

Dear parents, dear counsellors\*, dear school social workers\* and teachers\*,

Since we launched the "Schulcomputer für alle" initiative in April 2020, the German government has made two announcements:

1. Children from poor families who do not have a computer at home for home schooling and homework should receive a grant of 150 euros for the purchase. This promise was not kept and the programme was terminated.
2. Children should receive rental equipment "immediately" through the schools. This program has not yet been implemented at the schools and it is not known, by when the computers for the school children can be purchased and borrowed at all schools.

These announcements and a negative practice of many Jobcenters and social welfare offices lead to the fact that many pupils, affected by poverty, still do not have a laptop to stay in contact with their teachers and classmates and to study at home.

Even if the Jobcenter or the social welfare office responsible for you, initially rejects an application for a school computer for your child, we would still like to support you. We want the costs to be covered by the offices as long as the school does not lend a computer to your child. In May, the „Landessozialgericht“ in Essen decided that the costs for a laptop for teaching purposes are to be covered by the Jobcenter if a school does not provide equipment.

In order for your child to be paid for the laptop, you will most likely have to sue in your social court. This means work for you, to get the necessary papers together and to consult a lawyer. However, you will not incur any costs because you will receive legal aid as a person entitled to ALG II.

### **I How to apply at the Jobcenter:**

You can also apply to the Jobcenter during the summer holidays. Please note that you will need the following documents when applying:

- Application <https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/media/awo-bezirksverband-mittelrhein-antrag-auf-kostenuebernahme.pdf>
- Declaration of your school, for the new school year, on the necessity of digital terminals and the non-existence of rental equipment at the school [https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/media/schulbescheinigung\\_neu\\_25.06.2020.pdf](https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/media/schulbescheinigung_neu_25.06.2020.pdf)
- A cost listing of the equipment. Attention: Apply for devices from the low price range!

The information hotline will continue to be offered during the summer holidays of Mr. Ilias Uyar. You can call if you have any questions regarding the application.

**Before you send the application, take a copy or a photo of it for your records!**

## **I In case your application will be rejected**

Within one month you can now submit your disaccord to the same office. You do not need a lawyer for this yet. We have written a sample form for this disaccord. You can download the sample form here, fill it in and send it to Jobcenter: [https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/media/widerspruch\\_vorlage\\_schulcomputer\\_25.06.2020.pdf](https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/media/widerspruch_vorlage_schulcomputer_25.06.2020.pdf)

## **I In case your disaccord is rejected by the Jobcenter or the social welfare office**

You have the opportunity to appeal against this decision at the Social Court within four weeks. This will cost you work, but not money. You should hire a lawyer for this step. The Tacheles Association has compiled a list of lawyers\* who are involved in this matter: Here you find the contact data (<https://tacheles-sozialhilfe.de/startseite/aktuelles/d/n/2634/>)

You will receive an answer from us within one week!

Only when you have all the documents together can a lawyer file a complaint with the social court on your behalf:

- ALG II decision
- Request for school computer
- School declaration
- Cost statement computer
- Rejection of the application
- Rejection of the disaccord

At the appointment with the lawyer you will still have to sign the following documents:

- **Power of attorney**
- **Affidavit that there is no laptop computer**
- **legal aid application**

When all the documents are complete, your lawyer will submit your claim with to the relevant social court. The decision will be made according to the file. Your presence at a court hearing is not required.

The hotline number: **0157 349 88 526**:  
monday: 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and wednesday : 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

E-Mail: [schulcomputer@awo-mittelrhein.de](mailto:schulcomputer@awo-mittelrhein.de)

<https://www.awo-mittelrhein.de/de/awo/wir-kaempfen-fuer/kampagnen/schulcomputer-fuer-alle/>