



**How to finance  
your degree  
(as a CS student)**



# What should you take from today?

As a CS student...



What options do I have  
for financing my degree?



What is Bafög and  
who is eligible?



What is a working  
student job and how  
do I get one?

# **Who even is this guy?**

**(and why is he doing a presentation about financing a degree)**

# Who even is this guy?

(and why is he doing a presentation about financing a degree)

- Studying Computer Science at UHH
- Self funded most of my degree through part time work
- 3+ years experience as a working student at several companies
- Including 1.5 years at Deloitte, the largest consulting company in the world





A man with a beard and closed eyes is lying down, wearing a dark jacket over a blue shirt. He is surrounded by a vast sea of Euro banknotes, including 100, 50, and 20 Euro bills, which are stacked and spread out around him. The scene is dimly lit, emphasizing the man's presence amidst the money.

# Financing a degree

- Financial support from parents
- Studentenkredit (Student loans)
- Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz (BAföG)
- Working student job
- Combination of the above

# **BAföG**

**(Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz)**

# Bafög

(Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz)

- Meant for situations where parents are unable to pay the alimony (Unterhalt) required by law
- Loan from the German State to finance a degree
- Average of 640€ per month while studying (up to 996€)
- Have to fulfill some academic conditions. E.g. a minimum amount of CP each semester.
- Only have to pay back half of the loan and at most 10.000€



# Bafög

## Who's eligible?

- German citizens
- Foreign nationals with a long-term perspective to stay in Germany and who are socially integrated
- Income must be under 556€ per month, every euro above that will be deducted
- Parents gross income must be below 40.000€ per year

# BAföG

## Good to know

- Under certain conditions you can apply for BAföG without any restrictions on your parents' income
  - If you are older than 30 when starting your degree
  - If you have worked more than 5 years already
  - Other
- If your parents fail to pay the required alimony or provide the financial documents for BAföG, you can apply for an advance (Vorausleistung)
- Apply for BAföG online [here](#)

**Working student jobs**

# Working student jobs

- Jobs for students with special financial advantages compared to a regular job under german law
- Maximum 20h per week during the lecture time (Vorlesungszeit)
- Up to 40h per week during lecture free time
- Exempt from mandatory insurance types like unemployment insurance
- Way cheaper health insurance than a regular employee

