The tuition fees for the Gerrit Rietveld Academie are set each year by the Executive Board. The board takes the following principles into account when setting the fees:

- For some categories of students, the academy does not receive any government contribution, which means it is forced to charge an institutional fee that is higher than the statutory fee. However, the academy has explicitly chosen not to charge the fee that would be needed to cover the actual costs, as it is keen to also keep its programmes accessible to students with fewer financial means.
- For part-time students, the institutional fee is calculated in proportion to the full-time fee over the officially allocated time period for completing the study (5 years).
- Just like the statutory fee, the institutional fee is index-linked.
- The statutory tuition fee is increased on the basis of the special designation 'small-scale and intensive teaching' assigned by the NVAO, the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders, in 2013. This teaching combines activities within and outside the curriculum and is aimed at achieving an above-average teaching success rate. The assignment of this designation means the academy is permitted to charge its students an additional fee in excess of the standard statutory tuition fee.
- The Executive Board has based its decision regarding the additional fee in excess of the statutory fee on the principle that it should be increased each year by €100, to a maximum of €500 (from the academic year 2018-2019).
- This supplement to the statutory tuition fee ensures the academy will be able to continue to provide intensive, international and individually oriented teaching. Applying a relatively modest supplement to the largest group of students (that is to say, the group that is entitled to pay the statutory tuition fee) allows the academy to keep the institutional fee relatively low. Its aim in doing this is to keep the threshold as low as possible for the small group of students (non-EEA students and students with a Dutch Bachelor's or Master's degree) who have to pay the institutional fee.