

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Overview, Application and Acceptance to the Programme

Q: I am interested in your residency program and would like to come by in person to get to know you

A: The best opportunity to come by and get to know the place would be our monthly open studio event, Openhaus, that is periodically announced on our website. In case you cannot make it to any of the Openhaus events, you can visit us on our Monday Dinners and have the opportunity to listen presentations of our resident artists and have the awesome food they cook. Please remember so send an email to us before you plan to join us.

Q: Do you encourage proposals only for projects with process based approach in the application?

In any case it would be important to understand how you want to connect your project to the specific context of ZK/U, the neighbourhood or Berlin. Additionally, the quality and content of your artistic/ activist/ research practice will also be an important criteria for the selection process.

Q: I am hoping to apply to the upcoming residency deadline. In case my application is selected, when would I be able to do my residency?

A: After you submit your application and if selected to take part in the residency programme, you will have two years to find funding and complete your residency. Once you secure the finances for your residency, we can proceed with the exact dates of your residency. The earliest date to start your residency is in 10 weeks after the deadline of our open call.

Q: What does it mean to get accepted to the programme?

A: Your acceptance means that your application have been found successful among other submissions, however you will still have to secure your finances to take part in the programme. Once you have been selected, you have the opportunity to take part in ZK/U's programme in the following two years. In case it is necessary, we are happy to provide you with an official invitation letter for your funding research process to cover your stay and for your visa application.

Q: Is the 'individual format' referred in the application form is the format for the work's final outcome?

A: The individual format means that you have a chance to propose your own presentation format using our premises. Most of the time the project processes and final results are presented in the Openhaus. But if you feel like offering a workshop, reading group or screening, etc. other than the Openhaus, this is very welcome as well.

Q: Regarding the application requirements. The 3 PDF documents should not exceed 20 pages or the portfolio itself shouldn't exceed this number?

A: Ideally the application would be concise. So no more than 20 pages all together.

Q: When will you announce the results?

A: All applicants will be informed within the 10 weeks after the application deadline.

Q: I've been a resident before – can I reapply?

A: Yes, you can be a resident again, and you do not need to apply again.

Q: Shall I be interested in 2 themes in the open call and be able to work on them during the art residency?

A: You can be interested in as many themes of the call you like. What is important for us is to understand how your project fits into the themes addressed in the call.

Q: I already live in Berlin and therefore do not need accommodation. Can I still participate in the residence programme?

A: We prefer for our residents to live at ZK/U as we believe the communal living and working along with other artists and researchers is an important element of the ZK/U residency. If you live in Berlin, you are still eligible to apply within these circumstances.

Selection Process

Q: How does the review process work?

A: Applicants are evaluated by our advisory board. Residents are selected based on the quality of their work, commitment to their practice, relevance to ZK/U and ability to interact positively with the community at large.

Grants, Funding

Q: Does ZK/U supply my support in my search of funding?

A: Once you are selected, we can supply you a list of places where you can apply to start your funding search process, as well as with an official invitation letter. However the rest will be your responsibility to secure your funds.

Residency Program Basics

Q: How many artists are in residence at once?

A: There are usually 12-18 artists staying at the same time in ZK/U.

Q: I originally applied for 3-4 months, but I am now considering extending my stay. How long would be the longest stay?

A: Please note that if you consider coming for a longer period than 6 months that we would need some more information about your plan, schedule and reasons why it is necessary for you to prolong your stay. As this decreases the chance of other artists to participate in the residency, it is quite crucial for us to understand how a long term residency would benefit you, your project and also how it could benefit ZK/U and its activities. We believe the best way forward would be for you to substantiate your plans, arrange your funding situation and to get back in touch with us to arrange a Skype date to talk about the details.

Q: We are an artist duo, how much is the studio rent for two persons?

A: The rental prices of the studios vary according to size and are valid for one person. It is also possible to live as a duo or with a partner in a studio, extra beds can be provided. For each additional person, 80€ per month will be charged.

Q: I will be travelling with my partner and 2 kids that are under 12 years old.

A: It is also possible to live as a family in a studio. For each extra person 80€ per month will be charged. Children are free of charge. In this case we would recommend you to stay in one of the studios on the ground floor, as they are larger and have their own bathroom. Please see the studio map that indicates the sizes of each room and note that your family will be sharing the kitchen with

the other residents. The park surrounding ZK/U has a playground so it is worth considering coming in the warmer months of the year.

Q: Can I have guests in my studio?

A: It is allowed to receive guests with the charge of 5 eur/day. An additional bed with bed linen and towels can be provided. In order to make everyone feels at home in the residence, we would like to ask you to give a notice about your guests just couple of days prior to their arrival.

