

Table of Contents

Welcome in Kaufbeuren	4
A Word of Greeting from the Lord Mayor	4
Worth knowing about Kaufbeuren	5
First Steps in Kaufbeuren	7
City map of Kaufbeuren	9
About Integreat	9
The Languages of the App	10
Payment card	11
Public Authorities, Bureaus, and Consultation	11
Authorities	11
Asylum application and BAMF	11
Department of Public Safety and Order, Ausländeramt (Foreigners' Office)	12
Abteilung Arbeit und Soziales (Department of Labor and Social Affairs)	13
Agentur für Arbeit (Employment Agency)	14
Job Center	15
Bürgerservice (Citizen Service)	16
Counseling	17
Social Outreach Clinic (Soziale Beratungsstelle, ASD)	17
Family Affairs Commissioner of the City of Kaufbeuren (Familienbeauftragte der Stadt Kaufbeuren)	18
Familienstützpunkte (Family Support Points) in Kaufbeuren	18
Integrationslotsin (Integration Facilitator, or Integration Pilot)	19
Working Group Asylum Kaufbeuren	19
Educational counseling	20
JustBest	20
Job counsellor - help on the way to work, training or study	21
Debtor, energy and insolvency consulting	21
Counseling centre for domestic violence	22
Emergency call and counseling center for sexual violence Kaufbeuren-Ostallgäu	23
Consultation hours against racism and discrimination	23
Schwubis Kaufbeuren Counseling centre for gay and bisexual men	23
SOS Emergency	23
The German Language	25
General information about the language	25
Integration courses	26
Job-related language courses (DeuFöV) according to § 45a AufenthG (Residence Act)	28
German courses for initial linguistic orientation (Erstorientierungskurse)	28
Current and planned language courses and language level assessment	29
Sprachkurse bei der Kolping-Akademie	30
German courses at the vhs Kaufbeuren	31
Integration language course at Bildung und Beruf	34
Language level determination	34
Voluntary and free language learning offers	34
Learn German yourself	35
Stadtbücherei (City Library) Kaufbeuren and Neugablonz Branch	35
Free online offers	35
Fairy tales in easy language	36
Become an interpreter yourself	37
Lay and cultural interpreters in Kaufbeuren	37

School, education and work	37
Information about school and work	37
Important information about school	38
Schools in Kaufbeuren	39
Recognition of foreign educational qualifications	41
Higher education	41
Vocational education and training	42
Dual training	42
Full-time education at the vocational school	43
Problems in training? VerA can help	44
Training toleration from 01.01.2020 for "tolerated" foreigners	44
Educational offers for everyone	44
Labor market access	46
Counseling centers for the labor market	46
Information for employers	47
Children and Family	48
Family planning and contraception	48
Family benefits at a glance	49
Pregnancy and childbirth	49
Children, Youth and Family	51
Childcare and supervision	53
Why is a day-care facility good for my child?	53
What Day-care facility are there?	53
Financial support	53
How does a kindergarten work?	53
Minors who are refugees without parents	55
Offers for senior citizens in Kaufbeuren	55
Everyday Life and Housing	56
Living in Germany	56
The Rule of Law	56
Personal freedom	56
Equal rights for men and women	57
Freedom of expression	58
Children's rights	58
Non-violence	59
Holidays and opening hours	60
Religious practice in Kaufbeuren	60
Smoking ban in public buildings, restaurants and workplaces	61
Housing	61
Searching for a place to live	61
House rules	63
Telephone connection	63
Moving into one's own dwelling (for refugees)	64
Radio and television fees	65
Internet	65
Drinking water in Kaufbeuren	66
Means of transport	66
Public Transportation	66
Bicycle	66
Free and inexpensive help in Kaufbeuren	67
News in different languages	67

Health Care	68
General Information	68
Special circumstances in the event of an accident at work	68
Visits to the doctor	69
Electronic patient file (ePA)	70
Medications	72
Counseling Centers and Help Services	72
The Health Department	72
Addiction - alcohol, medicines, gambling and drugs	73
HIV/AIDS counseling	73
Kaufbeuren Hospital	73
Social Paediatric Centre (SPZ) Allgäu	74
Mental health	74
Before and after pregnancy	74
Disabilities and care	74
Psychological counseling for couples, families and parents	75
Women in need (violence, abuse)	76
TAFF (Therapeutic programmes for refugees)	77
Culture, leisure and clubs	77
Kulturförderung Kaufbeuren (Promotion and Advancement of Culture in Kaufbeuren)	77
Meeting places	78
Theatres, museums, libraries and cinemas	78
Become active as a volunteer	81
Public pools and urban leisure facilities	81
Children, teenagers and holidays	82
Clubs in Kaufbeuren	83
Information for EU and EEA Citizens	83
Information for EU and EEA Citizens	83
Reunification of family members of EU citizens	84
Driver's license	84

Welcome in Kaufbeuren

A Word of Greeting from the Lord Mayor



"Grüß Gott in Kaufbeuren!"

Our expression "Grüß Gott" literally means "God greet you". It's our usual way of saying "Hello" in Bavaria.

As the Lord Mayor of the City of Kaufbeuren I am delighted to welcome you to our community.

Kaufbeuren is a small, endearing city of about 45,000 in Bavaria's Allgäu region. It has long been an attractive destination, not least because of its charming Old Town and its idyllic location just north of the Alps. People have always liked to come here; some have moved on after a short time, but many have stayed.

Especially in more recent times, Kaufbeuren has provided many people from other countries with a place to call home. An entire district, Neugablonz, was founded in 1946 by displaced persons from the Sudetenland (in what is now the Czech Republic).

As you can see, we have a lot of experience with what it's like to make a new life in a new city. Our "Integreat" App is designed to help you do this. We want our app to help you find your way around and to make things easier for you after your arrival.

Here you will find lots of general information, helpful tips, and contact information for bureaus and individual persons who will be happy to give you assistance and advice.

We want to provide support and to help you feel at home in your new surroundings. This is the basis for our common future, in which we can approach and treat one another with mutual respect, esteem, and goodwill -- the basis for a peaceful and prosperous life together as a community.

So I warmly welcome you to Kaufbeuren! All the very best for your future in Kaufbeuren!



Very truly yours,

Stefan Bosse
Lord Mayor

Worth knowing about Kaufbeuren



(Five-Button Tower with City Wall)

Kaufbeuren in the Allgäu -- a charming town with much to see and do.

Kaufbeuren in the Allgäu means variety for all the senses. It is a city of charm, with an evenful past and a colorful palette of events that year after year attract thousands of visitors and locals alike.

The list of events and traditions is long. Every summer is crowned by Bavaria's oldest children's pageant, the Tänzelfest, or Children's Dance Festival, where almost 1,600 local boys and girls wear historical costumes and depict the history of their city. The Christmas season is particularly rich in sights and activities: people can admire the world's largest Advent wreath made from natural materials, with a diameter of over eight meters and one-and-a-half-meter high wax candles; the square of St. Martin's Church becomes a delightful Christmas market which invites you to browse and linger; and the facade of the historic Town Hall is transformed into a huge Advent calendar. (What is an Advent calendar? Most German homes with children have one. There are 24 little doors marking the 24 days before Christmas; every day another door is opened, revealing some small delectable item within. At our Town Hall, windows serve as doors, and a story relating to Christmas is progressively told door by door.)

In the historical Old Town with its winding streets and lanes, visitors will find a multitude of sights. A very special feature is the city wall and its towers. The wall was first built around 1200, and large sections of it are still well-preserved today. The Fünfknopfturm (Five-Button-Tower) is the city's iconic landmark. Kaufbeuren also boasts one of the most famous town halls in Germany, built in 1879 according to plans by Georg Hauberrisser, who later became famous for his town halls in Munich and Saarbrücken.

Neugablonz, the largest district of Kaufbeuren, is significantly younger than the Old Town. More than seventy years ago, displaced persons from the northern Bohemian city of Gablonz brought their native costume-jewelry industry with them to make a new start in the Ostallgäu. The

history of their industry past and present is brought to life on the theme walk "The Path of Jewelry" with its informative placards, as well as in the workshops themselves, which offer insights into production and sales. The exhibition "Gablonz Industry Experience" is another focal point for insights and discoveries in the diverse aspects of this important and tradition-laden local craft.



(Rüdiger-Brunnen, Neugablonz)

Visitors interested in history and culture will find much to regale them, including the dignity and grace of the Crescentia Memorial, the historical treasures of the Isergebirgs- Museum in Neugablonz, the Puppet Theater Museum, and the modern Kunsthaus (Art House). Our city continually offers new reasons for devotees of art and culture to come to us from near and far.

Kaufbeuren's sons and daughters include many famous personalities. The greatest of all is St. Crescentia of Kaufbeuren (1682-1744), after whom the renowned Crescentia Monastery is named. Every year, several thousand visitors maintain its status as an important place of pilgrimage. The tomb of the saint is in the monastery church, and the monastery's Crescentia Memorial exhibits valuable artefacts relating to Crescentia's life and surroundings, as well as the story of her veneration. Also worth seeing is the Kloster-Berggarten (Monastery Hill Garden), which opened in 2009. The garden is the work of numerous volunteers, who created it on a slope between the monastery church and the city wall; it is intended to be a meditation on the Hymn to the Sun of St. Francis.

Several illustrious writers were born in Kaufbeuren: Ludwig Ganghofer (1855-1920), who wrote of the Bavarian mountains and the people who lived in them; Sophie von La Roche (1731-1807), the most renowned eighteenth-century woman writer in German; and the much-lauded prize-winning poet and publicist Hans Magnus Enzensberger (born 1929). The city's most prominent regular guest was Emperor Maximilian I (1459 - 1519), who always liked to come to this town in the Allgäu and even bought a house here.

Kaufbeuren's ideal location, almost equidistant between Munich and the skiing and mountain-climbing center of Oberstdorf, makes it an ideal starting point for a holiday in the Allgäu. And for fans of Bavaria's cherished King Ludwig, we are only a short drive to Füssen and the fabled royal castles.



(city wall with a view of the Old Town).

For further information, please check out our [homepage](#), our [Tourist Information](#), or the [App Gastfreund](#).

First Steps in Kaufbeuren

Comprehensive information on living and working in Germany can be found in several languages at the following links:

[Make it in Germany](#)
[EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)

Finding a place to live in Kaufbeuren

Finding an apartment, flat, or house in Kaufbeuren can be very difficult. There are too few of them, and most are expensive. For that reason officially certified asylum seekers are allowed to stay in the temporary accommodations provided for them until they have found a more permanent abode. Nevertheless, for the duration of their search they must register as looking for appropriate housing.

Further information can be found [here](#).

Telephone and Internet

You will find telephone and Internet information [here](#).

An overview of free WiFi (WLAN) hotspots can be found [here](#).

Registration in Kaufbeuren

After moving into an apartment or house, you must register with the Bürgerbüro, literally "Citizens' Office" but more broadly a municipal office for communal affairs, within two weeks. Families with minors and the same previous and future dwellings should use a common registration form; it is sufficient when one of the persons obliged to register signs the form. The obligation to register persons under the age of sixteen lies with those adults into whose dwelling

the person under sixteen has moved.

Prerequisites

The actual occupancy of the new abode, which is used either permanently or with a certain regularity as a place for living and sleeping.

Deadlines

Registration or, as the case may be, a change in registration must be made within two weeks of moving in.

Required documentation

A passport and/or identity card for verification of identity and change of address. In the registration of foreigners from outside the EU, the valid electronic residence permit must be presented with the passport if the residence permit does not appear in the passport itself.

Written confirmation by the owner or landlord with the following details:


name and address of the owner or landlord

type of obligatory registration process with the move-in or move-out date

address of the dwelling

names of all persons/family members required to register

For further information regarding registration in Kaufbeuren, please log on to the following:

 [Further Information regarding Registration in Kaufbeuren](#) (Weitere Informationen zur Anmeldung in Kaufbeuren)

Opening a bank account

In order to **receive and transfer money** you will need a bank account. You can conclude a contract (a mobile-phone contract, for example) only if you have a bank account. You must open a bank account. This type of account is called Girokonto, which means current account or checking account. You must go to the bank and explain to the advisory staff member: "Ich möchte ein Bankkonto eröffnen (I would like to open a bank account)." You must have a valid passport or some other valid form of identification with you.

With a Girokonto, you can

transfer money

receive money

use direct debiting (Lastschriftverfahren) -- money is automatically debited

cash checks

pay for purchases using a card instead of cash (i.e. coins and paper money)

withdraw money at an ATM

print out your bank statements

 [Further information on opening a bank account](#)

Health Insurance

In Germany, everyone must have health insurance.
You must get health insurance if
you have been living in Germany as an asylum seeker for more than 15 months,
or: have a residence permit,
or: have a job (subject to social insurance contributions).

If you are an asylum seeker who has been in Germany for less than 15 months, you will receive a Krankenbehandlungsschein (health treatment certificate) every quarter from the "[Abteilung Arbeit und Soziales](#)" (Labor and Social Affairs Department). For dental treatment you will need the Zahnarztbehandlungsschein (dental treatment certificate).

■ [Further information on health insurance](#) and in the [health section](#)

Driver's licenses

Your foreign driver's license is **still valid for six months** after entry. After six months you must obtain a German driver's license. To do this you may have to attend a driving school and then pass a theoretical and practical test. For the tests you will have to have proof of your identity. Please ask whether you will be allowed to take the test without previously registering at a driving school. You will have to pay for the driving school. Before you enroll, please inquire about the costs. You must have your driver's license with you whenever you are operating a vehicle.

For **EU citizens** the driver's license is still valid after six months ([please see exceptions](#)).

Please note: Anyone driving with a license which has expired under the laws of the issuing country or under German law will be prosecuted as driving without a license.

■ [Further information on driver's licenses in German, English, French, and Spanish](#)

City map of Kaufbeuren

You can find the city map of Kaufbeuren here:

■ [City map of Kaufbeuren.](#)

About Integreat

The ■ [Integreat app](#) is intended to serve as a guide and support you in your everyday life in Kaufbeuren. You will find important addresses, contacts and tips and tricks to help you find your way around Kaufbeuren.

Your everyday guide has several chapters. Each chapter deals with a different topic. For example, you will find information on doctors, schools, German courses and other institutions. There is also a chapter with ideas on what you can do in your free time. The information and leisure activities change and we update this page regularly. It is therefore a good idea to check your mobile app often to find out about current activities and events.

You can also use this app offline if you do not have internet access. When you are online again, the app will update itself. We very much hope that we can make your stay here in Kaufbeuren easier with this app.

Each page has a feedback function. If you enter your email address in addition to your feedback, we will be happy to discuss your suggestions.

We look forward to welcoming you here in the free district town of Kaufbeuren.

Jürgen Schick
City of Kaufbeuren Kaufbeuren-aktiv, Education Office
Phone: 08341 437427

Supporter of the Integreat Kaufbeuren app:

■ Supported by the Advisory Board for Diversity and Open Society of the City of Kaufbeuren
(German, Croatian)

■ Charity in Action Foundation



Law firm Rudolf & Kollegen (Turkish)

■ Mr Michael Rudolf

Mr Jeremy Roth (American-English), volunteer employee



Humedica International Aid (Ukrainian and Russian)



The Languages of the App

One of the most important features of the app is the publishing of local information in a variety of languages!

In order to maintain the high quality of the translations, we work together with, among other agencies, the professional translating offices ■ Tolingo and ■ Linguarum.

That is why every translation must be financed. The costs vary according to the frequency of words already used within the Integreat community.

You are most welcome to contact us if you think an important translation is missing and you would like to support its inclusion. Since the translation into a foreign language can cost up to €3000, we are also grateful for small contributions which we collect as pledges until the translation can be completely financed. We then collect your written offers to support the translation costs. Please feel free to suggest any additional languages into which the app

should be translated next.

Please do not yet transfer any money, but only after we have contacted you. This will occur when enough money for a translation has been collected as pledges and a translation can be promptly ordered.

Have we gotten you interested? Then please contact us at any time.

■ integreat@kaufbeuren.de

Payment card

The payment card for refugees is being introduced in Kaufbeuren.

Joline Port Kaiser-Max-Str. 1 and Gewerbestraße 46f, 87600 Kaufbeuren, will be happy to answer any questions.

☎ [08341 437 6843](tel:08341_437_6843) or ☎ [08341 437 725](tel:08341_437_725)

@Integrationsberatung@kaufbeuren.de

The most important information about the payment card in various languages can be found here: 🌐 <https://bezahlkarte.eu/>

App

Use is possible as an app

Download the "payment card" app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store: 🌐

<https://bezahlkarte.eu/app>

Assistance

A chatbot in your language will help!

Blocking the card: telephone blocking hotline ☎ [116 116](tel:116_116) (German and English)

Telephone chatbot available at ☎ [08161 9654300](tel:08161_9654300)

Open the chatbot on the website at 🌐 <https://meine.bezahlkarte.eu> in the "Support Chat" tab

🌐 [Here](#) you [will](#) find 10 FACTS about the Bavarian payment card for asylum seekers from the Bay. State Ministry.

🌐 [Here](#) you [will](#) find the last two information letters from the Bavarian Ministry of the Interior, in which questions about the payment card are answered.

Public Authorities, Bureaus, and Consultation

Authorities

Asylum application and BAMF

Are you registered in Germany and living in a reception facility? What happens next? The following steps are shown here:

1.1 Personal application for asylum

You apply for asylum at the ■ [Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge /Federal Office for Migration and Refugees](#)), abbr. BAMF.

Important: you must file your application in person; you cannot send it by post.

You will receive the date and the relevant BAMF office along with your proof of arrival. If you have not received an appointment, consult your accommodation supervisor.

1.2 First interview appointment (asylum application)

- Once your interview date has been determined, go with your documents to the [Amt für Soziales](#) (Social Welfare Office) several days before your appointment in order to be reimbursed for your travel costs.