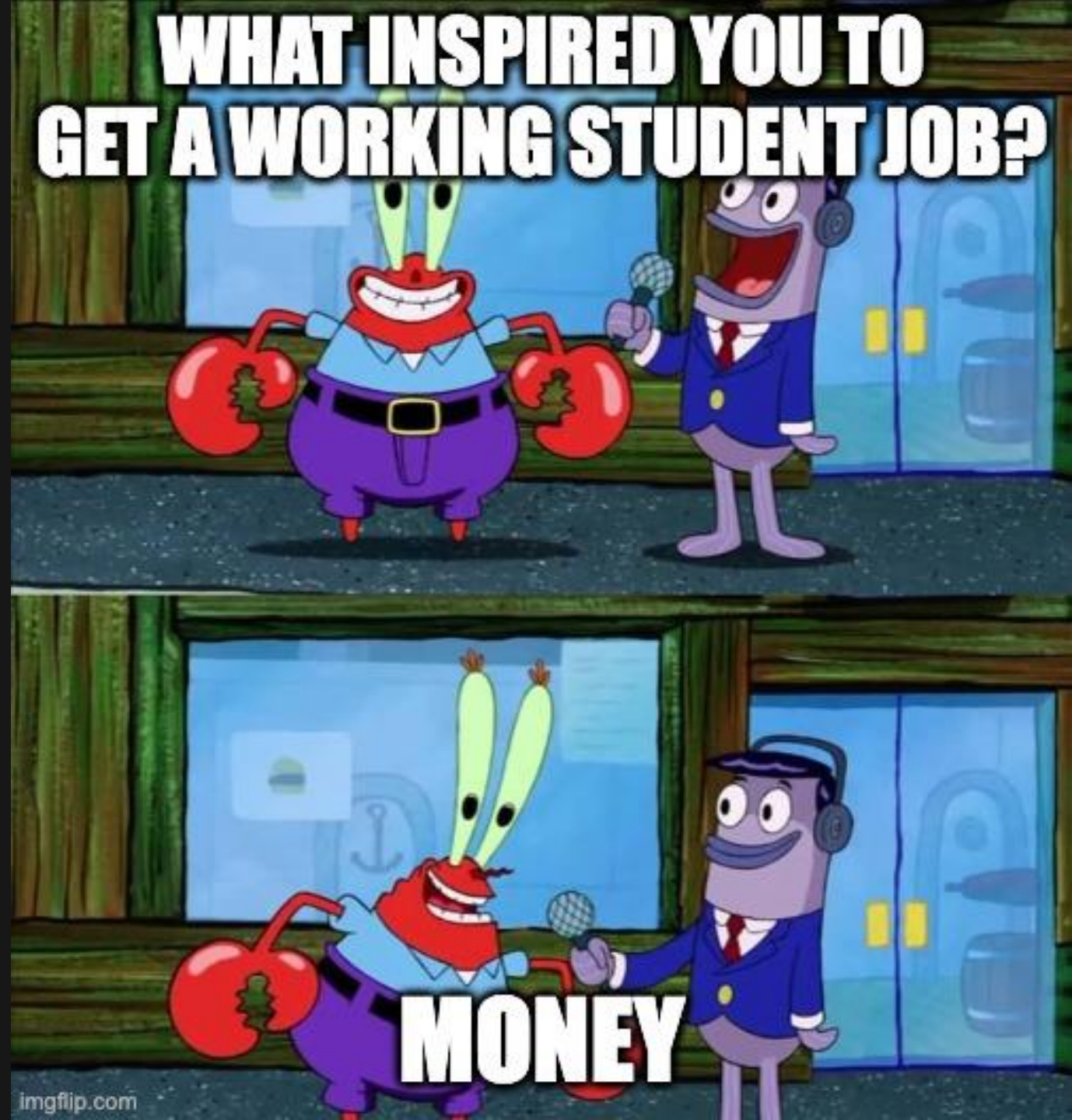
# **Working student jobs**

**Why you should get one**

# Working student jobs

## Why you should get one

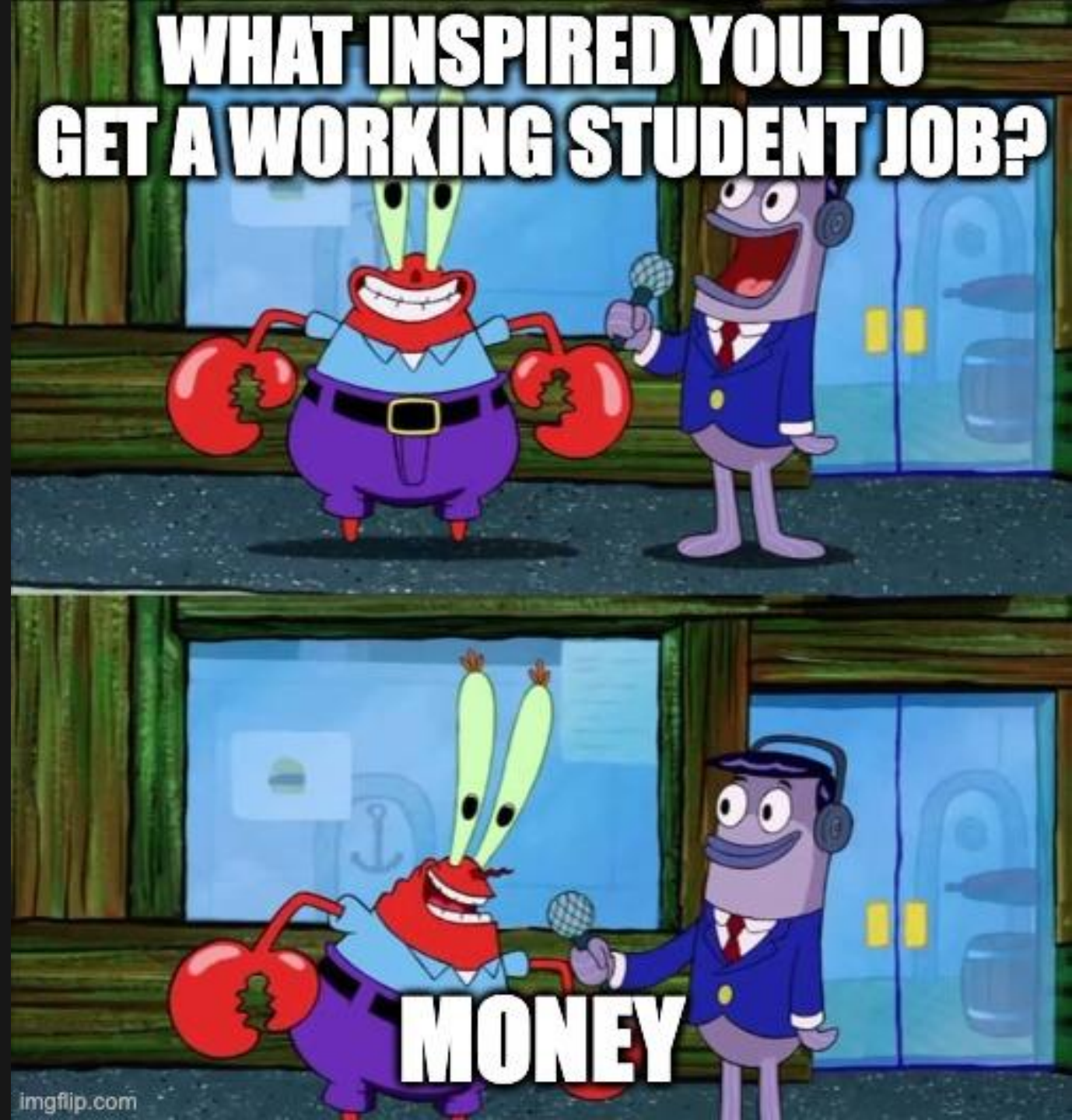
- You can earn money on the side
- Work experience
- You get to learn how “corporate life” works
- You get paid for coding



