

**1 April 2014**

**Finding a university place online: clearing open until end of April**

School-leavers who have not received any offers for their chosen university courses can search for a suitable alternative using the university clearing system provided by the German Rectors' Conference (HRK). Free places will be advertised on the online platform at [www.hochschulkompass.de/studienplatzboerse](http://www.hochschulkompass.de/studienplatzboerse) or [www.freie-studienplaetze.de](http://www.freie-studienplaetze.de) until 30 April. Access is free and no registration is required.

"Places become available at short notice because school-leavers often apply for several courses at different institutions," explains HRK President Horst Hippler. "If they receive more than one offer, they usually notify those higher education institutions whose offers they do not wish to accept late or not at all." As a result, there are often many places still free at the start of the semester.

To fill up these available places, this semester the HRK is running a university clearing system – the tenth time it has done so. Universities post available places on a daily basis.

In March the site had 28 000 visitors, who could choose from up to 900 available places. At the same point during the summer 2013 semester, there were approximately 24 000 visitors and 816 places.

The nationwide university clearing system was developed by the HRK and is offered as part of its Higher Education Compass. The service is run jointly by the HRK and the national University Admissions Foundation (Stiftung für Hochschulzulassung).