

Germany's First Private Law School Begins Classes.

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[1] The Bucerius Law School in Hamburg began its first term on October 1, 2000. It is Germany's first non-state law school requiring the 100 students admitted in its first class to pay (under a variety of possible systems, including deferred payments and student loans) DM 5,000 tuition for each of the 11 required terms. In comparison, a term at the University of Frankfurt's Law School (one of Germany's public law schools) currently costs about DM 250. The Bucerius Law School venture is being supported by the Alfred Krupp Foundation, *Die Zeit*- (weekly newspaper) Foundation, and other private sector donors.

[2] The school opens with five faculty members (two each for public and private law, and one for criminal law). The students were competitively selected after review of high school grades, a written test and two days of interviews. Strong command of English was required of all admitted students as some of the academic work, especially in the areas of international and comparative law, will be conducted in English.

[3] Bucerius Law School poses a direct challenge to the traditional German university system which is coming under increasing criticism for its traditionalism, overcrowding, and the slow pace of some students' progress.

For More Information:

The Bucerius Law School web address is: www.law-school.de