1.3 Personal interview

The second interview date is the actual hearing. BAMF decides on your asylum application. It then sends you a decision letter.

a) What you can do if the decision is negative:

If the decision is negative and you wish to challenge it, go immediately to your [refugee and integration counseling center](#). There you can receive information on what can be done and consult with specialist lawyers.

If you decide to leave voluntarily, you can receive financial support for your new start in your home country. Consult the ■ [Zentrale Rückkehrberatung in Südbayern](#) (Central Repatriation and Advice Center in Southern Bavaria), abbr.ZRB, or the [Abteilung öffentliche Sicherheit und Ordnung](#) (Department of Public Safety and Order).

b) If the decision is positive, i.e. you are recognized as a refugee, what are the next steps?

Electronic Residence Permit (eAT): Immediately after the BAMF decision has been delivered, it is necessary to acquire an identity document or the equivalent. Consult the [Abteilung öffentliche Sicherheit und Ordnung](#) (Department of Public Safety and Order).

Job Center: You no longer receive your money from the Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office), but have to submit an application to the [Job Center](#).

Living: helpful tips for finding accommodation can be found under [Everyday Life and Housing](#).

All information about this and much more is included in the ■ [Arrival App](#).

Department of Public Safety and Order, Ausländeramt (Foreigners' Office)

Department of Public Safety and Order

The Abteilung Ausländerrecht (Department of Foreigners' Law) is responsible for all measures relating to residence law and, in some cases, passport law for citizens of foreign countries. The Abteilung Staatsangehörigkeitsrecht (Department of Citizenship Law) is responsible for naturalizations.

What you can do in these matters:

- apply for a residence permit and a permanent residence permit
- request prolongation of proof of arrival

- apply for and request an extension of the Aufenthaltsgestattung, (temporary residence authorization for the time of the asylum process)
- request permission to change address: applies to "Geduldete" (persons granted a temporary suspension of deportation) and persons with residence obligation
- apply for a Blue Card EU (a work and residence permit for highly qualified persons)
- Application for a work permit
- Residence permit
- seek advice on entry issues (e.g. reuniting of families)
- attend integration courses
- seek advice on leaving the country voluntarily
- seek advice on naturalization

Note: our official language is German. Foreigners who do not speak German are obligated to bring an interpreter to appointments at the Foreigners' Office.

If you have submitted your asylum application (1st interview) to the Federal Office for Migration (BAMF), you will receive an identity card (Aufenthaltsgestattung). from the Foreigners' Office. Please always carry your identity card with you.

City of Kaufbeuren

Department of Public Safety and Order (Öffentliche Sicherheit und Ordnung)

■ [Am Graben 3, Room: 101N, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341/437-448](#)

■ [Foreigners' Office](#) (Contact Ausländeramt)

■ [Ausländeramt Kaufbeuren](#)

🕒 Mo 8:00 - 16:00

Tue, Wed 8:00 - 12:00

Thu 8:00 - 12:00, 14:00 - 16:00

Fri 8:00 - 12:00

Abteilung Arbeit und Soziales (Department of Labor and Social Affairs)

Department of Labor and Social Affairs

The Department of Labor and Social Affairs, in many municipalities referred to as the Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office) is responsible for social security in the city of Kaufbeuren. The people of Kaufbeuren have a broad and multi-faceted range of advice, support and assistance at their disposal.

The services can be provided through preventive help planning, integration services or, if priority social security systems such as family, labor market, public and private insurance do not work, through adequate financial assistance. The primary objective of the Department of Labor and Social Affairs is always to provide the people of our city who, for whatever reason, find themselves in need with the help they require to cope with or alleviate their difficult situation.

The Abteilung Arbeit und Soziales (Department of Labor and Social Affairs) is responsible for the following tasks:

- Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (Asylum Seeker Benefits Act)
- funeral expenses
- Berufsausbildungsförderungsgesetz, abbr. BAföG (Educational Training and Support Law, always referred to in German as BAföG)
- guardianship and care authority
- education and participation support
- quality development and supervision in the sector of health care and nursing facilities
- basic support in old age and in cases of reduced earning capacity
- basic support for job seekers, SGB II (Social Law Register II)
Job Center
- livelihood support
- help in other life situations (SGB XII)
- war victim assistance
- persons with disabilities
- Sozialberatungsstelle (Social Counseling Center)
- Versicherungsamt/Rentenberatung (Insurance Bureau/Pension Advice)
- Wohngeldbehörde (Housing Financial Support Authority)

Stadt Kaufbeuren

Arbeit und Soziales (Labor and Social Affairs)

■ [Am Graben 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341/437-346](#)

■ [Social Welfare Office](#) (Contact Sozialamt)

■ [Department of Labor and Social Affairs](#)

🕒 Mo 8:00 - 16:00

Tue, Wed 8:00 - 12:00

Thu 8:00 - 12:00 / 14:00 - 16:00

Fri 8:00 - 12:00

Agentur für Arbeit (Employment Agency)

If your asylum application is still pending (Aufenthaltsgestattung) or if you are temporarily allowed to stay in the country (Duldung), then the Employment Agency (Agentur für Arbeit) is your contact for questions regarding the transition from school to work (vocational counseling), job placement and counseling on continuing vocational training, and for employer counseling (Arbeitgeber-Service).

Have you been granted asylum? Then the [jobcenter](#) is your contact person for counseling and placement in the labor market.

Agentur für Arbeit Kaufbeuren (Employment Agent)

■ [Otto-Müller-Straße 2, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ www.arbeitsagentur.de/

■ [0800 4 5555 00](#)

🕒 Mo - Fri 8:00 - 12:00

Matters dealt with by the Employment Agency:

For refugees with a high probability of remaining, there is a basic offer of placement and counseling:

for example job application training and advice, placement in suitable jobs and apprenticeships, training grants through to internships with the employer

vocational guidance for pupils in vocational integration classes

unemployment benefits I

learning German

recognition of diplomas

See also: www.arbeitsagentur.de/fuer-menschen-aus-dem-ausla...

Job Center

Job Center Kaufbeuren

The Job Center is your contact in case of unemployment and need for help: it supports you in placing you in work and education and can - depending on your individual needs and necessities - provide you with comprehensive advice on qualifications, language courses or many other kinds of support and assistance.

Further information on counseling and placement in the labor market can be found here: [Arbeitsmarktzugang](#) (Access to the labor market)

If you have an Aufenthaltsgestattung, which means that your asylum procedure is still ongoing or your asylum application has been rejected but you are allowed to remain temporarily (this is called "Duldung," or toleration), then the Bundesagentur für Arbeit (Federal Employment Agency) is responsible for employment and related support issues.

Steps after a positive decision

You have received a positive decision from [BAMF](#); the asylum procedure is therefore completed positively, i.e. you are recognized.

Then these steps have to be taken:

1. personal interview

- You have to go to the Job Center during opening hours.
- There you will be registered as a client.
- Two consultation appointments are arranged: one in the Leistungsabteilung (Benefits and Claims Department), another in the Employment Agency, another involving job placement with two advisers in the Job Center.
- You will be registered as a job seeker.

2. Leitungsabteilung (Management Department)

- **Important:** advice is given only by appointment.
- Services by appointment are requested from the responsible service administrator.

3. Job Placement

Important: advice is given only by appointment.

If you are obligated to attend an integration course or have received confirmation of participation in an integration course, please bring the document with you. If you have documents about school attendance, training, job references, recognition of qualifications obtained abroad, etc., please bring them with you.

Report any special skills (craft, trade, language skills, etc.).

Consider in advance which types of work are possible.

Note: Job Center staff members are not allowed to pass on information about Job Center clients. For a volunteer accompanying person, a power of attorney is required, which must be completed in full and signed by both parties.

Jobcenter Kaufbeuren

■ [Gewerbestraße 46f, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 700](#)

■ [Contact Jobcenter Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [jobcenter Kaufbeuren](#)

📅 Mon - Wed 8:00 - 12:00

Thu 8:00 - 12:00 / 13:00 - 17:00

Fri 8:00 - 12:00

Bürgerservice (Citizen Service)

Bürgerservice (Citizen Service)

In order to make it as easy and uncomplicated as possible for citizens to deal with matters relating to the city administration, the Citizen Service Department was set up in the entrance area of the new town hall building. In the open-plan space with the registration office there is the Bürgerbüro (Citizens' Office) as the first point of contact.

In addition to the main tasks concerning passports and registration, the Citizen's Office is also responsible for the dog tax, matters involving severely handicapped persons, lost-and-found items, and special parking rights for residents of the Old Town and severely handicapped persons, the issuing of visitor visas, and telephone connections and information. In addition, applications can be made for certificates of good conduct, exemptions from radio license fees and for the certification of documents.

You can already apply for a wide range of services online via the Bürgerserviceportal.. Under the respective links you will find detailed information and, if necessary, forms to download.

Stadt Kaufbeuren

■ [Bürgerbüro, Am Graben 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437-250](#)

■ [Bürgerbüro \(Citizens' Office\)](#)

■ [Bürgerserviceportal](#)

📅 Mo 8:00 - 16:00

Tue, Wed 8:00 - 14:00

Thu 8:00 - 19:00

Fri 8.00 - 14:00

Counseling

Counseling gives you orientation and support in case of unclarity or problems in different aspects of life. Various institutions offer free counseling by professionally and socially competent people. Information from the counseling interview is passed on only if it is necessary for clarification, if it supports your integration process, and if you give your consent. Confidentiality is maintained.

Social Outreach Clinic (Soziale Beratungsstelle, ASD)

The Allgemeiner Sozialer Dienst (General Social Service), abbr. ASD, is an open advisory service for all Kaufbeuren citizens and registered inhabitants, from young adults to senior citizens. The ASD is open to all population groups.

It offers personal counseling in exceptional circumstances to overcome social difficulties and to cope with crisis situations and everyday problems.

The ASD team offers counseling in:

- disability
- relationship conflicts, parent-child problems etc.
- threatening or existing homelessness
- psychosocial problems (crisis intervention)
- applications for social benefits
- addiction problems, mental disorders
- economic difficulties

Senior citizens and their relatives can seek advice on various issues related to old age and aging. The main areas of counseling are:

- assistance in coping with difficult life situations
- need for care (questions about forms of help, levels of care)
- financing of assistance and care
- outpatient and semi -outpatient care (meals on wheels, nursing services, day care)
- housing matters, in particular housing adaptation and adjustment
- assistance in coping with age-related limitations
- assisted living and senior-friendly living
- questions about and search for home and care facilities

Stadt Kaufleuten, Abteilung Arbeit und Soziales (Department of Labor and Social Affairs)

■ [Am Graben 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437-348 or -358](#)

■ [Contact ASD](#)

■ [Social Outreach Clinic](#) (Soziale Beratungsstelle, ASD)

Mo 8:00 - 16:00
Tue - Fri 8:00 - 12:00
Thu 8:00 - 12:00, 14:00 - 16:00
and by appointment

Family Affairs Commissioner of the City of Kaufbeuren (Familienbeauftragte der Stadt Kaufbeuren)

For families with their residence in the city of Kaufbeuren, the following services are offered:

- help and support for newly relocated families
- family counseling and family education offers
- help for families to get quick, unbureaucratic information
- offers for children and families, e.g. holiday pass
- information material and brochures
- promotion of the compatibility of family and career (e.g. holiday childcare for children during the summer holidays)

Stadt Kaufleuten, Abteilung Familienstützpunkt & Gleichstellung
(Family Support Point & Equality Department)

■ [Außenstelle \(Branch Office\), Berliner Platz 4, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ 08341 437 762

■ [Contact Family Affairs Commissioner](#) (Kontakt Familienbeauftragte)

■ [Family Affairs Commissioner of the city of Kaufbeuren](#) (Familienbeauftragte der Stadt Kaufbeuren)

Mo - Fri 9:00 - 12:00 and by appointment

Familienstützpunkte (Family Support Points) in Kaufbeuren

The Family Support Points (FSP) are contact points for families. They provide:

offers for children, teenagers, parents / grandparents
information and contacts
advice, help and support

There are 5 family support pointa in Kaufbeuren:

FSP Apfelkern (Apple Core) in Oberbeuren

■ Marktoberdorfer Straße 25

■ [08341 9082171](#)

FSP Familien-Kompetenz-Zentrum (Family Competence Center) in the city center

■ [Spitaltor 4](#)

■ [08341 902314](#)

FSP "Hand in Hand" in the parish center St. Peter and Paul in the Haken district

■ [Barbarossa Street 23](#)

■ [08341 9082383](#)

FSP in the Catholic kindergarten Herz-Jesu Neugablonz Süd

■ [Proschwitzer Straße 33](#)

■ [0170 9832262](#)

FSP at the youth center "Fun Factory" Neugablonz Nord

■ [Turnerstraße 10](#)

■ [08341 437 566](#)

■ [Family support points in the city of Kaufbeuren](#)

Integrationslotsin (Integration Facilitator, or Integration Pilot)

Integration can only succeed if many participants work together locally and if there are organized and established contact persons.

The tasks of the Integration Pilot include the following areas:

- recruitment and support of volunteers in the field of integration
- contact liaison for the various departments and bureaus of the city of Kaufbeuren, the coordination office for civic engagement (Generation House), family support points, asylum social work, schools and kindergartens
- promotion of integration projects and networking of the various offerings
- recognizing current needs and developing proposed solutions

Current projects:

- "Teestube" (Tea Room) as a meeting place for Germans and migrants Mondays 18:00 - 20:00 in the Jugendzentrum (Youth Center) Kaufbeuren: (■ [Hauberrisserstraße 8](#))
- monthly meeting of AK Asyl (Working Group Asylum)
- referral of family and language-tutoring sponsorships
- "Kaufbeurer Frauentreff" (International Women's Club), 1st Saturday of the month at Generationenhaus, Hafenmarkt 6-8 Kaufbeuren
- bicycle repair shop of the AK Asyl in [Kaufbeuren](#)

Cornelia Paulus has been the coordinator of volunteers for the AK Asyl since September 2016 (sponsored by the Protestant Dreifaltigkeitskirche) and Integration Pilot for Kaufbeuren since January 2018.

■ [Ludwigstraße 24, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

🕒 Mo - Fri 9:00 - 12:00

■ [08341 9081052](#)

■ paulus@arbeitskreis-asyl-kaufbeuren.de

■ www.arbeitskreis-asyl-kaufbeuren.de

Working Group Asylum Kaufbeuren

The Working Group Asylum is a group of volunteers.

Every Monday (except on public holidays) from 18:00 - 20:00 there is an open meeting with counseling for refugees and asylum seekers in the Jugendzentrum (Youth Center), abbr. JuZe, Kaufbeuren (■ [Hauberrisserstraße 8](#)).

Contact person for the AK-Asyl is the [integration pilot](#) Cornelia Paulus.

Further information under ■ <http://www.arbeitskreis-asyl-kaufbeuren.de>

Educational conseling

The city of Kaufbeuren maintains a neutral counseling center for all population and age groups.

This center is located in Kaufbeuren at the Volkshochschule, abbr. vhs (Adult Education Center) Kaufbeuren.

The counseling is free of charge and independent.

In definite terms, people seeking advice can contact the educational counseling service on topics such as the following:

- school-leaving qualifications
- career choice
- education and training
- career reorientation
- career re-entry
- funding opportunities
- ■ [competence testing](#)

In addition to the neutral educational counseling service, information points, educational guides and educational counseling networks are also available. You can find further information on this in our brochure ■ ["Stufenmodell Bildungsberatung in Kaufbeuren"](#) (Step by Step Educational Counseling).

■ vhs Kaufbeuren, Herr Wendlinger
[Spitaltor 5, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 999690](tel:08341999690)
■ wendlinger@vhs-kaufbeuren.de
■ Educational Counseling Kaufbeuren

JustBest

JUGEND STÄRKENBridges to independence (JUST BEst)

The project JUST BEst is a free and voluntary programme for young people between the ages of 14 and 26.

The team offers help and counselling for


- Money problems

- Questions about work and training
- Changes in life
- Problems at school
- Lack of a place to sleep
- Trouble and arguments in the family

JUST BEst Team

gfi Kempten, Kaufbeuren branch

Bergstraße 2a, 87600 Kaufbeuren

 [08341 9662018](tel:08341 9662018)

 @justbest-kf@die-gfi.de

 die-gfi.de

Job counsellor - help on the way to work, training or study

Jobbegleiter is a free counselling service for migrants aged 25 and over in Kaufbeuren and Ostallgäu.

We help and accompany you on your way to work, training or study.

We also support companies that want to employ people with a refugee background.

Give us a call. We will be happy to arrange an appointment.

Gerhard Waldner


Andreas Schubert

 jobbegleiter.ostallgaeu@daa.de

DAA Kaufbeuren

87600 Kaufbeuren

Mindelheimer Street 17

 [08341 99757 24](tel:08341 99757 24)

Appointments are only available in Kaufbeuren by appointment.

Debtor, energy and insolvency consulting

Allgemeine Schuldnerberatung (General debt counseling)

Your account is overdrawn and the bank no longer pays any money? The bailiff is at the door? Do you have financial problems? For these and many other questions, the Schuldnerberatungsstelle (Debt Counseling Office) provides advice and information. The advice is free of charge and confidential.

Daniela Herschmann
Debtor and insolvency counseling, general social counseling

Caritas Kaufbeuren, e.V (Registered Association)

■ [Alleeweg 8, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 9092411](#) or [08341 9092420](#)

■ daniela.herschmann@caritas-kaufbeuren.de

Utilities debts

You cannot pay bills for household or heating electricity, household or heating gas, hot water or district heating due to ongoing money problems? This means that you have utilities debts. These are so-called primary debts, which are regarded as debts that can directly endanger the economic survival of you and your household members.

You can inquire at the [Job Center](#) or at the Abteilung [Arbeit und Soziales](#) (Labor and Social Affairs Department) of the city of Kaufbeuren as to whether you can apply for a loan to cover the utilities debts.

Energy consulting by eza!

Free service of the city of Kaufbeuren in cooperation with eza!, the Energy and Environment Center Allgäu, and the Verbraucherzentrale (Consumer Office of Bavaria):

eza! energy consultant Andreas Kaufmann provides advice on all questions relating to energy and energy saving and gives free tips on energy-related construction and renovation as well as on the relevant subsidy programs.

eza Energieberatung (energy consultation) Kaufbeuren

■ [Spitaltor 5](#), environmental office (Umweltamt) vhs Building 87600 Kaufbeuren

■ 08341 437 328

every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, 15:00 - 17:00

■ [eza energy consulting](#)

Counselling centre for domestic violence

In Kaufbeuren there is a specific offer for women, children and young people who have experienced domestic violence or are currently experiencing it.

Counselling is confidential, anonymous if desired, and we are bound by confidentiality.

■ [08341 9993227](#)

■ [Valentina Würsching](#)

Emergency call and counseling center for sexual violence Kaufbeuren-Ostallgäu

In Kaufbeuren there is a specific offer for women, children and young people who have experienced or are currently experiencing sexual violence.

Counseling is confidential, anonymous if desired, and we have a duty of confidentiality.

■ Schäferstr. 11, 87600 Kaufbeuren



[08341 9080313](tel:083419080313)



notrufstelle.kaufbeuren@skf-augsburg.de

Consultation hours against racism and discrimination

There are consultation hours at Kaufbeuren for people who have been discriminated against or racially insulted.

These are free of charge. There is no legal counselling.

The location is at Eckpunkt, Schmiedgasse 17.

Registration is required immediately on ■ [08341 437 427](tel:08341437427).

Or @ juergen.schick@kaufbeuren.de.

Schwubis Kaufbeuren Counselling centre for gay and bisexual men

Counselling centre for gay and bisexual men

 [Schwubis Counselling Centre](#)

[Schwubis 2024.pdf](#)

SOS Emergency

Emergency numbers - SOS

Only in an emergency may you go to hospital without a treatment certificate from your doctor. An emergency is an acute danger to your health. Do not forget your proof of arrival / your identity card! At the hospital you have to show with your proof of arrival that you are an asylum seeker and that the costs will be settled by the Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office). If you are already registered with a health insurance company, bring your insurance card with you.

Emergency contacts

Police ■ [110](#)

Fire brigade, rescue service ■ [112](#)

Ambulance, emergency doctor ■ [112](#)

The emergency numbers of mobile phones always work, even with a prepaid card without credit / money!

Important information for an emergency call 112

- **Who** is calling (give your name!)?
- **Where** did something happen (address)?
- **What** happened?
- **How** many people are injured or ill?
- **What** kind of illnesses or injuries are there?
- **Wait** for questions!

Stay calm. Speak slowly and clearly so that people understand you better. Do not end the conversation. The emergency call center / the police will end the call when all important information has been transmitted.

Medical on-call service 116117

If you need help outside the opening hours of doctors' offices, you can call the free number [116117](#) to find the nearest on-call doctor.

■ [Medical on-call service](#)

Protection against violence


Women and girls in need

Refuge and protection for women and their children who experience violence by their partner.

Frauenhaus (Women's Shelter)

■ [08341 16 616](#)


■ frauenhaus.kaufbeuren@skf-augsburg.de

 open 24 hours, 7 days per week

Free and anonymous counseling service for women who have experienced or are still experiencing violence.

The help telephone Violence against Women ("Gewalt gegen Frauen"):

■ [08000 116016](#)

 24 hours, 7 days per week

Children and young people in need

Around the clock and on all days of the year, the child protection hotline provide help in the event of emergencies for children and young people. Hotline for children, adolescents, parents,

specialists, neighbors, etc.

Kinderschutzhotline (child protection hotline)

■ [0800 19 210 00](tel:08001921000)

🕒 24 hours, 7 days per week

Further emergency contacts

Further emergency contacts and advisory centers can be found in this app under [Counseling Centers and help services](#) (Beratungsstellen und Hilfsangebote).

Das Buchstabieralphabet (The spelling alphabet)

The spelling alphabet or spelling board is an aid to spelling. Sometimes the German language is not so easy to understand.

This can help to spell names or difficult words in a way that someone else understands them better. For each letter a fixed word is used in German.

■ [The German spelling alphabet](#)

The German Language

General information about the language

The official language in Germany is German.

There is the standard language ("High German") and regional dialects of the spoken language. In Kaufbeuren the dialects ■ [Swabian](#) and ■ [Allgäuerisch](#) are spoken; in the Neugablonz district, the northern Bohemian dialect of ■ [Paurisch](#) can still be occasionally heard..

The "Gesamtprogramm Sprache" (General Language Program) of the Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge, abbr. BAMF (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees)

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) is responsible for ■ [offering language courses for migrants.](#)

A1, B1, C2 - What does the language level mean?

In Europe there is an international system of evaluating language-competence levels, the "Common European Reference Framework." This is a uniform yardstick for the classification of language skills. It consists of 6 different levels, from A1 (beginners) to C2 (experts). It covers different dimensions of language acquisition: listening, reading, writing and speaking.

"A" for "beginner": **A1** and **A2** mean a person is a beginner in a language. The person has basic knowledge and understands simple sentences.

"**B**" as in "Better": **B1** and **B2** mean that a person has advanced language skills. If you want to start an education or get a job, you should have at least B1 (even better: B2).

"**C**" as in "Champion": **C1** and **C2** mean that a person has "business fluent" language skills. C2 is approximately comparable to the language of a native speaker.

How good is your German?

Test your German for orientation. The tests are free of charge. (You do not receive a certificate. It does not replace the assessment by a language school!.)


Click here for the tests:

 <https://www.goethe.de/de/spr/kup/tsd.html>

 [Free language test](#)


The Kolping Academy and the Vhs Kaufbeuren offer tests to determine your language level in Kaufbeuren. There is a fee.

"Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer," abbr. DTZ (German Test for Immigrants): **external examination**

Do you need a certificate for your knowledge of German? You can take an exam as an "external participant." Ask a language school for the "Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer." Ask for an appointment and the costs. The test and the goals are described in this app under  [Informationen BAMF](#).

The DTZ (German Test for Immigrants) is an examination. (The exam is also taken by all persons who complete an integration course.) You register for the exam. You take the test. If you pass the test, you receive a certificate (B1). The test costs about € 160. It lasts 1 day (with breaks).

You can prepare and practice the test. Materials are available in this app:


 [Arbeitsblätter und Hörbeispiele](#) (worksheets and audio examples)

 [Wortliste](#) (word list)

 [Beispiel-Test](#) (sample test)

Integration courses

What is the integration course?


Migrants learn German in an  [integration course](#).

The course lasts several months. It often takes place from Monday to Friday, in the morning or afternoon. It lasts 4 to 5 hours a day.

An integration course has two parts: the German language course of 600 teaching units, or Unterrichtseinheiten, abbr. UE, and an orientation course (How does Germany function?) of 100 UE.

At the end there is an exam for both parts. If you pass the exam, you receive the certificate "Integrationskurs." This usually also means that you have reached language level B1.

There are special integration courses, e.g. with alphabetization or for second alphabet learners (people who first have to learn the Latin alphabet).

It is also important for parents with small children to take part in a course. Your child can, for example, be looked after in a  [kindergarten](#) during the hours of instruction. It is also possible

to offer special courses only for women or young people.

Can I participate in the integration course?

There are various regulations which are determined by the Aufenthaltsgesetz (Residence Act). **Migrants** who are allowed to stay **permanently** in Germany are allowed to take part in the integration course.

Asylum seekers must wait for the decision of BAMF (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees) on their asylum application. You will receive mail when your application has been decided on and you are to take part in a course. Under these circumstances the course is mandatory.

Asylum seekers from certain countries, which give them "**good prospects of staying**", are an exception. Currently these countries are: Eritrea and Syria. If there are enough free places, persons from these countries may already participate in the course during the asylum procedure. You will receive word by mail if you are eligible to participate in the integration course .

Late repatriates, EU immigrants, or immigrants from other countries may also be entitled or obligated to participate in the integration course. Please inquire directly with the course provider about the possibilities of participation.

How do I find a course?

■ [The Kolping Academy](#) and the ■ [vhs Kaufbeuren](#) offer integration courses in Kaufbeuren.

If you are already a recognized asylum seeker and need help with your search, please ask your contact person at the Job center.

Then register for a course near you. The course providers will help you with registration.

An overview of all current integration courses can be found here:

■ [Link to integration courses](#) (quick search: postcode: 87600, Integrationskurs: Integrationskurs, geplante oder laufende Kurse auswählen, Suche) select planned or current courses, search)

It is also possible to attend an integration course as a self-payer (you have to pay the course fee yourself).

Einstufungstest (Placement test) for integration courses

Possible participants in integration courses will be tested before the course starts in order to ensure participation in a suitable course. In the district of Ostallgäu and the city of Kaufbeuren, fixed times are regularly set for these placement tests. If you would like to take a placement test, please contact the respective educational institution. The test is also possible without registration.

■ [Here you will find the current dates of the placement tests.](#)

Contact persons:

■ [Die Kolping Akademie](#)

■ [vhs Kaufbeuren](#)

- [Caritas Migrationsberatung](#) (click on: Kaufbeuren / Marktoberdorf / Ostallgäu)
- [Integrationslotsin](#) (Integration Pilot)
- [Abteilung Öffentliche Sicherheit und Ordnung](#) (Department of Public Safety and Order)

Job-related language courses (DeuFöV) according to § 45a AufenthG (Residence Act)

Occupation-related German courses help to further improve your German language skills. You can attend the so-called DeuFöV courses while working,, training, preparing for a vocational qualification, or as preparation for entering an occupation in Germany.

The basic modules of the DeuFöV courses aim to lead to language level B2 in three modules of 400 teaching units (UE) each. Each of these modules concludes with a certificate examination. The prerequisite for participation is a language level of at least B1. As a rule, you must therefore have successfully completed an integration course.

It is possible to attend the courses as a self-payer.

There are also special modules that only expect a language level of A2 . Other special modules are specially tailored to certain professional or occupational groups.

The offer is open to, among others, the following groups:

- Persons with a migration background in accordance with SGB III (German Social Law), which includes German citizens with a migration background, EU citizens, other immigrants including persons in asylum proceedings with good prospects of staying (i.e. from Eritrea and Syria) and persons granted temporary residence according to § 60a Para. 2 Sentence 3 AufenthG. If you belong to one of these groups, you need a participation entitlement from the Agentur für Arbeit (Employment Agency). Persons who have fled from so-called safe countries of origin are excluded from the current asylum procedure.
- Persons with a migration background in the SGB II context, including German citizens with a migration background, EU citizens as well as other immigrants and officially recognized persons seeking protection. If you belong to this group of persons, you need a participation entitlement from the Job Center.
- Persons in an ■ [initial qualification procedure](#), in vocational training or in a recognition procedure, or persons who need a certain language level for admission to their profession in Germany. If you belong to one of these groups, you will need a BAMF participant's entitlement.

■ [The Kolping Akademie](#) and the ■ [vhs Kaufbeuren](#) offer vocational German language courses in Kaufbeuren.

Tip:

■ [Learning vocational German in health care occupations with the help of an app.](#)

German courses for initial linguistic orientation (Erstorientierungskurse)

German language courses for initial language orientation, also called **initial language-orientation courses** (Erstorientierungskurse) provide both basic knowledge of German and information about life in Germany. The content provides participants with a practical start in their new environment and facilitates orientation in everyday life. A course

comprises 300 teaching units (UE) of 45 minutes each. The course modules cover topics such as "health / medical care", "work", "kindergarten / school", "living", "local orientation / traffic / mobility." The focus is on oral communication: the participants should learn to find their way in everyday life as quickly as possible. In initial orientation courses, the teaching of values in the local society is also important across all modules.

Initial orientation courses are primarily intended for asylum seekers with unclear prospects of staying. To the extent that the course is not yet full, recognized asylum seekers, persons granted temporary permission to stay, and asylum seekers with good prospects of staying may also participate. The initial orientation courses are not, however, intended for persons who are subject to compulsory schooling (6 to 15 years) or compulsory vocational schooling (16 to 21 years). If you gain access to an integration course while participating in the initial orientation course, you can switch courses. The people in the courses have very different educational backgrounds. Some are illiterates, others are academics. Initial orientation courses are free of charge.

The language of instruction is German - interpreters are not present in the course.

Contact one of your [refugee and integration counsellors](#). They will help you find a suitable course.

Current and planned language courses and language level assessment

In Kaufbeuren, 2 educational providers currently offer BAMF-approved language courses.

German courses in the district of Ostallgäu and the town of Kaufbeuren:

[Deutschkurse Ostallgaeu+Kaufbeuren Jan bis Juli 2025.pdf](#)

Before a language course, you will be tested to see which course you need.

Tests take place in Marktoberdorf, Füssen, Buchloe and Kaufbeuren.

You can find the dates for placement tests under [Dates for placement tests for integration courses OAL KF Jan-July 2025.pdf](#)

To participate in an integration course, register with an educational institution and send an application for participation to the BAMF (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees). All information and the form can be found [here](#).

Step 1

- Fill out the [application for admission to an integration course](#)
- Enclose a copy of your permit or tolerated stay permit
- Send to the following address:

Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

Department 53 A

Streitgeldstr. 39

81673 Munich

E-mail: service@bamf.bund.de

2nd step

Register with the [educational organisations](#) in the district of Ostallgäu or the town of Kaufbeuren

If there is no course for you, please contact the nearest educational institution and they will look for a suitable option together with you.

Sprachkurse bei der Kolping-Akademie

Hier finden Sie die Sprachkursangebote der Kolping-Akademie Kaufbeuren:

Aktuelle und geplante Kurse:

Integrationskurse (Allgemein):

- Kurs 239 von 27.04.21 bis 05.04.22 (Di - Fr 08:15 - 12:30 Uhr)
- Kurs 247 von 20.09.21 bis 25.10.21 (Mo - Do 13:00 - 16:15 Uhr)
- **Kurs 252 von 25.04.22 bis 25.05.23 (Mo - Do 13:00 - 16:15 Uhr)**

Integrationskurse für Eltern:

- Kurs 223 von 05.10.20 bis 27.06.22 (Mo - Fr 08:30 - 12:00 Uhr)
- Kurs 238 von 12.04.21 bis 29.07.22 (Mo - Fr 08:30 - 12:00 Uhr)
- Kurs 242 von 12.07.21 bis 25.11.22 (Mo - Fr 08:30 - 12:00 Uhr)
- **Kurs 253 von 25.04.22 bis 27.07.23 (Di - Fr 08:15 - 12:30 Uhr)**

Integrationskurse mit Alphabetisierung:

- Kurs 246 von 15.09.21 bis 20.12.22 (Mo - Fr 08:30 - 12:00 Uhr)

Integrationskurse am Abend:

- Kurs 219 von 02.03.20 bis 10.10.22 (Mo, Di, Do 18:00 - 21:15 Uhr)
- Kurs 232 von 26.10.20 bis 21.11.22 (Mo, Mi, Do 18:00 - 21:15 Uhr)

Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse Ziel B1:

Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse Ziel B2:

- Kurs B2-1-27 von 16.09.21 bis 23.06.22 (Mo, Do, Fr 08:00 - 12:15 Uhr) momentan hybride Unterrichtsform
- Kurs B2-1-29 von 07.03.22 bis 30.11.22 (Mo, Di, Mi 08:00 - 12:15 Uhr)
- Kurs B2-1-30 von 14.02.22 bis 17.01.23 (Mo, Di, Do 18:00 - 21:15 Uhr) im virtuellen Unterrichtsraum

Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse Ziel B2 (für Personen im Anerkennungsverfahren Gesundheitsfachberufe):

- Kurs B2-1-25 von 14.04.21 bis 06.05.22 (Mi, Do, Fr 08:00 - 11:15 Uhr) im virtuellen Unterrichtsraum
- **Kurs B2-1-32 ab 09.05.22**

Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse Ziel C1:

- Kurs C1-1-26 vom 20.09.21 bis 26.07.22 (Mo + Di 08:00 - 12:15 Uhr)
- **Kurs C1-1-31 vom 28.03.22 bis 22.12.22 (Mo, Di, Do 17:00 - 20:15 Uhr) im virtuellen Klassenzimmer**

Allgemeine Informationen:

■ [Integrationskurs](#)

■ [Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse](#)

Bei Fragen:

■ [Die Kolping Akademie Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [Petra Schraml \(Integrationskurse\)](#)

■ [Constanze Heppner \(Berufsbezogene Sprachkurse\)](#)

■ [Die Kolping Akademie](#)

German courses at the vhs Kaufbeuren

Here you will find the language courses offered by the vhs Kaufbeuren (current and planned courses):

General integration courses (BAMF, 700 lessons)

- **Course S936-232 to S937-232 (modules 6 - 7) afternoon course** from 16/09/2024 to 18/12/2024 (Monday to Thursday from 13:30 to 16:45)
- **Course S925-232 to S927-232 (modules 5 - 7) Evening course** from 21 October 2024 to 9 April 2025 (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 17:00 to 21:00)
- **Course S904-241 to S907-241 (modules 4 - 7) Morning course** from 25/09/2024 to 26/03/2025 (Tuesday to Friday from 08:00 to 12:00)
- **NEW Course S921-242 to S927-242 (Modules 1 - 7) Morning course** from 16/09/2024 to 24/07/2025 (Monday to Thursday from 08:15 to 12:30)
- **NEW Course S931-251 to S937-251 (Modules 1 - 7) Afternoon course** from 13/01/2025 to 23/03/2026 (Monday to Thursday from 13:30 to 16:45)

Vocational language course German B2 (BAMF, 500 units)

- **Course S912-242 (500 units) Evening course** from 08/10/2024 to 26/06/2025
(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 16:45 to 20:45)

Examinations

- **German test for immigrants (DTZ) A2/B1 (g.a.s.t.)** on **16 November 2024, 15 February 2025, 01 March 2025, 05 July 2025, 07 February 2026**

German test profession (DTB) B2 (telc) on **28 June 2025**

IMPORTANT: Please note that the DTZ A2/B1 and DTB B2 exams are BAMF exams, so participation is only possible for people with a certificate of eligibility (BAMF integration course or vocational language course).

telc Deutsch A2-B1 is suitable for all other people. You will also receive a recognised B1 language certificate for residence, naturalisation and professional recognition in Germany:

- **telc Deutsch A2-B1** on **12 October 2024**
- **Naturalisation test** on **19 October 2024 and 18 January 2025**

German as a foreign language

- **German A1.1 (course S027-242)**: Thursday, 18:00 to 21:00, 10 October 2024 to 19 December 2024
- **German A1.2 (course S028-242)**: Tuesday, 18:00 to 21:00, 24/09/2024 to 17/12/2024
- **German A2 (course S029-242)**: Monday, 18:00 to 21:00, 23/09/2024 to 16/12/2024
- **German B1 (course S033-242)**: Tuesday, 18:00 to 21:00, 24/09/2024 to 17/12/2024
- **German B2 ONLINE (course S037-242)**: Thursday, 18:00 to 20:00, 26/09/2024 to 19/12/2024

ALPHA+ Better reading and writing - free of charge!

- **ALPHA+ Besser lesen und schreiben - Deutsch für den Beruf**: Course S068-242, **Tuesday, 18:30 to 20:45, vhs, Spitaltor 5, room 203**: No course fee, entry possible on an ongoing basis by arrangement with the course leader!

- **ALPHA+ Besser lesen und schreiben - Deutsch für den Beruf**: Course S069-242, **Thursday, 18:15 to 20:30, vhs, Spitaltor 5, room 203**: No course fee, entry possible on an ongoing basis by arrangement with the course leader!
- **ALPHA+ Better reading and writing - German for women (with childcare)**: Course S071-242, **Tuesday 08:30 to 11:30, Generationenhaus, Hafenmarkt 6-8**: No course fee, entry possible on an ongoing basis by arrangement with the course leader!
- **ALPHA+ Better reading and writing - letters included**: Course S072-232, **Tuesday, 08:15 - 09:45, Wertachtal Werkstätten, Porschestr. 30**: No course fee, entry possible by arrangement!
- **ALPHA+ Besser lesen und schreiben - Wörter inklusive**: Course S073-232, **Tuesday, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., Wertachtal Werkstätten, Porschestr. 30**: No course fee, entry possible by arrangement!

SPRECHstunde Deutsch - free of charge!

Are you learning German and need more help? Do you sometimes have questions for which there is no time in the German course? Do you want to repeat important topics from the German course with other learners and understand them better? Or would you like to prepare for an exam together with others? Then the SPRECHstunde Deutsch is just right for you!

Depending on the wishes and interests of the participants, we talk about important questions from the German course. You can practise speaking in a relaxed atmosphere. You will receive support from a teacher. The fun of learning is not neglected. Is German really a difficult language? No!

The **SPRECHstunde** is a free programme in addition to our integration and German courses. Anyone who is learning German and already has some knowledge (from level A2) can take part.

When is it? From 30.09.2024 to 25.11.2024, every Monday from 16:00 to 17:00.

Where? Generation house, harbour market 6-8, Kaufbeuren.

How much does it cost? It costs nothing.

How to join? You can start at any time!

German course counselling

I will be happy to advise you on all questions relating to your enrolment, course participation and examinations. Please make an appointment with me:

vhs Kaufbeuren, Francesca Frey, Spitaltor 5, first floor

Phone 08341/9996926, e-mail: frey@vhs-kaufbeuren.de

You can find more information here:

 [Adult Education Centre Kaufbeuren](#)

 [Integration course](#)

 [Job-related German courses with funding](#)

Please get in touch with us:

 frey@vhs-kaufbeuren.de

 [Adult Education Centre Kaufbeuren](#)


Integration language course at Bildung und Beruf

New location in Kaufbeuren (Josef-Landes-Str. 38, Buron Centre, 2nd floor):

Full-time in the morning (Mon-Fri, 08.00-12.15) from 27.02.2025 (Bamf 282)

Full-time in the afternoon (Mon-Fri, 13.00-16.15) from 03.02.2025 (Bamf 283)

Language level determination

If you already speak German and would like to know how this knowledge is evaluated in Germany ( [language level](#)) or require proof of your language competence for your application documents, you can have yourself tested here:

 [Competence assessment, German as a foreign language](#) (Kompetenzfeststellung Deutsch als Fremdsprache)

Language level determinations subject to charges:

--> at: [Kolping Academy](#) [vhs](#)

[DTZ](#) (A2 -B1) all on request

[A2](#) (Certificate)

[B1](#) (Certificate)

[B2](#) (Certificate)

[C1](#) (Certificate)

Voluntary and free language learning offers

"Alpha+"

These are courses for people who have significant difficulties in reading or writing. The focus is on the practical use of the German language in and general topics relevant to such areas as individuals and family, housing and rent, education, communication, mobility, offices and bureaus, and offers of assistance. In addition to the alphabet, common everyday terms and words are taught and simple sentences and texts such as short messages are practiced, as is the filling out of forms.

These courses are offered by  [vhs Kaufbeuren](#).


Conversation Club: Wir sprechen Deutsch (We Speak German)

You are learning German and need additional support? Do you want to repeat and delve deeper into important topics and contents of the German course with other learners? Or maybe even prepare for an exam together? Then you have come to the right place!

This working group is a free additional offer for our integration and German courses and is open to all interested learners of German!

Stammtisch (Regulars' Reserved Table): We Speak German Family Center

 Hüttenstraße 10, Kaufbeuren-Neugablonz

 every Monday from 19:00

Volunteer helpers


There are many supportive people to help you learn. These offers are voluntary. Volunteers do not get any money for this service and are active in their free time. The [integration pilot](#) have an overview of the offers in Kaufbeuren.

Learn German yourself

Stadtbücherei (City Library) Kaufbeuren and Neugablonz Branch

Kaufbeuren has 2 libraries.

There you can borrow literature and materials for learning German.

 [Libraries in Kaufbeuren](#) (Büchereien in Kaufbeuren)


Free online offers

There is a wide range of language learning programs on the Internet and in the app stores. Many are free of charge.

Online:

 [Deutsche Welle](#)

 [German Adult Education Association](#)

 [Goethe Institute](#)



[Lunes Learning-App](#)

 [TandemPartners](#)

 [Lernox](#)

 [DuoLingo](#)

 [Learn German online](#)

 [German at work](#)

Apps:

 [Serlo ABC](#)

 [Einstieg Deutsch](#) (available in several languages)

 [Arrival-App](#)

 [FunEasyLearn](#)

 [50 Languages](#)

 [NAVI-D](#)

 [Deutschtrainer A1](#)

Translation programs:

 [deepl.com](#)

 [Google Translator](#)

 [Microsoft Translators](#)

 [babelfish.de](#)

Fairy tales in easy language

There are many well-known fairy tales.

A fairy tale is a very old story.

Once upon a time: fairy tales always start like this.

For example:

- Hansel and Gretel.

- Or Snow White.

But many people don't know these fairy tales.

Some of these fairy tales are difficult.

And that's why many people can't understand these fairy tales.

On this page you will find fairy tales in plain language.

These fairy tales are written simply.

You can read the fairy tales:

- Read.

- Listen to them.

- And see them in [sign language](#).

Fairy tales in [easy language](#)

Become an interpreter yourself

Your spoken German is already very good? You want to support your compatriots who do not speak enough German? For example, you can accompany them on visits to the government offices or other appointments.

Then feel free to contact us and make yourself available as a lay interpreter.

■ [08341 437427](tel:08341437427)

■ integreat@kaufbeuren.de

Lay and cultural interpreters in Kaufbeuren

A common language is important for living together in a society. This is why there are language courses in Kaufbeuren for people who come from abroad.

However, the German learnt in language and integration courses is often not enough to communicate well. Good communication is necessary on many occasions.

The costs for professional interpreters are often very high.

The education office of the city of Kaufbeuren has organised a lay and cultural interpreter training course. Diakonie Kempten also trains cultural interpreters.

The integration guides have placed 35 men and women.

The education office and Diakonie Kempten cover the costs of interpreting. The lay interpreters only work within the framework of the volunteer allowance.

Cornelia Paulus and Claudia Warmdt organise the interpreters. They can be contacted on 08341 9081052 and arbeitskreis-asyl-kaufbeuren@gmx.de.

School, education and work

Information about school and work

The conditions under which you can work in Germany depend on your residence status. You will find basic information and contact persons for your job search under Access to the [Labor Market](#).

If you have already completed school or vocational training abroad, you should make every effort to have these qualifications officially recognized. You can find out more about this under [Recognition of Foreign Qualifications](#).

There are around 400 training occupations in Germany. If you are looking for vocational training, you will find further information and contacts under [Vocational Training](#) (dual and full-time school).



If you are between 16 and 21 years old and do not have a job, you must attend a vocational [school](#). This applies if you are taking vocational training, but also otherwise. The vocational schools in Kaufbeuren also offer a variety of training programs that prepare you for advanced vocational training or for starting a career.

In Bavaria, children and young people must attend school from the age of six. You attend a general school before you start [vocational school or training](#), or before you begin university study. Further information can be found under [School \(6 to 15 years\)](#).

If you would like to study at an institution of higher education, you will find suitable information and contact persons under [Studies](#).

Important information about school

Registration at school

You must register your child at the relevant school. After your registration at the  [Bürgerbüro](#) (Citizens' Office), the school responsible for your child will be informed automatically. The school will then send you an invitation to register your child. After you register, your child can go to school. You can find your relevant school at:  [Map of Kaufbeuren](#), selection: Schulsprengel. (A "Schulsprengel" is the neighborhood district in which resident children attend the local school.)


Important: bring your child with you! Please also bring an interpreter and the following documents with you:

Your passport, birth certificate or proof of arrival
registration certificate of the Foreigners' Office
all documents concerning your child (identity card, birth certificate, any available school certificates, medical certificates, etc.)



Sick leave from school

Please call the school before the lessons begin if your child is ill or cannot attend school for other important reasons. Otherwise the school will have to search for your child, if necessary with the police.

Travel costs to school

The city of Kaufbeuren is responsible for travel costs for pupils of primary and secondary schools. Pupils of secondary schools up to and including 10th grade, special-needs pupils, and full-time vocational pupils should contact the  [school administration](#).

 [Education and participation package, abbr. BuT](#) (Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket)


It is possible for your child to receive financial support through the education and participation package for lunch at school, membership fees for cultural and sports clubs, or money for participating in school excursions. The application must be submitted to the  [Sozialamt](#) (Social Welfare Office) or  [Job Center](#).

You must always make the application before you pay anything yourself. If you have already paid something, you will not get the money back.

After-school care and (after-) lunch supervision

For schoolchildren there are after-school day-care centers and mid-day supervision. Whether and by whom the costs will be covered depends on the residence permit. Please contact your child's school directly.

Supervision of homework

Many helper groups also offer voluntary homework supervision. Just ask your  [circle of helpers](#).

Further Information

Basically there is the possibility for admission to higher education even after graduating from a Hauptschule (middle school) or a Realschule (vocational secondary school) by attending a Fachoberschule for two years. The term "Fachoberschule" is difficult to translate, but it basically means two extra years of school, which qualifies you for admission to a "Hochschule," an institution granting bachelor's and master's degrees. In Bavaria you can add a third year and earn the "Allgemeine Hochschulreife" or "Abitur," the full academic diploma qualifying you also for admission to a university, which grants bachelor's, master's, and doctor's degrees. Graduates of a "Gymnasium" (university-preparatory high school) can also do vocational training. A lot is possible, but everything depends on your child's performance and willingness to perform.

You can find an overview of the **Bavarian school system** in 3 languages here:

- [The school system in Bavaria in German](#)
- [The school system in Bavaria in English](#)
- [The school system in Bavaria in Arabic](#)

Schools in Kaufbeuren

Schools in Kaufbeuren

There are many different types of schools in Germany. The school system in Germany is very complex and differs from state to state.

Every school offers information sessions. The new school year for all schools starts in September. The most important types of schools are briefly presented below.

■ [Primary schools in Kaufbeuren](#)

First of all, all children from the age of 6 attend primary school. In grades 1-4 they learn reading and writing as well as basic mathematics. Depending on the child's scholastic record and the recommendation of the teachers in the intermediate report of the fourth grade, the children then go to one of three types of secondary school.

Secondary schools in Kaufbeuren:

■ [Mittelschule in Kaufbeuren](#)

The "Mittelschule" (literally "middle school") is intended for pupils who want to do an apprenticeship after graduation. This school is intended to prepare pupils for working life. In addition to theoretical knowledge, practical knowledge and skills are particularly fostered. This type of school lasts 5 years. After passing the final examination one has achieved the qualifying lower-secondary school-leaving certificate (commonly referred to as "Quali").

■ [Realschulen in Kaufbeuren](#)

The second type of secondary school is the Realschule (vocational secondary school). Here pupils can, for example, learn a second foreign language. More independent learning is expected than in the middle school and pupils receive a broader general education. In comparison to the Gymnasium, the pupils of a Realschule are trained in a more vocational way. The secondary school-leaving certificate (called "Realschulabschluss") generally provides the basis for many types of white-collar occupations as well as further vocational training.

■ [Gymnasien in Kaufbeuren](#)

The third type of secondary school is the "Gymnasium," or university-preparatory high school. Education at the Gymnasium lasts 9 years and concludes with a final examination for the general university entrance qualification (in German "Abitur"). In comparison to the other two types, the Gymnasium pupils are expected to be more responsible for their own work and mainly to become prepared for university studies rather than for one's working life.

German classes

A German class is a class for children and young people who are new to Germany and do not speak enough German to be able to follow lessons in a regular class. After a phase of intensive language acquisition, the classes should enable the transition to a regular class. German classes are made up of foreign pupils of different nationalities. The focus is on the acquisition of the German language. All school-age children who are eligible to attend a German class must be registered with the "Sprengelschule" (the district school in or closest to their neighborhood). In the city of Kaufbeuren, a ■ [German class has been set up for the secondary-school sector](#) in the 2019/20 school year.

■ [Vocational schools in Kaufbeuren](#)

If you are between 16 and 21 years old and do not have a job, you must attend vocational school (■ [compulsory vocational school](#)). This applies to refugees and newcomers from EU countries as well as to Germans.

At the vocational school you first learn German in vocational integration classes (Berufsintegrationsklassen, abbr. BIK). There you will receive further educational offers and support in vocational orientation.

If you are doing dual training, you will also attend vocational school.

If you or your children live in Kaufbeuren, are between 16 and 21 years old, and do not have a job, please register personally with the state vocational school:

Staatliche Berufsschule (State Vocational School)

■ [Josef-Fischer-Str. 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 909315 0](#)

■ [verwaltung@bs-kf.de](#)

■ [Kaufbeuren State Vocational School](#)

■ [Private Vocational Business School](#) (Private Wirtschaftsschule Frenzel Kaufbeuren)

This school is similar to the Realschule, but, in addition to general education, focuses on basic vocational training in business and administration. The lessons are more practice- and work-oriented and prepare students for commercial professions. The transfer to the business school is possible in the 6th, 7th, 8th and 10th grades; successful pupils graduate with the secondary school-leaving certificate.

Private Wirtschaftsschule) Frenzel

■ [Bleicherweg 2, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 2554](#)

■ [info@frenzelschule.de](#)

■ [Private Vocational Business School Frenzel](#)

■ [Fachoberschule, abbr. FOS/Berufsoberschule, abbr. BOS](#)

(Senior Secondary and Technical School/Senior Secondary and Vocational School) Kaufbeuren
Students who already have a recognized school-leaving certificate can also repeat their school

leaving-certificate process in a [preliminary class](#) in order to improve their grade- point average. This is because the average mark of 3.5 is a prerequisite for admission to the standard class of the FOS/BOS.

Staatliche FOS/BOS Kaufbeuren

■ [Josef-Fischer-Str. 5, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 90 83 38 0](#)

■ [Senior Secondary and Technical School/Senior Secondary and Vocational School \(FOS/BOS\)Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [Special schools in Kaufbeuren](#)

Children with special problems who cannot be sufficiently supported in lessons at general schools can be individually supported and cared for at special schools. The class size in special schools is smaller.

There are 2 special-needs schools in Kaufbeuren:

Josef-Landes-Schule

■ [Prinzregentenstraße 2, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [0 83 41 96639-0](#)

■ [buero@josef-landes-schule.de](#)

■ [Josef-Landes-School](#)

Ludwig Reinhard Schule Kaufbeuren

■ [Am Sonneneck 41, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 82880](#)

■ [schule@ludwig-reinhard-schule.de](#)

■ [www.ludwig-reinhard-schule.de](#)

Recognition of foreign educational qualifications

In Germany, school or university certificates play an important role for schools, university studies or careers. With certificates you can prove what you have already learned and achieved. Certificates are the decisive prerequisite for getting a job or being admitted to a school or university. So if you have already acquired certificates abroad at school, in training or in a course of study, you should make every effort to ensure that these certificates are officially recognized in Germany. This means that what you are qualified for will be checked with your certificates in Germany. Your achievements and qualifications will be translated, so to speak. It may be that you no longer have your certificates. In this case, you can try to have your professional experience and skills recognized through tests.

Support offered in the recognition process (professional and educational):

[Migrationsdienst der Caritas](#) (Caritas Migration Service), for persons over 27 years of age

[Jugendmigrationsdienst](#) (Youth Migration Service), for persons up to 27 years of age.

■ [IHK Foreign Skills Approval \(IHK FOSA\)](#)

More information under the chapter [Authorities and Advice](#).

Higher education

General information:

There are many different higher-education programs in Germany. There are also different types of universities:

universities, academically oriented

universities of applied sciences, in German "Fach)Hochschulen," more practice-oriented

co-operative universities, in German "Duale Hochschulen," combining studies with work experience

art, film and music colleges, for creative-arts subjects

There are state universities and private universities. The quality of private universities is not necessarily better, but, in contrast to state universities, students often have to pay high tuition fees.

There are many helpful sites on the Internet:

■ [Higher Education Compass](#) (All study programs and universities in Germany)

■ [Study in Germany](#) (Information for Refugees)

■ [Employment Agency Study Orientation](#)

■ [German Academic Exchange Service](#)

Prerequisites:

If you want to ■ [study in Germany](#), you need a ■ [higher-education entrance qualification](#). If you do not have a German Abitur, you must check whether you can study in Germany with the school-leaving certificate from your home country. Further information can be found on the website ■ [Anabin](#), in the ■ [information portal "Recognition in Germany"](#) and from ■ [the German Academic Exchange Service](#).

You must also provide proof that you have a good knowledge of German ■ [\(language level C1\)](#). There is also the possibility of funding by the ■ [Educational Guidance Guarantee Fund for Higher Education](#) (Bildungsberatung Garantiefonds Hochschule). Further information can be obtained from the ■ [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, abbr. DAAD](#) (German Academic Exchange Service).

Some universities also offer preparatory courses in which you can also learn German, for example the ■ [Hochschule Kempten](#) (Kempten University of Applied Sciences).

Find out more directly from the university where you would like to study. Most universities offer advice on this. Please also note the deadlines by which you must apply for a degree program!

The ■ [Agentur für Arbeit](#) (Employment Agency) will also help you to choose a course of study

Vocational education and training

Dual training

A special feature in Germany is the dual training system. Dual training takes place at a vocational school and in a training company. In this way, you get to know theory and practice at the same time and earn money in a company during your training.

In this video the dual training is explained in an easy-to-understand way:

■ [Dual training](#), ■ [dual training in Arabic](#).

Depending on the type of profession you would like to learn in a dual apprenticeship, you will contact one of the following:

Handwerkskammer, abbr. HWK (Chamber of Skilled Crafts) Swabia

The HWK is responsible for craft trades. It is concerned with occupations such as baker, bricklayer or painter. The HWK for Swabia has a special contact person for refugees who would like to start training in one of these areas. It offers help in the search for an apprenticeship or an entry qualification that can precede an apprenticeship.

Handwerkskammer (HWK) Schwaben

■ [Siebentischstraße 52 - 58, 86161 Augsburg](#)

Martina Wirth

■ [0821 3259 1263](tel:082132591263)

■ martina.wirth@hwk-schwaben.de

■ [hwk Swabia](#)

You can find an overview of apprenticeship vacancies in Kaufbeuren here:

■ [Apprenticeship Radar](#) (Lehrstellenradar) Kaufbeuren

Industrie- und Handelskammer, abbr. IHK (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) Swabia

The Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) is responsible for professions in industrial manufacturing, trade, and services. This means, for example, that it is concerned with factory mechanics and technicians as well as with sales personnel in wholesale and foreign trade. The Swabian IHK also has special contact persons who provide advice on training, initial qualification and internships:

Industrie- und Handelskammer (IHK) Schwaben

■ [Stettenstraße 1+3, 86150 Augsburg](#)

Mohammad Ibrahim

■ [0821 316 214 11](tel:082131621411)

■ Mohammad.Ibrahim@schwaben.ihk.de

Firas Bassal

■ [0821 3162 346](tel:08213162346)

■ firas.bassal@schwaben.ihk.de

■ [IHK Swabia](#)

🕒 Mo - Thu 8:00 - 17:00

Fri 8:00 - 15:00

You can find an overview of training vacancies in Kaufbeuren here:

■ [IHK Lehrstellenbörse](#) (IHK Apprenticeship Exchange)

Full-time education at the vocational school

In Germany, however, there is not only dual training, but also full-time school-based training at a **vocational school**.

Outside the dual-training system (i.e. without a training place in a company), the vocational school provides complete vocational training in theory and practice. It generally lasts two to three and a half years. Classes are held full-time and include general subjects in addition to vocational subjects. Since the vocational schools differ greatly in terms of their training specialties, admission requirements, training duration and further training opportunities, it is advisable to enquire at the particular school in each individual case.

In Kaufbeuren there are the following  [vocational schools](#) (Berufsfachschulen).

Problems in training? VerA can help

VerA means the **prevention of training drop-outs**.

VerA is an offer to anyone who encounters difficulties during training. They often consider cancelling their apprenticeship.


Senior experts with professional and life experience - retired professionals - are on hand to help.

VerA support is also free of charge for the training company. It initially runs for twelve months, but can be extended until the apprenticeship is completed. The senior experts and young people jointly determine the objectives of the training support on a case-by-case basis.

Further information is available on the VerA website and from the regional coordinator responsible for Kaufbeuren, Mr Roland Müller

 <https://vera.ses-bonn.de/>

Contact details Mr Müller:

 [08349 676](tel:08349676) or [0172 6069350](tel:01726069350)

 kempton@vera.ses-bonn.de

Training toleration from 01.01.2020 for "tolerated" foreigners

A toleration for training in a state-recognised or comparably regulated assistant and helper occupation can be permitted. Subsequently, training in a shortage occupation must be undertaken. A training commitment must then be available.

There is a waiting period of 3 months if the application for asylum has been rejected.

 [Federal Ministry of the Interior: Training toleration](#) (Bundesministerium des Innern: Ausbildungsduhlung)

Educational offers for everyone

Bildungsberatung (Educational Counseling Service)

The city of Kaufbeuren maintains a neutral and unprejudiced counseling center for all population and age groups. This center is located in Kaufbeuren at the Volkshochschule, abbr. Vhs (Adult Education Center) Kaufbeuren.

The counseling is free of charge and independent.

In concrete terms, people seeking advice can contact the Educational Counseling Service on topics such as the following:

- School-leaving qualifications
- career choice
- further education and training
- career reorientation
- re-entry
- funding opportunities

In addition to the neutral Educational Counseling Service, information service points, educational guides and educational counseling networks are also available. You can find further information on this in our brochure ■ ["Stufenberatung Bildung in Kaufbeuren"](#) (Step by Step: Educational Counseling in Kaufbeuren).

Volkshochschule Kaufbeuren e.V.
Herr Wendlinger
Deputy Head/Education Counselor

■ [Spitaltor 5, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ 08341 999690

■ [Educational counseling in the city of Kaufbeuren](#)

The **Volkshochschule (Vhs) Kaufbeuren** offers courses in the following areas:

- Language
- Job & Career
- Society & Life
- Health & Nutrition
- Culture & Creativity
- and many more..

The current program:

■ [Program Vhs Kaufbeuren](#)

The courses are offered in the German language and are inexpensive. For pupils, asylum seekers and welfare recipients there is a reduction of up to 30 percent.

In order to take part in a course, you must register in advance.

Volkshochschule (Vhs) Kaufbeuren

■ [Spitaltor 5, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ 08341 999690

■ info@Vhs-kaufbeuren.de

The Kolping Academy

The Kolping Academy also offers comprehensive training and further education.

■ [Program of the Kolping Academy](#)

Die Kolping Akademie

■ [Adolph-Kolping-Straße 2 a, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 966210](#)

■ kaufbeuren@die-kolping-akademie.de

Labor market access

Counseling centers for the labor market

For counseling and placement in the labor market, there are the following contacts especially for refugees - here, too, there are differences depending on whether your asylum procedure is still ongoing or whether you are official recognized or tolerated.

[Job Center Kaufbeuren](#)

The Job Center is available as a contact point for refugees with a residence permit. The team supports you in finding work and places you in suitable further training programs. In addition to your acquiring the German language, the team will work with you to develop your knowledge and skills and the steps necessary to pave the way for your career entry. The counseling is provided in the official language German.

[Agentur für Arbeit Kaufbeuren](#) (Kaufbeuren Employment Agency)

This is the point of contact for persons whose asylum proceedings have not yet been concluded and for tolerated persons with access to the labor market. There you will receive advice on your career opportunities in Germany.

Fair Integration - advice on labor- and social-law issues

The Beratungsstelle Fair Integration (Fair Integration Advisory Center) provides information and advice on social- and labor-law issues for refugees. Our aim is to impart knowledge about your rights in the German labor market in order to enable a fair labor market integration with fair working conditions. Only those who know their rights can claim them and defend themselves against exploitation and discrimination.

Target group

We advise working refugees (full-time, part-time, mini-job, temporary work, etc.), who are doing an apprenticeship or internship, or who are about to start their careers and want further information.

Consulting principles

Our advisory service is free of charge, confidential, biased in favor of the person seeking advice and not dependent on residence status.

Main areas of counseling:


- rights in employment, training or internships; placement relationships
- standards of the German labor market
- questions about remuneration, e.g. if no or too little remuneration was paid
- minimum wage
- work time
- vacation time
- health insurance
- Incapacity and [accidents at work](#)
- termination of employment

Contact details

Fair Integration + Support Fair Integration

■ [Kornmarkt 5-7, 4th floor, room 420-422, 90402 Nürnberg, Germany](#)

■ [Fair Integration](#)

 Consultation hours (no appointment necessary)

Tue 09:00 - 12:00

Wed 15:00 - 19:00

Thu 13:00 - 16:00

+ appointments by arrangement

Fair integration Fkreyesus Ghebreyesus

■ [0151 18742185](#)

■ fkreyesus@emwu.org

Languages: German, English, Tigrinya

Support Fair Integration Marie Bauer

■ [0160 2923906](#)

■ Marie.Bauer@dgb-bildungswerk.de

Languages: German, English

■ [Basic words on labor law in 13 languages](#)

Information for employers

Are you employers and still have questions about the training or employment of migrant workers?

Here you will find helpful summaries and information:

■ [BAMF](#)

■ [Recognition in Germany](#)

■ [The Bavarian Economy](#)

■ [IHK Swabia](#)

■ [HWK Swabia](#)

■ [AOK](#)

Are you looking for specialists from abroad? Then you can get more information here:

■ [German Federal Employment Agency](#) (Bundesagentur für Arbeit)

■ [Make It in Germany: Portal der Bundesregierung für Fachkräfte aus dem Ausland](#)
(multilingual)

■ [Project Triple Win](#)

■ [EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)

Children and Family

Family planning and contraception

Information for personal counseling can be obtained from the [Integration- und- Flüchtlingsberatung](#) (Integration and Refugee Counseling) and in the chapters [Counseling Centers and Help Services](#).

Contraception

There are different methods if you do not want to become pregnant or want to prevent infection by sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

More information in 13 languages at ■ www.zanzu.de

Becoming pregnant

How do you get pregnant? Difficulties getting pregnant? How to determine pregnancy?

More information in 13 languages at ■ www.zanzu.de

Being pregnant

You will find all counseling centers on the subject of pregnancy in the chapter [Counseling Centers and Help Services](#).

More information in 13 languages can be found at ■ www.zanzu.de

Unwanted pregnancy

If you are pregnant and do not want to have the baby, you can terminate the pregnancy with an abortion under certain conditions. Before you end a pregnancy, you must have a consultation.

Make an appointment by telephone for advice on pregnancy issues at a state-accredited counseling center. The counsellors will discuss the various options with you and answer all legal and medical questions. However, the decision as to whether or not to terminate your pregnancy lies with you alone.

More information in 13 languages can be found at  www.zanzu.de

Family benefits at a glance

The Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend (Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth) provides information on state benefits.

The "check booklet" provides a quick overview of the state support that families can rely on. Clearly and simply explained.


 [Family benefits at a glance - Starke-Familien-Checkheft](#)

Pregnancy and childbirth

Pregnant women in Germany are under special protection and are entitled to counseling, medical care and support in the case of new and necessary acquisitions for the child. If you are pregnant, you must first see a gynecologist. Have the gynecologist do the screening. You will then receive a maternity pass. The maternity pass is a document containing important information about your pregnancy, your health, and the health of your child. Always take your maternity pass with you for the possible event of an emergency situation.

Counseling centers

Staatlich anerkannte Beratungsstelle für Schwangerschaftsfragen, Landratsamt Ostallgäu, Gesundheitsamt (State-accredited Counseling Center for Pregnancy Issues, District Office for Ostallgäu, Department of Public Health)

 [Schwabenstraße 11, 87616 Marktoberdorf](#)

 [08342 911623](#)

(by appointment Thu 15:30 - 17:30 in Kaufbeuren)


 schwangerenberatung@Lra-oal.bayern.de

DONUM VITAE

 [Contact Information](#)


Katholische Beratungsstelle für Schwangerschaftsfragen (Catholic counseling center for pregnancy issues)

Mondays by appointment made by telephone

 [08191 478511](#)

Childbirth and postnatal/postpartal care

Your gynecologist will refer you to the  [obstetrics department](#) in the clinic in Kaufbeuren.


It makes sense to contact a midwife before the birth (e.g. at  www.babyclub.de) who will look after you after the birth.

Initial equipment and other material

With your maternity pass, you will if required receive a voucher for a pram at the Social Welfare Office or Job Center six weeks before the birth . After the birth, you will receive, along with a birth certificate help in making initial purchases and/or acquisitions. You will receive a child's bed in your accommodation.

Please contact us during the asylum procedure:

[Social Welfare Office](#) (Sozialamt)

 [Am Graben 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

If you are a client at the Job Center:

[Job Center Kaufbeuren](#)

 [Gewerbestraße 46 f, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

Registration after birth

Newborn children must be reported to the accommodation management. The maternity clinic will register the birth with the local Standesamt (registry office). There, after presenting your identity card, the confirmation of birth from the clinic and, if available, your marriage certificate, you will receive the (in certain cases provisional) birth certificate for your child. Please give your accommodation management a copy of the birth certificate so that your child can be registered.


Note: please provide only original documents. For documents in a foreign language, an officially certified German translation is required.


City of Kaufbeuren

Standesamt (Registry Office)

Anmeldung von Geburten, Urkundenanforderungen (Registration Section for Births and Document Requirements)


Room 18 A

 Kaiser-Max-Strasse 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren

 [08341 437 337](tel:08341437337)

 Standesamt@kaufbeuren.de

 [Standesamt Kaufbeuren](#)


 Mo 8.00 - 16.00

Tue, Wed 8.00 - 12.00

Thu 8.00 - 12.00 / 14.00 - 16.00

Fri 8.00 - 12.00

Pediatrician

There are ten  [screening tests](#) (U1-U9 and J1). Up to the age of 6, the child is therefore regularly examined and his or her development monitored. The U1 (examination after birth) and U2 examinations usually take place in the clinic. For further examinations you must make an

appointment with your pediatrician.

You can find pediatricians in the [telephone directory](#) under "Kinderärzte."

When registering for a day care center or kindergarten, proof of complete early-detection examinations may be required.

Here you will find more information about the U-examinations in [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).

Children, Youth and Family

The rights of the child (the best interests of the child) must be observed in the education of children and adolescents.

Particularly important in education are: [non-violence](#), health, education and [freedom of opinion](#). You can find out more about this in the chapter [Children's Rights](#).

In Germany, the Jugendamt (Youth Welfare Office) is responsible for childcare counseling, family counseling, and the protection of the best interests of the child. In order to safeguard the welfare of the child, the Youth Welfare Office is also dependent on information from the general public.

Educational and family counseling:

The Youth Welfare Office provides various types of assistance and counseling services to advise, support and provide relief for families in the upbringing of their children.

If you need support in the upbringing of your children, please contact us:

City of Kaufbeuren

Children, Youth, and Family (Kinder, Jugend und Familie)

Kaiser-Max-Strasse 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren

■ [08341 437 371](tel:08341437371)

■ jugendamt@Kaufbeuren.de

■ [jugendamt \(Youth Welfare Office\) Kaufbeuren](#)

Koordinierende Kinderschutzstelle der Stadt Kaufbeuren (Coordinating Child Protection Agency of the City of Kaufbeuren)

Families living in Kaufbeuren with children from 0 - 3 years old

Advice and support in difficult life situations

(e.g. money worries, housing shortages, illness, problems in the partnership, questions of upbringing, excessive burdens in everyday life etc.)

Unbureaucratic, timely help for families in emergency situations

City of Kaufbeuren

■ [Am Graben 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 399](#)

■ koki@kaufbeuren.de

■ [Early Childhood Network \(KoKi - Netzwerk frühe Kindheit\)](#)

KJF Educational, youth and family counseling

Advice and support for parents, children and adolescents involving questions in the following spheres:

family, separation and divorce, school
child development
development diagnostics if required
school readiness examination in the small group

counseling for parents with infants and toddlers
online advice for parents and young people at: www.beratung-caritas.de

Catholic Educational, Youth and Family Counseling (KJF Erziehungs-, Jugend- und Familienberatung)

■ [Baumgarten 18, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 90240](#)

■ [Catholic Educational, Youth and Family Counseling](#) (KJF Erziehungs-, Jugend- und Familienberatung)

■ <http://www.kjf-augsburg.de/>

■ office hours: Tue 15:00 - 16:00

and by appointment

HIPPY (Home Interaction for Parents and Preschool Youngsters)

Hippy Kaufbeuren is a play- and learning- program for three to six-year-old children with a migration background. Together with the parents it prepares the children for school. Hippy builds on the close bond between parents and children: the parents practically become the first teachers of their children. The aim is to improve the language skills of parents and children. At the same time, preschool skills such as language and text comprehension, creativity and social behavior are fostered.

KJF Augsburg e. V.

KJF Kinder- und Jugendhilfe Kaufbeuren-Ostallgäu

■ [Baumgarten 24, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 90 23 42](#)

■ [Contact HIPPY Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [HIPPY Kaufbeuren](#)

Childcare and supervision

Why is a day-care facility good for my child?

Here your child can learn the German language and discover new things. It is also a place where children can make contact with other children, make new friends and get to know German culture. Use this opportunity; it is important for the future of your child. Attending a day-care center also helps to prepare your child well for school.

Unfortunately, there are not always enough places in the immediate vicinity of your apartment or other accommodation. To find a place, ask the Youth Welfare Office of the city of Kaufbeuren.

City of Kaufbeuren

Kindertageseinrichtungen (Day-Care-Facilities)

■ [Kaiser-Max-Strasse 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 382](#)

■ [Day-care facility](#)

■ [Day-care facility](#)

What Day-care facility are there?

If your child is 1-3 years old, the day-care facility is called "Krippe," or day nursery. (For those of you whose English is more British-orientated, you are probably more used to the word "crèche" in this context.)

If your child is 3-6 years old, the day-care facility is called a "Kindergarten," abbr.KiGa.

If your child is 6-12 years old and still goes to a day-care facility after school, the facility is called a "Hort," and is a day-care center for school-age children.

■ [Day-care facility for children in Kaufbeuren](#)

Financial support

The city of Kaufbeuren will contribute up to € 100 for the cost of attending one of the above-mentioned day-care facilities.

Higher fees can be paid by the Jugendamt Kaufbeuren (Youth Welfare Office) under certain conditions.

■ [Applications](#) for financial support can be obtained from the day-care facility and the [Youth Welfare Office](#) of the city of Kaufbeuren.

You can apply for education and participation benefits for your child at the [Sozialamt](#) (Social Welfare Office) or the [Job Center](#). Among other things, there are subsidies for communal lunch at school and at the day-care facility.

How does a kindergarten work?

1. Settling in

After you have found a place in a kindergarten, your child will become "acclimatized" to the kindergarten. This is how it works: Mom or Dad goes to the facility for a while together with the child. Together they get to know the teachers, the rooms, the other children and the daily routine. So your child can get used to the new place and you as parents can get used to it too. That is why we say "acclimatization." That is very important in Germany, and that is what all parents and children do. The acclimatization can take two or more weeks.

2. Informal and/or spontaneous conversations

After settling in, you bring your child to the day care facility in the morning and pick him or her up at noon or in the evening, depending on what you have booked. There are fixed times for this. You have to keep to them. This is very important for the children, so the teachers can "work" with the children undisturbed. When you bring or pick up your child, you can briefly talk to the staff and tell them what is important to you or how your child is doing right now. When you pick up your child, the teachers will tell you briefly what your child experienced in the facility and how he or she fared. You will also be informed if the nursery needs something from you or is planning an outing.

3. Parent-teacher discussions

Two parent-teacher discussions take place regularly in one kindergarten year. This applies to all parents and all children. In these conversations you will be told what the child has learned in the kindergarten, what he or she is particularly good at and where the child should develop further. An interpreter can also come to these meetings so that everyone can understand each other well. Sometimes there is something important to discuss outside the regular meetings. You as parents can also ask for an interview if something disturbs you about the activity in the day-care center or if you want to communicate something important about your child. Then the facility will arrange an appointment with you. An interpreter can also come to this appointment.

4. Parental mail

Allmost every day-care facility (in German you will often hear the abbreviation "Kita," which is short for "Kindertagesstätte), or day-care facility, supplies a compartment or shelf for each child in which the facility also places information for the parents. In these "letters to parents" there is a lot of information, for example about joint parties or excursions that are planned or about new regulations in the day-care facility that are important for parents, such as new times for bringing the child to school or rules for parking the pram or the like. It is important that you read this parental mail. If you cannot read the parental mail, ask the facility to help you. The letter can be translated by an interpreter or by other parents.

5. Parents' evenings

It's good if you use these meetings. The dates for the parents' evenings are posted in the facility and in the parental letter, or are communicated orally.

6. In the day-care facility

Every facility has its own daily routine. It usually more or less looks like this:

The children are brought by their parents to the facility at a certain time in the morning. Every day-care facility has delivery and pick-up times that must be observed.

In the course of the morning, the children have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Either the

facility prepares breakfast or the children bring something from home.

During the "free play time" the children have the opportunity to play, do handicrafts or do gymnastics together with other children.

At the "morning circle or children's circle" all children meet to discuss important topics, sing songs or learn new games.

There are also specific offers and projects involving handicrafts, sports, listening to stories or receiving targeted support.

At least once a day the children can go into the garden and experience nature.

Lunch is served for all the children together:

depending on their age, the children can take a nap after lunch or have a quiet time to play.

Then there is time to play again.

The children receive drinks in the facility; often fruit and a snack are also offered in the afternoon.

Finally, you pick up the child at the time you agreed upon with the facility.

Minors who are refugees without parents

Refugees under the age of 18 who have entered Germany unaccompanied are called unaccompanied underage foreigners (in German *umA*, for "unbegleitete minderjährige Ausländer," the German translation of the above). These young people are reported to the [Jugendamt](#) (Youth Welfare Office) . The Youth Welfare Office talks to the young people and determines their age. The age determination decides whether the Youth Welfare Office takes care of the minor (under 18 years of age) and places him or her in special accommodation for young people (the German term for this is "Inobhutnahme"). If the Youth Welfare Office says that the person is "of age" (18 years or older), the person receives a notice nullifying the underage status and is treated as an adult. The Youth Welfare Office will bring an interpreter to the interview.

Important: if you are not yet 18 years old on your proof of arrival, but the Youth Welfare Office gives you a nullification notice, the Youth Welfare Office must enter a new date of birth on the notice. Only then can you have your documents changed at the [Foreigners' Department](#).

Some minors under the age of 18 enter the country without their parents, but with relatives (e.g. uncles or aunts, cousins or older siblings). Your accommodation supervisor will report this to the Youth Welfare Office after your arrival. The Youth Welfare Office talks to the young person and his or her adult relatives and checks whether he or she can live with them. The Youth Welfare Office also decides whether or not to appoint a guardian.

The adult relatives can also apply for guardianship themselves at the Familiengericht (Family Court). The guardianship gives the relative full responsibility for the minor in place of the parents.

Offers for senior citizens in Kaufbeuren

There are also numerous offers for older citizens at Kaufbeuren .

You can find an overview here:

■ [Senior Citizens' Advisory Council of the City of Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [Senior citizens' office of the town of Kaufbeuren](#)

Everyday Life and Housing

Living in Germany

The Rule of Law

Germany is a democratic constitutional state. The Grundgesetz (Basic Law) guarantees human dignity, freedom and justice. There are laws to ensure that human rights are respected.

Political decisions are made by representatives of the people. The representatives of the people are elected by the citizens of Germany in free elections.

The laws apply equally to all people in Germany. The state must abide by the laws. All people living in Germany must also abide by German laws.

This means, for example:

- If people think that other people or the public administration is doing them an injustice, they can take the matter to a court. These courts are independent. This means that the government cannot tell the courts how to decide.
- State courts decide whether someone is to be punished. Penalties include fines, community service and imprisonment. There is no death penalty in Germany.
- The police have the task of ensuring that all people can live in freedom and security.
- The practice of religion must not offend against German law. Law always takes precedence over religion.

The following are not permitted in Germany:

- to call for hatred or violence.
- to fight against the democratic system and its values.

These offenses can lead to imprisonment.

After serving the sentence, non-German citizens may, under certain conditions, lose their right to stay in Germany and will be expelled.

Personal freedom

All adults are allowed to decide about themselves and their own lives, no matter whether man or woman, young or old, with or without disability, and no matter what skin color or religious affiliation.

All people may do what they want, as long as they abide by the laws and do not restrict others in their freedom.

This means, for example:

- All people are allowed to decide what they want to wear
- All people are allowed to eat what they want and what they like

- The consumption of alcohol is allowed for adults. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited for children and adolescents
- Every woman and every man may decide for himself or herself whether and who he or she wants to marry
- Every woman and every man may divorce
- Unmarried couples may live together and have children
- Members of different religions and faiths may marry and have children
- Contraception is allowed for both sexes. A person's decision to use contraception must be respected
- Same-sex partnerships are accepted
- Everyone decides for themselves how and where they want to live. For non-Germans, this right may be restricted until an asylum application has been approved and officially recognized
- Sexual acts between adults may only take place by mutual consent. Any sexual intercourse with children is prohibited

Important:

Your own freedom ends where it violates the freedom or human dignity of others or violates laws.

Equal rights for men and women

Women and men have equal rights. This is reflected in the laws and in daily life.

This means, for example:

- Girls and boys go to school together and receive the same education. They take part in physical education classes together
- Women are allowed to study at a university or learn a profession. In principle, all professions are open to women
- Women assume responsibility in society, e.g. as policewomen, doctors, teachers or in government offices and bureaus. Their instructions must be followed as if the instructions had been given by a man in a similar position
- Women decide for themselves whether they want to work. They themselves can do what they want with the money they earn
- Women do not need to ask their husbands, parents or other family members for permission when they want to work, open a bank account or sign a contract
- Women are allowed to dress as they please
- Women decide for themselves if, when and who they want to marry
- Mothers are especially protected. They are not allowed to work six weeks before and eight weeks after birth. They may not be fired because of their motherhood
- The tasks and roles in the family are not prescribed
- Women participate in public life. They attend cultural, political or sporting events, restaurants and bars
- Women can vote and be elected to political office
- Women and men are equal in inheritance law. This applies to daughters as well as sons

- Sexual advances, comments or requests are only allowed if all parties agree. A "stop," "no," or "I don't want to" must be respected at all times

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- any form of violence against women, including in marriage
- sexual harassment at any time against anyone
- rape, even within the marriage
- forcing someone to marry. Marriage by force or threat is, like all the other acts in this list, against the law

Freedom of expression

All people may form , freely express and disseminate their own opinions. These opinions may also be expressed in public. All media are also free; all people can inform themselves there. Whoever expresses his or her opinion freely must pay attention to the protection of the personal honor or the personal dignity of other people.

This means, for example:

- Religion may be criticized
- Artistic works may provoke. No one may dictate to writers, musicians or visual artists how they should work
- The government and the various religions may also be the subject of satire and critical art
- Anyone who feels slandered, insulted, defamed or violated in their personal honor or dignity can turn to the police or to a court.

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- the use of anti-constitutional symbols and calls to overthrow democracy
- Insulting expressions of opinion that demean others
- slander or defamation against other people
- calls for hatred and violence

Children's rights

Children and young people have rights. These rights are enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also applies in Germany to all children and young people under the age of 18. In addition, there are many laws in Germany that protect the life, health and rights of children in various special ways. The protection of children always comes first.

This means, for example:

- All children have the same rights. No matter where they live, where they come from, what skin color they have, what their parents do, what language they speak, what religion they practice, whether they are boys or girls, in what culture they live, whether they have a disability, or whether they are rich or poor

- Children have the right to a name, a birth certificate, a nationality and a family. The state generally helps when children lack one or more of these
- Children should be able to live with their parents, unless this puts them in danger. Parents may and must care for their children, and protect and promote their health and well-being
- Children who are refugees have the right to special protection and assistance
- Children must be protected so that they can grow up properly
- Children must and are allowed to go to school. There is compulsory schooling. Parents must support their children in attending school. School education in Germany is free of charge
- Children are allowed to form their own opinion
- At the age of 14 at the latest, children are allowed to decide entirely on their own whether they belong to a religion and which religion they belong to
- Children should be able to develop well. Parents are responsible for this. If they need help, the state must help and, for example, provide food, clothing and an adequate place to live
- Children whose parents are not married have the same rights as children living with married parents

The following prohibitions exist in Germany:

- Children must not be neglected or abused
- Children must not be beaten or subjected to any physical or mental abuse in any way
- Children up to the age of 13 may not be used as laborers or other kinds of workers. If they are older, they are only allowed to work to a very limited extent. This must not impair health and personal development
- Children may not be abducted or used as commercial objects
- It is forbidden to perform sexual acts on children

Non-violence

Everyone has the right to a life without violence. This means that all people have the right to life and physical integrity. This is understood to mean both the physical and mental health of a person. This also applies to the private sphere.

This means, for example:

- Conflicts should be resolved without violence
- If you need help with danger or conflicts, you can call the police
- All instructions of the police are to be obeyed
- Vigilante justice is not allowed. If one's own rights have been violated, a state court rules on the case
- The state must act non-violently. It may only use force in exceptional cases when all other means have been exhausted. There is no death penalty and no corporal punishment; torture is forbidden


The following is not allowed in Germany:

- physically abusing, hurting or killing another person (this also applies within the family, at school and on the street)

- participation in a brawl that results in people being killed or seriously injured
- blood vengeance and murder in the name of honor
- violence against women and children (always and everywhere)
- trafficking in human beings, slavery and the coercion to prostitution
- closing, circumcising, cutting, or otherwise mutilating the female genitals in in any way

Holidays and opening hours

In Germany, opening hours and public holidays are regulated by law in each federal state. In Bavaria, most large shops are usually open from Monday to Saturday from 8:00 to 20:00.. The smaller shops in Kaufbeuren usually close earlier in the evening and on Saturdays. Sunday is a day of rest on which all shops are closed, although restaurants, cafés and some bakers are still open at varying hours.

Holidays and school holidays in Bavaria can be found  [here](#).

Religious practice in Kaufbeuren

Freedom of religion

Religion and faith are private matters in Germany. The state does not dictate to anyone whether or in which God he or she should believe. State and religion are separate.

This means, for example:

- All people may freely exercise their religion and their faith and choose for themselves
- All people have the freedom not to be religious and to say so. Anyone who does not believe in God may also say this publicly
- Members of different religions and faiths may marry
- Marriage counts as a legally binding marriage only after a civil ceremony at the Standesamt (Municipal Registry Office). Marriages entered into exclusively within the framework of a religion are not legally binding in Germany.

The following is prohibited in Germany:

- No one may place religious regulations or traditions above applicable laws. For example, to be married to several women at the same time or to slaughter an animal without special permission is illegal
- Boys may be circumcised only if this does not endanger their health or well-being

Many people in Germany today are committed to dialog between religions. The aim is the peaceful coexistence of religious people, believers, and people who do not belong to any religion. The state is committed to ideological neutrality. As long as the practice of a religion neither endangers democracy nor the separation of religion and state, it is protected.

Houses of Worship

In addition to Catholic and Protestant churches, Kaufbeuren is also home to free churches and Islamic, Christian Orthodox etc. houses of worship.

Mosques in Kaufbeuren can be found here:

Kaufbeuren Camii

■ [Augsburger Straße 15](#)

Ulu Camii

■ [Danziger Straße 9](#)

Alevitisches Gemeindezentrum Kaufbeuren e.V.

■ [Hüttenstr. 77](#)

Keywords: Religion (religion), Religionsfreiheit (freedom of religion), Staat (state), Schutz der Religion (protection of religion), Gebetshäuser (houses of worship))

Smoking ban in public buildings, restaurants and workplaces

Since 01.08.2010 smoking in public buildings and restaurants has been forbidden in Bavaria.

■ [Information on the smoking ban](#) (Informationen zum Rauchverbot)

Smoking is also not always allowed in workplaces.

■ [Non-smoker protection at the workplace](#) (Nichtraucherschutz am Arbeitsplatz)

Housing

Searching for a place to live

Government-supported dwellings and housing allowances

If you and the people living with you in the household earn little money, you can get a government-supported place to live. To do this, you will need a Wohnungsberechtigungsschein (residence entitlement certificate). Under certain circumstances, you are also entitled to Wohngeld (housing benefits). If you receive money from the state for yourself and your family, you usually do not need to apply for housing benefits.

You can obtain an application for the housing entitlement certificate here:

Stadt Kaufbeuren

Bauverwaltung(Building Administration),Room 200 N

■ [Kaiser-Max-Straße 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 413](#)

■ [Residential Entitlement](#) (Kontakt Wohnberechtigung)

■ [Application for residence entitlement](#)

Housing offers

Rental apartments (Br. flats) can be found on the usual websites, e.g. at

- [Immobilienscout24](#)
- [Meine Stadt Immobilien](#)
- [ebay Kleinanzeigen \(small ads\)](#)

and in the local newspapers.

- **Real estate of the city of Kaufbeuren**

The city of Kaufbeuren rents out its own apartments.

You can apply for an apartment here:

Liegenschaftsamt der Stadt Kaufbeuren (Real Estate Office of the City of Kaufbeuren)

Frau Bubenik, Room 216 N

- [Kaiser-Max-Str. 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
- [08341 437 248](#)
- [Contact Liegenschaftsamt](#)
- [City Real Estate Office \(Liegenschaftsamt\)](#)

- **Vermieter in Kaufbeuren (Landlords in Kaufbeuren):**

■ [Non-Profit Building Cooperative](#) (Gemeinnützige Baugenossenschaft) Kaufbeuren

- [Hochstadtweg 3, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
- [08341 9662250](#)

■ [Gablonz Housing Estate](#) (Gablonzer Siedlungswerk)

- [Sudetenstraße 105, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
- [08341 96360](#)

■ [Dawonia Oberbayern und Schwaben GmbH](#)

- [Dom-Pedro-Str. 19, 80637 Munich](#)
- [089 30617 618](#)
- [info@dawonia.de](#)

- **WG-Zimmer (room in a flat- or house-sharing commune)**

Are you looking for a room in a shared dwelling?

At ■ [www.wg-gesucht.de](#) you will find a wide range of different rooms.

- **Important abbreviations**

1. OG= first floor (Br.), second floor (U.S.)

App. = apartment (U.S.), flat (Br.)

DB/D'bad = shower

EG = ground floor

EBK = kitchen with built-ins (U.S.) fitted kitchen (Br.)

HK = heating costs

incl. = inclusive

Kaut.. = deposit

MM = rent per month
NK = additional costs
sof. frei = immediately free
teilmbf. = partly furnished
WG = shared dwelling, commune
Whg. = apartment/flat
Wohnfl. = living space (usually in square meters)
Zi. = room
ZKB = room-kitchen-bathroom

House rules

In a list of house rules, certain rules of living together are fixed. These rules apply to all persons who live in shared accommodation. The most important concerns are:

Noise: Everyone in the house is responsible for avoiding noise as much as possible. You must take special care to avoid noise from 13:00 to 15:00 and from 22:00 to 6:00, for this is rest time. On Sundays and holidays the whole day is rest time.

Waste disposal: The garbage must be disposed of in the designated bins. There are different bins for plastic, paper and cardboard, fruit and vegetable waste (biowaste) and other waste. Please keep to the waste separation, as a large part of the waste is recycled and thus is an important part of environmental protection.

■ [Information on disposal](#)

■ [waste consulting](#) (Kontakt Abfallberatung)

- **Sanitation:** No leftovers or any other food should be disposed of in the toilet, as this is the food source for rats. The biowaste bin is available for the disposal of food scraps. The toilet is not a garbage can. Therefore, do not dispose of your hygiene articles (bandages, wet wipes etc.) in the toilet, but in the garbage can.
- **Ventilation:** You should open the windows regularly to let in fresh air. This will prevent mold from forming,

All these topics are discussed below in [Kaufbeuren Tenant Qualification](#).

Telephone connection

Mobile telephones

There are two different mobile phone contracts in Germany: Prepaidvertrag (prepaid contract) and Laufzeitvertrag (fixed-term contract). The prepaid contract has no fixed term. A fixed-term contract has a minimum contract duration. This contract is automatically extended and then often becomes more expensive. If you do not want the contract to be extended automatically, you must cancel in writing. Pay attention to the notice period, usually 3 months before the termination of the contract (ATTENTION: The inbox at the telephone company applies.)

Ask your circle of helpers for assistance so that you can choose and conclude a good contract.

10 important questions for the conclusion of the contract:

- What is the basic fee? Will the fee increase after a certain time?

- Is there a minimum monthly turnover (minimum cost per month)?
- How long does the contract last (e.g. 12 or 24 months)?
- If I do not cancel the contract, the contract is automatically renewed. When do I have to cancel if I don't want to renew the contract?
- How much does it cost to set up, change and deactivate?
- What time interval (60/1, 10/10) is charged?
- How much does the minute cost (external / own network)?
- How much does a mobile phone with a contract cost and how much does a mobile phone without a contract cost?
- How much does the Internet cost?
- How much do international calls cost?

Keywords: Handy (mobile phone), Handyvertrag (mobile phone contract), Prepaid, Vertragslaufzeit (contract duration), Mindestlaufzeit (minimum contract duration), Kündigungsfrist (notice period for termination of contract)

Moving into one's own dwelling (for refugees)

As soon as you have a residence permit, you are generally obligated to move out of the shared or decentralized accommodation facility. You must find your own place to live. As long as you do not have a job and therefore do not earn any money, the [Job Center](#) will pay your rent. However, only if you are in need of help.

Important: If you have found a place to live, you are not allowed to sign the lease immediately. The Job Center must check and approve the lease before you sign it. The rental agreement must contain the following points:

- Kaltmiete (literally, "cold rent"), the basic rental costs for the living space per month
- Nebenkosten, additional costs: also operating costs like staircase cleaning, garbage fees, caretaker costs, cable connection etc.
- heating costs: costs for heating and hot water (Please note: electricity and heating costs must always be paid by yourself)
- size of the dwelling, number of rooms, address, landlord

Warmmiete (literally, "warm rent"), consisting of the "cold rent" plus all the above components, and therefore significantly higher than the "cold rent."

Deposit, initial furnishings, payment for articles left by previous tenant, and reassignments

The deposit is a security for the landlord. The amount for the deposit is a maximum of 3 months cold rent. If you move out of the apartment, you will get your money back. There may be deductions if any damage has been done.

Important: You must not leave any damage behind when you move out.

You are not allowed to take the furniture from your asylum accommodation with you. That is why you will need new furniture. You can apply to the [Job Center](#) for initial furnishings. You will then receive a lump sum from the Job Center, which may vary depending on the number of people and the size of the dwelling. If your previous tenant leaves different things behind, you can buy them from him or her (compensation).

Caution: It can take several weeks before the money is paid out by the Job Center!

Please remember to change your registration; i.e. you must report your new address (personally) to the Einwohnermeldeamt (Residents' Registration Office).

Radio and television fees

Radio licence fees

Germany has independent radio, television and online services from the networks ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio. Their transmissions and broadcasts are free of economic and political influences. All people together pay money for this. The payment is called a Rundfunkbeitrag (radio and TV license fee).

The law stipulates that a license fee must be paid for every dwelling in Germany. However, only one person per dwelling has to pay the fee. This currently costs 17.50 euros per month and must be paid to the Beitragsservice (license-fee service) of ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio. Further information can be found on the website of the [radio and TV license fee](#) (Rundfunkbeitrag).

Also available in several languages:

[Information on the radio and TV license fee in different languages](#) (Informationen zum Rundfunkbeitrag in verschiedenen Sprachen).

Do I have to pay?

Some people can be exempted from the payment, for example, if you receive benefits under the Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (Asylum Seekers Benefits Act) or other social benefits. An application must be made for [exemption from the radio and television license fee](#). The diagram in the following [flyer](#) (here also in [English](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#), [Tigrinya](#), [Somali](#) and [Farsi](#)) shows you what you have to do.

Internet

Internet / WIFI

As an asylum seeker in Germany, you are unfortunately not legally entitled to Internet access (WIFI, in Germany referred to as WLAN) in your accommodation. Therefore, there is normally no WIFI (WLAN) in the accommodation.

If there is a telephone connection in the accommodation, it is possible for you to make a contract for WIFI yourself. Ask your circle of helpers to choose a good contract with you. Talk to the people living in the accommodation about the payment beforehand. Consider whether a contract that you can cancel at any time is better than a contract that is valid for a long period of time (e.g. 2 years).

Important: Before you sign a contract, ask your accommodation advisor whether WIFI is technically possible and how you can provide access for the technician.

You will find free hotspots for Kaufbeuren and the surrounding area under :

■ [Bayern WLAN](#)

■ www.europakarte.org

■ www.yellowmap.de

If you move into your own dwelling, you can rent Internet access from the telephone companies in Germany.

Drinking water in Kaufbeuren

Kaufbeuren has a very good water supply and water quality.

In principle, the water from the tap in the flat can be drunk without hesitation.

If this is not the case, your landlord must make you aware of this.

■ [Kaufbeuren drinking water](#)

■ [8 good reasons to drink drinking water](#)

Means of transport

Public Transportation

Bus

Within Kaufbeuren there is a well developed bus network. Timetables and information can be found ■ [here](#).

Important: riding without a ticket is illegal and will be punished! A valid ticket is required for each trip. Otherwise you pay a fine of € 60 .

Train

From the station in Kaufbeuren you can reach Augsburg in about 50 minutes and Munich in about 60 minutes. Timetable information and prices can be found ■ [here](#).

Within Kaufbeuren, however, most places can be easily reached on foot or by bicycle.

Bicycle

If you know that you will be residing for a longer time in Kaufbeuren, it is worth buying a bicycle. This is cheaper than riding a bus.

Important traffic rules for cyclists (selection):

Always drive on the right-hand side of the road

Do not drive two abreast, but one behind the other

If there is a bicycle path, you should ride on the bicycle path (such paths are only on the right side of the street in the direction of travel)

If you see the following traffic signs, you must use the bicycle path.

Only children up to the age of 11 are allowed to use the footpaths and sidewalks by bicycle.

Acquisition and repairs

When buying your bike, make sure that it is equipped as follows and therefore safe to ride; otherwise you will have to pay a fine (penalty) if you are checked by the police:

- front and rear lights
- reflector front and rear
- reflectors in the spokes (2 per wheel)
- reflectors on the pedals
- bell
- two brakes independent of each other

Addresses of used bicycle shops and repair shops

Bicycle workshop Kaufbeuren

The bicycle repair shop Kaufbeuren is located in the Adolph-Kolping-Straße 1 at the rear entrance on the grounds of the state vocational schools.
The opening hours are always Saturdays from 11:00 - 12:30.

■ [Bicycle workshop Kaufbeuren](#)

Free and inexpensive help in Kaufbeuren

In addition to counseling and support services, Kaufbeuren also offers material help, i.e. free or inexpensive things for everyday life.

■ [Hilfe für Familien in Kaufbeuren](#)

New in Kaufbeuren: the Family Center with the Family Store:

Family Store

■ [Hüttenstraße 10, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 97 280 92](#)

■ info@family-store.org

■ [family store](#)

News in different languages

News for Refugees

■ [Radio for refugees](#)

In Arabic

🎧 [Listen to news in easy language](#)

🎧 [German Wave](#)

Health Care

General Information

In Germany, you are entitled to basic medical care for acute illnesses and pain. You are also entitled to every officially recommended vaccination and preventive medical check-up. In addition, you will receive free medical services which are indispensable for safeguarding your health.

Consult a doctor if:

- you are acutely ill or in pain
- you are pregnant
- you are chronically ill, for example if you have diabetes, epilepsy or mental illness
- If you still have any remaining medication or the package information leaflet for your medication, bring it with you when you visit your doctor. If you have already been to the doctor or hospital because of the illness, please bring the examination records with you.

As soon as you have a residence permit, you must register with a regular health insurance company. There you will receive an insurance card and are entitled to the same benefits as all other residents in Germany.

An overview of the German health system can be found here in 14 languages:

■ [Guide to Health Care in Germany](#) (Wegweiser Gesundheitswesen Deutschland)

■ [Here you can search for doctors in Kaufbeuren](#)

for example enter as a search term:

Kinderarzt (pediatrician)

Allgemeinarzt (General practitioner)

Gynäkologe (gynecologist)

(Orthopäde (orthopedist)

Psychotherapie (psychotherapy)

Special circumstances in the event of an accident at work

An accident at work that leads to incapacity for work for more than three calendar days must be reported by the company to the responsible ■ [professional association](#) or accident insurance fund.

The company reports the accident. Many employers' liability insurance associations and accident insurance funds already offer the possibility of online accident reporting on their websites.

The doctor writes a special report and forwards it to the accident insurer.

After an accident at work, go to a Durchgangsarzt or D-Arzt (accident insurance consultant)!

These are physicians particularly qualified for the treatment of persons injured in accidents. An appointment with such a physician is necessary if:

- the accident injury leads to incapacity for work beyond the date of the accident,
or
- the necessary medical treatment is expected to last more than a week,
or
- you need prescription medicine as part of the treatment,
or
- there is a recurrence of the illness due to the consequences of an accident.

In the case of minor injuries, the accident victim is referred to the general practitioner for further treatment. In these cases, the accident-insurance consultant-physician monitors the treatment, e.g. through follow-up appointments.


Accident victims with only eye, neck, nose or ear injuries can also present themselves directly to an appropriate specialist or be referred to one.

[How to find accident-insurance-consultant physicians](#)

All employees are insured against accidents at work and on the way to and from work as well as against occupational diseases by the Berufsgenossenschaft (Employer's Liability Insurance Association). It assumes the costs and provides for the affected employees within the framework of the legally prescribed benefits (medical care, medical treatment, rehabilitation). In the case of temporary employment, the professional association for temporary employment - usually the Verwaltungsberufsgenossenschaft (Administrative Professional Association) - is responsible for the employees.


[Conduct in the event of accidents at work](#)

Landesverband Südost (Regional Association Southeast)

 Fockensteinstrasse 1, 81539 Munich, Germany

 [030 13001 5800](tel:030130015800)

 lv-suedost@dguv.de

 [German Statutory Accident Insurance](#) (Deutsche gesetzliche Unfallversicherung)

Visits to the doctor

Family doctors and specialists

If you're sick, see your family doctor. You can choose him or her yourself. The general practitioners themselves determine their opening hours. Make an appointment if you need help from your family doctor.

Family doctors carry out important examinations and are your first point of contact in case of illness. They also decide on necessary medication and whether a specialist examination is necessary.

If necessary, your family doctor will refer you to a specialist who can carry out special examinations.

Pediatricians

Children are usually examined by pediatricians. Regular check-ups and vaccinations by the pediatrician are important for the health of every child. The prescribed check-ups are called "[U-Untersuchungen](#)" (U-examinations) and are always at certain time intervals and free of charge. Please take your child to a pediatrician and inform yourself about the prescribed U-examinations.

Dentists

If you have a toothache, see a dentist.

Gynecologists

It is important that women are regularly examined by a gynecologist. In this way, diseases can be detected in time. This examination is called screening. You can also discuss contraception with a gynecologist.

If you need help in finding a suitable doctor, ask your circle of helpers or your accommodation supervisor.

If you are an **asylum seeker** and need to see a doctor, you will receive a treatment certificate from the [Sozialamt](#) (Social Welfare Office). With this certificate, your visit to the doctor is free of charge.

If an operation is necessary and it is **not** an emergency, the Sozialamt must approve the hospital stay in advance. Your doctor will issue you a certificate to this effect. Only medically necessary procedures can be covered.

If you need help in finding a suitable doctor, ask your accommodation supervisor.

Medical on-call service

Doctors are usually open Monday through Friday. Opening hours vary from doctor to doctor. If you need a doctor at night or on weekends, but it is not an emergency, you can call here:

■ [Medical on-call service](#)
■ [116 117](#) (free of charge)

Electronic patient file (ePA)

From **15 January 2025**, a new digital patient file called the **electronic patient file (ePA)** will be introduced in Germany. This file will store all important health data, such as what the doctor

has found out about your health, what medication you are taking or what examinations you have had.

Everyone with statutory health insurance automatically receives this ePA. If you do not want this, you can object.

Doctors and patients can access health data quickly and easily via the ePA. But only people who are authorised to do so are allowed to see the data. This keeps the data secure.

How can insured persons refuse to set up an ePA? What deadlines apply?

If someone no longer wants to use the ePA at a later date, they can have it deleted. The aim is to enable doctors and patients to work together faster and better to improve health.

If someone wants to refuse the ePA, they must inform their health insurance company. If they do not do this, the EPR will be created automatically.

Important details about the EPC. What do you need to bear in mind?

Contents of the EPA:

- All important information from your visits to the doctor is automatically included in the EPR if it is available in digital form. This means, for example, that findings or diagnoses that the doctor writes down are transferred to the EPR.
- You can also upload information such as vital signs (e.g. your height or weight) or older medical documents to the ePA yourself.
- From 2025, there will be an automatic overview of all the medication you are taking. This will later be supplemented by a special medication plan.

Access rights:

- You can specify which doctors or hospitals are authorised to access your ePA. If you want to make changes, you can do this via the ePA app or contact the ombudsman's office of your health insurance company.
- If your health card is read at a doctor's surgery or hospital, they will have temporary access to your ePA for 90 days unless you object.

Use and accessibility:

- You can manage the ePA via a special app on your smartphone. Each statutory health insurance fund offers its own ePA app, which you can download free of charge from the App Store (for iOS) or the Google Play Store (for Android).
- If you do not have a smartphone, you can get support from pharmacies or special centres to access your ePA.

Legal regulations:

- The introduction of the ePA will initially begin in Hamburg and North Rhine-Westphalia. It will then be available throughout Germany from February 2025.
- Privately insured persons can also use an ePA, although this depends on the insurance company in question.

Advantages:

- The ePA facilitates communication between doctors, hospitals and other medical facilities. It gives you a better overview of your health data.
- The ePA also increases the safety and accuracy of medication.

Challenges:

- Not all documents, such as old paper medical reports, are automatically digitised. However, you can ask your health insurance provider whether they can take over digitisation.
- There may be technical difficulties at the beginning because some doctors have to adapt their practice software.
- Another problem is that there is no multilingual information, i.e. no translations into other languages.

The ePA is an important step towards digitalisation in the healthcare sector. It should improve medical care. It also provides a basis for research.

Would you like to find out more? You can find more information here:

 [FAQ of the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians](#)

 [Questions and answers on the electronic patient file \(ePA\) by the KBV](#)

 [Information from the consumer advice centre about the ePA](#)

Medications

If you need medication, your doctor will give you a prescription. You can get your medication with this prescription in any pharmacy. Even with a prescription, not all medicines are free. Therefore, ask your doctor. If you do not have a prescription, you must always pay for the medication.

Some medications, such as antibiotics, require a prescription. This means that you cannot buy them without a prescription.

Pharmacies are usually open from Monday to Saturday. The opening hours vary depending on the pharmacy (often: 9:00 - 18:00). If you urgently need medication at night or on weekends, at every pharmacy you will find a sign with the name and address of the pharmacy that is open for emergency service. You can also find this information on the Internet.

Pharmacy emergency services:

 www.aponet.de

Counseling Centers and Help Services

The Health Department

The Gesundheitsamt (Health Department) is part of the public health service in Bavaria and is responsible for the city of Kaufbeuren and the district of Ostallgäu.

The Gesundheitsamt offers various counseling services, among others on the following topics:

- HIV and AIDS prevention, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases

- pregnancy counseling, general counseling after the birth of the child, questions on contraception and family planning
- mental crises and mental illnesses, disabilities
- danger of addiction and cases of addiction; advice for eating disorders
- addiction prevention / prevention of eating disorders.

Gesundheitsamt für die Stadt Kaufbeuren und den Landkreis Allgäu Im Landratsamt Ostallgäu
(Health Department for the City of Kaufbeuren and the District of Ostallgäu in the District
Administration Office of Ostallgäu)

■ [Schwabenstraße 11, 87616 Marktoberdorf, Germany](#)

■ [08342 911623](#)

■ [Health Department](#)

Addiction - alcohol, medicines, gambling and drugs

People who have problems with alcohol, gambling, media, medications or drugs can get help with addiction counseling. Relatives can also turn to addiction counseling. You can come to the open consultation hour without advance notice or make an appointment by telephone.

Counseling is free of charge and anonymous on request.

■ [Outpatient Clinic for Addicts Kaufbeuren](#) (Suchtambulanz der Caritas Kaufbeuren)

■ [Suchtmedizinisches Zentrum, or SMZ](#)

(Kaufbeuren Addiction Medical Center)

HIV/AIDS counseling

The Gesundheitsamt provides free advice on HIV infection and AIDS.

Landratsamt (District Administrative Office) Ostallgäu

■ [Schwabenstraße 11, 87616 Marktoberdorf](#)

■ [08342 911 623](#)

■ [Gesundheitsamt Ostallgäu](#)

further information:

■ [Federal Center for Health Education](#) (Bundeszentrale für gesundheitliche Aufklärung)

Kaufbeuren Hospital

The hospital and the emergency outpatient clinic should only be visited if for medical reasons immediate treatment is necessary and a local doctor cannot be summoned or visited quickly enough.

[You can find further information on visiting a doctor here.](#)

Klinikum Kaufbeuren (Kaufbeuren Hospital)

■ [Dr.-Gutermann-Straße 2, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 42 0](#)

■ info.kaufbeuren@kliniken-oal-kf.de


[Ostallgäu-Kaufbeuren Clinics](#)

Social Paediatric Centre (SPZ) Allgäu

The Allgäu Social Paediatric Centre (SPZ) is located in Marktoberdorf.

It examines and helps children and adolescents with brain or developmental problems.

A team of specialists supports families who are concerned about their child's health or development.


 Georg-Fischer-Str. 7b, 87616 Marktoberdorf


 <https://spzallgaeu.de/>

 [08342 89 33 00](tel:08342893300)

Mental health


Mental-health treatment is available in Kaufbeuren for the following ailments: depression, addiction, anxiety disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, eating disorders, reactive disorders after stress situations (trauma).

 [Kaufbeuren District Hospital](#) (Bezirkskrankenhaus Kaufbeuren)

 [Social Psychiatric Service Kaufbeuren](#) (Sozialpsychiatrischer Dienst Kaufbeuren)

 [Center for Mental Health in Aging](#) (Zentrum für seelische Gesundheit im Altern)

 [Soul-Phone \("SeeleFon"\) multilingual telephone helpline](#) (German, English, Arabic, French)
 ["SeeleFon"](#)

 Mo, Tue, Wed: 10:00 - 12:00, 14:00 - 15:00.

Before and after pregnancy

Information can be found here: [Pregnancy and Childbirth](#) (Schwangerschaft und Geburt)


Disabilities and care

The city of Kaufbeuren offers help with questions on the following:

- outpatient care
- assistance with care needs (outpatient, inpatient and part-time inpatient care)
- home and care facilities
- living in old age - housing adaptation
- financial assistance and support
- care directives and precautionary power of attorney

City of Kaufbeuren

Arbeit und Soziales (Labor and Social Affairs) Room 31 N

 [Kaiser-Max-Strasse 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 351](tel:08341437351)

■ [Herr Hummel](#)

■ [Consultancy Network for Nursing Care Kaufbeuren](#) (Beratungsnetz Pflege Kaufbeuren)

Further contact persons:

■ [Open Work for the Disabled](#) (Offene Behindertenarbeit OBA)

■ [Life Help \(Lebenshilfe\) Ostallgäu](#)

Psychological counseling for couples, families and parents

Psychologische Beratungsstelle bei Ehe- und Partnerschafts-, Familien- und Lebensfragen

(Psychological Counseling Center for Marriage, Partnership, Family and Life Issues)

Individual couple, individual or family conversations on topics such as the following:

- problem and crisis management
- dealing with stressful life events and situations
- generation conflicts

Psychologische Beratungsstelle für Ehe-, Familien-, und Lebensfragen

■ [Spitaltor 4, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [0831 23636](tel:083123636): appointment by telephone desired

■ efl-kempten@bistum-augsburg.de

■ www.bistum-augsburg.de/efl-ke

■ Mo - Fri 8:00 - 21:00

Katholische Ehe- und Familienseelsorge der Diözese Augsburg (Catholic Marriage and Family Pastoral Care of the Diocese of Augsburg)

Consultation, support and helpful ideas in the following fields of activity:

- marriage preparation, partnership and communication courses
- discussion evenings
- on-site events
- weekends for couples and families
- parenting classes

Ehe- und Familienseelsorge der Diözese Augsburg

■ [Spitaltor 4, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 938225](tel:08341938225): only by appointment made by telephone

■ efs-kaufbeuren@bistum-augsburg.de

■ <https://beziehung-leben.de>

Evangelische Ehe-, Familien- und Lebensberatungsstelle (Protestant Marriage, Family and Life Counseling Center)

Couple counseling, stress, change, crisis, separation or divorce situations. counseling in the form of couple, individual or family discussions.

Evangelisch-lutherische Dreifaltigkeitskirche in Kaufbeuren (Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church)

■ [Kaiser-Max-Strasse 21, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 908 10 30](#) (please speak on the answering machine - you will be called back soon.)

■ erheberatung.kaufbeuren@elkb.de

■ [Protestant Counseling Center](#) (Evangelische Beratungsstelle)

■ Monday and Tuesday - by prior arrangement

Erziehungs- und Jugendhilfe Verband EJV(Educational and Youth Welfare Association) Kaufbeuren-Ostallgäu

Advice and support for parents, children and adolescents in questions which concern the following:

- family, separation and divorce, school-child
- development
- development diagnostics if required
- school readiness examination in a small group
- counseling for parents with infants and toddlers
- Online advice for parents and teenagers under: ■ www.beratung-caritas.de

Kinder- und Jugendhilfe des EJV

■ [Baumgarten 18, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 90240](#)

■ erziehungsberatungsstelle@kaufbeuren.de

■ <http://www.ejv-kf-oal.de/>

■ office hours: Tuesday 15:00 - 16:00
and by arrangement

Women in need (violence, abuse)

Counselling for women in need:

- Persecution for honour
- Threat of forced marriage or forced marriage
- Forced prostitution
- Female genital mutilation
- Domestic violence
- Special emergencies and problems of women

Women's refuge

A women's refuge is a social institution. Only women and their children in cases of domestic violence are allowed in. There they receive help, counselling and temporary shelter.

The exact address of the women's refuge is only given to women. Men are NOT allowed in.

Contact

by mail

08341-16 616 (emergency number)

SOLWODI Bayern e.V.

Daniela Lutz

Schießgrabenstr. 2, 86150 Augsburg

082150856264

<http://www.solwodi.de>

TAFF (Therapeutic programmes for refugees)

TAFF is a counselling centre for asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants.

It is also a contact point for people seeking therapeutic help and lay helpers.

The counselling service is also available to professional helpers working with refugees.

It helps with difficult psychological situations. The aim is to find the right help.

Frau Selma Sousa Diel ist die Ansprechperson.

Their office in Kaufbeuren is at Ludwigstraße 24.

0151 67262786

selma.sousa-diel@diakonie-allgaeu.de

Culture, leisure and clubs

Kulturförderung Kaufbeuren (Promotion and Advancement of Culture in Kaufbeuren)

The Kulturförderung sees itself as a point of contact for the cultural-artistic scene. Its aim is to promote the free arts and culture in a spirit of partnership at the contact point between the administration and those directly creating culture.

The three traditional main fields of activity are:

- administration
- promotion
- implementation of individual project formats

City of Kaufbeuren, Kulturförderung

Hauberrisserstraße 8, 87600 Kaufbeuren

08341 437 595

kulturforderung@kaufbeuren.de

[Culture in Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [Kaufbeuren Theater Landscapes](#) (Theaterlandschaften Kaufbeuren)

■ [Kaufbeuern Cultural Map](#) (Kaufbeurer Kulturlandkarte)

■ [Kaufbeuren Calendar of Events](#) (Kaufbeurer Veranstaltungskalender)

Meeting places

• **Generationenhaus (Generation House)**

This facility offers relief services for families to make it easier for them to live together with children and the elderly. This creates definite opportunities to combine family and career. Another goal is to network existing social institutions, associations and services in our city.

Examples:

- Begegnungscafe (Meeting-Place Café)
- Freilligenbörse - Knotenpunkt (Volunteer Exchange Central Hub)
- Projekt Lesekoffer (Project Reading-Suitcase)
- bringing together helpers and those seeking help
- information and offers from other associations and institutions
- escort service to bureaus and offices
- AHA: assistance in filling out applications, no legal advice

Generationenhaus Kaufbeuren

■ [Generationenhaus](#)

■ Hafenmarkt 6-8, 87600 Kaufbeuren

■ [08341 908 08 98](tel:083419080898)

■ info@generationenhaus-kf.de

• **Teestube**

The "Teestube" (Tea Room) is a meeting place for Germans and migrants.

It is open every Monday from 18:00 to 20:00 in the Jugendzentrum, abbr. JuZe (Youth Center) Kaufbeuren.

■ [Hauberrisserstraße 8](#)

• **Stammtisch: Wir sprechen Deutsch (regulars' table: We Speak German)**

■ [Family Center](#)

■ [Hüttenstraße 10](#)

Kaufbeuren-Neugablonz

■ every Monday from 19:00

Theatres, museums, libraries and cinemas

KuFa card

A number of cultural institutions and organizations offer a discount card for those in difficult financial circumstances. "KufA" is the abbreviation of "Kultur für Alle" (Culture for All), to which many of Kaufbeuren's cultural institutions have pledged their support.

■ [KuFa card](#)

Theater

Stadttheater (Municipal Theater)

■ [Rosental 8, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [Municipal Theater](#)

Kulturwerkstatt (Cultural Workshop) Kaufbeuren

■ [Ganghoferstraße 6, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 287](#)

■ kulturwerkstatt@kaufbeuren.de

■ www.kulturwerkstatt.eu

Puppentheater (Puppet Theater) Kaufbeuren

Puppenspielverein Kaufbeuren (Puppet Theater Club) e.V.

■ [Wagenseilstr. 14a, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 2555](#)

■ info@puppenspielverein.de

■ [Puppet Theater Kaufbeuren](#)

Museums and exhibitions

Stadtmuseum (Kaufbeuren City Museum)

■ [Kaisergäßchen 12-14, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 9668390](#)

■ stadtmuseum@kaufbeuren.de

■ [Kaufbeuren City Museum](#)

Isergebirgs-Museum (Isergebirg Mountains Museum) Neugablonz

■ [Bürgerplatz 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 965018](#)

■ info@isergebirgs-museum.de

■ [Isergebirg Mountains Museum Kaufbeuren](#)

Feuerwehrmuseum (Firemen's Museum) Kaufbeuren-Ostallgäu e.V.

■ [Bleichanger 50, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [0173 8660010](#)

■ info@fwm-kf-oal.de

■ [Firemen's Museum](#)

Erlebnisausstellung der Gablonzer Industrie (Experience Gablonz Industry Exhibition)

■ [Neue Zeile 11, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 98903](#)
■ info@erlebnisausstellung.info
■ [Experience Gablonz Industry Exhibition](#)

Kunsthaus (Art House) Kaufbeuren

■ [Spitaltor 2, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 8644](#)
■ mail@kunsthhaus-kaufbeuren.de
■ [Art House Kaufbeuren](#)

Libraries

With the municipal libraries in the city center and in Neugablonz, Kaufbeuren offers its citizens and visitors free access to information and literature.

In addition to books, magazines and daily newspapers, free WLAN (WIFI) and Internet workstations are available here.

In addition to books, the library offers films on DVD, audio books and music CDs as well as eBooks from Onleihe Schwaben (Onloan Swabia). An extensive stock of novels, children's books and current guidebooks and non-fiction literature creates a resource for all age groups and interest groups, whether for personal further training, leisure activities or simply for the fun of reading. Interlibrary loans enable interested parties to obtain specialist literature from academic, scientific, and technological libraries.

Further offers are available for schools and kindergartens as well as for integration courses and adult education facilities.

Registration and borrowing are free of charge for children and young people; adults pay 12 euros per year.

Stadtbücherei (Public Library) Kaufbeuren

■ [Hauerrisserstr. 8](#)
■ [08341 437 282](#)
■ [Kaufbeuren Public Library](#)

Branch Library Neugablonz

■ [Bürgerplatz 1](#)
■ [08341 437 467](#)
■ [Kaufbeuren Public Library, Neugablonz Branch](#)

Movie Theater

Corona Kinoplex

■ [Daniel-Kohler-Str. 1, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 994899](tel:08341994899)
■ info@corona-kinoplex.de
■ [Corona Kinoplex](#)

Become active as a volunteer

In Germany many people work on a voluntary basis. This means that they work voluntarily in their free time because they enjoy it. These people don't get any money for their work.

For almost all voluntary work, you have to speak good German. For some activities, however, speaking German is not so important.

There are many possibilities to work voluntarily. You can, for example:

- help older people
- help with the care of children
- work as a sports trainer in a sports club
- support people with disabilities
- work as a paramedic
- help refugees
- help at the animal shelter and many other things

If you would like to volunteer but don't really know where and how, then you have come to the right place:

Voluntary agency "Knotenpunkt" (Central Hub) in the Generation House

■ Hafenmarkt 6-8, 87600 Kaufbeuren
■ [08341 9080898](tel:083419080898)
■ info@generationenhaus-kf.de
■ [Voluntary Agency "Knotenpunkt"](#)

Public pools and urban leisure facilities

Jordan Badepark (indoor and outdoor swimming pool)

■ [Berliner Platz 4, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 437 743](tel:08341437743)
■ jordan-badepark@kaufbeuren.de
■ [Kaufbeuren public pools](#)

Erlebnisbad (Adventure Pool) Neugablonz, outdoor pool

■ [Gewerbestrasse 85, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 437 560](tel:08341437560)
■ jordan-badepark@kaufbeuren.de
■ [Kaufbeuren public pools](#)

Ice rink "Erdgas Schwaben Arena"

■ [Bahnhofstr. 11, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)
■ [08341 437 777](tel:08341437777)
■ [Ice rink Erdgas Schwaben Arena](#)

Sports facilities, playgrounds, youth facilities

■ [City Map Leisure and Sports](#) (Stadtplan Freizeit und Sport)

■ [City Map Children and Youth](#) (Stadtplan Kinder und Jugend)

Children, teenagers and holidays

The youth centers in Kaufbeuren and Neugablonz

The Jugendzentren (Youth Centers), abbr. JuZe, are places where young people aged 12-18 can meet. There are various activities such as disco, cafeteria, billiards, table football and much more.

In addition, events are often held.

The Youth Centers are supervised by socio-pedagogical staff.

JuZe (Youth Center) Kaufbeuren

■ [Hauberrisserstr. 8, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 285](#)

■ jugendzentrum@kaufbeuren.de

■ [JuZe Kaufbeuren](#)

Jugendzentrum Neugablonz "Fun Factory"

■ [Turnerstraße 10, 87600 Kaufbeuren](#)

■ [08341 437 566](#)

■ jugendtreff@kaufbeuren.de

■ [Fun Factory](#)

Holiday activities

Holiday care

In cooperation with the children's house "Am Leinauer Hang" of the city of Kaufbeuren, the Abteilung Familienstützpunkt und Gleichstellung offers (Family Support Point & Equality Department), offers holiday childcare for single parents and working parents in Kaufbeuren during the summer holidays.

[Holiday Care](#)

Stadtjugendring Kaufbeuren Ferienspaß (City Youth Ring Kaufbeuren Holiday Fun)

In order to be able to support and assist you at an early stage as a family with your annual holiday planning, the complete package "SJR-Ferienspaß 2019 (City Youth Ring Holiday Fun)" will be opened for the entire year at the beginning of the year. The majority of the participating

venues for each event are already available from this time. Registration for day events begins approx. 4 weeks before the respective holidays.

■ [City Youth Ring Kaufbeuren](#) (Stadtjugendring Kaufbeuren)

Ferienpass (Holiday Pass)

The Holiday Pass offers children and young people up to the age of 17 free admission to over 180 facilities throughout the Allgäu region: spas, mountain railways, boats, mini golf courses and other sports facilities, cinemas, museums, castles and interesting events and activities. In addition, during the summer holidays children and young people can take the free bus with the Holiday Pass throughout the entire area of validity.

■ [Holiday Pass](#) (Information on the Ferienpass)

Clubs in Kaufbeuren

Associations are of great social importance in Germany. They offer people the opportunity to realise common goals. These goals can be of various kinds: Leisure activities, helping people, protecting nature or socialising with others.

Many people in Kaufbeuren are members of a club. There are numerous clubs here. People who have immigrated from different countries have also founded their own associations. On the one hand, these enable contact with fellow countrymen. They are also involved in integration and social projects in their new home country.

■ [Download association brochure \(status 2014\)](#) (15 MB)

■ [Online club overview](#)

Information for EU and EEA Citizens

Information for EU and EEA Citizens

Comprehensive information on living and working in Germany can be found here in several languages:

■ [Make it in Germany](#)

■ [EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)

"Knowledge is Protection" is a guide for people from other EU member states who want to live and work in Germany temporarily or permanently. It contains information which helps you find a legal job in Germany under fair conditions and not to get into exploitative situations.

With special information for EU countries:

Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Spain and the Czech Republic.

■ [Working fairly in Germany - Knowledge is Protection](#) (Fair Arbeiten in Deutschland - Wissen ist Schutz)

(Note: ■ [the minimum wage](#) is now higher.)

Reunification of family members of EU citizens

You are an EU citizen. You live and work in Germany.

Your relatives can also live and work in Germany.

The important thing is which passport they have. You may need a special permit for your stay.

Further information can be found here:

■ [Spouse reunification for EU citizens](#)

Driver's license

After entering the country, your national driver's license is still valid. An international driver's license alone is not sufficient.

C1, C1E, C, CE, D, DE, D1 and D1E driver's license is only valid in the Federal Republic of Germany for a period of five years from its issue, even if it was issued in the home country for a longer period. If, with the transfer of your registered place of residence, your driver's license is no longer valid, you may continue to drive in Germany for six months.

Participation in road traffic with a driver's license whose period of validity has expired according to the law of the issuing country or the German regulations is penalized as driving without a driver's license.

■ [Further information on driver's licenses in German, English, French and Spanish](#)