

2. Secondary school (class 5 – 9 or 5 – 10)
   - Hauptschule (secondary modern school covering years 5 to 9)
   - Realschule (junior high school covering years 5 to 10 where pupils can work towards the intermediate school certificate called ‘mittlere Reife’)
   - Gymnasium (Grammar school, with abbreviated form G8, until class 9)
   - Schulformbezogene (cooperative) Gesamtschule (The branches in the school type related (cooperative) comprehensive school are managed separately but have to be equated with Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasium, pursuant to current jurisdiction)
   - Schulformübergreifende (integrierte) Gesamtschule (In an integrated comprehensive school all pupils are taught together, whether with a recommendation for Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasium)
   - Förderschule (Special school, for pupils who are entitled to special educational promotion).

An entitlement to the reimbursement of transportation costs exits only if the nearest receptive school, where the desired educational level can be obtained at the end of the secondary Stage I level, is more than 3,000 m distant from your home.

3. Stage II of secondary education (class 10-12 with G8 or class 11-13 with G9)
   There is no claim to get refunded the transportation costs for pupils attending upper secondary school classes, according to the Hessian Education Act. For recipients of unemployment assistance, a claim according to the Education and Participation Package may be verified by the Office for Social Affairs and Prevention.

4. Pupils at vocational schools
   Transportation costs may be refunded for:
   - the basic level of the vocational school (first year of training)
   - the first year of courses of education acc. to Sec. 39 Para. 6 HSchG at the vocational school or at a full-time vocational college, where the compulsory full-time education can be fulfilled
   - the attendance of the first year in an InteA class (InteA: special intensive classes at vocational schools for pupils with lacking knowledge of German)

An entitlement to reimbursement of the transportation costs exits when the distance from the pupil’s home to the school is more than 3,000 m.

No consideration shall be possible, acc. to the Hessian Education Act, for:
- pedagogical or personal reasons for attending that school (for instance: all-day teaching, pupil care offers, pedagogical recommendations from the primary schools)
- special pedagogical, ideological and religious characteristics of the attended school
- special promotion (for example: sports class, focus on music) at the attended school
- range of foreign language courses offered (including bilingual lessons!)
- organisational form of the secondary stage II level (G8 or G9)
- the income of parents/legal guardians
A refund of transportation costs despite an undercut of the minimum distance between home and school is possible, based on:

- particular dangers on the way to school (this shall not be applicable for local and typical dangers like busy roads, urban traffic hazard, underpasses, rarely used ways in rural areas)
- handicap because of which the way to school cannot be made walking (relevant proofs (expert reports) are to be added to the application!)

The application form can be obtained at the beginning of the school year
- from the school secretary’s office
- at the education authority or
- in the internet on website: www.darmstadt.de
  (→ Rathaus → Bürgerservice-Rathaus online → Ämter und Einrichtungen → Schulamt → Schülerbeförderungskosten).

Please submit the application form completely filled at the school attended. The school will confirm the school attendance and forward the application to the education authority, should the case occur.

At any changes to the preconditions (change of school or type of school, change of address) a new basic application form must be presented.

For the respective months of school attendance the cheapest ticket combinations of single, day, weekly, monthly or annual tickets will be refunded as are necessary to get to the school.

If you have bought a SchülerTicket Hessen, you may present the corresponding proof of purchase directly along with the application form. If you buy monthly, weekly or single tickets, the application form can be submitted with the original tickets purchased at the end of each school semester.

After the processing you will receive a notice informing you whether you are entitled to receive a refund. If this is the case, payment will be made subsequently onto the account specified in the application form.

There is the possibility of mediation for language and integration (interpreting at offices for persons with a migration background), which is offered in 27 different languages. If needed, please let us know.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Please contact:
Magistrat der Wissenschaftsstadt Darmstadt email: schuelerbefoerderung@darmstadt.de
Schulamt telephone: 06151-13-3711/4062
Mina-Rees-Straße 12
64295 Darmstadt

Contact for questions and for ordering a SchülerTicket Hessen:
HEAG mobilo GmbH Internet: www.heagmobilo.de
Kundenzentrum telephone: 06151-709 4115
Luisenplatz 6
64283 Darmstadt

Persons living in the administration district of Darmstadt-Dieburg should contact:
Landkreis Darmstadt-Dieburg email: Schulservice@ladadi.de
Schulservice telephone: 06151-881 2237
Jägertorstraße 207 06151-881 2240
64289 Darmstadt 06151-881 2241