# Working student jobs

## Who's eligible?

- Everyone who is currently enrolled in a university degree, including foreign, even non-eu nationals
- No additional working permit required

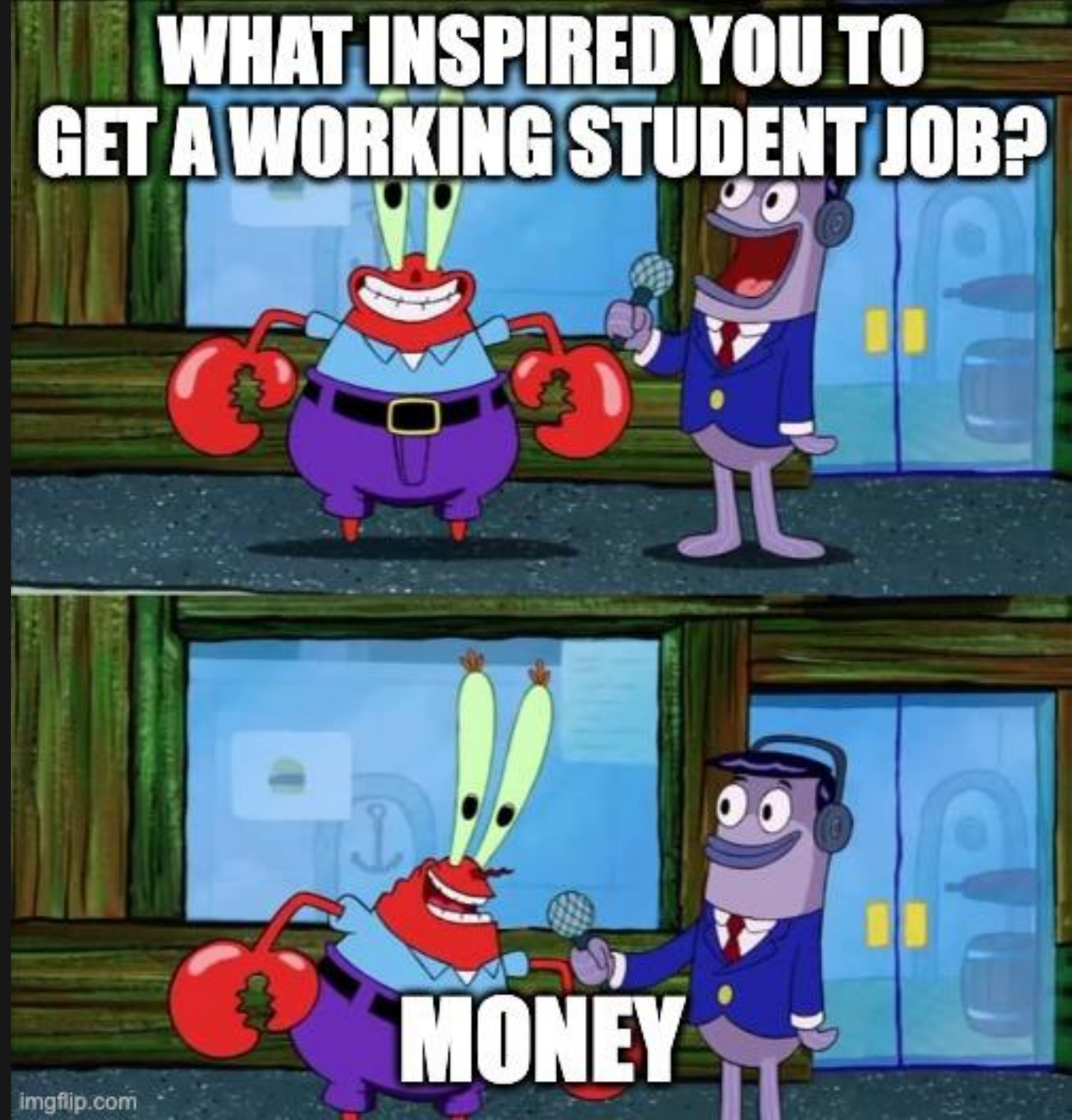




# Working student jobs

How much does it pay?

