The educational consultancy “Garantiefonds Hochschule (GF-H)” is a federal programme under which young immigrants are advised on their opportunities to embark on an academic career.

Our consultants provide you with individual and detailed information on suitable qualification programmes in Germany and help you to develop your own personal educational plan. During the consulting process, we aim to show you the most effective way to achieve your own educational goal by taking into consideration your foreign qualifications. We assist you during application procedures and advise you on financial support opportunities for your professional development. Furthermore, we check if applicants are eligible to receive funding according to our guidelines, the “Richtlinien Garantiefonds Hochschule” (RL-GF-H).

Our goal is to prepare you as best as possible for your academic career. The key elements of our consultancy concept include:

- Evaluating your educational background
- Providing information about language requirements
- Providing you guidance on
  - school programmes intended to help you to achieve a higher education entrance qualification
  - forms of university access
  - study programmes on offer in Germany as well as on
  - funding and financial support opportunities (such as the “BAföG” student grant, scholarships, etc.)
- Assisting you with
  - your choice of studies and profession
  - application and admission procedures

Refugees, late repatriates, and Jewish immigrants, as well as spouses and children of these individuals who joined them later and are under the age of 30, are eligible for funding under the guidelines, the “Richtlinien Garantiefonds Hochschule” (RL-GF-H). The aim of such funding is to enable you to embark on, or continue, your personal academic career.

Applications for funding can be made online on the website of the programme:
http://bildungsberatung-gfh.de/registration

The decision about the funding based on “RL-GF-H” is made at one of our 22 educational guidance centres or at one of the approximately 100 mobile guidance centres. At these centres, we check an applicant’s eligibility, and whether they comply with formal criteria and requirements. These include:

- Proof of your residence status according to §§ 4 and 7 of the Federal Expelled Persons Law (BVFG) or according to §§ 22, 23.1, 23.2 und 23.4, 24, 25.1 and 25.2 of the Residence Law (Aufenthaltsgesetz), in connection with §§ 3.1 or 4.1 of the Asylum Procedure Law (Asylgesetz). Spouses of above-mentioned individuals must prove that the marriage existed already prior to the flight of their reference person.

The most important subsidised measures include language courses and preparation courses for “Abitur” (general qualification for university entrance). As a rule, funding ends after 30 months of training. Such grant will be distributed by the Otto Benecke Stiftung e. V.

Financial support according to the “RL-GF-H” includes:

- Course fees (provided they are not for educational measures for which the cost is assumed by the federal states)
- Learning aid lump sum (EUR 30.00)
- Travel expenses (necessary daily travel costs at/to the place of training, as well as travel expenses incurred in connection with the transport to and from the place of training at the beginning and the end of a course)
- Costs of special requirements (e.g. necessary health insurance costs, or costs relating to the translation, authentication, and recognition of certificates, etc.)
- Living expenses (basic lump sum up to EUR 452.00 per month, if it is not possible to reside with your parents)*
- Accommodation expenses up to a maximum amount of EUR 360.00 per month (capped grant)
- Private tuition where necessary

* in accordance with § 13 para. 1 no. 2 of the Federal Law on Training and Education Promotion (BAföG)