The upper time limits for positions leading to a qualification have been extended by half a year. (19 June 2020)

The law governing short-term contracts at universities – the Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz (WissZeitVG) – has been expanded to include a transitional ruling: The upper time limit for academic and artistic employees who are in their qualification phase is to be extended by the length of time by which university and scholarly activity has been disrupted. The ruling states that employment contracts leading to a qualification which existed between 1 March 2020 and 30 September 2020 can in principle be extended by a period of six months. Should the COVID 19 pandemic last beyond these dates, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research is entitled by legislative decree to raise the upper time limit dependent on the duration of the crisis by a further six months. (There are no central financial compensation mechanisms at Osnabrück University for contract extensions.)

For further information on the WissZeitVG

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  **ZePrOs online lecture:** “The law governing short-term contracts at universities – the Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz – Contents, Implementation and Options for Action” on 29 June 2020, 12:30 - 14:00, Presenter: Alexandra Zurlutter. The language of the lecture is German. ([www.uni-osnabrueck.de/forschung/nachwuchsfoerderung/zeetros.html](http://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/forschung/nachwuchsfoerderung/zeetros.html))