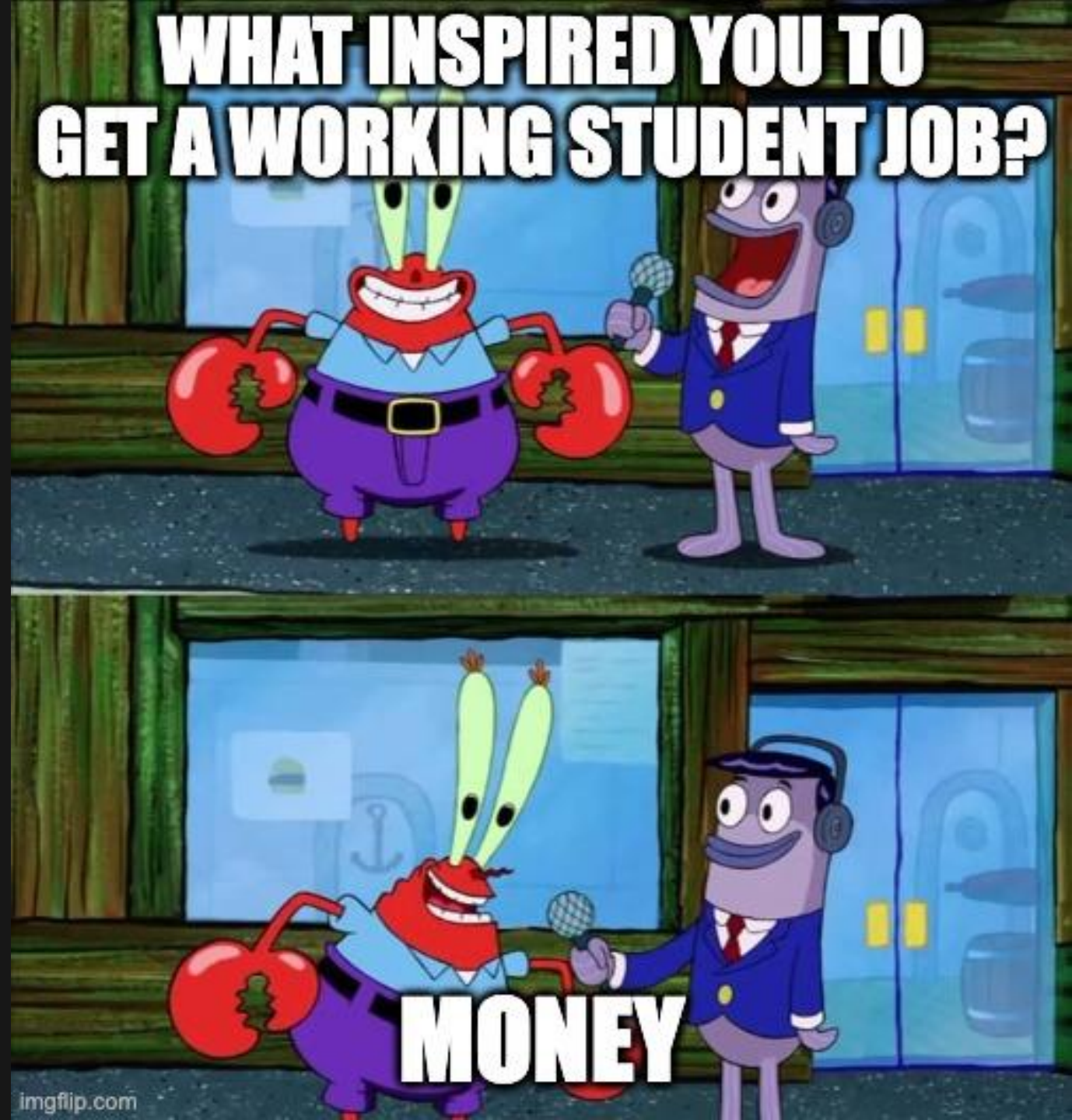
- Range is very wide
- **Small companies:**  
Anything from minimum wage to 20€/h is possible
- **Large companies:**  
Often have set in stone wages for working students
- It depends a lot on how much you already know and how good you can sell yourself



# Working student jobs

## Good to know

- If a national or state holiday falls on a day where you usually work, you are entitled to the pay for that day
- Same applies to if you are sick





# Working student jobs

## CV

- Add (personal) projects with GitHub links
- Don't add too many skills (focus on the most important)
- Ideal: Each skill is named in at least one project or job
- **Personal experience:** “fancy” CV templates with a portrait work better for small companies, while boring black and white CVs are preferable for large companies



# Working student jobs

## Interviews

- Be interested and ask questions – you are just as much interviewing them as they are you!
- **Question I like to ask if I don't have any:**  
What are you looking for in an ideal candidate?

