

Average monthly living expenses for students in Cologne (2025)

Please note, that the listed costs are exemplary to give international students a basic overview of living expenses in Cologne and that the information on this list is nonbinding.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Average Cost in €</u>
Housing	
• Student dorm room	280-480
Monthly rent including water, gas and electricity (city center)	
• Room in a shared apartment	450-700
• 1-bedroom apartment	600-850
Monthly rent including water, gas and electricity (suburb)	
• Room in a shared apartment	350-550
• 1-bedroom apartment	500-600
University semester fees incl. transportation ticket (per semester)	303,30
Statutory health insurance (monthly)	144-147
Telecommunication	
Broadcasting fees (monthly per apartment)	18,36
Mobile phone flat rate (6 GB, monthly)	10
Groceries	
1 liter milk	1,08
1 kg apples	2,65
1 kg potatoes	1,37
1 bottle water (1,5l)	0,92
1 cup of coffee	2,50
1 pizza at a restaurant	8 - 15
1 falafel sandwich to go	5 - 9
Meals in the cafeteria (without beverage)	1,80 – 4,20
Activities	
1 cocktail at a bar	6 -12
1 beer at a pub/bar (0,33l)	3
1 entrance fee for a club	7-10
1 movie ticket (student discount)	8-10
Monthly gym membership	25 - 50
1 ticket for Cologne zoo (student discount)	17
1 ticket for Kölner Haie (ice hockey, student discount)	15
1 ticket for FC Köln (football, student discount)	25
1 ticket for Cologne Cathedral – Tower Climb (student discount)	4
1 ticket for the Ludwig museum (student discount)	7,50

Overall, we recommend to calculate at least around €992 a month, including health insurance, as this is the amount the German government calculates as basic need for German students within their Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz (BAföG). Furthermore, we would like to point out that the monthly expenses can vary depending on the rental costs and your own needs.