Q: Can I reserve a studio for a certain period in advance?

A: Please note that we only proceed with the booking process once you can assure us that you have secured the funding/resources towards the residency costs of your stay and are able to pay the deposit of 500€ to secure your booking.

Q: I have decided for a studio. What are the next steps to follow in order to secure my place?

A: After you review the contract and return it to us signed, and once we receive your deposit, we are happy to confirm the booking of your residency.

Q: What do I need to organize before I come to ZK/U?

A: The most crucial ones are the health insurance, visa, your funding.

Costs, Obligations

Q: What is included in my rent? Which extra expenses do I have?

A: With your rental price you have access to your studio, a bathroom (or a shared bathroom with one other resident depending on your studio type), towels and bedding. This also includes the utility costs (i.e. heating, water, electricity, internet connection, etc.); use of common spaces (kitchen, common working lounge, terrace). Production costs, food and transportation are not included as well as the general costs for kitchen (i.e. dishwashing soap etc. as they are used communally). You will have to cover your own costs for the health insurance. In case you want register your address at ZK/U, you will have to cover the broadcast licence fee of 17.50€ per month for TV, radio and computer, no matter how many devices you own. Every registered citizen or household in Germany has to pay this contribution. Additionally, we support you with your work presentation to a selected audience, monthly curator studio visit (if desired), at least one public group presentation, online and local promotion of the public group event, and the opportunity to propose extra workshop, screening, discussion, event.

Lodging

Q: Can I request a specific studio or room in the house?

A: We try to match everyone's desires in terms of studio and dates in accordance with what we have available.

Q: What kind of storage space is available for my 'stuff'?

A: The studios are of reasonable size and your specific requirements will be discussed in advance during the pre-residency period. The living quarters have a closet for clothing.

Q: How do I get around the city?

A: By Bike: We offer a used bike bank where you can lend one of our bikes to explore the city. It costs 20 Euros for the first month & 10 Euros for each following month.

By Public Transportation: Berlin is easy to travel by public transportation. You pay 2,80 for a single

Ticket, 7 Euros for a day pass and 81 for a monthly pass. See the BVG website or download the BVG app. for more information & a network plan: <http://www.bvg.de/en/>

Support, Food, Amenities

Q: Are meals provided?

A: No. However residents are free to cook in our communal kitchen knowing that the best bonds are formed in the kitchen!

Q: How does ZK/U support me in my artistic practice?

A: We organize monthly Openhaus events where the residents get the chance to present their work in progress to a broader audience and to engage in conversations. Additionally, we arrange 1-2 studio visits per month by curators, artists and relevant experts to support your artistic development and visibility. You also have the opportunity to present your work to a selected audience; online and local promotion of your work in the public group event. Furthermore you have the opportunity to propose extra workshop, screening, discussion, event.

Social Aspect, Diversions, Surrounding Area

Q: How is life at ZK/U? How much will I be involved?

A: Once you start your residency you are part of the ZK/U family! You share a communal kitchen and a beautiful terrace with up to 14 other artists and researchers working in the field of arts & urbanism from various backgrounds. Living at ZK/U is community oriented and we strongly encourage residents to get involved with the place and its people. You have the chance to share inspiration and discuss your projects with like minded people. Every Monday we share a collective dinner with presentations and delicious food. We often invite our friends and collaborators to join. Living in a community also means that everyone is responsible for taking care of the space. Everyone is contributing with regular shifts of household chores.

Q: How is the environment of ZK/U?

A: ZK/U and it's surrounded by a vibrant public park which plays a central role in the neighbourhood of Moabit. Though it's a fluid and semi-public place, the residency area is not accessible to the public. ZK/U further hosts public and private events in the building. Surrounded on all sides by water and with the advent of industrialization at the beginning of the twentieth century, Moabit became an important manufacturing area. Goods were transported to and from Berlin via this railway depot and Berlin's largest inland port, Westhafen. Going to Mitte from ZK/U takes 25 mins by public transportation and 20 mins by bike. In the same way, going to Kreuzberg takes 35 mins by bike and 30 mins by public transportation.

Q: Are there any social or public events planned?

A: Artists are encouraged to participate in Openhaus, a community event usually scheduled for the third Thursday evening of the month – and our communal weekly Monday Dinners where presentations of residents are accompanied by communal cooking. The residency team also bridges the fellow's interests to the program of ZK/U, informs the residents about events and discourses taking place in the city and can support them in understanding the milieu they are working and living in. Residents are encouraged to attend ZK/U's public program which offers a variety of established formats like the Gütermarkt and Speisekino or in events, exhibitions, workshops and conferences organized through long term projects in partnership with local and international organisations.