Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Financial stress and academic success among students in higher professional education

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Funder: Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (Hogeschool Rotterdam)

Template: DCC Template

ORCID iD: 0009-0004-6773-9966

Project abstract:
This research aims to strengthen the empirical and theoretical foundation regarding the impact of financial stress on dropout rates among university of applied sciences (HBO) students. It examines the relationship between financial stress, financial behavior, mental health, preventive and curative support options, and dropout rates and academic achievement among different groups of students at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences and other universities of applied sciences.

ID: 127907

Start date: 28-08-2023

End date: 31-12-2028

Last modified: 16-12-2025

Copyright information:

Financial stress and academic success among students in higher professional education

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Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

September, 2025: Update

Continuation of the researchproject (subproject 1 and 2) with acquisition and analysis of RUAS studentdata:

Data description
- This concerns data from ALL students at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences starting from the 2021 academic year to the present (2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025), with new academic years added annually (until the end of the PhD research period in 2028-2029).

Retrieved data from Osiris includes at least:
- Student number for linking data to self-administered questionnaires (subproject 2) - **AFTER DATA MERGE A KEY FILE WILL BE HOLD SEPERATE OF THE DATASET TO PROMOTE ANONYMITY**
- Results (assessment and ECTS credits per academic year)
- Previous education (to distinguish student groups based on previous education)
- Place of residence (to distinguish student groups based on place of residence)
- Program (to distinguish student groups based on program)
- Class (to distinguish student groups based on intervention/no intervention)
- Academic year (1, 2, 3, or 4)
- Previous HR enrollments

Requested data from the AIC system (payment data) includes at least:
- Payment method (in one go, installments, direct debit, bank transfer, employer)
- Payment history (timeliness, drag-and-drop, chargebacks, partial, etc.)

April 22, 2024: Update

Continuation of the research with 1) a midterm and final measurement (questionnaires identical to those used on August 28, 2023), and 2) 24 semi-structured in-depth interviews with students. In addition to the distributed questionnaires, these in-depth interviews aim to incorporate students' experiences into scientific research on financial stress and financial aid.

The data consists of responses to open interview questions regarding:
How do students experience their financial situation, and what are the facilitating and/or hindering factors in preventing or resolving financial stress and potentially related dropout? Students are asked about:

- Their financial situation
- Their financial behavior
- The influence of financial upbringing and education on their financial behavior
- The impact of their financial situation on their well-being
- The impact of their financial situation on their studies
- Their knowledge of and experience with financial support options within and outside the university of applied sciences

With the student's permission (informed consent), audio recordings of the interviews are made. These recordings are stored on the HR Research Drive and deleted after transcription. The transcripts are also stored on the HR Research Drive (audio recordings < 5GB; transcripts < 1GB).

The audio recordings are transcribed using AmberScript. The transcripts will be analyzed using ATLAS.ti.

August 28, 2023:

As part of the research, data is collected via a questionnaire among first-year students at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (institutes ISO [all first-years], RAc [3 programs], and RBS [broadly]) on: program, gender, age, prior education, living situation, financial behavior, financial planning, financial stress, information about tuition payment, income, work, financial obligations, payment arrears/debt, and in the final measurement: impact of financial stress on academic progress, help-seeking behavior, and reasons for seeking or not seeking help.

This involves approximately 900–1,300 students. Not all participating programs are known at this time.

Storage is < 1GB.

SPSS will be used for the analysis.

How will the data be collected or created?

September, 2025: Update

Data requested through RUAS Datawarehouse.

April 22, 2024: Update

Data is being collected through 24–32 semi-structured interviews with students. The research follows the proposed data management folder structure.

August 28, 2023:

Data is being collected through an online questionnaire (LimeSurvey). There are multiple measurement points (baseline measurement in October 2023, follow-up measurement in June/July 2024). The research follows the proposed data management folder structure.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

September, 2025:

Documentation will be added to the data. SPSS syntax will be included.

April 22, 2024: Update

Documentation is added to the transcripts, such as the interview guide and coding tree (ATLAS.ti). Additionally, data and protocols regarding the interview process, timing, interviewer, etc., are described.

August 28, 2023:

Data documentation is added to the datasets, including a description of the data and the method of collection, timing, who collected the data, title, measurement units, and so on. SPSS syntax will be included.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

September, 2025: Update

In accordance with the reseachproposal. Also, this and future researchmethod(s) will be submitted to the Ethics Review Committee of RUAS.

April 22, 2024: Update

The interview guide was submitted in advance to the Ethics Review Committee of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences.

The research is conducted based on informed consent. Participants receive an accompanying information letter prior to participation. At the start of the interview, participants are also explicitly asked for their consent.

The data is pseudonymized, and the key file is stored in a separate folder on the HR Research Drive. Access to this folder is granted to Patrick Bek. He is not the principal investigator (Thijs de Back), due to his other responsibilities as a Social Work lecturer.

The folder owner ensures proper authorization, based on the principle that individuals only have access to the data they actually need to work with.

August 28, 2023:

The questionnaire is reviewed in advance by the Ethics Review Committee of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. The research is conducted based on informed consent. Participants receive an accompanying information letter prior to participation. A short introductory video is also shown immediately before the questionnaire begins.

The data is pseudonymized, and the key file is stored in a separate folder on the HR Research Drive. Access to this folder is granted to a designated individual. This is not the principal investigator (Thijs de Back), due to his other responsibilities as a Social Work lecturer.

The folder owner ensures proper authorization, based on the principle that individuals only have access to the data they actually need to work with.

How will you manage copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

September, 2025:

No update.

April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.

August 28, 2023: The owner of the data is Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. The data will not be shared with researchers outside the organization.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

September, 2025: No update.

April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.

August 28, 2023: During the research, the data is stored in the secure cloud environment of HR Research Drive (SURF). An automatic backup is made. No data is stored in other locations.

How will you manage access and security?

September, 2025: No update.
April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.
August 28, 2023: The principal investigator is the owner of the project folder and ensures proper authorization. This means that data is only shared with staff members who actually need to work with it. Data intended solely for the principal investigator is not shared with others.

Selection and Preservation

Which data are of long-term value and should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

September, 2025: No update.
April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.
August 28, 2023: In accordance with the guidelines of the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, the folder will be stored for 10 years after the project ends in a secure digital environment of Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences with restricted access.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

September, 2025: No update.
April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.
August 28, 2023: Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences uses DataverseNL for publishing the dataset, provided it is sufficiently anonymous to allow publication. This will be assessed after the project is completed. If necessary, an embargo or license will be applied.

Data Sharing

How will you share the data?

September, 2025: No update.
April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.
August 28, 2023: If the dataset is anonymous, the data will be made available for reuse by publishing it in DataverseNL. Data documentation will be added to ensure the dataset is understandable for other researchers. If necessary, an appropriate license will be applied. Upon publication in DataverseNL, a DOI number will be assigned.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

September, 2025: No update.

April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.

August 28, 2023: At this moment, it is not yet clear whether there will be any restrictions on sharing the dataset.

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

September, 2025: No update.

April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.

August 28, 2023: The principal investigator is responsible for data management. No external partners are involved in this research. A data steward is involved in setting up the project folder and folder structure. Throughout the research, advice from a data steward is always available, and after completion, the data steward ensures the archiving and publication of the dataset in DataverseNL.

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

September, 2025: No update.

April 22, 2024: No update compared to August 22, 2023.

August 28, 2023: No specialized resources are required for this research. All necessary resources are provided by Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences.