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Welcome to the district of Viersen

The district of Viersen



Welcome to the district of Viersen

A warm welcome to you!

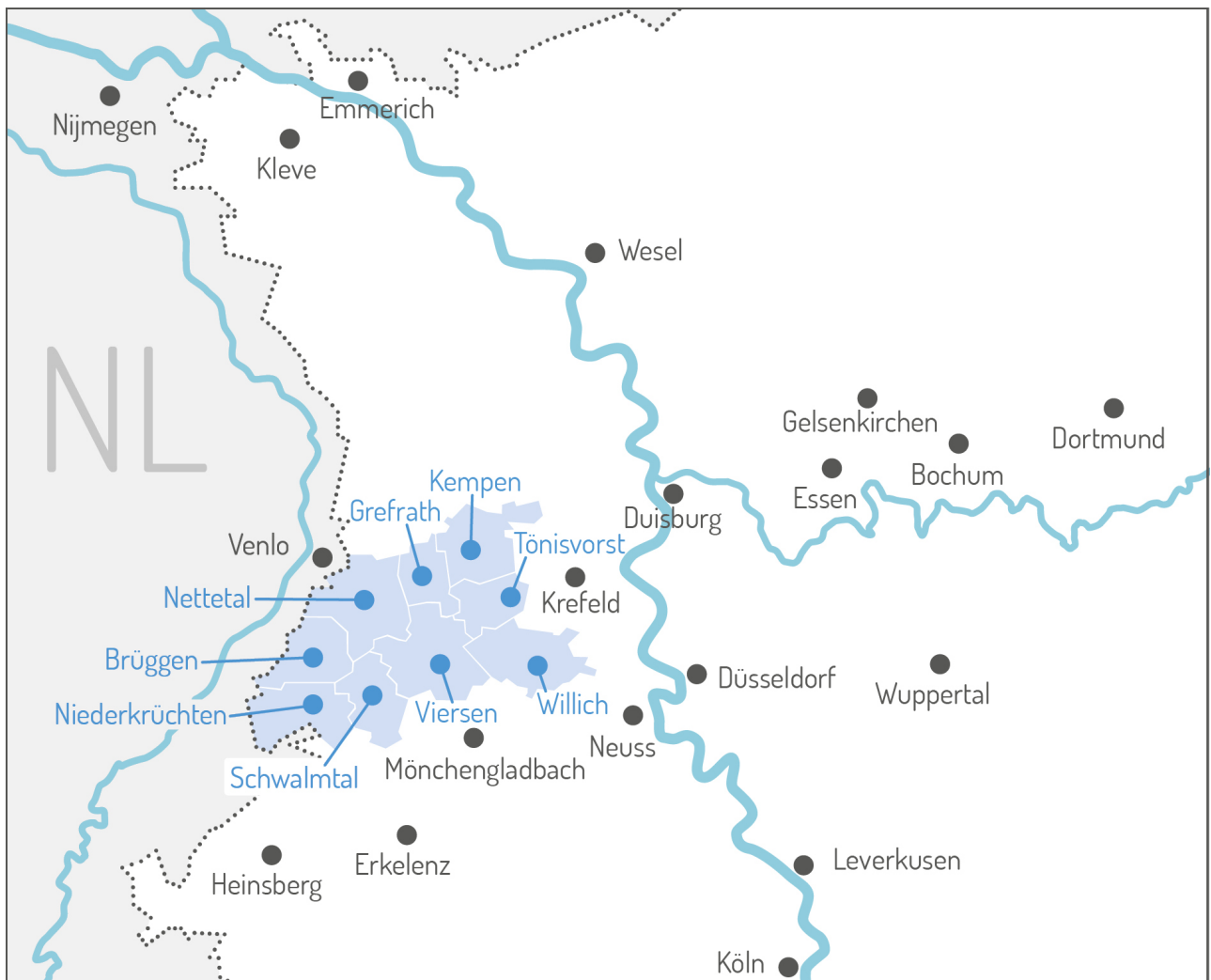
We are delighted to welcome you to the district of Viersen. Leaving your home country and making a new start in another country is a big change. In the first few months you will have many questions about everyday life in Germany. We have designed this app to make your arrival in our region easier. It is designed to help you find your way around in the first few months and give you answers to your most important questions. The app also contains lots of useful information, addresses and important contact points in the district of Viersen to help you find your way around.

The app is multilingual, free of charge and can also be used offline. We hope that it will be a good help to you and wish you a good arrival here in the district of Viersen.

Your district of Viersen

About the district of Viersen

The district of Viersen is located in the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia and has just under 300,000 inhabitants. The district comprises a total of nine towns and municipalities. In close proximity to the Dutch border, the Ruhr region and the cities of Krefeld, Mönchengladbach and Düsseldorf, there is plenty to discover in the surrounding area.



In the district of Viersen, you can expect an appealing mix of city and nature, business and culture. This diversity contributes to the high quality of life. This also includes family friendliness. There are plenty of childcare facilities, good schools and housing and care options for senior citizens. Rents are affordable - and you get good neighbourliness on top. Nature lovers will get their money's worth in the Schwalm-Nette Nature Park or in our numerous forests and lakes. Those interested in culture can take a trip to the Lower Rhine Open-Air Museum in Grefrath. Adults and children alike can gain an insight into the farming and craft culture of pre-technological times. If you want to learn even more, you are sure to find what you are looking for in the wide range of programmes offered by our adult education centre and our music school.

The district of Viersen has been recognised for its bicycle-friendliness. Cyclists have countless routes available for a tour. We are also constantly expanding the network of routes for commuters who cycle to work.


But the social and health network with hospitals, doctors' surgeries, welfare organisations, retirement homes and other facilities is also good.


The Viersen district is a good place to live. Try it for yourself!

Local offices and authorities

Viersen district administration

Kreishaus Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162390](tel:+49(0)2162390)


 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/>

 Service hours: Monday to Friday: 08.00 am to 5.00 pm

Ausländerbehörde Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/einreise-und-...>


 Appointments by prior arrangement only

Gesundheitsamt Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@gesundheitsamt@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:gesundheitsamt@kreis-viersen.de)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/gesundheit>


 Service hours: Monday to Friday: 08.00 to 17.00

Kommunales Integrationszentrum Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@ki@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:ki@kreis-viersen.de)

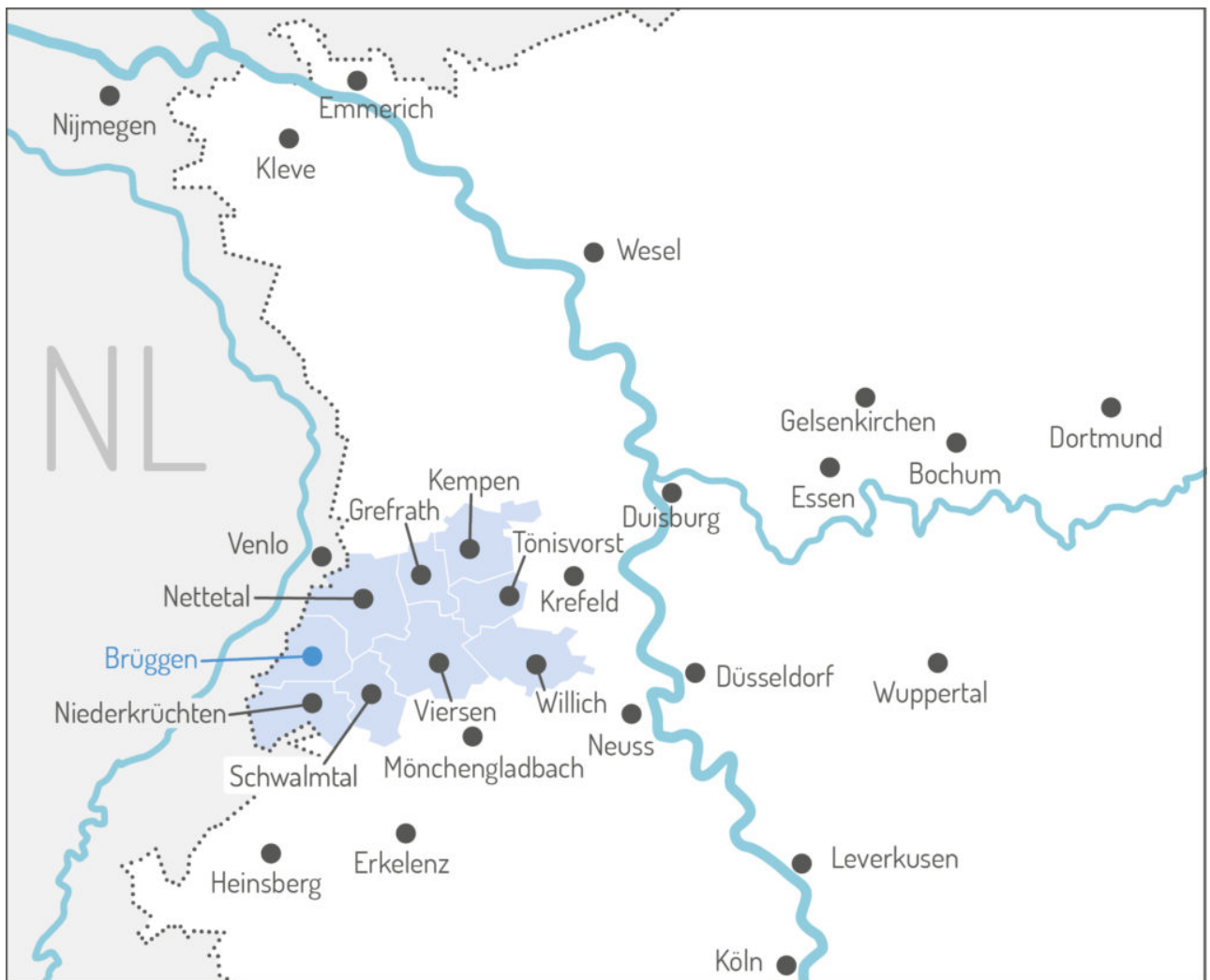
 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

 Service hours: Mondays to Fridays: 08.00 to 17.00

Bruges

Brüggen is a friendly and beautiful municipality. Many visitors come here. Everyone enjoys the hospitality of the people who live in Brüggen.

Brüggen lies in the centre of a very large nature park. It is the Schwalm-Nette nature park with its meadows, forests and fields.



The castle community of Brüggen consists of several districts. They are called Brüggen, Bracht and Born.

There are still many old houses in Brüggen. Some even date back to the Middle Ages, which means they are many hundreds of years old.

There are many small and narrow streets, a castle and many mills.

There is a lot to see on a walk through Brüggen. You can feel at home in Brüggen.

Local offices and authorities


Citizen services (residents' registration office / social benefits)

The Brüggen municipal administration has a town hall in the centre of Brüggen and the Bracht administrative office at Marktstraße 36. The Bracht administrative office houses the [social services](#) department. You will also find the [citizens' service](#) here and in Brüggen town hall.


Bürgerservice

[Klosterstr. 38, 41379 Brüggen](#)


[@info@brueggen.de](mailto:info@brueggen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 216357010](tel:+49(0)216357010)

 <https://www.brueggen.de/>



 Monday to Friday: 07.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.00, except Friday afternoons
Citizens' service: Thursday: until 18.00 hrs

Verwaltungsstelle Bracht

 [Marktstr. 36, 41379 Brüggen](#)

 [@info@brueggen.de](mailto:info@brueggen.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 216357010](tel:+49(0)216357010)

 Benefits according to SGB XII: Tuesday and Thursday: 08.30 to 12.30 or by appointment
 Asylum: Tuesday and Thursday: 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. or prior appointment with the [clerk](#)

Registry office

The registry office has several tasks: For example, when a child is born, the parents are obliged to report the birth of the child to the registry office in person (birth certification). If you want to get married, the registry office is responsible for registering your marriage.

Karin Claeßen | Standesamt

 [Klosterstr. 38, 41379 Brüggen](#)

 [@Karin.Claessen@brueggen.de](mailto:Karin.Claessen@brueggen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21635701111](tel:+49(0)21635701111)

[Apply for certificates online](#)

Job centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district. Local support and advice is provided in the local employment and service centres (BLZ):

BLZ Brüggen / Nettetal | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Poststr. 19, 41334 Nettetal](#)

Grefrath

The municipality of Grefrath has 15,500 inhabitants.

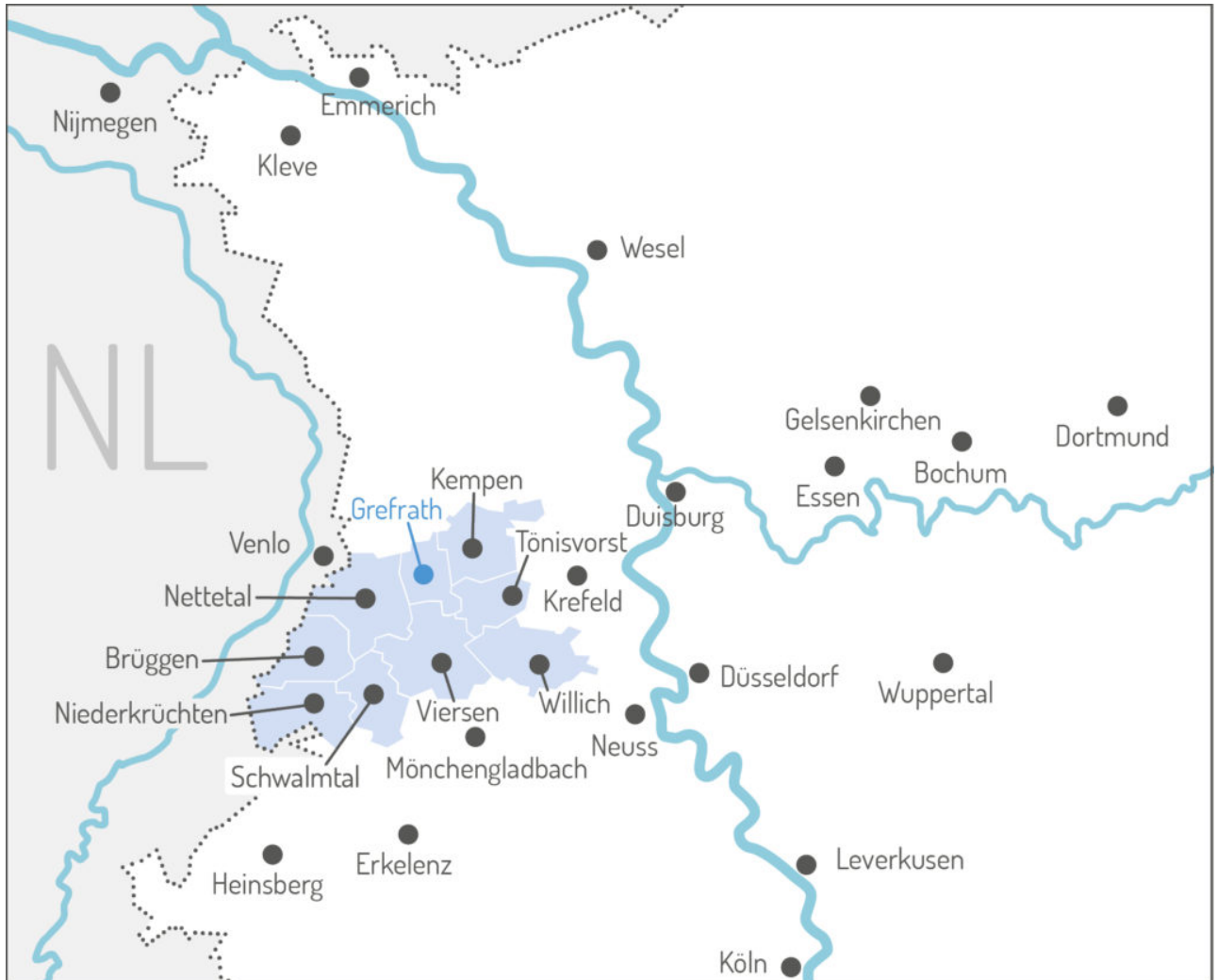
It advertises with the phrase: "Sport and leisure".

The municipality was formed in 1970 from the villages of Grefrath and Oedt.

There are many opportunities for sport and leisure in the municipality.

For example, there is an ice sports centre with over 8000 square metres of ice surface.

This is one of the largest artificial ice rinks in Germany.
 There is an ice rink and a 400 metre long ice rink for fast skating.
 The ice rink is outside, but there is light.
 There is also an outdoor rink with a roof.
 It's all perfect for ice sports enthusiasts.
 In summer, well-known artists come to Grefrath, for example Udo Jürgens or Joe Cocker.
 There are also other events that are very well known.



Open-air museum attracts visitors

Grefrath hosted the state garden show in 1970.
 The Schwingbodenpark was built for the garden show.
 The park is right next to the Lower Rhine Open-Air Museum.
 The museum belongs to the district of Viersen.
 The museum houses

- a toy museum
- old farms
- an ironing railway
- a pancake house
- a corner shop

- a schnapps distillery
- a smithy

There are also special exhibitions and events in the museum.
For example

- tractor meeting
- romantic Christmas market
- Fairground ride on cold-blooded horses.

Visitors love this.
Grefrath also has

- an indoor swimming pool and an outdoor pool
- the Niershorst airfield.


Abbey, castle and monastery


The most important venue for events is the Albert-Mooren-Halle in the Oedt district.
The hall is a community centre with a hall, beer garden and restaurant.
There is also the Dorenburg.
This is an old castle dating back to 1326.
The local heritage organisation has restored Uda Castle.
The castle was built around 1300.
There is also the Niershoff estate and the Dückerhaus.
There are 2 convents for nuns in Grefrath.
Mariendonk Abbey has been the spiritual centre of the Benedictine nuns on the Lower Rhine for over 100 years.
The "Our Lady" congregation runs a grammar school in the Mülhausen district.
The grammar school is also known outside Grefrath.

Local offices and authorities

Citizens' Service (Residents' Registration Office)

Rathaus Grefrath


 [Rathausplatz 3, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 21584080333](tel:+49(0)21584080333)

 <https://www.grefrath.de/>


Contact persons:


Maria Gregorius | Bürgerservice

 [Rathausplatz 3, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21584080333](tel:+49(0)21584080333)

Janine Breuer | Bürgerservice

 [Rathausplatz 3, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 215840800](tel:+49(0)215840800)


Registry office

The registry office has several important tasks.


When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office. This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible. You must register your marriage there.

Vera Kurasch | Standesamt

 [Rathausplatz 3, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [@vera.kurasch@grefrath.de](mailto:vera.kurasch@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21584080302](tel:+49(0)21584080302)

Petra Janicki | Standesamt

 [Rathausplatz 3, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [@petra.janicki@grefrath.de](mailto:petra.janicki@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21584080303](tel:+49(0)21584080303)

Job centre

The job centre service is offered in the towns and municipalities. Counselling takes place near your place of residence.

BLZ Kempen / Grefrath / Tönisvorst | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Arnoldstr. 13c, 47906 Kempen](#)

Kempen

The city of Kempen has 35,700 inhabitants.

It is the most beautiful town on the Lower Rhine.

No other town in the district of Viersen has so many monuments and old manor houses.

The old town centre of Kempen looks like it did in the Middle Ages.

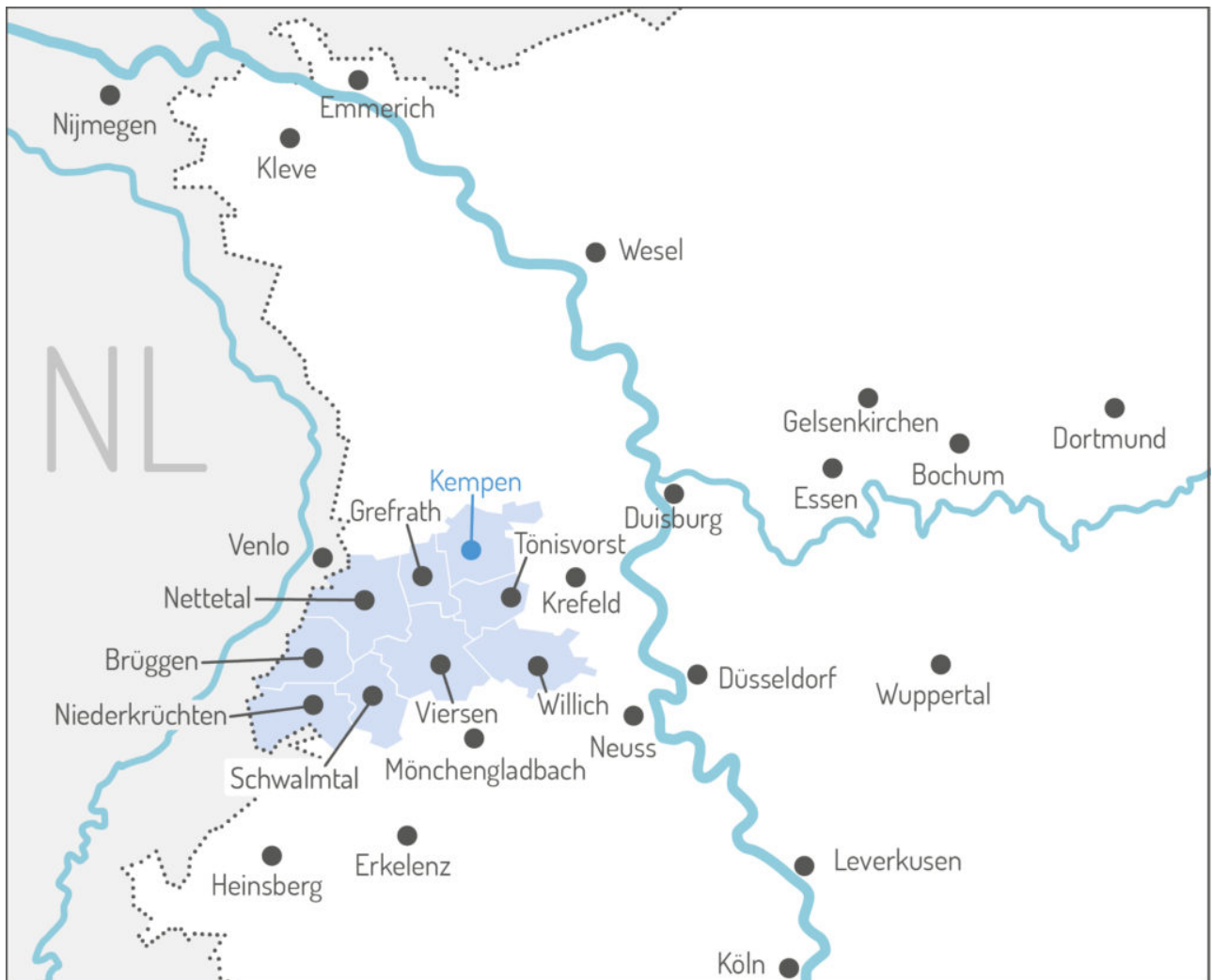
That's why many visitors come to the town.

Visitors particularly like to see these things:

- The half-timbered houses on Alte Schulstraße (1609)
- The Kurkölnische Landesburg (1396)
- The cow gate (1350)
- The Horten House (1773)
- Haus Horten is the headquarters of a well-known family that owns department stores.

These things are also worth seeing:

- The Berfes defence tower in the St. Hubert district
- The tower is from the 16th century
- The Kastenbock windmill in Tönisberg (1804)
- The Velde house in Schmalbroich (13th century)
- House Velde is the oldest knight's seat of the former Electorate of Cologne.



Thomas a Kempis is the patron saint of the town of St Thomas

There are beautiful town houses within the town wall.

There is a monument to Thomas a Kempis (1380 - 1471) at the provost church.

He was an important citizen of the town and wrote the book "Nachfolge Christi".

After the Bible, this book is the most widely read religious book in the world.

The town of Kempen was already mentioned in the registers of the Benedictine abbey of Werden around 890.

The town was first mentioned in documents in 1186.

Kempen has been a town with city rights since 1294.

From 1815 to 1975, Kempen was a district town.

The district administration was then moved to Viersen.

Classical music festival with stars such as Bruno Ganz and Uri Caine

Kempen has a very good cultural scene.

The town can be proud of this.

For example, there is the Franziskanerkloster cultural forum.

It houses the Kramer Municipal Museum and the Museum of Lower Rhine Sacred Art.

There is classical music and exhibitions.

The Kempen Monastery Concerts are very well known.

Every 2 years there is a festival organised by the "Kempen Klassik" association.

The festival is very well known.

Famous people perform there.

For example, the actor Bruno Ganz or the jazz pianist Uri Caine.

There are also great town festivals, markets and Christmas markets in Kempen.


The St Martin's festival with its castle firework display is especially great.

Local offices and authorities


Service centres (registration office / social benefits)

Service-Stelle Kempen | Rathaus Kempen


 [Schorndorfer Str. 16-20, 47906 Kempen](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 21529174933](tel:+49(0)21529174933)


 <https://www.kempen.de/>

 Mondays and Tuesdays 8.00 am - 4.00 pm, Wednesdays 8.00 am - 12.30 pm, Thursdays 8.00 am - 6.00 pm, Fridays 8.00 am - 1.00 pm and Saturdays 10.00 am - 12.00 pm


Service-Stelle St. Hubert | Rathaus Kempen


 [Königsstr. 13, 47906 Kempen](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 21529174936](tel:+49(0)21529174936)

 Thursdays 8.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Service-Stelle Tönisberg | Rathaus Kempen

 [Helmeskamp 31, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 28458131](tel:+49(0)28458131)

 Wednesdays 8.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Registry office


The registry office has several important tasks.

When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office. This is called notarising the birth.


If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible. You must register your marriage there.

Standesamt Kempen

 [Neustr. 32, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21529172455](tel:+49021529172455)

 <https://www.kempen.de/stadt-rathaus-politik/buerg...>

 Monday to Friday: 8.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Mondays 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. and Thursdays 2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Job Centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district. Local support and advice is provided in the local employment and benefit centres (BLZ):

BLZ Kempen / Grefrath / Tönisvorst | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Arnoldstr. 13c, 47906 Kempen](#)

Nettetal

The town of Nettetal has 41,700 inhabitants.

It is a young and lively town.

The 6 districts of Nettetal are all special.

This makes the city very interesting.

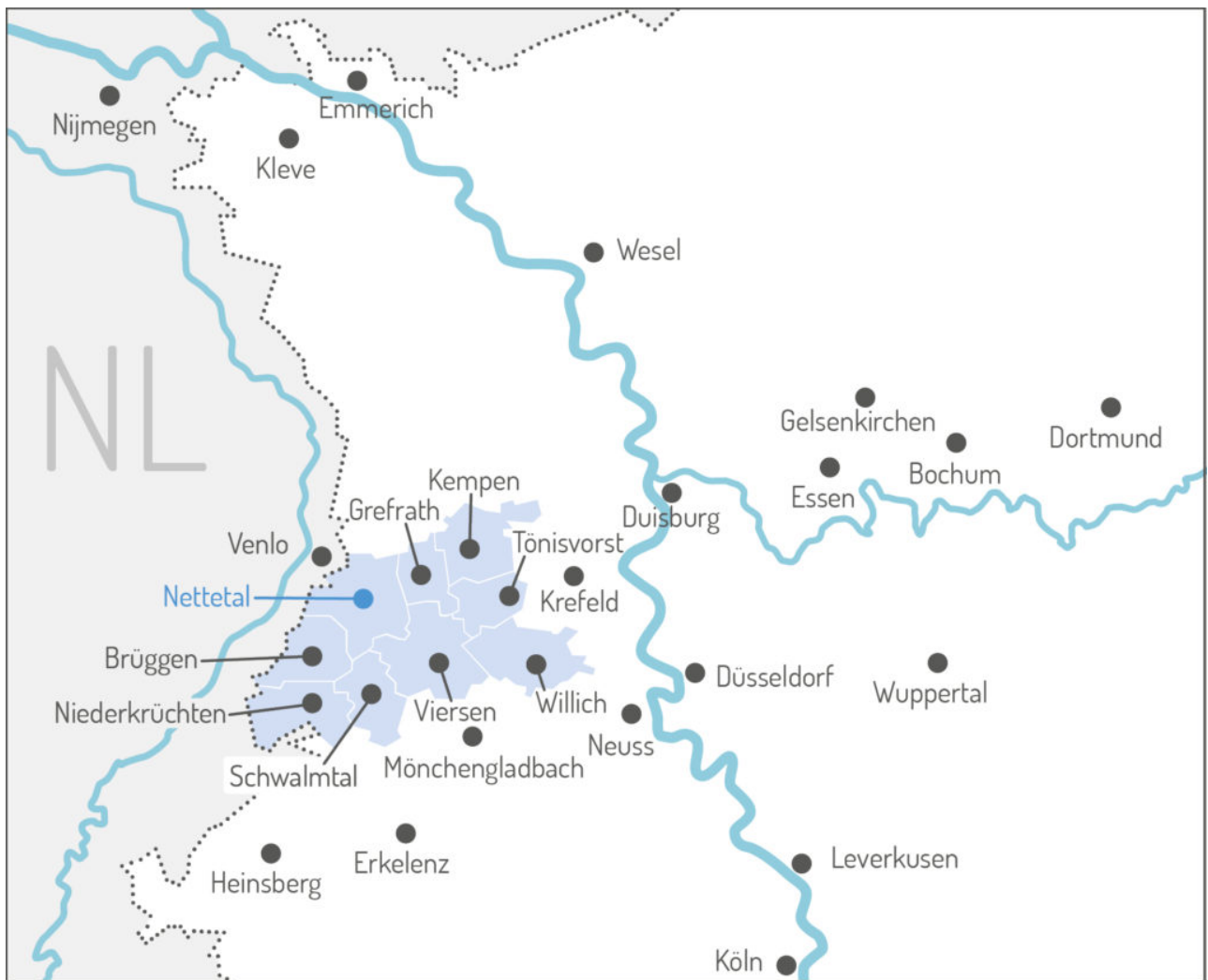
There is good food in old and modern restaurants.

There are also beer gardens and country cafés.

You can walk through the pedestrianised streets of Nettetal and relax afterwards.

The districts of Hinsbeck and Leuth are state-recognised resorts.

That's why they are a destination for people.



The naturalness of the Nette

The Netetal is a special place for the science of the earth.

There is a very interesting landscape here with lots of nature and culture.

For example, there is the border forest, the Hinsbeck Heights and the Krickenbeck Lakes.

There are also moorlands, heathlands and large meadows.

3 areas show the special features of the landscape.

There are also information centres.

For example:

- The Krickenbeck Lakes Biological Centre
- The nature conservation centre
- The Baerlo Landscape Farm
- The Sequoia Farm
- The geo-hydrological water garden

Here you can learn a lot about nature and the environment.

A small river flows through the valley.

The river is called the Nette and the valley is therefore called the Netetal.

The river flows through 12 lakes in the city.

There are water lilies in the lakes.

The water lily is the symbol in the coat of arms of the town of Nettetal.


Culture is very important

The town has a theatre with 500 seats.
The theatre is called Werner-Jaeger-Halle.
There is theatre, music and cabaret.
There are also concerts and outdoor events.
The textile museum is called DIE SCHEUNE.
There you can learn about the history of textile production in the Lower Rhine region.
There is also a fire brigade museum and a local history museum.
And there is the artists' village of Hinsbeck.
You can see interesting things there.
Art is very important in Nettetal.
There are always new exhibitions in the galleries.


Local offices and authorities

Citizen service (general services, registration matters and civil status)

Rathaus Nettetal


 [Doerkesplatz 11, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 [@buergerservice@nettetal.de](mailto:buergerservice@nettetal.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 21538981777](tel:+49(0)21538981777)

 <https://www.nettetal.de/>


Citizen service:

 Mondays and Thursdays 8.00 am - 6.00 pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 8.00 am - 4.30 pm, Fridays 8.00 am - 12.00 pm and Saturdays 10.00 am - 12.00 pm


Civil status office:


 Mondays to Wednesdays 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, Thursdays 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm, Fridays 8.30 am - 12.00 pm

soziale Betreuung, Asyl und Wohnungslose | Sozialamt Nettetal


 [Doerkesplatz 11, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 [@asyl@nettetal.de](mailto:asyl@nettetal.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 21538980](tel:+49(0)21538980)


 Mondays and Wednesdays 8.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Fridays 8.30 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.

Agentur für Arbeit Nettetal

 [Steegerstr. 49, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 [@Nettetal@arbeitsagentur.de](mailto:Nettetal@arbeitsagentur.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2151921010](tel:+49(0)2151921010)

 Mondays and Tuesdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wednesdays 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Thursdays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fridays 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.


Job Centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district.

Local support and advice is provided in the local employment and benefit centres (BLZ):

BLZ Brüggen / Nettetal | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Poststr. 19, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 Mondays 08.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 16.00
Tuesdays 08.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 16.00 by appointment only
Thursdays 08.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 16.00
Fridays 08.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

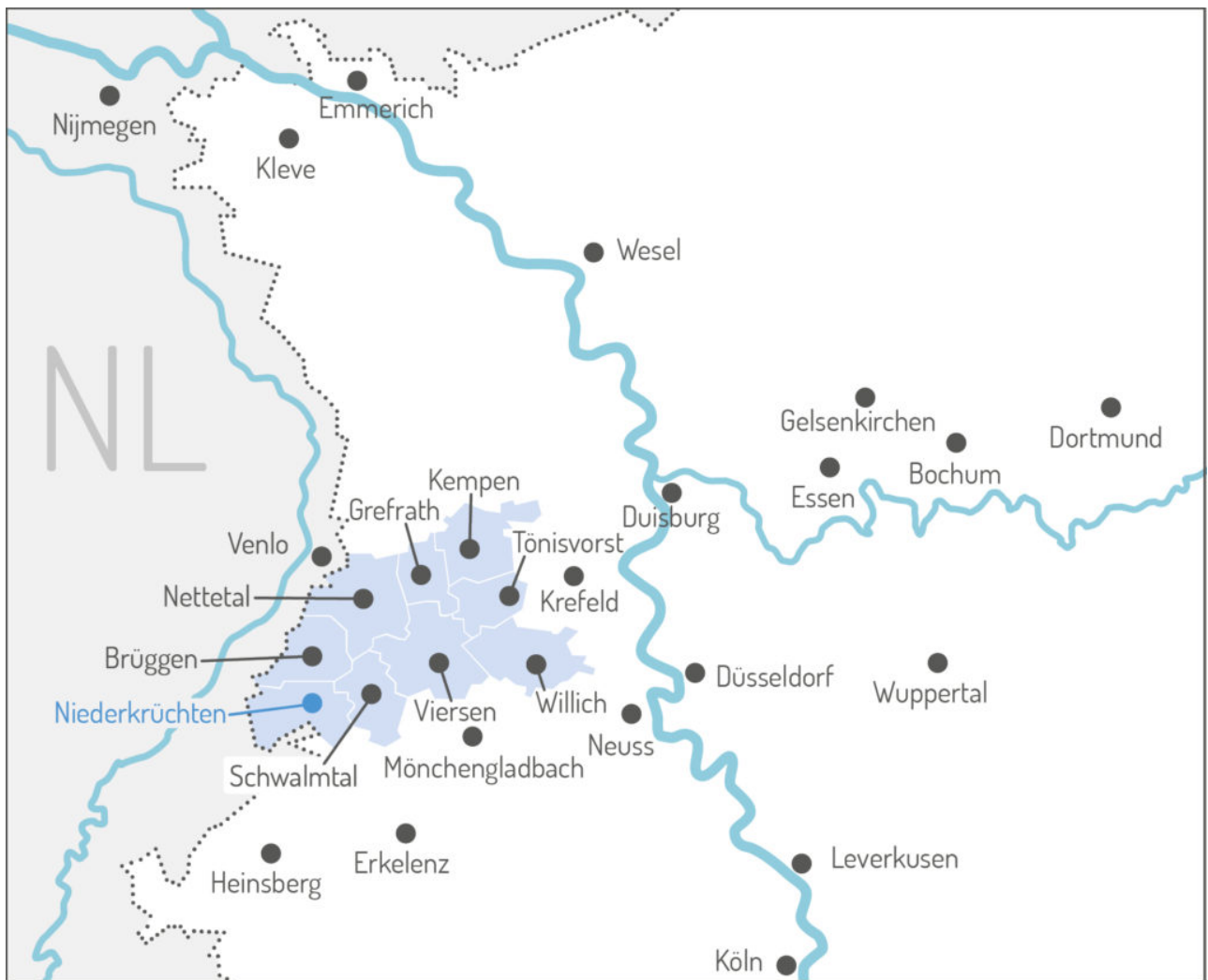
Niederkrüchten

The municipality of Niederkrüchten has 15,400 inhabitants.

It is the centre of the international nature park Maas-Schwalm-Nette.

The area of the municipality is 6707 hectares.

There are many forests and meadows.



Nature conservation and nature experience

There is a special nature reserve.
 It is called Elmpter Schwalmbruch.
 It is 55 hectares in size.
 The area has the largest juniper heath on the left bank of the Lower Rhine.
 There are 2 other nature reserves on the Dutch border.
 They are called Lüsekamp and Boschbeeketal.
 Together they cover 250 hectares.
 There are around 200 kilometres of hiking trails in the areas.
 The paths are well maintained.
 Walkers, hikers and cyclists can enjoy nature.

Excursion destination Brempt am Hariksee

Water sports enthusiasts can spend their leisure time at the Venekotensee and Hariksee lakes.
 The district of Brempt is on the western shore of Hariksee.
 Brempt is a popular excursion destination.
 The Brempt mill on the Schwalm and St George's Chapel are very old.
 They show how things used to be.
 Restaurants and cafés invite you to stay.


There used to be a British military airport in Elmpt.
This airport now offers opportunities for the future.

Flandrian carved altar


There are many beautiful buildings in Niederkrüchten.
House Elmpt is particularly important.
The house dates back to the 15th century and is a reminder of the Lords of Elmpt.
Many monuments are from the church.
The Elmpt chapel of St Maria an der Heiden from 1703 in Overhethfeld is important.
There is also an old house chapel from Dilborn Castle.
A hall was added to the chapel in 1734.
There is a 16th century Flemish carved altar in the chapel.

Local offices and authorities

Bürgerservice | Rathaus Niederkrüchten

 [Laurentiusstr. 19, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)


 [@info@niederkruechten.de](mailto:info@niederkruechten.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 21639800](tel:+49(0)21639800)

 <https://www.niederkruechten.de>

Bürgerservice Elmpt | Gemeinde Niederkrüchten

 [Poststr. 27, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2163980206](tel:+49(0)2163980206)

 Mondays to Wednesdays and Fridays 8.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon, Thursdays 7.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., Wednesdays 2.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. and every 1st Saturday of the month 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.

Registry office

The registry office has several important tasks.

When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office.
This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible.
You must register your marriage there.

Frank Wittke | Standesamt Niederkrüchten

 [Poststr. 27, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

 [@Frank.Wittke@niederkruechten.de](mailto:Frank.Wittke@niederkruechten.de)

[☎ +49 \(0\) 2163980107](tel:+49(0)2163980107)

Job centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district. Local support and advice is provided in the local employment and benefit centres (BLZ):

BLZ Schwalmtal / Niederkrüchten | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

[📍 Hospitalstr. 16, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

Schwalmtal

The municipality of Schwalmtal has 18,900 inhabitants.

The municipality invites you to take a mill tour.

The best way to do this tour is by bike.

There are many offers.

For example, there are tips for cycle tours from the Viersen district tourist office.

There is also a two-country route and a Lower Rhine route.

The Viersen district railway cycle route is new.

The route follows old railway lines.

You can also go fishing or hiking around a lake.

You can also go rowing or pedal boating.

Or you can take a boat trip on the excursion boat "Patschel".

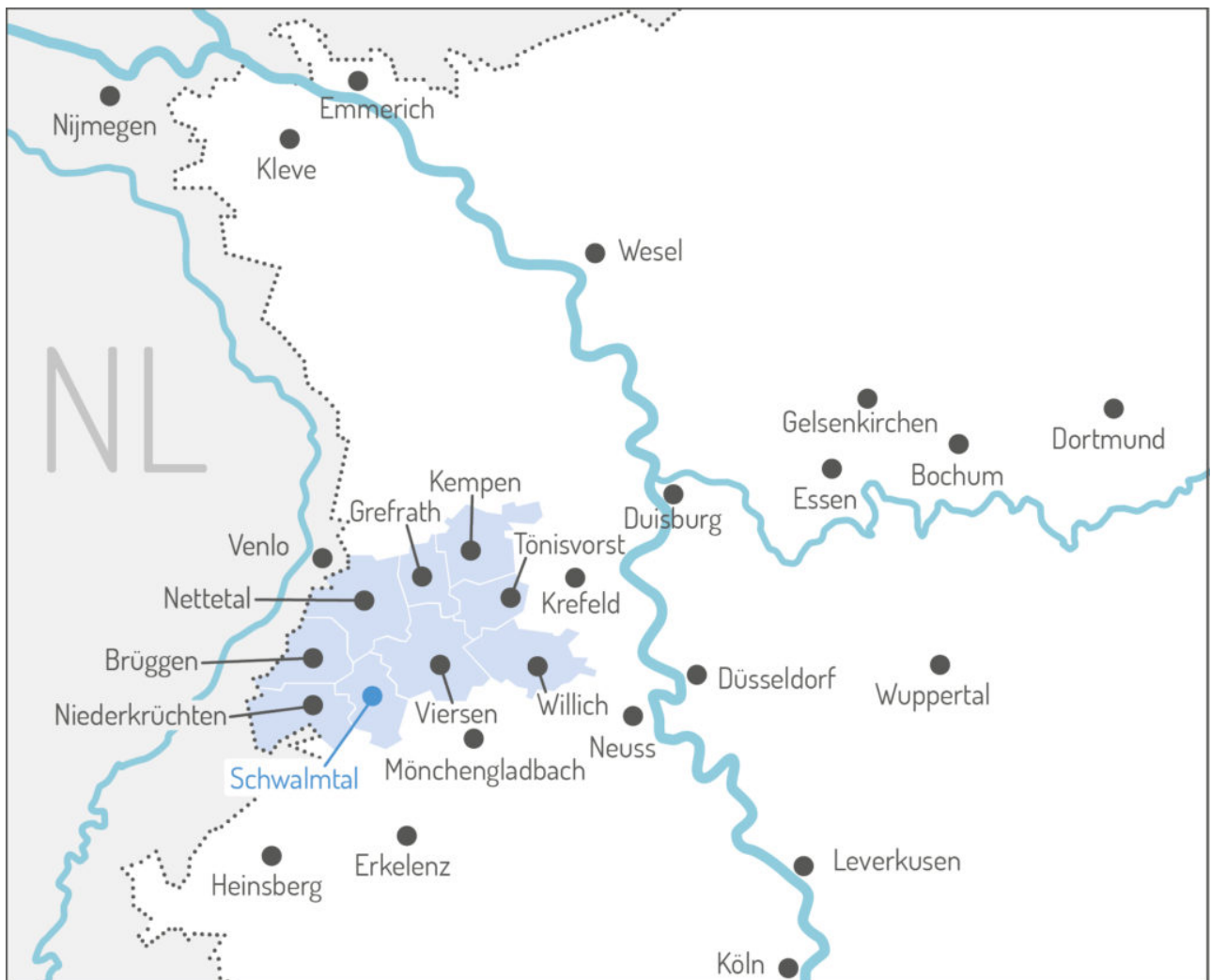
You can also eat in the Mühlrather Mühle mill or drink coffee by the lake.

A day at Hariksee is a new way to experience leisure time.

Hariksee is the most popular excursion destination in Schwalmtal.

There are holiday homes, a boathouse, a mini-golf course and a boat hire service.

The forests and moorland at Hariksee are particularly special.



The home of the linen weavers

There are many small streets in Alt-Waldniels.

A walk through these streets is lovely.

People used to make linen here.

These are fabrics made from plants.

People were called linen weavers.

There is a statue of women washing linen on the market square.

The market square is in front of St Michael's Church.

The church is from the 19th century and is also called Schwalmtdom.

There are over 130 old buildings in the municipality that are being protected.

They are particularly beautiful:

- The mill tower in Amern (18th century)
- The chestnut avenue in Waldniel
- The village of Lüttelforst
- The Protestant church in Waldniel
- The Bethanien children's and youth village with Haus Clee.

Europe's largest guitar orchestra


The municipality is located in the Schwalm-Nette Nature Park.
There is a lot of forest.
For example the Schomm and Happelter Heide.
There is also a lot of culture.
The Schwalmthal-Zupfer are the largest guitar orchestra in Europe.
There is theatre and ballet in the Achim-Besgen-Halle.
There is also children's theatre, concerts and comedy.
The Amern mill tower has become a well-known exhibition venue.
The gallery is called "Our Gallery - The Tower".

You can find more information here:


 schwalmtal.de

Local offices and authorities


Bürgerservice | Gemeindeverwaltung Schwalmtal

 [Markt 20, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

 [@buergerservice@gemeinde-schwalmtal.de](mailto:buergerservice@gemeinde-schwalmtal.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2163946400](tel:+49(0)2163946400)

 <https://www.schwalmtal.de/>

 Mondays and Fridays 08.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Wednesdays 08.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Thursdays 07.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.
every 1st Saturday of the month 09.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.


Registry office

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When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office.
This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible.
You must register your marriage there.

Nicole Optenplatz | Standesamt

 [Markt 20, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

 [@nicole.optenplatz@gemeinde-schwalmtal.de](mailto:nicole.optenplatz@gemeinde-schwalmtal.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2163946139](tel:+49(0)2163946139)

Job centre

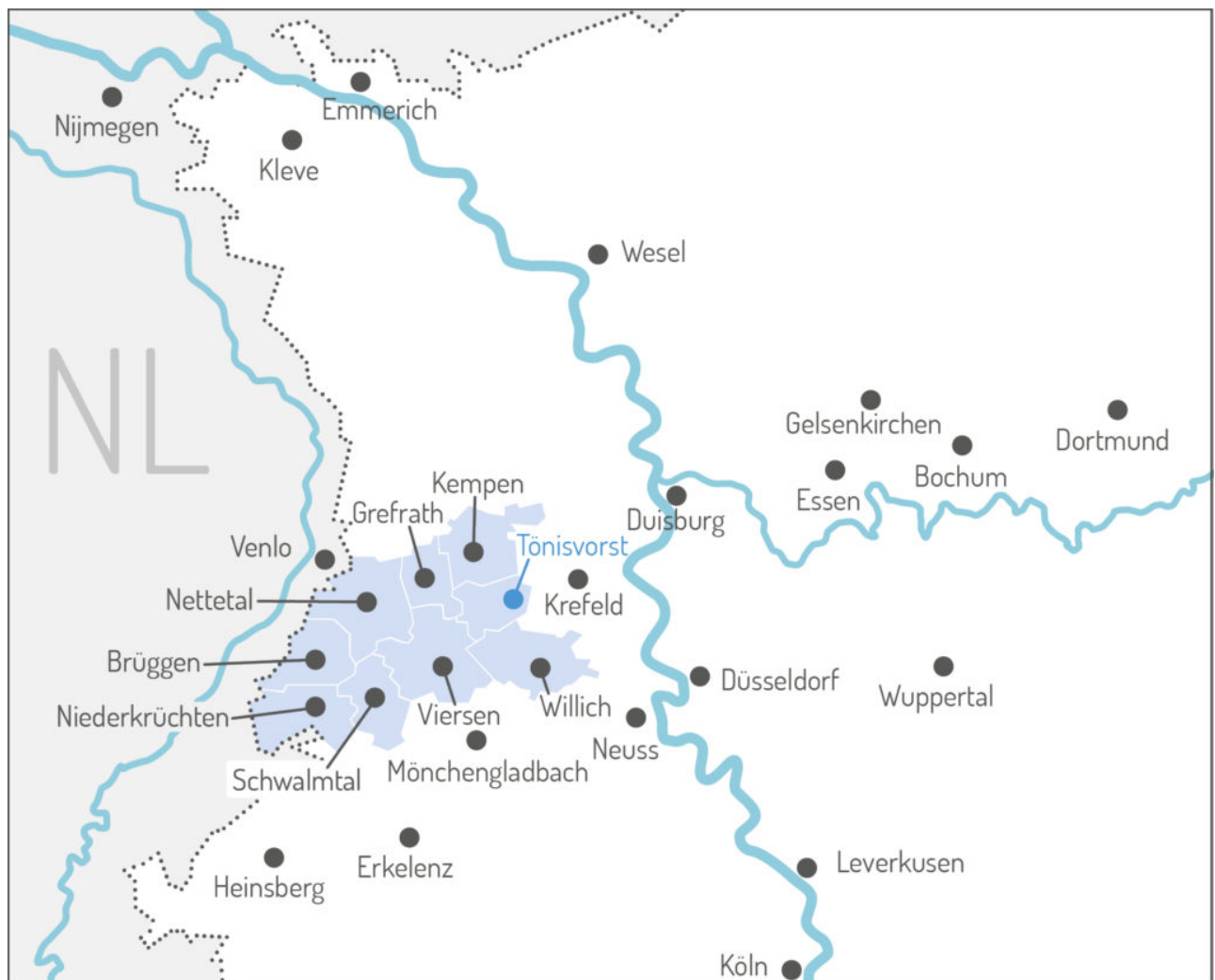
The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district. Support and advice is provided in the local employment and benefit centres (BLZ):

BLZ Schwalmtal / Niederkrüchten | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

📍 [Hospitalstr. 16, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

Tönisvorst

Apple town. The town on the border with Krefeld is named after St Anthony ("Ferkes-Tünn") and was formed in 1970 from the municipalities of St Tönis and Vorst. Although it was first mentioned in 1188 as "Osterverd", it is one of the youngest towns in the country: it only received its town charter in 1979. The citizens and tradesmen praise its central location and fast connections to the major cities.



The Battle of the Hückelsmay

The Battle of Hückelsmay is linked to the town's history: Ferdinand von Braunschweig defeated a French army during the Seven Years' War. The parish church of St. Cornelius has an impressive tower height of 70 metres and a pretty church square. The octagonal brick building of the water tower and the Streuff mill (1769) are other striking features of the town.

St. Tönis is the start and end point of the "longest tram line in the world" via Krefeld to the Ruhr region. The nostalgic "Schluff" railway also runs from Wilhelmplatz in St. Tönis to Hülser Berg, often still with an old steam locomotive.


Anke Engelke promotes action medeor

The town has become known worldwide for the medical aid organisation action medeor, for which Anke Engelke is the ambassador. Vorst is home to the manor houses of Haus Donk, Haus Neersdonk, Haus Brempt and Haus Raedt, all of which are architectural monuments worth seeing, including the Gelleshof in Kehn with Berfes (all from the 17th century). A popular destination is the Forstwald forest with its bridleways and hiking trails. The Stadtkulturbund organises cabaret, drama, comedy and music.


Local offices and authorities

Bürgerservice | Stadt Tönisvorst

 [Bahnstr. 15, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2151999153](tel:+4902151999153)

 <https://www.toenisvorst.de/>

 Mondays to Wednesdays from 08.00 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 16.00, Thursdays 8.00 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 18.00 and Fridays from 08.00 to 12.00


Registry office

The registry office has several important tasks.


When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office. This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible. You must register your marriage there.

Iris Langels | Standesamt Tönisvorst

 [Hochstr. 20a, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)


 [@Iris.Langels@toenisvorst.de](mailto:Iris.Langels@toenisvorst.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2151999214](tel:+4902151999214)

Kevin Schagen | Standesamt Tönisvorst

 [Hochstr. 20a, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

 [@Kevin.Schagen@toenisvorst.de](mailto:Kevin.Schagen@toenisvorst.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2151999204](tel:+4902151999204)

Job centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district. Local support and advice is provided in the local employment and benefit centres

(BLZ):

BLZ Kempen / Grefrath / Tönisvorst | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

[📍 Arnoldstr. 13c, 47906 Kempen](#)

Viersen

The district town of Viersen has 75,300 inhabitants.

The town wants to do a lot for culture.

There are many events in the festival hall.

World-famous artists and music groups come here.

The Viersen Music Summer and the International Jazz Festival are very well known.

Many visitors come to the town for these events.

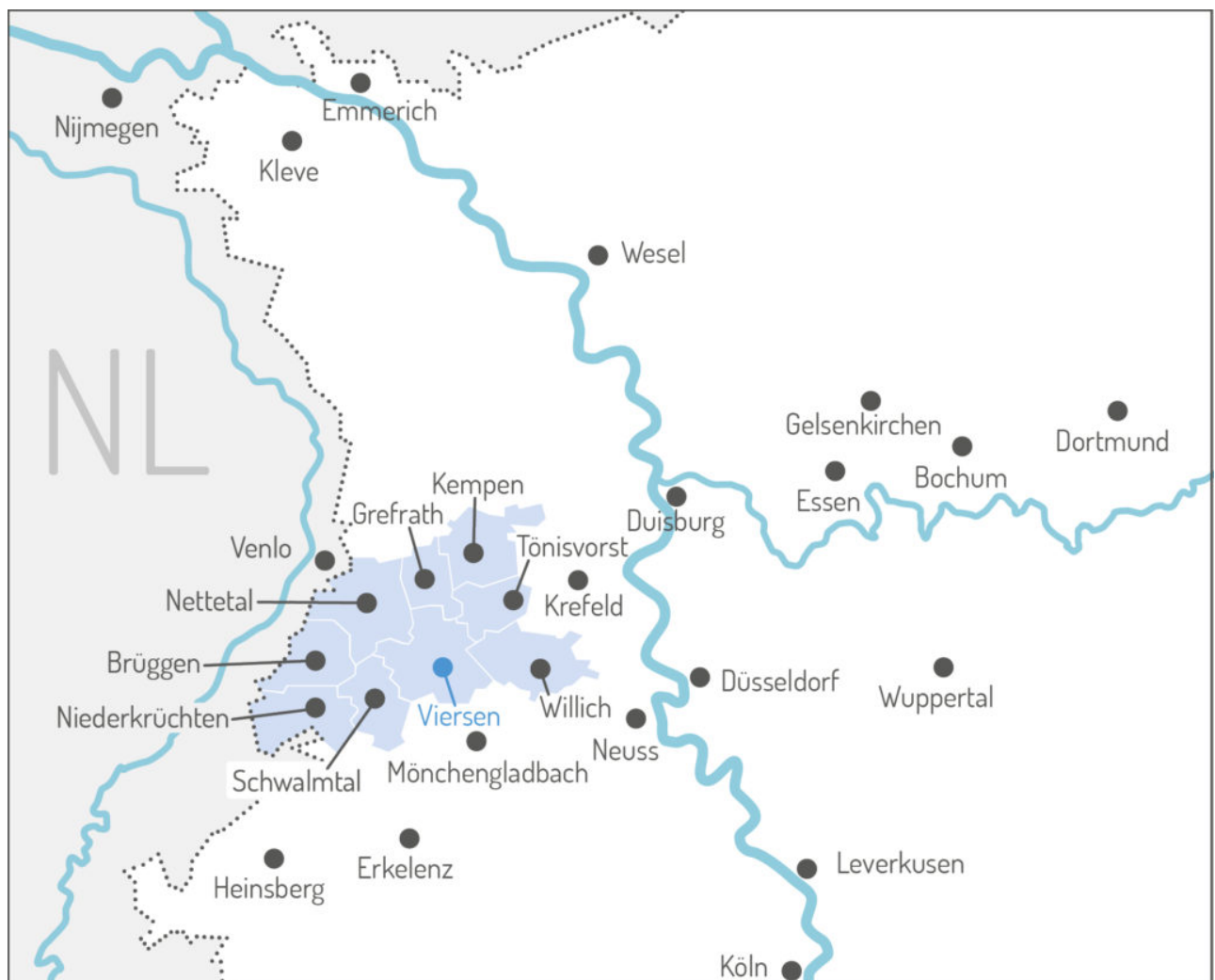
The collection of sculptures at the Kreishaus is also becoming increasingly important.

The municipal gallery is also located there.

For example, there are sculptures by Anthony Cragg, Mark di Suvero and Erwin Heerich.

There is a collection of graphic art in the municipal gallery in the park.

The collection was started in the sixties.



The fool's mill is in Dülken

There is a fool's academy in Dülken.
The academy has existed since the 16th century.
There is also a fool's mill in Dülken.
The mill is a trestle windmill and was built in 1809.
There is a fool's museum in the mill.
There are many special buildings in the town.
For example, the parish church of St Remigius in Alt-Viersen.
Or the Protestant church and St Clemens in Süchteln.
And there is also St Cornelius in Dülken.
There is also the old town wall with the prison tower.
It's very nice to look at.
The town also has an old generator hall on Rektoratstraße.
The hall has been extensively renovated and is now a beautiful venue for events.
There is also the art nouveau town baths.
There are many beautiful fountains in the city, for example

- the Remigius fountain in Viersen
- the fountain on the old market square in Dülken
- the Weberbrunnen fountain in Süchteln.

There is also the Irmgardis Chapel from 1664 on the Süchtelner Heights.
Processions often go there.

The educational programme is extensive


Viersen has been a district town since 1975.
5 years earlier, the towns of Viersen, Dülken, Süchteln and Boisheim merged.
The districts were previously independent.
There are many opportunities for education in Viersen.
There are:

- Primary schools
- secondary modern schools
- secondary modern schools
- grammar schools
- a comprehensive school
- one further education college (evening grammar school)
- one vocational college
- a district music school
- a district adult education centre.

The regional clinics in Süchteln are also important for other regions.

Local offices and authorities


Stadt Viersen | Bürgerservice

 [Rathausmarkt 1, 41747 Viersen](#)

@buergerservice@viersen.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162101670](tel:+49(0)2162101670)

<https://www.viersen.de/>

 Consultation hours by appointment: Mondays to Wednesdays 8.00 to 16.00, Thursdays 8.00 to 18.00, Fridays 8.00 to 13.00 and Saturdays 10.00 to 13.00

[To the online appointment system](#)

Registry office

The registry office has several important tasks.

When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office. This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible. You must register your marriage there.

Ellen Fonger | Standesamt Stadt Viersen

[Theodor-Frings-Allee 22, 41751 Viersen](#)

@urkundenservice@viersen.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162101624](tel:+49(0)2162101624)

<https://www.viersen.de/>


Kerstin Krämer | Standesamt Stadt Viersen

[Theodor-Frings-Allee 22, 41751 Viersen](#)

@urkundenservice@viersen.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162101252](tel:+49(0)2162101252)

<https://www.viersen.de/>


 Opening hours by prior appointment: Mondays - Thursdays: 08.00 - 12.30: Thursdays additionally: 14.00 - 18.00

Immigration office

Aufenthaltstitel / Teilnahmeberechtigung für einen Integrationskurs / Einbürgerung | Ausländerbehörde Stadt Viersen


[Theodor-Frings-Allee 22, 41751 Viersen](#)

@auslaenderangelegenheiten@viersen.de


 [+49 \(0\) 21621019730](tel:+49(0)21621019730)


Social welfare office

Asylbewerberleistungen / Flüchtlingsunterbringung | Sozialamt


 [Königsallee 30, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@fluechtlinge@viersen.de](mailto:fluechtlinge@viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21621010](tel:+49(0)21621010)

 **Opening hours:** Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 08.00-12.00 hrs

Wohnberechtigungsschein (WBS) | Sozialamt

 [Königsallee 30, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@wohnungswesen@viersen.de](mailto:wohnungswesen@viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162101405](tel:+49(0)2162101405)

Fachstelle für Wohnungsnotfälle | Sozialamt

 [Königsallee 30, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@wohnungsnotfaelle@viersen.de](mailto:wohnungsnotfaelle@viersen.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2162101335](tel:+49(0)2162101335)

 **Opening hours:** Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 08.00-12.00 hrs

Job Centre

The services of the Job Centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district.

BLZ Viersen | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Am Schluff 18-20, 41748 Viersen](#)

Willich

The town of Willich has 51,800 inhabitants.

The town has existed since 1970.

Before that, there were the municipalities of Anrath, Neersen, Schiefbahn and Willich.

These municipalities were independent.

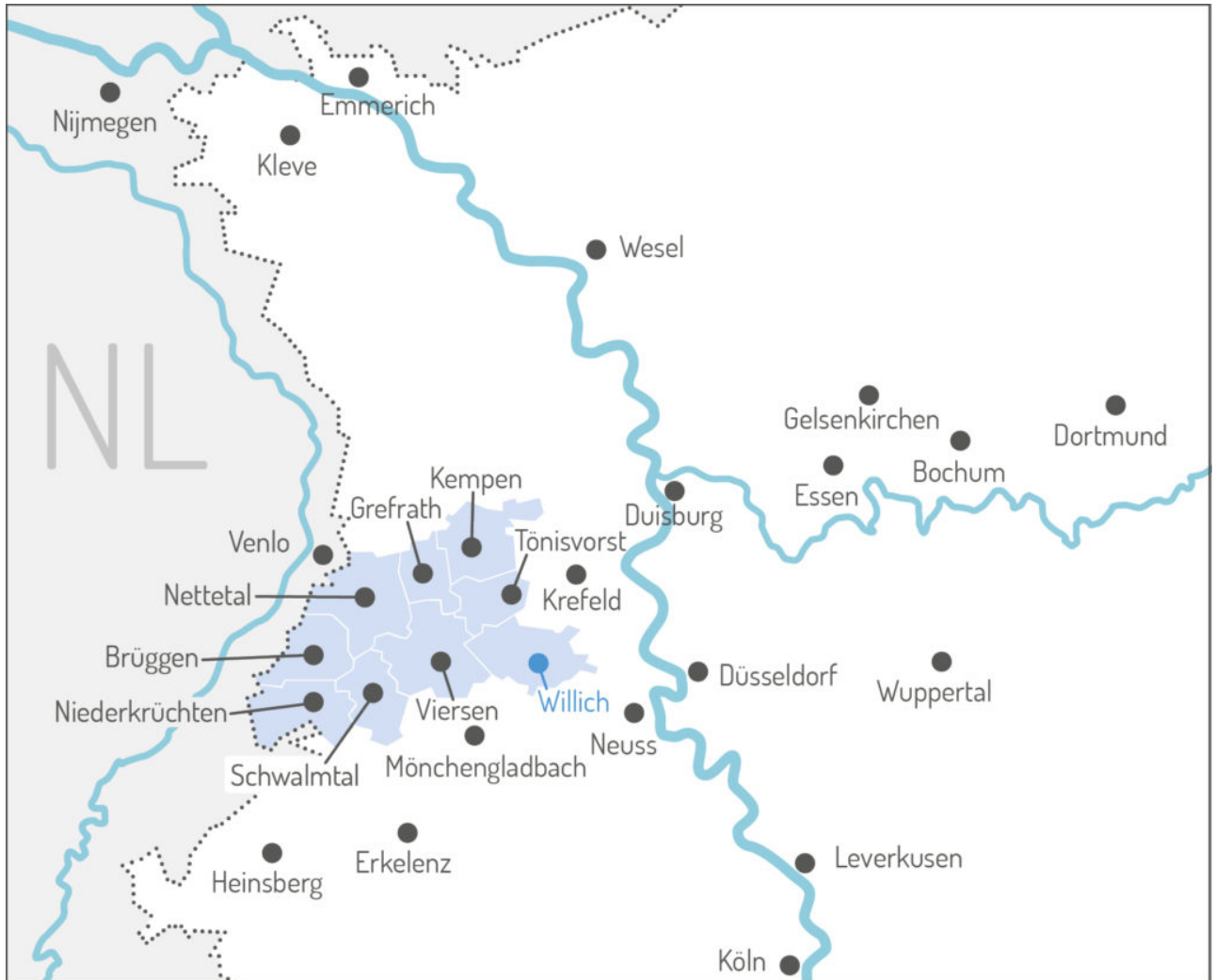
The town of Willich is good for business and culture.

There is the Münchheide industrial estate.

This is the largest industrial estate in Europe.

That's why Willich is a very good location for companies.

Even companies from the Far East know this.



Theatre of stature in the castle courtyard

The Neersen Castle Festival is good culture.
 Thousands of spectators come to see a funny play in the summer.
 They also watch a serious play and a children's play.
 This is the theatre's annual repertoire.
 It is the only professional open-air theatre in North Rhine-Westphalia.
 The theatre has its own group of actors.

Neersen Castle is worth a visit in itself.
 The castle is located in the centre of a castle park.
 This is a building that was remodelled in the 17th century.
 Adrian Wilhelm von Virmond turned a moated castle into a palace complex.

A detour to Little Jerusalem

The pilgrimage chapel of Little Jerusalem dates from the 17th century.
It is built like the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.
There is also Stockum House and Broich House.
Stockum House dates from 1619 and Broich House from the 13th century.
Both houses are in Anrath.
Willich was first mentioned in 1137.
At that time it was called "Wylike".
It was mentioned in a deed of gift to the Kamp monastery.
Anrath was then called "Anrode" and was already a parish in its own right in 1010.
The history of "Ners" can be traced back to 1262.
And "Schyffbaen" is mentioned in documents for the first time in 1420.

There are many festivals in Willich.
For example, there are 8 shooting festivals.
The second largest shooting festival on the Lower Rhine is in Alt-Willich.
The largest is in Neuss.
You can see how important traditions are in Willich.

Local offices and authorities


Eva-Maria Wingerath | Bürgerservice Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Anrath

 [Viersener Str. 2, 47877 Willich](#)


 [@Eva-Maria.Wingerath@stadt-willich.de](mailto:Eva-Maria.Wingerath@stadt-willich.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2156949706](tel:+49(0)2156949706)

 <https://www.stadt-willich.de/de/rathaus/stadtteil...>

 Monday 8.00 - 12.30, Tuesday afternoon 14 -17, Wednesday and Thursday 8 -12.30
[To book an appointment online](#)

Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Neersen


 [Hauptstr. 6, 47877 Willich](#)

 Monday afternoon 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8.00 am - 12.30 pm
[To the online appointment booking](#)


Tanja Scholz | Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Schiefbahn

 [Hochstr. 67-69, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@Tanja.Scholz@stadt-willich.de](mailto:Tanja.Scholz@stadt-willich.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2154949537](tel:+49(0)2154949537)

Martin Holter | Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Schiefbahn

 [Hochstr. 67-69, 47877 Willich](#)

@Martin.Holter@stadt-willich.de

[+49 \(0\) 2154949655](tel:+49(0)2154949655)

 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Thursday afternoon 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

[To the online appointment booking](#)

Silke Fassbender | Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Willich

[Kaiserplatz 1, 47877 Willich](#)

@silke.fassbender@stadt-willich.de


[+49 \(0\) 2154949408](tel:+49(0)2154949408)

Torsten Zilz | Stadt Willich, Stadtteilbüro Willich

[Kaiserplatz 1, 47877 Willich](#)

@torsten.zilz@stadt-willich.de

[+49 \(0\) 2154949412](tel:+49(0)2154949412)

 Monday to Friday 8.00 am - 12.30 pm, Wednesday 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm, Saturday by prior appointment from 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

[To the online appointment booking](#)

Registry office

The registry office has several important tasks.

When a child is born, the parents must register the birth in person at the registry office. This is called notarising the birth.

If you want to get married, the registry office is also responsible. You must register your marriage there.

Colette Franzen | Standesamt Willich

[Kaiserplatz 1, 47877 Willich](#)

@Colette.Franzen@stadt-willich.de


[+49 \(0\) 2154949557](tel:+49(0)2154949557)

<https://www.stadt-willich.de/verwaltung-politik/m...>

Job centre

The services of the job centre are offered locally in the towns and municipalities belonging to the district.

BLZ Willich | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Gießerallee 8, 47877 Willich](#)

Do you have an offer for our app?

If you notice when using the Integreat app that an offer is missing or an important topic is not displayed, you are welcome to let us know.

You have two options:

- Write to us using the feedback function in the app.
- Contact the Municipal Integration Centre of the district of Viersen directly.

We look forward to your comments.
This will help us to further improve the app.

Kommunales Integrationszentrum

Vincent Thul | Integreat-App

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

@vincent.thul@kreis-viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2162392129](tel:+49(0)2162392129)

You are also welcome to let us know if an event is taking place in your area that can be publicised on Integreat App at Kreises Viersen.

About Integreat


- **Frag Integreat** is a new function in Integreat.
- **Frag Integreat** It works like a chat. You ask your question and receive a helpful answer within a few seconds.
- **Frag Integreat** is currently only available on the integreat.app website. It is not yet available in the apps installed via the Google Play Store or Apple App Store.
- You can find the chat from **Frag Integreat** by clicking on the speech bubble icon at the bottom right of your screen:




This is how Frag Integreat works:

Ask your question. **Frag Integreat** Integreat will then search through all the content in the Integreat app and provide you with the best answer. This can take up to a minute. **Please be patient.**

The answers from **Frag Integreat** are based exclusively on the official information of the respective region. This way you will always receive reliable and correct answers.

 The robot next to the answer indicates that **Frag Integreat** has automatically found a suitable answer for you in the Integreat content. You are welcome to ask further questions. If there is no suitable answer, you will also be informed of this.

You can also write in the chat that you would like to write to a **person**. Experts on site can read and answer your message. After you have written that you would like to write to a person, you may have to wait a few days for a reply. This depends on when the experts are online.

 The picture of a person next to the reply indicates that a person has given you a reply. You can also write an answer or ask another question. Another person will then reply to you.

Make sure you select the right language and your selected region

Frag Integreat can speak all the languages available in Integreat. It is important that the language in which you ask your question is also currently set - otherwise it will not work properly. **Frag Integreat** will not work properly.

If this happens, proceed as follows:

- Close the chat window
- Select your desired language from the language selection at the top
- Open **Frag Integreat** and ask your question

Frag Integreat can only access the content of the region you have selected. If you need information from another region, please select this region first and then ask your question. The chatbot is not yet available in all regions.

Your data is also Frag Integreat secure.

You do not need to log in to **Frag Integreat** to use it. No personal data is stored. However, please do not enter any sensitive information in the chat. If your question is very specific, we will **Frag Integreat** will try to recommend a suitable counselling centre. You can then safely discuss your personal concerns and documents there.

We protect your data and privacy and never pass it on. We have compiled all the information on data protection on this website: [Website with information on data protection](#). After 6 months we delete your chat data completely from our servers.

Help us, Frag Integreat better!

Frag Integreat is constantly being improved. If an answer is incomprehensible or you discover an error, we look forward to your feedback. Also, if you have ideas on how to make the chat even more helpful, please let us know. You can write a message using the feedback function. You can also reach us via info@integreat-app.de.

Thank you for using **Frag Integreat** use the chat!

Everyday life

Basic values in Germany

All people living in Germany must abide by the central principles of the political and legal order.

The most important legal basis for life in Germany is the **Basic Law**. It is the constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany. The Basic Law also lists the fundamental rights, which are above all other laws. The inviolability of human dignity, human rights and the freedom of the individual are fundamental principles of the Basic Law. The Basic Law is briefly explained in this film:

[German](#)

[Arabic](#)

[English Arabic](#)

[Farsi](#)

[French](#)

[Click on this link](#) for an overview of other films on the subject of the Basic Law.

Germany is a federal state consisting of **16 federal states**.

Germany is a democratic state, which means that **all state power emanates from the people**.

Germany is a constitutional state. **The decisions of the state - the government - are bound by the law**. The actions of the state can be scrutinised by the courts.

Germany is a welfare state. This means that, in principle, every citizen should provide for their own livelihood by working. However, the state helps people who cannot or can only partially support themselves.

This booklet provides an introduction to basic rights in Germany in [German](#), [Arabic](#), [English](#), [Farsi](#), [Dari](#) and [French](#) (PDF document).

Insurances

Liability insurance

You cause damage to a person in Germany, but you didn't mean to?

Then you have to give the person money.

That's what the law says.

This applies to

- Damage to persons
- Damage to property
- Damage to people's money.

This applies in the private sphere.

For example, if you have a road accident.

Or if your child breaks a window pane with a ball.

In Germany, you can take out private liability insurance.
The insurance then pays for any damage you or your family cause.
You can decide for yourself whether you want to take out this insurance.

You have a circle of helpers.
The circle of helpers can help you find good private liability insurance.

Health insurance

Asylum seekers and persons with tolerated status are entitled to basic medical care (= medical assistance) for "acute illnesses and pain".

Before you go to the doctor, you need a health insurance voucher. You can obtain this from the social welfare office in your town or from the ZUE (Central Accommodation Centre).

If you have an insurance card, you no longer need a health insurance certificate.

If you have taken up employment, you are covered by statutory health insurance. In this case, your employer will notify the social insurance organisation.

Living

Requirements for a change of residence

Shared accommodation

During the asylum procedure, most refugees in the district of Viersen live in shared accommodation.

There are sometimes problems in shared accommodation because many people with different cultures, religions and habits live in a small space. If you have problems in the shared accommodation, please contact the building management, the social welfare office in your town or the volunteer counsellors.

Approval to move (job centre)

If you receive benefits from the job centre, you must first apply for approval to pay the rent.

The costs and size of the flat must be reasonable and the move must be necessary.

If you move within the city, the same job centre is responsible as before. Do you want to move to a new city? Then the current job centre agrees to the move and the new job centre in the new city agrees to pay the rent.

Residence requirement

You will also receive a residence requirement with the allocation. This means that you can only look for a flat in the place to which you have been assigned. In exceptional cases (job or family), you can live elsewhere. You must submit an application for this. Find out more at the immigration office.

If you wish to change or cancel the residence requirement, you must complete the following document: [Application form Cancellation of residence allocation](#)

Housing entitlement certificate (WBS)

The housing entitlement certificate gives people with little money access to publicly subsidised housing, which is usually slightly cheaper than normal housing.

You can find all information about the Wohnberechtigungsschein (WBS) under the following link:

<https://www.mhkbd.nrw/themenportal/wohnberechtigu...>

Applying for a flat

If you see an advert for a vacant flat online or in the newspaper, you must call the advertiser or send an application by email. In the text, write all the important information about you and the people who want to move in with you. This includes, for example, how old you are, how many people you would like to move into the flat with and how you would like to pay for the flat. You can find examples of websites on the Internet by searching for the words "flat application".

Flat search

On the Internet, you can use the words "rent a flat" to find websites offering vacant flats.

When looking for a flat, pay attention to the Job Centre's requirements.

Remember that there is no free counselling service for finding accommodation. Assistance organisations and public agencies only provide limited help in finding accommodation.

Viewing the flat

You can find websites on the Internet with the words "Checklist for viewing a flat", where you will find detailed examples. Take another person with you.

Bring the following documents with you to the flat viewing:

- Your identity document
- Proof of your employment
- Your SCHUFA information (not older than three months)
- Possibly proof from the job centre

Financing of the flat (rent and furniture)

Your own funds

If you work, you can use the [housing benefit calculator](#) to check whether you are also entitled to housing benefit.

Job centre

The Job Centre will cover the costs of rent and heating as long as you do not have a job. The job centre defines how much a flat may cost.

The total rent for a flat is made up of the basic rent and the ancillary costs. The basic rent (Kaltmiete) is the price without heating, electricity and water. The ancillary costs include water, rubbish and other things.

You have to find your own electricity provider, sign a contract and pay for the electricity each month. You also have to pay for telephone and internet yourself.

Make sure you use water, electricity and heating sparingly. This costs extra money and is not included in the rent.

IMPORTANT:

If the landlord wants to give you the flat, he will fill out a form which you must have approved by the Job Centre. You can obtain the form from the job centre. Only then can you sign the tenancy agreement.

You can then apply for money for the move. It is possible to apply to the Job Centre for initial equipment. This includes, for example, a bed, fridge and washing machine. You can find lists of these items on the Internet. Social department stores offer the opportunity to buy used furniture at a low price. These can be found in almost every city.

Tenancy agreement & rights and obligations

Tenancy agreement & deposit

Translate any words in the tenancy agreement that you do not understand. Check the rent amount, whether your name, address and account details of the landlord are correct. Ask for a telephone number so that you can call the landlord if there are any problems in the flat.

Landlords require a deposit from you. A deposit is a sum of money that you pay to the landlord before moving into the flat and that you get back when you move out.

You will only get the money back if the flat is left clean and undamaged.

In some cases, the job centre can cover the costs of a deposit on credit. However, this must be clarified individually with the case worker.

Rights and obligations

The landlord may not move into the flat without your knowledge. If you sign the tenancy agreement, you are obliged to pay the rent and ancillary costs on time. If you fail to do so, the landlord may terminate the tenancy agreement and you will have to move out of the flat.

Some houses are built in such a way that they are very noisy (e.g. walking on the floor, music, the washing machine) can disturb neighbours. To prevent this from happening, ask the landlord if there are house rules. If so, these will set out the rules for living with neighbours. If there are no rules, the quiet hours from Monday to Saturday 22:00 - 06:00 always apply in Germany. These apply all day on Sundays and public holidays. Pay attention to the cleaning schedule and make sure you put your rubbish in the right bin.

Tenants' associations and consumer advice centres can help and advise you in the event of a dispute about the flat.

Before and after the move

The notice period for the previous flat is important before moving. As a rule, this is three months. Everything else must be discussed with the landlord beforehand.

Arrange an official handover date for both flats. The keys will then be handed over and a handover protocol written. This document also contains the meter readings (electricity, possibly gas and water).

You can find more information [here](#).

Current account

A current account is an account for people who want to make payments via the bank. Your money is available in your current account at all times. Make sure that you have enough money in your account for all withdrawals and payments.

With a current account you can

- Make transfers
- Receive cashless payments (payments from public offices / authorities / social benefits are often made cashless, i.e. transferred to a personal current account)
- Set up standing orders
- Participate in direct debits
- Cashing cheques, making cashless payments with an EC card
- Withdraw cash at the bank counter or from an ATM
- Print out your account statements

Opening an account


Decide which bank you would like to have an account with. Make an appointment to open an account. Please bring one of your identification documents with you: Proof of arrival, residence permit, identity card.


If no current address is noted on the legitimisation document, please also bring a registration certificate or a comparable document.

- After opening the account, you will receive an EC card with a four-digit PIN code. Sign the back of the EC card and memorise the PIN code. You will need the PIN code for cashless payments and for withdrawing money from ATMs.

Be sure to keep your card and PIN code separate!

- If you want to withdraw cash, it is best to use the ATMs of the bank where you have your account. Then the withdrawal costs nothing. If the PIN code is entered incorrectly three times at the ATM, the debit card will be cancelled and blocked. In this case, you must ask your bank.
- If your debit card is lost or stolen, have it blocked immediately. State your sort code and account number. Then ask your bank for a new EC card.

 [116 116](tel:116116)

 Around the clock.

■ Different banks offer current accounts with different conditions. Find out exactly how much a current account costs each month and what services the bank offers in return.

■ If you do not speak German or English, please bring a translator with you.

Broadcasting fees

In Germany, there are radio, television and online offerings from ARD (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland), ZDF (Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen) and Deutschlandradio. They report free from economic and political influences. Everyone pays money for this. This is called the licence fee.

The law stipulates that a licence fee must be paid for every home in Germany. However, only one person per home has to pay the licence fee. This costs €18.36 per month and must be paid to the ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio contribution service. Further information can be found on the [broadcasting licence fee website](#) (also available in English, French, Arabic and Russian).

Some people do not have to pay the licence fee. For example, if you receive social benefits. An application must be submitted for exemption from the licence fee.

You can find the application for exemption [here](#).

Shopping

Groceries

Most groceries in Germany are bought in a supermarket or at the market. You can usually find everything you need there. In some places there are also Turkish, Arabic or Russian grocery shops, for example.

There are various grocery shops with food from other cultures.

"Tafel" and "food pantry"


In some places there is a "Tafel" or "Speisekammer". These provide food for people on low incomes who receive support from the social welfare office or job centre. You will need your certificate of eligibility.

Offers on site

Brüggen

Tafel Brüggen

 [Vennmühlenweg 2, 41379 Brüggen](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 21638892301](tel:+49(0)21638892301)

 <http://www.brueggener-tafel.de/>

Grefrath

Tafel Grefrath

 [An der evangelischen Kirche 25, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21584080500](tel:+49(0)21584080500)

Kempen


Tafel Kempen | Martinus-Hilfe e. V.


 [Mühlhausener Str. 111, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2152553636](tel:+49(0)2152553636)

 <https://www.martinus-hilfe.de/>


Kaufbar (Gebrauchtwarenkaufhaus)

 [An Sankt Marien 16, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21528979912](tel:+49(0)21528979912)

Das Lädchen Kempen (gebrauchte Kinderkleidung) | Deutscher Kinderschutzbund Ortsverband Kempen e. V.


 [Spülwall 11, 47906 Kempen](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 2152519924](tel:+49(0)2152519924)

 <https://www.kinderschutzbund-kempen.de/das-laedch...>

DRK Spendenhalle Kempen | gebrauchte Kleidung, Haushaltswaren, u.ä.


 [Industriering Ost 23, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 15116770786](tel:+49(0)15116770786)


 Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 5.00 - 7.00 pm

Kleiderkammer Malteser Hilfsdienst Kempen


 [Verbindungsstr. 27, 47906 Kempen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21529590140](tel:+49(0)21529590140)

Fahrradwerkstatt für Geflüchtete Kempen

 [Kauertzacker 15, 47906 Kempen](#)


 [@fahrradwerkstatt.kempen@t-online.de](mailto:fahrradwerkstatt.kempen@t-online.de)

 Wednesdays 14.00 - 18.00 hrs

Nettetal

Nettetaler Tafel e.V.


 [Donkelsvennweg 10, 41334 Nettetal](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 21573027876](#)

 <http://nettetaler-tafel.de/>

Distributes food to authorised persons once a week at various locations in the town of Nettetal. See website for locations.

Sozialkaufhaus Nettetal

 [Dyck 10, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21531377439](#)

Kleiderstube | Evangelische Kirchengemeinde an der Nette

 [Lambertimarkt 10, 41334 Nettetal](#)


 Tuesday: 4-6 p.m.

Thursday: 10am-12pm

Saturday: 10am-12pm

Kindertraum-Laden Nettetal


 [Kehrstr. 74, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 Tuesday to Friday: 09.30-13.00 and 15.00-18.00

Saturday: 09.30-14.00

Kleiderkammer der Caritas Nettetal


 [Niedickstr. 12, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 Distribution from 09.30-11.30

Niederkrüchten

Tafel Niederkrüchten e.V.


 [Poststr. 26, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 1732187760](#)

 <https://tafel-niederkruechten.de/>


Schwalmtal


Tafel Schwalmtal e.V.

 [Schulstr. 52, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)


 <https://www.tafel-schwalmtal.de/>


Kleiderstube der Pfarrcaritas Schwalmtal

 [Schulstr. 13, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

 Wednesdays 10.00 to 12.00 and 15.00 to 17.00; closed during school holidays

"Wie neu" | Kinder- und Jugendboutique

 [Ungeratherstr. 27, 41336 Schwalmtal](#)

 Mondays from 10.00 to 13.00, Wednesdays from 10.00 to 13.00 and from 15.00 to 18.00, Fridays from 15.00 to 18.00

Viersen

Viersener Tafel e.V.

 [Hohlstr. 46, 41747 Viersen](#)

 <http://viersener-tafel.de/>


Kaufbar Viersen | Gebrauchtwarenkaufhaus


 [Krefelder Str. 173a, 41748 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21628972560](tel:+49(0)21628972560)

 <https://kaufbar-viersen.de/>


"Robin Hood" | Sozialkaufhaus

 [Alter Markt 3, 41751 Viersen](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 216258646](tel:+49(0)216258646)

 <https://diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de/unsere-angebo...>

Kleiderkammer der evangelischen Flüchtlingshilfe | Kreuzkirche Viersen

 [Hauptstr. 120, 41747 Viersen](#)

@fluechtlingshilfe-viersen@ekir.de


 Wednesday: 15.00-16.30

Friday: 15.00-17.00

Sunday 11.00-12.00

Kleiderkammer der Caritas Viersen


 [Pastor-Grünig Platz 1, 41748 Viersen](#)


 Mondays 13.30-17.00

Kleiderwelt Sozialdienst katholischer Frauen e.V.

 [Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

@info@skf-viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21622498399](tel:+49(0)21622498399)


 Tuesday 09.00-12.00

Thursday 09.00-12.00

Closed during school holidays and public holidays


Kleiderkammer St. Cornelius Viersen

 [Kreuzherrenstr. 1, 41751 Viersen](#)

 Every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 16.00-18.00

Caritas-Laden Viersen

 [Josefstr. 13, 41747 Viersen](#)

 Thursday 14.00-17.00


Tönisvorst

Kleiderkammer der Caritas Tönisvorst

 [Kirchplatz 15, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

Willich

Tafel Willich e.V.


 [Fellerhöfe 1, 47877 Willich](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2154814882](tel:+49(0)2154814882)

 <https://www.tafel-willich.de/kunden-infos/#ausgab...>


"Wühlmaus" Willich | Kinder Secondhandladen

 [Neersener Str. 41, 47877 Willich](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21564979708](tel:+49(0)21564979708)

Kleiderkammer der Caritas Willich

 [Hauptstr. 34, 47877 Willich](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21565205](tel:+49(0)21565205)

Travelling and mobility

You can explore your city and the district of Viersen. With a residence permit, you can travel throughout Germany. There are several ways to get around.

Bus and train

In the district of Viersen, you can use public transport by bus and train. You need a valid ticket for every journey. Without a ticket, you will have to pay a fine of at least 60 euros. You can buy a bus ticket directly from the bus driver. You can buy a train ticket from ticket machines on the railway track (up to 20 euro notes, no 50 euro notes). You can find out when the trains and buses depart in the timetable or ask at a travel agency or the city council.

 **Information on timetables and tickets online:** [VRR Verkehrsverbund Rhein Ruhr](#). This page can also be downloaded as an app.

The SozialTicket for bus and rail

What is the SozialTicket?

With the SozialTicket, you are mobile at your place of residence at a low price. Use all regular buses, S-Bahn, RB and RE lines as well as trams and underground trains in the area of validity for your daily errands around the clock.

The SozialTicket costs €41.20 per month

Who is the SozialTicket for?

Anyone with an entitlement card (available from the social welfare office)

- Recipients of unemployment benefit II and social benefit (SGB II)
- Recipients of benefits for basic security in old age and reduced earning capacity as well as current assistance for living expenses outside of institutions ("social assistance", SGB XII)

- Recipients of standard benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act

Information on the social ticket can be [found here](#).

Bicycle

If you know that you will be living in the district of Viersen for a longer period of time, it is worth buying a bicycle. It is cheaper than travelling by public transport.

Important traffic rules for cyclists:

- Always ride on the right-hand side of the carriageway
- Do not ride next to each other, but behind each other
- If there is a cycle path, you must ride on the cycle path
- Only children up to the age of 11 are allowed to cycle on footpaths
- It is forbidden to use a mobile phone on a bicycle

Purchase and repairs: When buying a bike, make sure that it is equipped as follows and is therefore roadworthy. Otherwise you will have to pay a fine if you are stopped by the police.

- Front and rear lights
- Reflector front and rear
- Reflectors in the spokes (2 per wheel)
- Reflectors on the pedals
- Bell
- Two independent brakes

Contracts and debts

It can quickly happen that you get into financial difficulties. It is particularly risky to sign contracts that often incur costs over many months.


Never sign a contract if you don't understand everything!

Examples of contracts with fixed terms and costs:

- Gyms: In most gyms, contracts run for at least 12 months. You then have to pay the membership fee every month.
- Mobile phone contracts: Most mobile phone providers have contracts with a 2-year term. (Exception: prepaid SIM cards are purchased without a contract).

Debt counselling

If you do not pay your bills, you will incur debts. Debt counselling" can help you if you have financial problems. They will look with you at what has happened and help you to get out of debt. You can arrange instalment payments for outstanding bills with the debt counselling service.

 It is important that you bring all your bills with you to the counselling session.

Debtor and insolvency counselling of the AWO:

AWO Schuldnerberatung Kempen

- [📍 Hülser Str. 47, 47906 Kempen](#)
- [@Schuldnerberatung.kempen@awo-kreisviersen.de](mailto:Schuldnerberatung.kempen@awo-kreisviersen.de)
- [📞 +49 21525536900](tel:+4921525536900)
- [🌐 https://www.awo-kreis-viersen.de/schuldner-und-in...](https://www.awo-kreis-viersen.de/schuldner-und-in...)

AWO Schuldnerberatung Willich

- [📍 Gießerallee 8, 47877 Willich](#)
- [@Schuldnerberatung.willich@awo-kreisviersen.de](mailto:Schuldnerberatung.willich@awo-kreisviersen.de)
- [📞 +49 2154819797](tel:+492154819797)
- [🌐 https://www.awo-kreis-viersen.de/schuldner-und-in...](https://www.awo-kreis-viersen.de/schuldner-und-in...)

Debtor and insolvency counselling from Caritas:

Sabine Broekmans | Schuldnerberatung der Caritas: Alt-Viersen

- [📍 Heierstr. 17, 41747 Viersen](#)
- [@s.broekmans@caritas-viersen.de](mailto:s.broekmans@caritas-viersen.de)
- [📞 +49 216293893561](tel:+49216293893561)
- [🌐 https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...](https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...)

Simone Stahn-Florian | Schuldnerberatung der Caritas: Süchteln

- [📍 Heierstr. 17, 41747 Viersen](#)
- [@simone.stahn-florian@caritas-viersen.de](mailto:simone.stahn-florian@caritas-viersen.de)
- [📞 +49 216293893565](tel:+49216293893565)
- [🌐 https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...](https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...)

Kristina Krieg | Schuldnerberatung der Caritas: Dülken und Boisheim

- [📍 Heierstr. 17, 41747 Viersen](#)
- [@kristina.krieg@caritas-viersen.de](mailto:kristina.krieg@caritas-viersen.de)
- [📞 +49 21621022972](tel:+4921621022972)
- [🌐 https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...](https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...)

Elisabeth Mankertz | Schuldnerberatung der Caritas: Schwalmtal, Niederkrüchten, Brüggen

- [📍 Heierstr. 17, 41747 Viersen](#)
- [@elisabeth.mankertz@caritas-viersen.de](mailto:elisabeth.mankertz@caritas-viersen.de)
- [📞 +49 2163459836](tel:+492163459836)

- [+49 15207684741](tel:+4915207684741)
- <https://www.caritas-viersen.de/hilfe-beratung/sch...>

Internet, WLAN and mobile telephony

Mobile phone

There are basically two different mobile phone contracts in Germany: Prepaid contract and fixed-term contract.

The prepaid contract

The prepaid contract has no fixed contract term. There is no basic fee and no minimum turnover. You can buy a SIM card in supermarkets, drugstores or petrol stations and top it up with credit as required. It is also possible to book mobile Internet usage.

The fixed-term contract

With a fixed-term contract, there is a minimum contract period. This means that you must conclude a contract for at least 12 or 24 months and pay a certain amount to the operator each month. At the end of the minimum term, you can cancel the contract. To do so, you must give written notice of cancellation in due time. You should be careful when mobile phones are offered at particularly low prices. Costs are often hidden in a fixed-term contract.

10 important questions when signing a contract:

- How high is the basic fee? Does the fee increase after a certain term?
- Is there a minimum monthly turnover?
- How long is the contract term (e.g. 12 or 24 months)?
- How long is the cancellation period?
- Are there fees for setting up, switching and cancelling?
- What is the billing cycle?
- How much does a minute cost (external / own network)?
- What are the acquisition costs for a mobile phone with and without a contract?
- What does the Internet network cost?
- What are the costs for calls abroad?

Internet

Asylum seekers in Germany are not legally entitled to Internet access. However, WLAN is available in some accommodation centres. In consultation with the accommodation management, it may be possible to set up Internet access for you for a fee. Free WLAN is sometimes available in public places.

You can find an overview of the Freifunk sites in the district on the following maps. Public [libraries](#) also offer Internet access.

[Brüggen](#)
[Grefrath](#)
[Kempen](#)
[Nettetal](#)
[Niederkrüchten](#)
[Schwalmtal](#)
[Tönisvorst](#)
[Viersen](#)
[Willich](#)

Anti-discrimination

What is discrimination?

Discrimination means:

Someone is treated badly, disadvantaged or excluded without there being a good reason for it.

This happens because of certain characteristics, for example

- Sex (gender)
- Health or disability
- Origin or skin colour
- religion
- Social background (e.g. poverty or wealth)
- many other differences

Discrimination exists everywhere:

- between individuals
- within groups
- in organisations
- in society as a whole, as it is a structure that runs through all areas of society.

Many people experience several types of discrimination at the same time.

Example:

A woman with a disability can be discriminated against because she is a woman and because she has a disability.

Why does discrimination exist?

Discrimination arises from power differences that have existed for a very long time.

People often learn prejudices as children without realising it.

As a result, we repeat certain discriminatory behaviours - sometimes unconsciously.

The Basic Law and human rights state that
All people must be protected from discrimination.

Nevertheless, many people experience discrimination every day.

Important:

Even if you don't mean anything bad, it can still be discriminatory for another person.

The decisive factor is how the other person experiences it, not what you had in mind.

What does anti-discrimination mean?

Anti-discrimination means

Actively doing something against discrimination.

This includes, for example:

- Counselling people who have experienced discrimination
- Empowering people
- Recording and reporting cases of discrimination
- Actions and campaigns for diversity and equal rights
- Creating laws that protect against discrimination

An important goal of anti-discrimination work is to

To protect fundamental human rights.

Why is anti-discrimination important?

Anti-discrimination helps to create a fairer society and is important for respectful and appreciative social interaction.

This requires the commitment of everyone.


More information is available from the [Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency](#) and the [Anti-Discrimination Advice Centre \(ADA\)](#).

Contact persons at the district of Viersen:

Silke Polmans | Gleichstellungsbeauftragte des Kreises Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@silke.polmans@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:silke.polmans@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391003](tel:+49(0)2162391003)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/aufgabe/glei...>

Ideen- und Beschwerdestelle Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

@ideenundbeschwerden@kreis-viersen.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162392345](tel:+49(0)2162392345)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/ideen-und-beschwerden>

LSBATIQ+

LSBTQAI * (or LSBTQAI+) is an abbreviation. The abbreviation describes different genders and sexualities of people.

People differ, for example, in how and who they love. There are not only the genders "male" and "female".

Some people cannot be categorised as either of these genders. Some people don't feel they belong to any of these genders either.

This shows how different people are. There is a system that only recognises the genders "male" and "female". This system is called the binary gender model. This means that there are only 2 genders. But that's not true.

The abbreviation stands for **lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, queer, asexual and inter***.

It also stands for other sexual orientations and gender identities. These are not named exactly. But they are included with the asterisk* or the plus sign +. It depends on how you write it.

Inter* or intersex people, for example, have gender characteristics of men and women. So you can't categorise them exactly. This shows that there are not just men and women. There are many ways to define gender. Many cultures recognise several genders.

In Germany, people with many differences live together.

For example:

- Different genders
- Different sexuality
- Different eye colour, hair colour and skin colour
- Different religions
- Different origins
- With disabilities and without disabilities
- Different political opinions.

So people are different. But people are also equal. All people are equal before the law. This is called equal treatment. Article 3 of the Basic Law states this, which is why no one should be discriminated against.

Since the end of 2018, inter* and trans* people in Germany have also been able to choose "diverse" or "without". This applies to the entry in the civil status register. In other words, they can opt for a "third option". This makes Germany one of the few countries that legally recognise more than 2 genders. The decision of the Federal Constitutional Court has consequences for many areas. For example, people can have their name changed if there is an important reason. In addition, "marriage for all" has been possible in Germany since 2017. This means that all couples have the same rights and obligations.

People's sexual orientations and gender identities as a reason for fleeing

Some people flee because they have a certain sexual orientation. Or they flee because they identify with a different gender. People flee for many different reasons. The reasons are often very complicated and belong together. The main reasons are war, violence and political persecution. But economic hardship and climate change are also important. Many people also hope for a better future. In many countries, people are persecuted because they are gay or lesbian, for example.

They are treated badly and oppressed. They often experience violence that is life-threatening. Sometimes people are arrested or tortured for no reason. This is against human rights. That is why many people flee and seek protection in Germany.

There is rarely just one reason for fleeing. There are usually several reasons that belong together. That's important to say.

Are you a refugee and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, queer, asexual or inter*?

Then you can get support. There are many LGBTQAI+ organisations in Germany. You can find contact details and further information at the LSVD project 'Queer Refugees Deutschland'.

Projekt "Queer Refugees Deutschland" | LSVD+ NRW

 [Rheingasse 6, 50676 Köln](#)

 [@queer-refugees@lsvd.de](mailto:queer-refugees@lsvd.de)

 <https://queer-refugees.de/>

Contacts in the district of Viersen

Kreis Queersen e.V.

 [Hauptstraße 109, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@info@kreisqueersen.de](mailto:info@kreisqueersen.de)

 <https://kreisqueersen.de/>


The organisation campaigns for the interests and rights of different people.
For example

- lesbian people
- gay people
- bisexual people
- trans*people
- queer people
- inter*people
- asexual people
- aromantic people
- non-binary people.

Beratungsstelle "AIDS und sexuell übertragbare Infektionen" | Gesundheitsamt Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@sexuellegesundheit@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:sexuellegesundheit@kreis-viersen.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2162391695](tel:+49(0)2162391695)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>


There is a counselling centre run by the Viersen district health authority. The counselling centre is called: AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STI).

The counselling centre is the point of contact for questions about sexual health in the district. It carries out tests for infections that can be contracted during sex. It advises and supports people. It also aims to prevent people from getting these infections. It aims to inform people about sex and infections.

donum vitae Kreis Viersen e. V.

 [Josefstr. 9, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@info@donumvitae-viersen.de](mailto:info@donumvitae-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162503330](tel:+49(0)2162503330)

 <https://www.donumvitae-viersen.de/beratungsangebo...>

The sexual education programme offers a safe space in which people can talk and share their own experiences, values and norms in relation to sexuality, life and love.

Culture, leisure and sport

There are many different leisure activities on offer in the district of Viersen.

Cultural events and courses at an adult education centre or sports are popular.

Many cultural activities cost money. For example, cinema, theatre or museums. But there are also free activities from various organisations.

The district adult education centre offers a varied [programme](#) of courses and events.

If you would like to get to know the district of Viersen and the Lower Rhine, the website niederrhein-tourismus.de offers many tips for the region.

You can find local offers under the following links:

Culture

Bruges

There is a lively community life in the castle community of Brüggem.
We are very proud of this, because they are an important partner in our community.

You can find information on the organisations of our Dutch partner municipality Beesel [here](#)
and on the [homepage](#).

On the following pages you will find information and contact details for the organisations in
Bruges:

- [Assistance and charity care](#)
- [Sport & Leisure](#)
- [Children & Youth](#)
- [Senior citizens](#)

Grefrath

Interkultureller Kochtreff | Über den Tellerrand Grefrath


 [An der evangelischen Kirche 25, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [@grefrath@ueberdentellerrand.org](mailto:grefrath@ueberdentellerrand.org)


 <https://ueberdentellerrand.org/>

Verein „Mutter und Mehr“ Grefrath


 [Vinkrather Str. 64a, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2158800235](tel:+49(0)2158800235)


 <https://www.mum-grefrath.de/>

 Mondays 3.30 - 5.30 pm

Café International

 [Burgweg 32, 47929 Grefrath](#)

Café for exchange for women, men and children
Kolping Grefrath

 Wednesdays 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm

Kempen

Cultural events in Kempen can be found here:


 kempen.de

Nettetal


NetteKultur

All dates and events relating to art and culture in Nettetal:

NetteKultur

 [Doerkesplatz 11, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 @nettekultur@nettetal.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21538984141](tel:+49(0)21538984141)

 <https://www.nettetal.de/freizeit-kultur/kultur/ne...>

Customs and folk festivals

You can find an overview of all **carnival clubs** [here](#).


An overview of all **shooting clubs** in Nettetal can be found [here](#).

Niederkrüchten


You can find a list of events in Niederkrüchten [here](#).


Schwalmtal

Frauencafé des Asylkreises Schwalmtal

 [Schulstr. 12, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

 <https://asylkreis-schwalmtal.de/>

 Once a month from 3.00 - 6.00 pm. Current dates can be found on the [Asylum Circle homepage](#).

 You can find more events in the community [calendar](#).

Tönisvorst

You can find an overview of events in the city [here](#).

Viersen

Cultural events in the city of Viersen can be found here:

 viersen.de

Willich

You can find cultural events in Willich [here](#).

Libraries

A library or bookshop is a facility where you can borrow books, CDs, learning materials and learning aids to take home. It is also possible to study or read there in peace and quiet.

Bruges

Library Brüggen

Anne Ingenrieth | Bücherei Brüggen

 [Kreuherrnplatz 4, 41379 Brüggen](#)

 @Anne.Ingenrieth@brueggen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21635701555](tel:+49(0)21635701555)

 [Online catalogue of the library](#)

Opening hours:

Monday: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Tuesday: 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Thursday: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Last Saturday of the month: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.


The municipal library in Brüggen presents more than 20,000 books, magazines and audio books for children, young people and adults on around 120 square metres of public space. Interested readers will of course always find the latest bestsellers, an appealing selection of new children's books and non-fiction books, current books for young people, especially for readers aged 12 and over, guides on parenting, health, gardening and much more.

You are welcome to use the book delivery service if you are unable or unwilling to come to the library. Please make an appointment by telephone.

Grefrath

Katholische Bücherei Grefrath

 [Markt 10, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [+49 \(0\) 2158404619](tel:+49(0)2158404619)


Opening hours:

Thursday: 5.00 - 6.30 pm

Sunday: 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Vitusbücherei im Vitusforum Grefrath

 [Kirchplatz 16, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21586578](tel:+49(0)21586578)


Opening hours

Wednesday: 5.00 - 6.30 pm


2nd and 4th Sunday of the month: 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.

Kempen

Stadtbibliothek im Kulturforum Franziskanerkloster Kempen

 [Burgstr. 19, 47906 Kempen](#)

 @stadtbibliothek@kempen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21529174141](tel:+49(0)21529174141)

Opening Hours:

Monday: closed

Tuesday: 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

Wednesday: 14.00 - 17.00

Thursday: 14.00 - 18.00

Friday: 11.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.


Saturday: 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Nettetal

Stadtbücherei Nettetal

 [Lobbericher Str. 1, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 @stadtbuecherei@nettetal.de

 [+49 \(0\) 215372031](tel:+49(0)215372031)

Opening hours:

Tuesday: 10.00 - 18.00 hrs

Wednesday: 10.00 - 13.00

Thursday: 14.00 - 18.00 hrs

Friday: 10.00 - 18.00

1st Saturday of the month: 10.00 - 13.00

Stadtbücherei Nettetal-Kaldenkirchen

 [Kehrstr. 93, 41334 Nettetal](#)

Opening hours

Tuesday: 10.00 - 13.00

Thursday: 14.00 - 18.00

Bücherei St. Sebastian Lobberich

 [An St. Sebastian 29, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 @buecherei-lobberich@web.de


 <https://buecherei-lobberich.de/>

Opening hours: Tuesday

Tuesday: 16.00 - 18.00 hrs
Thursday: 17.00 - 19.00 hrs
Saturday: 5.30 - 6.30 pm
Sunday: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Niederkrüchten

Gemeindebibliothek Niederkrüchten

 [Adam-Houx-Str. 36, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

 [@bibliothek@niederkruechten.de](mailto:bibliothek@niederkruechten.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 21635720670](tel:+49(0)21635720670)

Opening Hours:

Monday: closed
Tuesday: 10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 18.00
Wednesday: 14.00 - 19.00
Thursday: 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Friday: 14.00 - 18.00 hrs
Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month: 10.00 - 13.00

Schwalmtal

Gemeindebibliothek Schwalmtal

 [Auf dem Markt 2, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

 <https://www.schwalmtal.de/>

Opening hours

Tuesday: 14.00 - 18.00 hrs
Wednesday: 10.00 - 13.00
Thursday: 14.00 - 19.00
Friday: 10.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 18.00
2nd and 4th Saturday of the month: 10.00 - 13.00

Tönisvorst

Stadtbücherei Tönisvorst

 [Hochstr. 20a, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

 [@buecherei@toenisvorst.de](mailto:buecherei@toenisvorst.de)

Opening hours:

Monday: 14.00 - 18.00 hrs
Tuesday: 13.00 - 18.00
Wednesday: closed

Thursday: 10.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 19.00
Friday: 13.00 - 18.00
1st Saturday of the month: 10.00 - 13.00

Viersen

Albert-Vigoleis-Thelen-Stadtbibliothek

 [Rathausmarkt 1B, 41747 Viersen](#)

 @stadtbibliothek@viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2162101509](tel:+49(0)2162101509)

Opening Hours:

Monday: closed

Tuesday: 11.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.


Wednesday to Friday: 11.00 - 13.30 and 14.30 - 18.00

Saturday: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.

Familienbibliothek Viersen-Dülken

 [Moselstr. 25, 41751 Viersen](#)

 @familienbibliothek-duelken@viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2162101640](tel:+49(0)2162101640)

Opening hours


Monday: 15.00 - 18.00

Wednesday: 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.


Thursday: closed

Friday: 15.00 - 18.00

Stadtbibliothek Viersen-Süchteln

 [Hochstr. 10, 41749 Viersen](#)

 @bibliothek-suechteln@viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2162101755](tel:+49(0)2162101755)

Opening hours

Monday: 15.00 - 18.00


Wednesday: 15.00 - 18.00

Thursday: closed


Friday: 10.00 - 12.00 a.m.

Willich

Bibliothek im Brauhaus Willich

 [Hochstr. 30, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@bibliothek@stadt-willich.de](mailto:bibliothek@stadt-willich.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 215494920602](tel:+49(0)215494920602)

 **Opening hours:**

Monday closed

Tuesday 10am-6pm

Wednesday 10am-6pm

Thursday 10am - 6pm

Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 10am - 1pm

Sport


Enjoying exercise is one thing. But sport offers you another opportunity: sport is a good and proven way of familiarising yourself with a new environment and making contacts. The rules of sport know no cultural or national boundaries and are usually understood even without a common language.

The "**support centres**" in the district of Viersen are particularly committed to welcoming and supporting new immigrants in club life: [Stützpunktvereine im Kreis Viersen](#).

Jutta Bouscheljong | Kreissportbund Viersen e.V.


 [Dechant-Stroux-Straße 11, 41748 Viersen](#)


 [@jutta.bouscheljong@ksb-viersen.de](mailto:jutta.bouscheljong@ksb-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21623690146](tel:+49(0)21623690146)


 <https://www.ksb-viersen.de/>

Office hours:

 Mondays - Thursdays 08.30 - 16.00 Fridays 08.30 - 12.00

 During the school holidays: 08.30 to 12.00

 [To the club search on the KSB website](#)

 The membership fee for a sports club can be subsidised for children of recipients of social benefits via the [education and participation package \(BuT\)](#).

Integration through Sport" support centres

Sport in clubs is important for integration.

Clubs connect all people with each other.

There is a certain culture and a certain way of life in clubs.

This is how we can shape the future together.

There are clubs that are particularly active in the "Integration through Sport" programme.

These clubs are known as support centres.

They actively approach people with a history of immigration.

Support point clubs create new programmes.

They also open up programmes that already exist.

To do this, they make the programmes accessible.

For example, they pay attention to language, access or contributions.

Clubs also help with other issues.

For example, with appointments with authorities or language courses.

Everyone in the association has the task of helping with integration.

There are 8 support centres in the district of Viersen.

This list shows the clubs:


KSG OH DO KWAN Viersen | Kampfsportgemeinschaft

 [Pütterhöfer Weg 7a, 41751 Viersen](#)

 thomas.schneider@budo-line.de

 <https://ohdokwan.de/>

Box-Club Kempen 04 e.V. | Kids-Box-Gruppe

 [Otto-Schott-Str. 10, 47906 Kempen](#)

 <https://boxclub-kempen.squarespace.com/>

Turnerschaft Grefrath | Team ELU

 [Bruckhauser Str., 47929 Grefrath](#)

 info@turnerschaft-grefrath.de

 <https://www.turnerschaft-grefrath.de/>


Willicher Turnverein 1892 e.V.

 [Klein Kempen 6, 47877 Willich](#)

 Info@willicher-turnverein.de


 <https://www.willicher-turnverein.de/>

Sp. V. Jungblut 1910 Born

 [Overhetfelderstr. 3a, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

 Office@jungblutborn.de


FC Lobberich/Dyck 1966 e. V. Nettetal

 [Rosental 50, 41334 Nettetal](#)

 [@marcus.optendrenk@tvlobberich.de](mailto:marcus.optendrenk@tvlobberich.de)

 <https://www.tvlobberich.de/>

Viersener Petanque Club

 [Weiherstr. 12, 41748 Viersen](#)

 [@vorstand@viersen-petanque.de](mailto:vorstand@viersen-petanque.de)

 <https://www.viersen-petanque.de/>


Bruges

You can find an overview of sports clubs in Brüggen [here](#).

Grefrath

You can find a list of sports clubs in Grefrath [here](#).

Kempen

 You can find an overview of local associations here: www.kempen.de


Nettetal

You can find an overview of sports clubs in Nettetal [here](#).

Niederkrüchten

You can find an overview of the sports facilities in Niederkrüchten [here](#).

Schwalmtal

 You can find an overview of local sports clubs [here](#).

Tönisvorst

An overview of the local clubs can be found [here](#).

Viersen

Clubs in the city of Viersen can be found here:

 <https://www.viersen.de/sport-im-verein>

Willich

An overview of the clubs in Willich can be found [here](#).

Families

Childcare

Childcare in Germany - Childcare for children from 0 to 6 years old

- **What is a childminder? What is childminding?**

Children under the age of 3 are looked after by a childminder or in day care centres in small groups. The care takes place in the childminder's home or in a large day care centre.

- **What is a day care centre?**

Children between the ages of 2 and 6 are looked after in a day care centre. Girls and boys attend a day care centre. They do not yet go to school. Your child will make friends here. The daycare centre starts in August. Your child learns German. Your child is well prepared for school. Kita is also called kindergarten or day care centre.

- **What will my child do at the daycare centre?**

The start of daycare is called familiarisation. Settling in is exciting and new. For parents and child. The daycare centre will help you with this. Your child should settle into the daycare centre slowly. First together with you. And then alone. You stay with your child at the daycare centre for the first time. The first visits are shorter. You arrange the times each day with the teachers. One person will take special care of your child. This person is your contact person for questions. This will help you and your child get to know the new environment. And you build up trust with the teachers.

Now comes the next step: you say goodbye to your child. And you wait in another room of the daycare centre. After a few minutes, you return to your child. Your child then stays longer and longer without you. Until your child stays in the daycare centre the whole time. If your child cries when you say goodbye: you come straight back. And you comfort your child.

Familiarisation with the daycare centre can take several weeks.

You can find an overview of what a daycare centre is and what your child's daily routine looks like [here](#).

- **What is a day at the daycare centre like?**

You arrive. And you hand your child over to the teachers. You say goodbye to your child. The children have breakfast. Play, activities indoors or outdoors. Even in the rain. The children eat lunch. Some children only stay in the daycare centre until lunchtime. These children are now picked up. The younger children sleep or rest. Play, activities indoors or outdoors. Even in the rain. The daycare centre closes.

- **Do you have any questions?**

The daycare centre will be happy to answer your questions.

The Municipal Integration Centre also offers support.

 Felicia Bot-Jurca

 [02162/391961](tel:02162391961)

 felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de

 [Municipal Integration Centre District of Viersen](#)

- **What does the daycare centre need to know?**

You give the day care centre important information about your child.

- **Is your child allowed to cry?**

Tears are completely normal. The teachers will comfort your child.

- **What is important to you at mealtimes?**

You discuss this with the daycare centre. You take part in the first meals together with your child. The teachers will take over this task later.

- **How is your child napped?**

The teachers watch you. And take over this task later. In daycare centres, all teachers change nappies.

- **What else is important?**

You should be available by phone.

- **Which vaccination is necessary?**

 **COMPULSORY VACCINATION - MEASLES VACCINATION!**

All children who are looked after either in nurseries, day care centres or by a childminder need a vaccination certificate.

- **What is a family centre?**

Family centres are childcare facilities which, in addition to providing care and education for pre-school children (up to the age of 6), also offer services for families. The family centres have various support services, events and activities, such as advice for families.

- **Where can I find information on day care centres?**

If you live in **Brüggen, Grefrath, Niederkrüchten, Schwalmtal** or **Tönisvorst**, you can find more information [here](#).

If you live in **Kempen**, you can find more information [here](#).

If you live in **Nettetal**, you can find more information [here](#).

If you live in **Viersen**, you can find more information [here](#).

If you live in **Willich**, you can find more information [here](#).

- **How can I enrol my child in a daycare centre?**

Children must be registered online via the **KITA-ONLINE** portal by 30 November at the latest for the coming year.

Important: The registration via **KITA-ONLINE** does not replace the parents' personal visit to the daycare centres or childminders. Childcare places are only allocated by the daycare centres and childminders if personal contact has taken place, e.g. in the form of a personal meeting or a visit at an open day.

Please note that registration via KITA-ONLINE does not guarantee a place.

All childcare centres in the respective town or municipality can be found on the portal. To use the portal, you must register and create a user account:

- [Municipality of Brüggen](#)
- [Municipality of Grefrath](#)
- [City of Kempen](#)
- [Town of Nettetal](#)
- [Municipality of Niederkrüchten](#)
- [Municipality of Schwalmtal](#)
- [City of Tönisvorst](#)
- [City of Viersen](#)
- [City of Willich](#)

District of Viersen - KiTa entry programme

The programme promotes low-threshold services for families with experience of flight or special access difficulties, which prepare and support entry into child daycare.

For **the eastern district (Grefrath and Tönisvorst)**, please contact **Sylvia Fretz** on [0151 43104222](tel:015143104222) or by email at sylvia.fretz@kreis-viersen.de.

For **the western district (Brüggen, Niederkrüchten, Schwalmtal)**, please contact **Sabrina Beyen** on [0178 1916105](tel:01781916105) or by e-mail sabrina.beyen@kreis-viersen.de.

If you have any questions, please contact the **Kita-Einstieg coordination and network centre for the district of Viersen**, by phone on [02162/391844](tel:02162391844) or by email at barbara.ruecker@kreis-viersen.de.

Nettetal - KIMMBO: Daycare centre entry

In the **town of Nettetal**, the services are provided by the organisation **Ev. Verein für Jugend- und Familienhilfe e.V.** at Berliner Straße 6, Nettetal-Breyell.


You can find further information on the services offered in the town of Nettetal here:


 [KIMMBO Flyer German, English, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian](#)

 [KIMMBO Flyer Arabic, German, English, French, Turkish](#)


[KIMMBO Open Meeting](#)

Contact persons are:

 Julia Root-Schneider

 [0172 3576509](tel:01723576509)

 Heike Mesterom

 [0172 3578822](tel:01723578822)

 Magda Pawlowska

 [0162 3417974](tel:01623417974)

@KIMMBO@jugend-und-familienhilfe.de

If you have any questions, please contact the **Kita-Einstieg coordination and network centre for the town of Nettetal**, by telephone on [02153/8985133](tel:021538985133) or by email at anke.heraiech@nettetal.de.

Multilingual playgroups

1. griffbereitMINI



griffbereitMINI - learning language together

griffbereitMINI is a language education programme. It is for families with babies in their first year of life.

The aim is to

- Introduce children to language at an early age
- Support families
- Promote multilingualism

Families also learn

- get to know important places for children
- actively shape these places

The group meets:

- 1 time per week
- for 90 minutes

Participation is:


- free of charge
- possible at any time

Questions such as the following will be answered:

- How often should my baby be fed in the first few days?
- Which bottle feeds are available?
- How much should my child drink?
- When does my child have to go to the paediatrician?
- When will my child start smiling actively?
- Where can I find early help?
- Which finger games can I use?


Here you will find handyMINI groups:

Familienzentrum Lummerland Nettetal-Breyell

 [Lötscher Weg 8, 41334 Nettetal](#)

Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

DRK KiTa Waldniel, Schwalmtal-Waldniel

 [Stöckener Weg 11, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

Tuesdays, 15:00 - 16:00

2nd Griffbereit



Griffbereit - playing and learning together

Griffbereit is a programme for parents with and without a migration background. Families with children between the ages of 1 and 3 can take part.

In Griffbereit:

- we organise games and activities for young children
- we promote the development of the children
- we support language acquisition
- we see multilingualism as a strength

The group meets:

- 1 time per week
- for 2 hours

Participation is:

- free of charge
- possible at any time

Questions like the following will be answered:

- What influences bilingual language development?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages?
- When should children start learning languages?
- Which languages should we use and how?
- My child makes a lot of mistakes when speaking. When do we need to worry?

You can find Griffbereit groups here:

DRK Kita Schatzkiste Willich

 [Anrather Str. 48, 47877 Willich](#)

Fridays, 09:00 - 11:00

Städtische KiTa Junkershütte Viersen

 [Junkershütte 23a, 41748 Viersen](#)


Wednesdays, 13:00 - 15:00

Städtisches Familienzentrum Bongartzstift Nettetal

 [Mühlenstr. 20, 41334 Nettetal](#)

Tuesdays, 09:00 - 11:00

Sonnenschein e.V.

 [Rathausmarkt 1B, 41747 Viersen](#)


Wednesdays, 15:00 - 17:00

Sonnenschein e.V. - Treff.Mitte

 [Lindenstr. 7, 41747 Viersen](#)

Fridays, 10:00 - 12:00


Sonnenschein e.V. - Flüchtlingsunterkunft Äquatorweg Viersen

 [Äquatorweg 24, 41749 Viersen](#)

Thursdays, 15:00 - 17:00

Wednesdays, 15:00 - 17:00

Familienzentrum Lummerland Nettetal-Breyell

 [Lötscher Weg 8, 41334 Nettetal](#)

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

3. backpack daycare centre



Rucksack KiTa - Strengthening language and family

Rucksack KiTa is a language and family education programme.

It is for multilingual families with children between the ages of 4 and 6.

The parents meet

- once a week
- for 2 hours
- in the KiTa
- with a multilingual parent counsellor

The parent counsellor provides

- lots of play materials
- lots of practice materials

With Rucksack KiTa, parents can


- support their children in their development
- strengthen the family language
- get to know the KiTa better
- exchange ideas with other parents

You can find Rucksack Kita groups here:


There are currently no Rucksack Kita groups in the district of Viersen.

Registration for all groups:

Felicia Bot-Jurca | Frühe Bildung - Beratung und Unterstützung von Kindertageseinrichtungen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391961](tel:+49(0)2162391961)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

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

Parents' guide - My child is starting school

Parents' guide to starting school

The guide is available in eleven languages.

It answers important questions, for example:

- How do I prepare my child for school?
- How do I find the right school?
- Is my child ready for school?
- Who can I turn to if I have questions?

The guide provides:

- Tips on how parents can support their child when they start school
- Information on which steps to take and when
- Tips on how daycare centres and schools can work together to prepare for the transition



The multilingual versions are available to download from the [Viersen district website](#):


 [My child is going to school](#)

Contact for the area of early education:

Felicia Bot-Jurca | Frühe Bildung - Beratung und Unterstützung von Kindertageseinrichtungen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391961](tel:+49(0)2162391961)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

Parents' guide - My child is growing up multilingual

Parents' guide to multilingual education

The guide is available in twelve languages.

It answers important questions, for example

- How does language develop in children?
- What things influence language development?
- Can children easily learn two or more languages?
- Is it true that children with two languages speak later?
- Is a child overburdened with two languages?
- What to do if the languages mix?
- When should you start bilingual education?
- Can I read aloud in another language?
- What should I do if a child doesn't want to speak a language?

The guide provides

- lots of information
- Tips and tricks for everyday life

All content applies to every language.



The guide can be downloaded free of charge from the [Viersen district website](#).

 [My child is growing up multilingual](#)


Contact for the area of early education:

Municipal Integration Centre District of Viersen

Felicia Bot-Jurca | Frühe Bildung - Beratung und Unterstützung von Kindertageseinrichtungen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391961](tel:+49(0)2162391961)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

Parents' guide - My child is going to daycare

Parents' guide to starting daycare

The guide is available in twelve languages.

It gives families

- Information on various childcare options
- Support and guidance for starting a daycare centre or childminding service

The guide answers questions such as:

- How do I find the right daycare centre?
- Which educational concept is right for my child?
- What familiarisation models are there?

- Why is bonding important?
- What can I do if I am dissatisfied?
- What are the do's and don'ts at the daycare centre?
- How do I get important information from the daycare centre?
- What does a day at daycare centre look like?
- What does my child need at daycare?
- What should I do if my child is ill?



MEIN KIND KOMMT IN DIE KITA

Ratgeber für Eltern zur Kinderbetreuung

The multilingual versions are available to download from the [Viersen district website](#):

[My child is going to daycare](#)

Contact person for the area of early education

Municipal Integration Centre District of Viersen

Felicia Bot-Jurca | Frühe Bildung - Beratung und Unterstützung von Kindertageseinrichtungen

[Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de)

[+49 \(0\) 2162391961](tel:+49(0)2162391961)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

Game collection - Games around the globe

Games around the globe - an intercultural games journey

This brochure shows many games from all over the world.
Children can learn about other cultures while playing.

Exciting questions

- What do children play in other countries?
- What games are there?
- What can you play with small stones?

Who is the game collection for?

The intercultural game collection is for:

- Daycare centres
- families

Where can you play?

Children can play anywhere:

- on the street
- in the daycare centre
- at school

What do you need to play?

Often all you need is

- a rope
- a ball

What is in the brochure?

- Games from different countries
- Games that children all over the world know



SPIELE RUND UM DEN ERDBALL


Eine interkulturelle Spielereise

The multilingual versions can be downloaded from the [Viersen district website](#).

 [Games around the globe](#)

Municipal Integration Centre District of Viersen

Felicia Bot-Jurca | Frühe Bildung - Beratung und Unterstützung von Kindertageseinrichtungen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:felicia.bot-jurca@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391961](tel:+49(0)2162391961)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

Children, young people and families

Protection of children, young people and families in Germany

Germany has special rules for the protection of children, young people and families. This protection begins during pregnancy and applies until the child's 18th birthday.

Violence in parenting is prohibited. Children must not be beaten. Parents must bring up their children without violence.

Every child must go to school. This is called compulsory education.

There are authorities who look after children. They make sure that children grow up safely and are not harmed by their environment.

You can find more information in the Viersen district [family guide](#).

Support and benefits for families

Families have many advantages in Germany. Examples include

- Free family co-insurance in health insurance
- Reduced admission prices for cultural, sports and leisure activities
- Counselling and financial assistance such as child benefit and parental allowance

You can find more information on parental allowance and child benefit [here](#).

Many forms of families

Families can look very different in Germany. For example:

- Married couples with children together
- Unmarried couples with children
- Single mothers or fathers
- Two women or two men with children
- Families with children from previous partnerships
- Families with adopted children

Offers for young people

There are many places in the district of Viersen where young people can spend their leisure time free of charge. You can find local offers here:

Brüggen

Jugendzentrum "Neue Kolibri" Brüggen

[📍 Altkevelaerstr. 12, 41379 Brüggen](#)

[☎ +49 215790678](#)

Jugendzentrum "Second Home" Brüggen

[📍 Klosterstr. 38, 41379 Brüggen](#)

[☎ +49 21635701130](#)

[📍 Schwalmweg 16, 41379 Brüggen](#)

[☎ +49 2163949913](#)

Streetwork Anlaufstelle Brüggen

[📍 Vennmühlenweg 2a, 41379 Brüggen](#)


[☎ +49 21633489640](#)

[☎ +49 15252940092](#)

Grefrath

Verein „Mutter und Mehr“ Grefrath

 [Vinkrather Str. 64a, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [+49 2158800235](tel:+492158800235)

 <https://www.mum-grefrath.de/>

Open meeting place for mums, dads and children

 Tuesdays and Thursdays 3.00 - 6.00 pm **DINGENS youth centre** and contact point for mobile youth work / street work


Frau Brinkmann | Leitung und pädagogische Fachkraft

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [@joyce.brinkmann@grefrath.de](mailto:joyce.brinkmann@grefrath.de)

 [+49 1751538064](tel:+491751538064)


Frau Becher | Pädagogische Fachkraft

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [@johanna.becher@grefrath.de](mailto:johanna.becher@grefrath.de)

 [+49 15157435202](tel:+4915157435202)


Frau Backes | offene Kinder- und Jugendarbeit

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)


 [@laura.backes@grefrath.de](mailto:laura.backes@grefrath.de)

 [+49 15118621464](tel:+4915118621464)

Frau Frühling | Partizipation von Kindern und Jugendlichen

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)

 [@melissa.fruehling@grefrath.de](mailto:melissa.fruehling@grefrath.de)

 [+49 15121931961](tel:+4915121931961)

Opening hours


Mondays and Tuesdays: counselling appointments by arrangement

Wednesdays and Thursdays 16.00 - 21.00 (open meeting place)


Fridays: 19.00 - 00.00 (from 16 years)
Saturdays 14.00 - 20.00 hrs

Kempen

Campus - Haus für Familien Kempen


 [Spülwall 11, 47906 Kempen](#)

 @campus@kempen.de

 [+49 21522737](tel:+4921522737)

 <https://www.kempen.de/familie-soziales-gesellscha...>

Jugendtreff Calimero St. Hubert

 [Aldekerker Str. 19, 47906 Kempen](#)

 @jfzcalimero@t-online.de

 [+49 21526349](tel:+4921526349)

Jugendtreff Mouny Tönisberg

 [Erprathsweg 7, 47906 Kempen](#)


 @jonas.straeten@kempen.de

 [+49 28458357](tel:+4928458357)

Lukas Hinsken | Jugendtreff Alte Post Kempen

 [Straelener Str. 2, 47906 Kempen](#)

 @lukas.hinsken@kempen.de

 [+49 21529173059](tel:+4921529173059)

Nettetal

Katholisches Jugendfreizeitheim "Arche" Nettetal

 [An Sankt Sebastian, 41334 Nettetal](#)

@arche@kgv-nettetal.de

[+49 2153914130](tel:+492153914130)

<http://st.sebastian.pfarre.net/index.php?cat=Einr...>

Piet 8 | Katholischer Kinder- und Jugendtreff

[Wankumer Str. 8, 41334 Nettetal](#)

@piet8@kgv-nettetal.de

[+49 21539570018](tel:+4921539570018)

<https://pfarrgemeinde-hinsbeck.de/>

OASE | Katholisches Jugendzentrum Nettetal

[Am Kastell 5, 41334 Nettetal](#)

@oase@kgv-nettetal.de

[+49 215371733](tel:+49215371733)

<https://gdg-nettetal.de/oase-2/>

Leisure activities, creative and cooking programmes

Streetwork Nettetal | Mobile Jugendarbeit

[Berlinerstr. 8, 41334 Nettetal](#)

[+49 1778213197](tel:+491778213197)

Evangelisches Spielecafé Kaldenkirchen

[Friedrichstr. 48, 41334 Nettetal](#)

[+49 21573865](tel:+4921573865)

Niederkrüchten

DOC5 | Kinder- und Jugendtreff Niederkrüchten

[Dr. Lindemannstr. 5, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

[+49 216332589](tel:+49216332589)

Treff 13 | Kinder- und Jugendfreizeittreff Elmpt

[!\[\]\(a89b462675163eacc3acabe9b3333696_img.jpg\) Lehmkul 13, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

[!\[\]\(24ad95c5308fe5a8b9cead501603337c_img.jpg\) +49 2163984587](#)

Mobile Kinder- und Jugendarbeit Niederkrüchten

[!\[\]\(1d8b21bd91d4dd3773223ed44a91b69f_img.jpg\) Lehmkul 13, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

[!\[\]\(6887f7241848cfc2ab9fb78767890afe_img.jpg\) @mokija-nk@web.de](#)

[!\[\]\(d2486ff81bcc6dd24d67d65daf53adad_img.jpg\) +49 015782440903](#)

Rollender Jugendtreff in Niederkrüchten und Schwalmtal

[!\[\]\(898c6822068b3e877f28019387922ee6_img.jpg\) Dr. Lindemann Str. 7, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

[!\[\]\(464c8d8c37c93af1341f4240133feebe_img.jpg\) @info@bigbass.de](#)

[!\[\]\(4b791d9b3e5ebbbcc59ef270913dac3a_img.jpg\) +49 216345130](#)

[!\[\]\(d1c41dfa26dd32293315fbb87a9ff334_img.jpg\) \[https://www.bigbass.de/index.php?article_id=1\]\(https://www.bigbass.de/index.php?article_id=1\)](#)

Schwalmtal

Jugendzentrum Chilly Schwalmtal

[!\[\]\(84d46392f44b2768cf8832459974ca93_img.jpg\) Geneschen 30, 41336 Schwalmtal](#)

[!\[\]\(f84f1873897288fda44de7d279af0fcc_img.jpg\) @astrid@chilly-amern.de](#)

[!\[\]\(6819ea3c58fd2053504ae1d2532693b2_img.jpg\) +49 21639870660](#)

[!\[\]\(1df11519b5a3ebcf1b7f23e5c37cd31c_img.jpg\) <https://www.chilly-amern.de/>](#)

EFFA Waldniel | Evangelisches Kinder- und Jugendfreizeitzentrum

[!\[\]\(6c9a2e924498ea11826423390808db12_img.jpg\) Langestr. 50, 41336 Schwalmtal](#)

[!\[\]\(ca18ebc9289f22c634e29677521acf20_img.jpg\) @andrea.schulz@ekir.de](#)

[!\[\]\(bafe921f31843f24af2a44d5595c4715_img.jpg\) +49 216331353](#)

[!\[\]\(0283a157a96e2a7ce87630f6149e5755_img.jpg\) <https://www.ffa-waldniel.de/>](#)

Joachim Hambücher | Mobile Jugendarbeit und Streetwork Niederkrüchten

[!\[\]\(4afb4fd77c3c7ff3e4d0c760d751363d_img.jpg\) Schulstr. 13, 41336 Schwalmtal](#)

[!\[\]\(523aab96214fd9897896f5c640ba6338_img.jpg\) @kontakt@streetwork-schwalmtal.de](#)

[!\[\]\(52680563571452645d0867aa2b505793_img.jpg\) +49 1739878802](#)

[🌐https://www.streetwork-schwalmtal.de/](https://www.streetwork-schwalmtal.de/)

Rollender Jugendtreff in Niederkrüchten und Schwalmtal

📍[Dr. Lindemann Str. 7, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

@info@bigbass.de

☎️[+49 216345130](tel:+49216345130)

🌐https://www.bigbass.de/index.php?article_id=1

Tönisvorst

Das Wohnzimmer | Kinder- und Jugendtreff Tönisvorst

📍[Gerkeswiese 40, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

@info@daswohnzimmer-toenisvorst.de

☎️[+49 2156971960](tel:+492156971960)

🌐<https://www.daswohnzimmer-toenisvorst.de/>

Jugendfreizeitzentrum St. Tönis

📍[Gelderner Str. 61, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

@team@treffpunktjz.de

☎️[+49 02151994855](tel:+4902151994855)

🌐<https://treffpunktjz.wordpress.com/>

Viersen

Kinder- und Jugendtreff Blaues Haus Viersen

📍[Stadtwaldallee 50, 41748 Viersen](#)

@blaues-haus@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de


☎️[+49 216217021](tel:+49216217021)

🌐<https://diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de/unsere-angebo...>

Kinder- und Jugendzentrum ALO Dülken


📍[Ketteler Str. 45, 41751 Viersen](#)

@alo@st-cornelius-und-peter.de


 [+49 216252932](tel:+49216252932)

 <https://alo-duelken.de/>

Evangelisches Jugendzentrum Süchteln - EVVE

 [Westring 27, 41749 Viersen](#)


 [@evve.suechteln@ekir.de](mailto:evve.suechteln@ekir.de)

 [+49 216267887](tel:+49216267887)

Brigitte Bimmermann-Winzker | Kinder- und Jugendzentrum Josefshaus Viersen


 [Ostring 33, 41749 Viersen](#)

 [@info@josefshaus-viersen.de](mailto:info@josefshaus-viersen.de)


 [+49 216270255](tel:+49216270255)

 <https://josefshaus-viersen.de/index.html>

Jugendcafé ett | Jugendfreizeiteinrichtung Dülken


 [Viersener Str. 41, 41751 Viersen](#)

 [@duelken@ekir.de](mailto:duelken@ekir.de)

 [+49 21624429](tel:+4921624429)

 <https://ekduelken.de/atcfe-offene-jugendfreizeite...>

Jugendportlocation Insel Dülken

 [Pestalozziweg 1, 41748 Viersen](#)

 [@jugendarbeit@viersen.de](mailto:jugendarbeit@viersen.de)

 [+49 21621017110](tel:+4921621017110)

 <https://vienet.info/freizeit-kultur-sport-hobby/s...>

Kinder-und Jugendzentrum Viersen | Homebase 42


 [Willy-Brandt-Ring 42, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@homebase42@viersen.de](mailto:homebase42@viersen.de)

 [+49 21621066615](tel:+4921621066615)

 <https://younglife-viersen.de/locations/>

Nicole Henneböhl | KONKRET Viersen - Begleitung für Familien und junge Mütter

 [Bahnhofstr. 29, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 2162101768](tel:+492162101768)

 [+49 1737180154](tel:+491737180154)

 <https://www.viersen.de/unsere-stadt/gesellschaft-...>

Willich

Jugendcafé Juca Willich


 [Siedlerallee 27, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@juca-schiefbahn@gmx.de](mailto:juca-schiefbahn@gmx.de)

 [+49 1632580363](tel:+491632580363)


Jugendfreizeiteinrichtung "Hülse" Willich

 [Schiefbahner Str., 47877 Willich](#)


 [+49 21548877056](tel:+4921548877056)

 <https://www.jugend-in-willich.de/huelse/>

Jugendfreizeiteinrichtung KaRo 11 Willich

 [Rohrzieherstr. 11, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@jugendzentrum.karo.11@gmail.com](mailto:jugendzentrum.karo.11@gmail.com)


 [+49 21544811801](tel:+4921544811801)

 <https://jugendzentrum-karo11.de/>

Christel Bosmans | Jugendfreizeiteinrichtung "No. 7" Willich

 [Virmondstr. 7, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@mail@number-7.de](mailto:mail@number-7.de)

 [+49 492156949552](tel:+49492156949552)

 <https://www.jugend-in-willich.de/no-7/>

Simone Benen-Heyer | Jugendzentrum TITANIC Willich

[📍 Josefsplatz 17, 47877 Willich](#)

[@jugendzentrum.titanic@gmx.de](mailto:jugendzentrum.titanic@gmx.de)

[📞 +49 21562030](tel:+4921562030)

[🌐 https://jugendzentrum-titanic.de/index.html](https://jugendzentrum-titanic.de/index.html)

Jens Klauth | Jugendcafé Rampenlicht Anrath

[📍 Jakob-Krebs-Straße 132, 47877 Willich](#)

[📞 +49 1721714244](tel:+491721714244)

[🌐 https://www.jugend-in-willich.de/rampenlicht/](https://www.jugend-in-willich.de/rampenlicht/)

Evangelical Emmaus Parish Contact persons Offers for Neersen:

Pia Letter | Evangelische Kirchengemeinde Emmaus Willich - Jugendliche

[📍 Krusestraße 20, 47877 Willich](#)

[@p.letter@emmaus-willich.de](mailto:p.letter@emmaus-willich.de)

[📞 +49 15786438453](tel:+4915786438453)

Offers for Willich and Schiefbahn:

Björn Kalmus | Evangelische Kirchengemeinde Emmaus Willich - Jugendliche

[@b.kalmus@emmaus-willich.de](mailto:b.kalmus@emmaus-willich.de)

[📞 +49 2154957050](tel:+492154957050)

[📞 +49 15786438452](tel:+4915786438452)

Parental and child benefit

Parental allowance

Parental allowance helps parents if they work less or not at all after the birth and therefore earn less money.

Parents who are separated can also receive parental allowance.

The amount of parental allowance depends on the parent's income before the birth. You can apply for parental allowance if you have a settlement or residence permit in Germany.

You can find more information [here](#).

Child benefit

All parents with a settlement or residence permit in Germany are entitled to child benefit. Child benefit is paid from birth until at least the child's 18th birthday.

You must apply for child benefit yourself at the Federal Employment Agency.

You can find more information [here](#).


Counselling centres

1. curative educational support

Barbara Bovenschen | Heilpädagogisches Zentrum Krefeld-Kreis Viersen gGmbH

 [Kommunikationsstr. 8, 47807 Krefeld](#)

 [@b.bovenschen@hpzkrefeld.de](mailto:b.bovenschen@hpzkrefeld.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 15223130104](tel:+49(0)15223130104)

 <https://www.hpz-krefeld-viersen.de/>

Kornelia Coenen | Heilpädagogisches Zentrum Krefeld-Kreis Viersen gGmbH

 [Kommunikationsstr. 8, 47807 Krefeld](#)

 [@k.coenen@hpzkrefeld.de](mailto:k.coenen@hpzkrefeld.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 1723867476](tel:+49(0)1723867476)

 <https://www.hpz-krefeld-viersen.de/>

Frau Rassa | Familienberatung der Stadt Viersen

 [Wilhelmstr. 5-7, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@familienberatung@viersen.de](mailto:familienberatung@viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162101772](tel:+49(0)2162101772)

Opening hours: by arrangement

2. telephone & online help

Nummer gegen Kummer

 [+49 \(0\) 800111033](tel:+49(0)800111033)

<https://www.nummergegenkummer.de/>

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 14:00-20:00

Hilfetelefon „Gewalt gegen Frauen“

[+49 \(0\) 8000116016](tel:+49(0)8000116016)

<https://www.hilfetelefon.de/>

3. counselling for families with special needs

Herr Klingen | Lebenshilfe e.V. - Beratung für geflüchtete Familien mit behindertem/traumatisiertem Kind

[Kniebelerstraße 23, 47918 Tönisvorst](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Kniebelerstra%C3%9Fe+23,+47918+T%C3%B6nisvorst)

[@s.klingen@lebenshilfe-viersen.de](mailto:s.klingen@lebenshilfe-viersen.de)

[+49 \(0\) 2156494055](tel:+49(0)2156494055)

Netzwerk "Felix" | AWO Nettetal

[Hochstraße 29, 41334 Nettetal](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Hochstra%C3%9Fe+29,+41334+Nettetal)

@netzwerk-felix@online.de

[+49 \(0\) 2153953970](tel:+49(0)2153953970)

Topics: Children/adolescents with mentally ill parents

4. child & adolescent psychiatry

LVR Klinik für Psychiatrie Viersen - Ambulanz für Kinder & Jugendliche

[Horionstr. 14, 41749 Viersen](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Horionstr.+14,+41749+Viersen)

@kjpambulanz-viersen@lvr.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162965211](tel:+49(0)2162965211)

Telephone opening: Mon-Fri 09:00-12:00, Mon-Thu 14:00-16:00

On-site opening: Mon-Thu 08:00-17:30, Fri 08:00-15:30

5. general social services (ASD)

Counselling for crises, parenting, violence, child endangerment - free of charge, anonymous possible

Allgemeiner Sozialer Dienst (ASD)

[Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Rathausmarkt+3,+41747+Viersen)

@jugendamt@kreis-viersen.de

6. women's counselling & protection against violence

Frauzentrum Viersen e.V.

[📍 Gladbacher Str. 25, 41747 Viersen](https://www.gladbacherstr25.de)

@frauenzentrum-viersen@t-online.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 216218716](tel:+490216218716)

Sozialdienst Katholischer Frauen Viersen Kreis Viersen (SkF) | Schwangerschaftsberatung

[📍 Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](https://www.skf-viersen.de)

@schwangerenberatung@skf-viersen.de

Frauenhaus Kreis Viersen

@frauenhaus@skf-viersen.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 2162814342](tel:+4902162814342)

7. parenting, couples and life counselling

Evangelische Beratungsstelle Viersen | Diakonie Krefeld-Viersen

[📍 Hauptstr. 120, 41747 Viersen](https://www.evangelische-beratungsstelle-viersen.de)

@beratungsstelle-vie@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 216215030](tel:+490216215030)

8. local family & youth centres

BIS - Beratung, Information, Selbsthilfe Brüggen

[📍 Klosterstraße 5, 41379 Brüggen](https://www.klosterstrasse5.de)

@info@bis-brueggen.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 21635622](tel:+49021635622)

[🌐 https://www.bis-brueggen.de/](https://www.bis-brueggen.de/)

[📍 Von-Loe-Str. 24-26, 47906 Kempen](https://www.von-loe-str24-26.de)

@info@skm-viersen.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 21519929600](tel:+49021519929600)

Early help

Support and counselling for parents and children

The first years of life are important for your child's development.

You may want to do everything right, but sometimes you come up against your limits.

You have questions about topics such as

- Sleeping
- eating
- crying
- Playing and occupation

Are you wondering whether you can manage everything or whether you sometimes do something wrong?

Don't worry - we're here for you!

What we offer

We coordinate family, health and paediatric nurses (FGKiKP).

These professionals can visit you at home or give you advice over the phone.

The service is free of charge for you and is funded by the Federal Foundation for Early Help. The FGKiKP are bound to confidentiality.

What is "early help"?

Early help is a network of services for parents and children from the beginning of pregnancy and in the first three years of life.

Their aim is to

- To promote the development of children and parents at an early stage
- To strengthen the parenting and relationship skills of mothers and fathers
- To relieve the everyday life of families
- Ensure children's rights to protection and support

Early help helps children to grow up healthily and families to develop well.


Take a look around our [online portal](#). You can find more information [in the digital flyer](#).

Your contact

Gina Dohmen | Netzwerkkoordination Frühe Hilfen Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@gina.dohmen@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:gina.dohmen@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391869](tel:+49(0)2162391869)

Please get in touch!

The programme is supported by the Bundesstiftung Frühe Hilfen and the district of Viersen in cooperation with Katharina Kasper ViaNobis GmbH and Pädnetz Niederrhein.

Migration and asylum

Settle in Germany

Permanent residence permit

Have you had a residence permit in Germany for at least 5 years?
And you have had the residence title all this time without a break?
Then you may be able to obtain a permanent residence permit.

Settlement permit for persons entitled to asylum, protection and (resettlement) refugees

Are you entitled to asylum or are you a resettlement refugee?
Then you will receive a settlement permit if you fulfil the following conditions:

- You have had your residence permit for 5 years.
- The time of the asylum procedure counts.
- You have not received any notification from the BAMF that your residence permit could be revoked.
- You can usually support yourself and your family.
- You can speak German well enough.
- You are familiar with the rules in Germany and know how society works.
- You have enough space in your home for you and your family.
- You have all the permits you need to work permanently.
- Your spouse can also fulfil this requirement.
- There are no reasons against your residence permit that have to do with security in Germany.

If you also speak German and are able to earn your own living, you will receive your settlement permit after just three years.


If you live in the **town of Viersen**, you can find further information and contact details [here](#).

Ausländerbehörde Stadt Viersen

 [Theodor-Frings-Allee 22, 41751 Viersen](#)


 [@termine.abh@viersen.de](mailto:termine.abh@viersen.de)

 <https://www.viersen.de/serviceportal/dienstleistu...>


 Appointments by prior arrangement only

If you live in the **district of Viersen but not in the city of Viersen** , you can find contact persons and further information [here](#).

Ausländerbehörde Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/einreise-und-...>

 Appointments by prior arrangement only

Further information can be found on the website of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees([BAMF](#)).

Registration and accommodation

Registration


After arriving in Germany, every person must register as an asylum seeker. **Without registration, residence is illegal.** Registration can be done at an initial reception centre, an arrival centre, the foreigners authority or the police. When you register, your personal data, photo and fingerprints are stored.

After registration, you will be assigned to an initial reception centre. There you will undergo a medical examination and receive your **proof of arrival (=AKN)**. You can use this document to apply for asylum.

You will be accommodated in a **central accommodation centre (ZUE)** or in emergency accommodation. The ZUE of the district is located in the town of Viersen.

Allocation

After **3 months** at the latest, you will be assigned to a municipality or town by the [Arnsberg district government](#). You will stay here until the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) has decided on your asylum application. Most people live in shared accommodation during the asylum procedure.

 You can find information on **housing** [here](#).

Application for redistribution

You cannot decide for yourself where you live during the asylum procedure. One exception is **family reunification**. If your nuclear family (spouse and children up to the age of 18) lives in a different place, you have the option of moving. This is called **redistribution** and must be applied for at the Arnsberg district government. You can get help from the social welfare office or the advice centres. You can only move once the application has been approved.

[Application for redistribution within North Rhine-Westphalia \(pdf\)](#)

Information on the asylum procedure

If you are registered in Germany and live in shared accommodation, these are the next steps for you.

1. personal application for asylum

You apply for asylum at the **Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)**

Asylum procedure counselling can provide you with important information for the asylum procedure. The refugee and integration counselling service is responsible for this

Important: You can only submit your application in person. You cannot send this application by post.

You will receive the appointment and the responsible BAMF office with your proof of arrival. If you have not received an appointment, ask your accommodation manager.

2. first interview appointment (asylum application)

You must report to the local authorities after your first appointment:

- [Brüggen](#)
- [Grefrath](#)
- [Kempen](#)
- [Nettetal](#)
- [Niederkrüchten](#)
- [Schwalmtal](#)
- [Tönisvorst](#)
- [Viersen](#)
- [Willich](#)

3. personal interview

The second interview appointment is the actual interview. The BAMF will then decide on your asylum application and send you a decision. The decision will be explained in detail.

a) The decision is negative

If the decision is negative and you wish to contest it (i.e. you do not agree with it), go to your [asylum counselling](#) centre immediately. They will discuss with you what you can do. For example, you can appeal against the decision.

If you decide to leave voluntarily, you can receive financial support for your new start in your country of origin.

b) The decision is positive, i.e. you are recognised as entitled to protection. The next steps are

1. You apply for a residence permit.
2. If you live in the city of Viersen, you can submit the application there. If you live in Brüggen, Grefrath, Kempen, Nettetal, Niederkrüchten, Schwalmtal, Tönisvorst or Willich, you must

submit the application online: [Online application](#)

3. You will receive an appointment from the immigration office to record your biometric data.
4. The electronic residence permit (eAT) will then be ordered from the Federal Printing Office by the Foreigners' Registration Office.
5. After delivery, you will receive another appointment to collect your electronic residence permit.

Job centre: You will no longer receive your money from the social welfare office, but must apply to the job centre in your town or municipality.

- [Brüggen](#)
- [Grefrath](#)
- [Kempen](#)
- [Nettetal](#)
- [Niederkrüchten](#)
- [Schwalmtal](#)
- [Tönisvorst](#)
- [Viersen](#)
- [Willich](#)

There are four forms of protection that have different effects on your future residence:

1. asylum authorisation and 2. refugee protection

- Residence permit for 3 years
- Refugee passport
- Permanent settlement permit is possible after 3 years with language level C1 if you are predominantly able to earn a living, otherwise after 5 years
- Unrestricted access to the labour market - gainful employment permitted
- You have the right to bring your family to Germany. This must happen within 3 months. You must submit an application to the German diplomatic mission abroad. Your family member must apply for a visa. You must inform the foreigners authority if you wish to bring your family to Germany.

3. subsidiary protection

- Residence permit for 1 year, which can be extended by 2 years.
- A permanent settlement permit is possible after 5 years
- Unrestricted access to the labour market - gainful employment permitted
- no entitlement to privileged family reunification - family reunification possible under certain conditions (maximum limit of 1000 visas per month)
- there is a passport requirement

4. prohibition of deportation

- Residence permit for 1 year, extension possible

- Permanent settlement permit possible after 5 years
- Unrestricted access to the labour market - gainful employment permitted
- no entitlement to privileged family reunification - family reunification only possible for reasons of international law or humanitarian reasons or to safeguard the political interests of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Passport requirement applies

EU immigration

EU citizens and their family members are entitled to freedom of movement.

This means that they may move and reside freely in the member states of the European Union. That is your right. There is a law on the general freedom of movement of EU citizens. The law allows you to enter and stay in Germany without a visa or residence permit.

The provisions on freedom of movement apply to nationals of the following countries:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Who has the right to freedom of movement?

- Citizens of the European Union who wish to work in Germany.
- This also applies to citizens of the European Union who are looking for work or training in Germany.
- Citizens of the European Union who want to and are allowed to work independently.
- Citizens of the European Union who want to work independently and offer services. However, they are not allowed to live in Germany.
- Citizens of the European Union who receive services. These citizens must have enough money and health insurance. They are not allowed to work.
- Families of citizens of the European Union, if they come or join them. These families must have enough money and be covered by health insurance.
- Citizens of the European Union and their families, if they have a permanent right of residence. To do so, they must have lived in Germany for 5 years. You can apply for this right at the [immigration office](#).

■ You and your family members must have a valid passport. This applies for the entire time you are in Germany.

You can also have another valid document that is like a passport.

■ Are you moving to another country or city? Then you must register this with the relevant residents' registration office.

You do not need an extra work permit.

■ Perhaps the conditions for freedom of movement no longer exist. If this is the case, your freedom of movement can be cancelled and you can be deported.

□ Further information on migration and residence can be found [here](#).

□ Information on the immigration of skilled workers, i.e. labour migration, can be found [here](#).

□ Contact details for the EU Equal Treatment Office for EU workers can be found [here](#).

Important documents / residence status

Every person who wants asylum in Germany has an identity card. The ID card shows their status. And it shows whether the person is authorised to work.

There are 5 different documents:

1. proof of arrival

Status: asylum seeker

A foreign person wants asylum in Germany. But the person has not yet applied for asylum. Then the person receives a proof of arrival. This is a certificate that the person wants asylum. The proof of arrival is valid until the official asylum application is made. The person submits the application to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).



2. residence permit

Status: Asylum seekers

You are allowed to stay in Germany until a decision has been made on your asylum application. The document for this is called a permit. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees decides on the asylum application. If the asylum application is rejected, you can go to court. The court for this is the administrative court. You are allowed to stay in Germany until the administrative court has made its decision. The identity card for asylum seekers contains rules. The rules are, for example

- Where are you allowed to work?
- Where are you allowed to live?
- Where are you allowed to move?
- If a work permit is required, you can apply for this at the [foreigners authority](#) (employer or employee)
- Responsible for job placement: [Employment Agency](#)

- Responsible for social benefits: Local authorities ([Brüggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Nettetal](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [Viersen](#), [Willich](#))



3. fictitious certificate

Status: Recognised refugees

You have submitted an application to the foreigners authority. You want a residence permit or you want to extend your residence permit. Then you often have a temporary right of residence. This means that you are allowed to stay in Germany until you receive an answer. You will receive a certificate for this.



4. residence permit

Status: Recognised refugees

Positive decision on the asylum application

The residence permit is a temporary residence title. It is issued for the purposes specified in the Residence Act. There are various residence permits for refugees on humanitarian grounds.

- Opens up the possibility of a later permanent right of residence (settlement permit)
- Unrestricted access to the labour market
- Responsibility for placement in employment and social benefits: [job centre](#) / local employment and benefit centres (BLZ) ([Büggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Nettetal](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [Viersen](#), [Willich](#))



5. toleration

Status: tolerated persons

Negative decision on the asylum application

Sometimes a person is not actually allowed to stay in Germany. But there are reasons why the person may still be allowed to stay.

For example:

- It is not legally possible to deport the person.
- It is not practically possible to deport the person.
- The person is in danger if they are deported.
- The person has personal problems.
Then the person receives a tolerated stay.
- General toleration regulation possible for certain groups by order of the highest state authority for a maximum period of 3 months ("deportation stop")
- Work permit is generally required, application to the [foreigners authority](#) (employer or employee)
- Responsible for job placement: [Employment Agency](#)
- Responsible for social benefits: Local social welfare offices ([Büggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Nettetal](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [Viersen](#), [Willich](#))



Unaccompanied refugee minors

Some refugees travel to Germany unaccompanied.

If they are under the age of 18, they are called unaccompanied minor aliens.

The abbreviation for this is umA.

These young people are reported to the youth welfare office.

The youth welfare office talks to the young people and establishes their age.

The youth welfare office needs to know how old a person is.

If the person is younger than 18, the youth welfare office takes care of them.

The youth welfare office then takes the person to accommodation for young people.
This is called "taking into care".

The youth welfare office says that the person is of legal age.
This means that the person is 18 years or older.
The person then receives a rejection letter.
They are then treated as an adult.
The youth welfare office will bring an interpreter to the interview.

It may say on your proof of arrival that you are not yet 18 years old.
But the Youth Welfare Office will give you a rejection notice.
In this case, the Youth Welfare Office must enter a new date of birth on the notification.
Only then can you have your documents changed at the Immigration Office and the Social Welfare Office.

Some people under the age of 18 travel without their parents.
They then travel with relatives.
For example, with an uncle or aunt, cousins or older siblings.

They are minors and are travelling to accommodation.
Then report this to the youth welfare office.
The Youth Welfare Office will talk to you and your adult relatives.
The Youth Welfare Office will check whether you can stay in the accommodation.
The Youth Welfare Office will also decide whether you will be assigned a guardian.
The Youth Welfare Office itself will bring an interpreter to the interview.

The adult relatives can also apply to the family court themselves.
They can be given guardianship.
This means that they then have full responsibility for the minor.
They then have responsibility instead of the parents.

☐ Further information can be found on the website of the [Viersen District Family Court](#).

Immigration of skilled labour

The Skilled Labour Immigration Act

There is a law for the immigration of skilled labour. The law is called the Skilled Labour Immigration Act. Skilled workers with vocational training can come to Germany more easily. They can then work in Germany. There are also rules for skilled workers with a university degree. These rules will remain and become even simpler.

1. for companies

- **Accelerated skilled labour procedure:**
Employers can start an accelerated skilled worker procedure with an authorisation from the skilled worker. This must be done at the responsible immigration authority in Germany. There must be an agreement between the company and the immigration authority.

The agreement must contain, among other things, authorisations and obligations of the employer and the skilled worker. This also applies to the authorities involved. The agreement must also state how the procedure is to be carried out. It must also state who is involved and

what the deadlines are.

- The fees for the faster skilled worker procedure at the foreigners authority amount to 411 euros.
In addition, there is a visa fee of 75 euros and other fees that may be added.
- **The foreigners authority advises** and supports **the employer**. The skilled worker has a qualification from abroad.
The Immigration Office helps to have the qualification recognised in Germany. The Foreigners' Registration Office also enquires with the Federal Employment Agency. And it checks whether the skilled worker is authorised to work in Germany. The recognition offices and the Federal Employment Agency must decide quickly.
- If all conditions are met, the foreigners authority issues a permit. This authorisation is called preliminary approval.
The foreigners authority sends the preliminary approval to the employer. The employer sends the preliminary approval to the skilled worker.
The skilled worker then books an appointment with the diplomatic mission abroad. At the appointment, the skilled worker applies for the visa.
The appointment must take place within 3 weeks. At the appointment, the skilled worker must show the original of the prior authorisation.
They must also show other documents that are important for the visa application.
- The skilled worker has submitted the complete visa application. A decision on the application is then usually made within 3 weeks.
- There is a fast-track procedure for skilled workers. The skilled worker can also submit an application for the spouse and children at the same time.
This applies to children who are not yet 18 years old and are not married. This is possible if the family is allowed to come to the country together.

2. for skilled workers

- **What is a skilled worker?** Skilled workers are people with a university degree. Or they have a good vocational qualification that has lasted at least 2 years. Both groups must have their foreign training recognised.
- **Entering the labour market:** It is easier to enter the labour market. The qualified skilled worker must have an employment contract.
There must also be a concrete job offer. And the skilled worker must have a qualification recognised in Germany.
The Federal Employment Agency checks the working conditions at the workplace.
- **Employment opportunities:** A skilled worker can do a job for which they have the right training. This means that employment in similar professions is possible. Skilled workers with academic training can also work in jobs that do not require a university degree. They can also work in other qualified professions that match their training. For these professions, you actually need vocational training and not an academic qualification. Helper occupations and trainee occupations are not possible.
It must always be a qualified occupation. The [EU Blue Card](#) requires suitable employment for which you need an academic qualification.
- **Skilled workers with vocational training:** There are professions for which there are too few skilled workers. Skilled workers from abroad may come to Germany for these professions. This also applies to skilled workers with vocational training. This means that the skilled workers have not studied.
They have completed training that is recognised in Germany. They are then authorised to

work in any profession for which they are qualified.

- **Entering the country to look for a job:** Do you have vocational training and want to work in Germany? Then you can come to Germany for up to 6 months and look for a job. You will need a residence permit for this.
You must fulfil these requirements:
 1. Your training must be recognised in Germany.
 2. You must have enough money for your stay.
 3. You must be able to speak German well enough to work in your profession. You need at least language level B1.
 4. You are allowed to work up to 10 hours per week during your stay. This allows you and your employer to test whether you are a good match.
- **Stay for qualification measures:** There are more opportunities to come to Germany for further training. There must be a recognition procedure for this. The procedure must begin abroad and end in Germany. It is checked whether the training abroad is just as good as in Germany. If not, you will receive a notice of recognition. You can then obtain a visa for further training. This requires German language skills at level A2. The residence permit is then valid for 18 months and can be extended by 6 months. After that, you can obtain a residence permit for training or studies.
- **Settlement permit for skilled workers** from abroad: Foreign skilled workers can obtain a settlement permit in Germany after just four years (previously five years).

3. for training and studies

- **Entry to look for a training place:** It was already possible for prospective students to enter Germany to look for a place at a university. Under the new regulation, those interested in training can also enter the country to look for a training place. The requirements for this are German language skills at [level B2](#), a qualification from a German school abroad or a school leaving certificate that entitles the holder to enter higher education, a maximum age of 25 years and the ability to support themselves independently.
- **German language course** to prepare for training: With a residence permit for qualified vocational training, a German language course or a job-related German language course may be attended as preparation.
- **Extended transfer options for international students** in Germany: International students already have the option of transferring to other residence permits even before they have completed their studies. For example, instead of continuing their studies, they can start vocational training and receive a residence permit for vocational training. The Skilled Labour Immigration Act expands these options for switching: Under special conditions and after examination by the Federal Employment Agency, a job offer as a skilled worker can already be accepted during a period of study or a stay for vocational training or further education. This is accompanied by a change to a residence permit for qualified employment.
- **Settlement permit for graduates** of a vocational training programme in Germany: Under the new law, foreign graduates of a vocational training programme in Germany, like university graduates, can obtain a settlement permit after just two years.

You can also find this and further information on the [Make it in Germany](#) page

You can also take a [quick test](#) on your options here!

Language

In order to find a job and generally find your feet in Germany, you need to learn German. Here you will find opportunities and contact points for appropriate language courses. There are various ways to learn German. Your residence status has an influence on which option you can choose. As long as you cannot speak German well enough yourself, you will need help. You can also find contacts for this here.

Language courses

You can attend a German course. There are six levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. You start with A1. You have C2 in your mother tongue. The six levels mean in detail:

A1: Beginner

You can understand and use simple words and sentences.

You can introduce yourself and others.

You can ask questions about yourself.

You can answer questions.

A person speaks slowly and clearly. You can converse with them.

A2: Basic knowledge

You can understand sentences and frequently used words.

You can communicate in simple, everyday situations. You can describe your background, education and environment.

B1: Advanced use of language

You can understand a lot. You can say something about familiar topics and personal interests.

You can talk about experiences and events, dreams, hopes and goals. You can give brief reasons or explanations for plans and opinions.

B2: Independent use of language

You can understand the most important content of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics. You can also understand specialised discussions in your field of specialisation.

You can communicate fluently and spontaneously. You can justify a point of view on a topical issue with advantages and disadvantages.

C1: Specialised language skills

You can understand a lot of demanding, longer texts. You can also grasp implicit meanings.

You can express yourself clearly, in a structured and detailed manner on complex issues.

C2: (Almost) native speaker level

You can understand practically everything you read or hear with ease.

You can summarise information from different written and oral sources. You can give reasons and explanations in a coherent presentation. You can express yourself spontaneously, very fluently, precisely and with nuance.

Initial orientation courses

There are German courses for initial language orientation. They are also called initial orientation courses. In these courses you learn the most important things about the German language. You will also learn something about life in Germany. The content of the courses will help you in everyday life. You will be able to orientate yourself better. A course has 300

teaching units. One lesson lasts 45 minutes. There are different topics in the courses.
For example

- Health and medical care
- work
- Kindergarten and school
- living
- Local orientation, transport and mobility.

The most important thing is oral communication. Participants should quickly learn to find their way around in everyday life.

These initial orientation courses are for people who have applied for asylum in Germany. This means that they want to stay in Germany. But they do not yet know whether this is possible. If there are places available, people with good asylum status can also take part. This means that these people will probably be allowed to stay in Germany. The courses are not for people who have to go to school in Germany. If you get a place on an integration course during the course, you can switch. The people on the courses have very different levels of education. Some cannot read or write and some have studied.
The initial orientation courses are free of charge.

■ The course language is German - there is no interpreter on the course.

■ Contact a [migration advice centre](#) or your [asylum social counselling](#) service. They will help you to find a suitable course.

□ Further information can be found on the [BAMF website](#).

Integration courses

In the integration course you can learn German and find out more about life in Germany.

The course consists of two parts:

1. Language course:

You will learn German in 600 lessons.

At the end of the course you will be able to speak and understand the language at level B1.

2. Orientation course:

In 100 additional lessons you will learn about

- German culture,
- politics and
- living together in Germany.

In total, the course lasts 700 hours.

There are also special integration courses, for example:

Youth integration course: This course has 900 lessons and is specifically for young people.

If you receive social benefits (e.g. citizen's allowance or social assistance), the integration course is free of charge - you do not have to pay anything.

The integration course concludes with the examinations "Deutschtest für Zuwanderer" (DTZ) and "Leben in Deutschland" (LiD).

You may be obliged to attend an integration course by the job centre, the social welfare office or the immigration office. If you are not obliged but would like to take part in an integration course, you can apply for the integration course at the BAMF (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees). If you need help with the application, contact your [asylum social counselling](#) service or a [migration counselling](#) service. They will also help you choose an integration course provider.

You can find further information on the nationwide integration courses and the relevant application forms on the BAMF website at: bamf.de


Where can I find an integration course near me?

The [BAMF-NAV](#) will guide you to all integration offers

providers in the district of Viersen:

Volkshochschule Kreis Viersen | Integrationskurse


 [Willy-Brandt-Ring 40, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 216293480](tel:+49(0)216293480)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen-vhs.de/>

Euroschulen Niederrhein | Integrationskurse

 [Hormesfeld 9b, 41748 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162351040](tel:+49(0)2162351040)

 <https://www.eso.de/niederrhein/>


Nestor Bildungsinstitut | Integrationskurse

 [Bruchweg 27, 41751 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21628975048](tel:+49(0)21628975048)

 <https://www.nestor-bildung.de>


Kolping Bildungszentrum Dülken | Integrationskurse


 [Tilburger Str. 15, 41751 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21623605030](tel:+49021623605030)

 <https://www.kolping-bildungszentrum.de>

Oskar Kämmer Schule Dülken | Integrationskurse

 [Tilburger Str. 15, 41751 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 21622669915](tel:+49021622669915)

 <https://www.oks.de/>

Literacy courses

You can't read or write?

Or you don't know the Latin alphabet?

Then you can take a literacy course.

In the course you will learn the basics of reading and writing in German.

A course has up to 1,300 lessons.

You will learn to read and write in small groups.

You will also learn to speak and understand the German language.

This will enable you to move around in everyday German life without fear.

Whether participation in this course is necessary is tested in the placement procedure for the [integration courses](#).

There is a separate integration course for second-language learners who are not proficient in the Latin alphabet.

The [VHS learning portal](#) provides an insight into learning materials for alphabetisation.

Vocational language courses (DeuFöV)

Do you want to improve your German language skills?

Then you can take a German course for your job.

Perhaps you have already done an integration course.

The German courses for work are called DeuFöV courses.

You can do the courses while you are working or training.

Perhaps you are also doing a programme so that you can work in your profession.

Then you can also take a DeuFöV course.

This also applies if you are preparing for your first job in Germany.

The basic modules of the DeuFöV courses have one goal.

They should lead to [language level C1](#) in 2 courses with 400 lessons each.

Each of these courses ends with an examination.

In addition to the basic courses, there are various specialised courses.

These courses have different focuses.

Would you like to take part in one of these German courses?

Then you need a permit or an obligation.

You can get this from the job centre or the employment agency.
You can also submit an application to the BAMF.

■ A language level of at least [B1](#) is a prerequisite for participation.

Further information from the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) on vocational language courses can be found on the [BAMF website](#) (German, English, Arabic) and as a [flyer](#) (pdf).

An overview of current courses in the district can be found on the website [kurs.net](#) of the Federal Employment Agency.

Free language learning programmes and language cafés

There are official German courses in the district of Viersen.
But there are also other ways to learn and practise German.
You will find many offers in the overview.
The offers are free of charge and open to everyone.
You can improve your language skills with these offers.

[Free language courses in the district of Viersen](#)

Learn German online

SPEAK


SPEAK connects locals and newcomers through language and cultural exchanges and cultural events organised by the community; these activities usually take place in person. SPEAK will organise its language learning groups online using video conferencing. The groups consist of 4 to 6 people and meet for 90 minutes every weekday for 2 weeks.


Anyone who wants to learn a language and interact with others can join SPEAK for free. You can learn German, English or any other language you need. You can also find more information on the SPEAK website.

 www.speak.social

Online language courses

You can learn German on your smartphone or computer (also free of charge). Take advantage of the great offers to learn German quickly and make good use of the waiting time for a language course. These offers can also be useful during a language course. You can find more information about the language levels (A1-C2) [here](#).

 [Lunes App](#): The app helps you at school. And in training. And at work. The app has lots of information about words from different professions. There is a picture for every word. So you learn the German words. And there is a read-aloud function. Various exercises make learning fun. You can learn and memorise the vocabulary.

 [Ankommen App](#): In addition to information about life in Germany and the topics of asylum, training and work, the Ankommen App contains a self-learning course for the first few weeks in

Germany from level A1.

📱 [Serlo ABC](#): A free alphabetisation app for self-study or as a supplement to a language course. The app is approved as a textbook for integration courses.

📱 [Mein Deutschbuch](#): A comprehensive range of resources for learning German. The website is aimed at learners and teachers, A1-B2.

📱 [Deutsch-Uni Online \(DUO\)](#): Language learning programmes for A1 to C2.

📱 [Basic language course from Deutsche Welle](#): This online language course contains modules on literacy and job-related language skills. There is also a placement test.

📱 ["The City of Words"](#): App and website for playful vocabulary learning without prior knowledge in German, English, French and other languages.

📱 [VHS learning portal](#): Free German courses. You can also learn to read, write and do maths. There is also help for preparing for school-leaving exams in German, maths and English.

📱 [Language placement test](#): onSET-online language placement test for refugees and for language categorisation for full-time and voluntary workers.

Online study

Refugees and asylum seekers often face certain difficulties in gaining access to higher education. Kiron Higher Education offers the opportunity to study without tuition fees and without the otherwise required legal documents. It also solves the problem of limited study places. The first two years of the degree programme take place with online courses via the Internet. All courses are offered in English. However, it is possible to add subtitles in any language. The third year of the programme takes place on site at one of Kiron's partner universities. Students also have the opportunity to learn German during their studies. Furthermore, various support and counselling services are offered.

📱 [kiron.ngo](#)

Interpreter

Finding an interpreter

If you go to the authorities, you may need an **interpreter**. But an interpreter is also helpful for meetings with parents at school or daycare centres.

■ Some authorities and organisations have their own interpreters.

Some authorities may also use the services of the lay language mediator pool.

This is a service provided by the Municipal Integration Centre and Diakonie Krefeld-Viersen.

These interpreters can support you during a simple counselling interview.

The conversation has no legal consequences.

As a private individual, you are not allowed to use the pool of lay language mediators.

When you make an appointment, always ask whether it is possible to use an interpreter free of charge.

■ Certificates, marriage certificates or birth certificates are official documents. In Germany, these documents may only be translated by state-certified translators. These translations can be very expensive. It is best to check carefully beforehand whether you really need a certified translation. Also compare the prices for the translations.

Application [form](#) for the pool of lay language mediators

[Feedback](#) on the use of a pool of lay language mediators

Become a lay language mediator

To work as a lay language mediator:

- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must have a good command of German and another language.
- Your level must be at least B2.
- You must be able to understand and explain difficult conversations.
- You must ensure that there are no cultural misunderstandings.
- You need an extended certificate of good conduct without an entry.
- You must be prepared to attend at least 2 further training courses per year.
- The training courses are organised by Diakonie.

We offer you


- free training to prepare and carry out the work,
- compensation for your work,
- regular meetings for exchange and networking.
- There are also opportunities for further training.
- You have liability insurance and accident insurance during your assignment.

If you would like to become a lay language mediator, you can [register](#) here.


If you have any questions, please get in touch:

Contact person at Diakonie Krefeld & Viersen:

Angeliki Asimakopoulou

 [Hauptstraße 120, 41747 Viersen](#)

@angeliki-asimakopoulou@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21628178711](tel:+49(0)21628178711)

You can find an information flyer [here](#).

School

School for children from 6 to 18 years

All children aged 6 and over living in Germany have not only the right but also the obligation to attend school. To ensure that your children's school enrolment runs smoothly, please note the following information:

School enrolment / Compulsory school attendance (6 - 18 years)

In Germany, school attendance is compulsory for children and young people from the age of 6. If you have children of compulsory school age, your children will be assigned to a school by the [district education authority](#) in the event of an asylum procedure. This also applies if you have moved to the district from the EU. You will be informed of the school assignment by letter.

An overview of the school system in North Rhine-Westphalia can be found in this flyer from the Ministry for Schools and Further Education. You can download the flyer here in [Arabic](#), [German](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Greek](#), [Romanian](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#) and [Turkish](#).

☐ This [film](#) explains the different types of school after primary school. You can also watch the film [here](#) in various other languages.

■ Further information on the school system in Germany can be found in the multilingual brochure "Mein Kind kommt in die Schule - Elternratgeber zum Schulstart" (pdf):

[Arabic](#)

[Arabic](#)

[Arabic German](#)

[Farsi](#)

[Greek](#)

[Italian](#)

[Kurdish](#)

[Polish](#)

[Romanian](#)

[Russian](#)

[Turkish](#)

How will my child get to school?

School enrolment takes place in a different way when you move to a new place of residence:

If you have been assigned to a town or municipality in the district:

If you have been assigned to a town or municipality as part of your asylum application, your school-age child will automatically be assigned to a school close to where you live. You will receive a letter with the information.

💡 This also applies if you have moved to the district from the EU.

Health examination

The school will then arrange an appointment with the [Viersen district health authority](#) to examine the child and inform you of this.

If support is needed for a translation, the school or the health department can apply for a [lay language mediator](#) free of charge from the Municipal Integration Centre.

💡 From 31 July 2021, pupils who are to be newly admitted to a school must provide proof of **vaccination against measles**. Proof is provided by submitting a vaccination card or a vaccination certificate. The vaccinating doctor will issue a corresponding document after the vaccination.

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

Language support groups and support classes

If your child does not yet speak German well, there are language support groups at the schools. In these groups, pupils are given German lessons for two years to prepare them for normal lessons. This is called "**initial support**". After initial support, the child only takes part in regular school lessons and is graded in all subjects taught.

International support classes are available for young people at vocational colleges, where they are prepared for a school-leaving certificate and possible entry into working life. All school-leaving qualifications can be obtained at vocational colleges.

If you have changed your place of residence and your child has completed the initial support programme:

In this case, you must enrol your child at an appropriate school yourself. To do this, first contact the school by telephone. Once you have decided on a school, you must register your child [here](#).

Everyday life at a school

You can find an explanation of everyday life at schools and useful information in the multilingual brochure "Elternratgeber Schule" (pdf):

[Arabic](#)

[Arabic](#)

[Arabic German](#)

[Farsi](#)

[Farsi French](#)

[Croatian](#)

[Romanian](#)

[Russian](#)

[Tigrin](#)

[Turkish](#)

Heritage language lessons (HSU)

HSU is a programme for pupils who are growing up bilingually. In the district of Viersen, HSU is currently available in the following languages

- Albanian,
- Arabic,
- Farsi,

- Greek,
- Italian,
- Polish,
- Portuguese,
- Russian,
- Spanish,
- Turkish.

Lessons take place in the afternoons at various schools in the Viersen district.

Registration for HSU

You can register your child for HSU using a form. You will receive the form at your child's school. You must also return the form there. Registration for the coming school year is possible **until the end of March**. Registration is valid for the entire time your child attends primary school, but for at least one school year.

You can download the HSU form [here](#).

Office for Schools, Youth and Family

■ [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

🌐 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de>

Contact persons:

👤 Dr Mohr, Thomas

■ [02162/39-1466](tel:02162391466)

👤 Nent, Laura

■ [02162/39-1741](tel:02162391741)

All-day and childcare programmes at primary schools

Open all-day school (OGS)

Your child can also be looked after in the afternoon. Normally from Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm, but at least until 3 pm. You will only be allocated a place if there is a place available at the school. Your child will receive lunch. You must pay parental contributions for this. The primary school will let you know whether your child can attend the open all-day school.

Time-safe school

Many schools offer the time-safe school. Your child is then looked after until 1.00 pm or 2.00 pm. Your child may also go home earlier. You have to pay parental contributions. You only get a place if there is a free place at the school.

Inclusion

What is inclusion?

People with disabilities should be able to participate in society.
That is important.
In an inclusive society, all people are equally important.
There are people of different genders, skin colours, religions and cultures.

Inclusion is a human right.
The United Nations has recognised this.
Germany has signed the agreement.
That is why Germany must build an inclusive society.

Does your child have a disability?
Then you can contact the relevant school or the Viersen district education authority.
The process will be discussed here.
Does your child need support?

Office for School, Youth and Family

Susanne Wilms (Director of the school authority)

Contact persons:

Schöpgens, Stephanie | Kreis Viersen - Schulamtsangelegenheiten

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@stefanie.schoepgens@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:stefanie.schoepgens@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391452](tel:+49(0)2162391452)

Anna Stamm | Kreis Viersen - Schulamtsangelegenheiten

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@Anna.stamm@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:Anna.stamm@kreis-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391458](tel:+49(0)2162391458)

Timo Nürnberger | Kreis Viersen - Schulamtsangelegenheiten


 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@timo.nuernberger@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:timo.nuernberger@kreis-viersen.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2162391465](tel:+49(0)2162391465)

Information about further help and support can be obtained from

Office 50/1 Social Administration, Help in Institutions

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 kreis-viersen.de

 Mondays to Fridays 09.00 to 16.00 and by appointment

Contact persons:

Elke Steppke | Sozialamt - Sozialverwaltung, Hilfe in Einrichtungen

[Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@Elke.steppke@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:Elke.steppke@kreis-viersen.de)

[+49 \(0\) 2162391606](tel:+49(0)2162391606)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Svenja Kivelip | Sozialamt - Sozialverwaltung, Hilfe in Einrichtungen

[Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@Svenja.kivelip@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:Svenja.kivelip@kreis-viersen.de)

[+49 \(0\) 2162391541](tel:+49(0)2162391541)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Birgit von Boetticher | Sozialamt - Sozialverwaltung, Hilfe in Einrichtungen

[Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@birgit.vonboetticher@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:birgit.vonboetticher@kreis-viersen.de)

[+49 \(0\) 2162391603](tel:+49(0)2162391603)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Recognition of school-leaving qualifications and certificates

Recognition of foreign school-leaving qualifications

■ Certificates are very important in Germany. If you want to start school education or vocational training, you must show your certificate. Do you have a certificate from abroad? Then you must first have it recognised.

What do I have to do?

1. seek advice from the IQ Network: Is a translation and recognition necessary?

Orjana Begaj | IQ - Fachstelle Faire Integration

[Franz-Rennefeld-Weg 5, 40472 Düsseldorf](#)

[@jana.begaj@dgb-bildungswerk.de](mailto:jana.begaj@dgb-bildungswerk.de)

[+49 \(0\) 1712031713](tel:+49(0)1712031713)

<https://www.dgb-bildungswerk.de/migration/iq-fach...>

2. first look for a translator. The translation must be done by a professional translator.

Here you will find an overview of all interpreters who are authorised in Germany.

justiz-dolmetscher.de

3. then you need confirmation from an official body.

These authorities can do this:

- public authorities
- city administrations
- mayors
- notaries.

4 As a final step, you must submit an application and send the following documents with it:

- Copy of your passport
- residence permit
- curriculum vitae
- Foreign certificate and translated certificate.


Competent authorities

There are different school-leaving qualifications.

Different authorities are responsible for recognising them.

A) Secondary school leaving certificate and lower secondary school leaving certificate:

Anerkennung von Zeugnissen und Bildungsabschlüssen

 [Zeughausstr. 2-10, 50606 Köln](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2211472048](tel:+49(0)2211472048)

 <https://www.bezreg-koeln.nrw.de/themen/schule-und...>

 Telephone consultation hours:

Mondays and Wednesdays: 9:00-11:30 a.m.


Tuesdays and Thursdays: 13:00-15:00.


Visitors' day: Thursday 8:30-15:00.

The application form and further information can be found [here](#).

B) General higher education entrance qualification

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf | Zeugnisanerkennungsstelle

 [Am Bonnhof 35, 40474 Düsseldorf](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2114750](tel:+49(0)2114750)

 <https://www-brduesseldorf-nrw-de.prod-drupal.nrw....>

The application form and further information can be found [here](#).

Student BAföG

Everyone in Germany should have the same opportunity to complete vocational training or a secondary school qualification. Some parents are unable to support their children because they do not have enough money. This is why there is financial support in Germany. This is called BAföG (Federal Training Assistance Act). Student BAföG is provided by the state as a grant. It therefore does not have to be paid back.

Pupils can receive BAföG as support if they:

- are doing vocational training or
- want to complete a secondary school qualification.

Who can receive BAföG depends on various conditions, for example


- which school you attend
- whether you have already completed an apprenticeship
- your legal immigration status

You can find more information here:

 bafög.de

Bianca Bimmler | Sozialamt Kreis Viersen - BAföG-Stelle


 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391610](tel:+49(0)2162391610)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Daniela Heinrichs | Sozialamt Kreis Viersen - BAföG-Stelle

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391609](tel:+49(0)2162391609)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Language support during the school holidays (Holiday Intensive Training - FIT in German)

The Holiday Intensive Training - FIT in German is an offer for pupils who want to learn German better. It takes place during the Easter, summer and autumn holidays in the district of Viersen.

The towns and municipalities and the Municipal Integration Centre organise this programme.

At FIT in German, the children and young people receive a great deal of help in learning German. They are supported by language learning counsellors.

Your child can directly apply what they have learnt in games and various activities. There is also lots of fun!

FIT in German is for children from primary and secondary schools. Many schools in the Viersen district offer it.

■ If you would like to enrol your child, simply ask at the school whether they offer FIT in German.

Enabling education - education and participation package (BuT)

Education and participation package (BuT)

If you receive social benefits, you can get money for your child through the "Education and Participation Package". This applies to children up to the age of 18.

Young adults up to the age of 25 can receive help for school if they are studying there but do not receive a training allowance.

Money for leisure, culture and sport is only available up to their 18th birthday.

The following grants are part of the education and participation package:

Children and young people up to the age of 18 receive €15.00 per month. The money can be used for lessons, courses or leisure activities.

- For excursions and trips lasting several days with the school or daycare centre, the travel costs, food and admission are paid.
- Lunch at the school or daycare centre is covered in full.
- Schoolchildren receive € 195.00 per school year for school materials, photocopying and other teaching costs.
- Under certain conditions, your child can receive extra tuition. The school decides in which subjects and how much support is needed.
- In special cases, there may also be money for travelling to school.

Who is eligible:

Children and young people from families who receive

- Unemployment benefit II/social benefit (Hartz IV benefits) according to the German Social Code, Book 2 (SGB II),
- Social assistance according to the Social Code, Book 12 (SGB XII),

- Child supplement - KIZ according to the Federal Child Benefit Act (BKKG) or Housing benefit in accordance with the Housing Benefit Act (WoGG),
- receive benefits in accordance with § 2 of the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG) or § 3 AsylbLG in conjunction with § 6 AsylbLG.

Please enclose the current grant notice with your application for benefits from the education and participation package as proof of receipt of the social benefit.

Who is responsible?

Depending on which benefits you receive, different authorities are responsible.

a) Recipients of unemployment benefit II or social benefit (Harz IV) can submit their applications to the Viersen district job centre.

Viersen district job centre

Am Schluff 18, 41748 Viersen

jobcenter-kreis-viersen.de/

02162/26611-00

jobcenter-kreis-viersen@jobcenter-ge.de

Important: You must always submit the application before you pay anything yourself. If you have already paid something, you will not get the money back from the job centre.

b) Recipients of housing benefit, supplementary child allowance, social assistance and basic income support (according to the 3rd and 4th chapters of SGB XII) and benefits according to the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act can submit their applications to the Social Welfare Office of the district of Viersen.

District of Viersen - Social welfare office

50/4 Special social benefits

Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen

kreis-viersen.de

02162 39 2730

Monday to Friday 09.00 - 16.00 or by appointment

Further information and forms can be found [here](#) and in the flyers in various languages:

[BuT Kreis Viersen](#)

[Education and participation: German](#)

[Education and participation: Arabic](#)

[Education and participation: Russian](#)

[Education and participation: Tigrin](#)

[Education and participation: Turkish](#)

[Education and participation: Ukrainian](#)

Regional school counselling centre for the district of Viersen

We are a team of professionals who help pupils, parents and teachers when there are problems at school. Together we look for solutions to help your child do better at school.

We provide support with:

- Learning & homework - If your child has difficulties with the subject matter or homework.
- Concentration - If they are easily distracted or very restless.
- Anxiety - For example, if your child has exam nerves or is afraid of going to school.
- Conflicts - In the event of arguments with classmates or teachers or if your child feels excluded.
- School refusal - If your child no longer wants to go to school and needs support.
- Immigration - If children with an immigrant background have particular challenges at school.

How do we help?

- Parents can get counselling to discuss the problem. If desired, the school or other support centres can also be present.
- Young people aged 14 and over can register themselves.
- If necessary, a translator can be present.

Our counselling is:

- Voluntary
- Confidential
- Neutral & independent
- Free of charge

You can find more information about our services and how to register [here](#).

If you have any questions about enrolment and our services, please contact our office:

■ [02162/39-1484](tel:02162391484)

■ schulberatung@kreis-viersen.de

Training and studies

Vocational training

Vocational training at school

There are various options for teenagers and young adults over the age of 15. This applies if they no longer attend a general school. The options are available at vocational schools. There you will be prepared for a profession. There is also the possibility of obtaining general school-leaving qualifications. Children and young people in Germany must attend school until the age of 18!

The following types of school are available at vocational schools:

Vocational orientation

This programme is for pupils who have to attend a vocational school. They do not have a school-leaving certificate.

There are lessons 2 days a week. On these days, the pupils receive special support. On 3 days a week they do a work placement in a company.

Entry requirements:

- You are required to attend a full-time school.
- They are also required to attend a vocational school.

International support class

Young people can attend the international support class. This is a special school class. The young people learn German and are prepared for a career. The class is for young people who have recently arrived in Germany. They must be at least 16 years old and must not speak German. They may or may not have a school-leaving certificate. The young people must still be in the first support programme. This programme lasts 2 years.

Vocational school

Here, training takes place in a dual system. This means that part of the knowledge is learnt theoretically at school.

The other part is learnt practically in a training company.

The one-year vocational school

Vocational schools provide general education and vocational training. This lasts one year. You learn things that are important for your profession. You also learn things that are generally important. There are certain subjects that are particularly important.

There are 2 different types of vocational schools. At the type I vocational school, you can obtain a lower secondary school leaving certificate. In the type II vocational school, you can obtain the Fachoberschulreife. You may also be able to gain a qualification.

The vocational schools have these areas:

- Business
- Home economics
- Health and social services
- Technology and crafts.

Admission requirements:

You must have completed the compulsory period at school. You must be interested in the educational specialisation. You need a secondary school leaving certificate after year 9 or year 10.

The two-year vocational school

You can obtain a technical college entrance qualification. To do this, you must attend a vocational college for 2 years. This is the school-based part of the Fachhochschulreife.

It is available in these specialisations:

- Information technology
- Automation technology
- Business and administration
- Health/education and social services.

Entry requirements:

You have an intermediate school leaving certificate.
Or you can go to the sixth form of a grammar school.

The two-year specialised secondary school

The specialised upper secondary school lasts 2 years. It provides an extended general education in years 11 and 12. You will also learn more about vocational subjects. You can obtain the entrance qualification for universities of applied sciences. In the first year, you have part-time lessons and a work placement 3 days a week. In the second year you have full-time lessons.

They are available in these specialisations:

- Metal technology
- Health and social work.

Entry requirements:

Do you have an intermediate school leaving certificate? Or are you allowed to go to the upper secondary school? Then you can do a work placement.
You will need a work placement contract.

2-year vocational school with vocational qualification NRW

The training programme lasts 2 years and is a full-time course. You complete your training at a vocational school. You will receive a vocational qualification and the Fachoberschulreife. The qualification is valid in the federal state in which you completed your training.

They are available in these specialisations:

- Child carer with state examination
- Social assistant with state examination.

Entry requirement:

Completion of compulsory full-time schooling and at least a secondary school leaving certificate after year 9, extended certificate of good conduct

Specialist school for educators

The educator training programme prepares students to work independently and responsibly. This is possible in various areas of social pedagogy. For example

- Day care centres
- Work with children and young people
- Help with education
- Social pedagogical activities in schools
- Working with people with special needs.

How long does the training programme last and how does it work?

- The training programme lasts 3 years.
- You learn 2 years of theory at the technical college.
- And you do a year's work placement.

Theory and practice alternate over three years

The vocational school examination and colloquium take place at the same time at the end of the third year.

Admission requirements:

- School-leaving certificate: You need a secondary school leaving certificate (Fachoberschulreife).
- Personal aptitude: You must present an extended certificate of good conduct.
- Professional experience: A suitable apprenticeship of at least two years is required, e.g: Paediatric nurse, social assistant, curative education assistant, paediatric nurse Or a degree in a suitable course of study at a higher vocational school for social and healthcare services or a technical secondary school for social services.

Alternative options:

If you have a high school diploma or other educational qualification, you can be accepted if you:

- Have worked full-time for at least six weeks or 480 hours in a suitable institution.
- Have completed a voluntary social year or the Federal Voluntary Service in a suitable area.
- Additional requirement for the practice-integrated training programme: You must provide proof of a training contract for the entire training period.

Vocational grammar school

The vocational grammar school is a three-year course that leads to a general higher education entrance qualification and imparts vocational knowledge, skills and abilities.

It is offered in the following specialisations:

- Health and Social Sciences (Educational Sciences)


- Recreational sports instructor
- Business and administration

Admission requirements:

Authorisation to attend the gymnasiale Oberstufe

Entry into year 12:

Acquisition of the school-based part of the advanced technical college entrance qualification with the same subject specialisation and with knowledge of a second foreign language to the extent of year 11.

 Vocational training at school can be subsidised by **BaFöG**. Further information can be found [here](#).

Viersen district social welfare office

BAföG office

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 kreis-viersen.de


 Telephone availability: Mon - Fri: 10.00 - 11.30 a.m.

Application submission and personal counselling: Mon. + Wed. 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Contact persons:

Bianca Bimmler | Sozialamt Kreis Viersen - BAföG-Stelle


 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391610](tel:+49(0)2162391610)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

Daniela Heinrichs | Sozialamt Kreis Viersen - BAföG-Stelle

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391609](tel:+49(0)2162391609)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/service/dienstleistu...>

In-company vocational training

In-company vocational training = dual vocational training

In a company-based apprenticeship, training takes place in the company and at a vocational school. The training programmes last between two and three and a half years.

Do you want to do a dual vocational training programme? Then you need a training company. The company must sign a training contract with you. You will then also receive a training salary.

■ Important: Are you currently in the asylum process or do you have a tolerated stay permit? Then you must send the training contract to the Aliens' Registration Office.

Are you looking for a vacant training position? Then you can search on the [Apprenticeship Radar](#) website, for example. The site is run by the Chamber of Crafts (IWK).

You can also search on the [Apprenticeship Exchange](#) website. This site is run by the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK).

💡 In-company training can be subsidised by a **vocational training allowance (BAB)**. You can find more information [here](#).

Training authorisation

A trainee has submitted an application for asylum. The application has been rejected and the procedure is complete. The person then receives a tolerated stay for training.

The tolerated stay is granted for the duration of the training and is extended if the trainee completes the training. It is then valid for another 6 months. During this time you can look for a job.

The foreigner has completed a good vocational training programme. They then have the right to a residence permit. However, they must have a job for this.

You must be able to support yourself. You must not have been in prison. And you must have a valid passport.

📄 You can find more information [here](#). You can download the application for a tolerated stay permit [here](#) (.doc).

Search for an apprenticeship

You don't yet know which apprenticeship you would like to do? Then get advice from the Federal Employment Agency.

Agentur für Arbeit Krefeld/Viersen

📍 [Philadelphiastr. 2, 47799 Krefeld](#)

✉️ [@Krefeld@arbeitsagentur.de](mailto:Krefeld@arbeitsagentur.de)

☎️ [+49 \(0\) 2151921010](tel:+49(0)2151921010)

🌐 <https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/vor-ort/krefeld/sta...>

📄 Information (in German) on all training occupations can be found on the website berufenet.arbeitsagentur.de.

📄 Information in Arabic, German, English and French on career choices, applications and tests can be found at planet.beruf.de.

You can search for training places or internships on the portals of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK), the Chamber of Skilled Crafts (IWK) and [the Integreat app](#).

Entry qualification (EQ)

You can do an internship in a company. The internship can last 6 to 12 months. You will need permission from the employment agency and the immigration authority. You can then do an apprenticeship. This allows you to familiarise yourself with the company and the work. And your employer will get to know you.

You can show this brochure (pdf) to a company where you would like to do an internship:
[Entry qualification - information for employers](#)

Training-related assistance (abH)

If you are already in training or EQ, your employer can apply to the Federal Employment Agency for training-related assistance.

[Training-related assistance - information for employers \(pdf\)](#)

Study

General information

There are many different degree programmes in Germany. There are also different types of higher education institutions:

- Universities
- (technical) colleges
- Dual universities
- Art, film and music colleges

There are state universities and private universities. Private universities are not necessarily better. But you often have to pay a lot of money to study there.

Helpful websites:

 [University compass](#)

 [German Academic Exchange Service](#)

 [Study in Germany](#)

 [Employment Agency](#)

Prerequisites

Do you want to study in Germany? Then you need a university entrance qualification. You do not have a German Abitur? Then you need to check whether you can study in Germany with your school-leaving certificate from your home country.

Further information can be found on the [Anabin](#) website and at the [German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#).

You must also provide proof that you have good German [language](#) skills ([language level C1](#)), e.g. TestDaF, DSH or telc Deutsch C1 Hochschule.

There is also the possibility of funding from the Bildungsberatung Garantiefonds Hochschule. Some universities also offer preparatory semesters. You can also learn German during these semesters. Enquire directly at the university where you would like to study. Most universities have counselling services for this. Please also note the deadlines by which you can apply for a degree programme!

No university entrance qualification

Are you able to study in your home country with your school-leaving certificate, but not in Germany? Then you may be able to study at a university through a preparatory college. This prepares foreign applicants to study at a university or university of applied sciences in Germany.

Degrees

Possible degrees

Bachelor's degree

The degree programme lasts a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 semesters (3 to 4 years). You collect points, called ECTS, through various courses and examinations. If you have enough points and write a Bachelor's thesis, you are awarded a Bachelor's degree.

Master's degree

The Master's degree is a further degree programme after the Bachelor's degree. In the Master's programme, you deepen your knowledge from the Bachelor's degree. The programme lasts 4 to 6 semesters (2 to 3 years).

State examination (Staatsexamen)

Degree programmes such as medicine, law, pharmacy and some food chemistry and teaching degree programmes are completed with a state examination.

Doctorate

With a few exceptions, a doctorate is the prerequisite for an academic career. You must first write a doctoral thesis.

Financing a degree programme

As a student in Germany, you can receive financial support. This support is provided by the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG).

You receive the money monthly. The amount can be between 399 and 735 euros. Half of the BAföG amount must be paid back after graduation. Detailed information on BAföG changes frequently and can be accessed via the following link:

 [Website BAföG for refugees and migrants](#)

You can also apply for a scholarship.
You usually do not have to pay back a scholarship.
However, good grades and voluntary work are important.
The amount of the scholarship is calculated.
There is also a so-called book allowance.
This is a monthly payment of a maximum of 300 euros.

Organisations provide scholarships.
These organisations have programmes for refugees.
The rules and requirements can be found on the organisations' websites.

[Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung \(FES\) - Scholarships for Refugees](#)

[Böckler-Aktion Bildung of the Hans Böckler Foundation](#)

[Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung \(KAS\) - Scholarships for Refugees](#)

[Villigst - Our scholarship for refugees](#)

[Bread for the World - Refugee Scholarship Programme](#)

One exception, for example, is the Otto Benecke Foundation's Guarantee Fund. This programme is aimed at young people who come to Germany and would like to obtain a university entrance qualification.
It also helps them prepare for university. There is also the Germany Scholarship. This provides 300 euros per month. The Germany scholarships are awarded by the respective universities.

[University Guarantee Fund of the Otto Benecke Foundation in Bonn](#)

[Germany Scholarship: Become a scholarship holder](#)

Study counselling and orientation

The study orientation programme helps you to find out which path suits you best after school. You will receive information about various professions, degree programmes and paths into vocational training. Study orientation helps you to better recognise your interests and strengths.

You can find out what subjects you can study. And you can find out what opportunities you have later in your career. You will also receive tips for fairs and information days. You will also receive tips for interviews with universities. So you can prepare yourself well. The study orientation programme will help you make a decision. The decision should suit you and your goals.

[arbeitsagentur.de](#)

The student counselling service will help you with all important questions about your studies. It will explain to you clearly what subjects and degrees are available.
And it will explain what you need for them. It will also help you to find out which degree programme best suits your interests and strengths.

The student counselling service will show you step by step how to apply or enrol. If you have difficulties during your studies, you can also get help there. Perhaps you have problems with exams or organisation. Perhaps you lack motivation. The counsellors will take the time to

listen to your problem. You can ask questions at any time and find solutions together.

Almost every university has a student counselling service. The student counselling service can answer questions about your studies. Do you have questions about a specific degree programme? Go to the subject counselling service.

- [☐ Fachhochschule Aachen](#)
- [☐ RWTH Aachen](#)
- [☐ Hochschule Bochum](#)
- [☐ Ruhr-Universität Bochum](#)
- [☐ Universität Duisburg-Essen](#)
- [☐ Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf](#)
- [☐ Hochschule Düsseldorf](#)
- [☐ Universität zu Köln](#)
- [☐ Fachhochschule Niederrhein \(Krefeld / Mönchengladbach\)](#)
- [☐ Hochschule Venlo](#)

Further information:

- What do you want to study? You can find all degree programmes in North Rhine-Westphalia on the "Hochschulkompass" website: hochschulkompass.de.
- The official study guide for Germany: studienwahl.de.
- Practical information on financing and BAföG: studis-online.de.
- Hochschulstart: hochschulstart.de.
- Information for students with special needs: studentenwerke.de.
- Information for refugees: study-in-germany.de.

Recognition of qualifications

Have you studied in your home country and obtained a university degree?
Then you can apply for this qualification to be recognised in Germany.

There are special rules for qualifications in the health and medical professions.
This applies, for example, to doctors and nurses.
However, it also applies to architects and teachers.

For all other degrees, there is a procedure for evaluating certificates.
The Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) is responsible for this.

You can obtain free advice on the topics of "Recognition of academic qualifications" and "Certificate evaluation" here:

Corinna Peschke | Volkshochschule Mönchengladbach: Beratung zu Schulabschlüssen

[📍 Lüpertzender Straße 85, 41061 Mönchengladbach](#)

[@corinna.esser-peschke@moenchengladbach.de](mailto:corinna.esser-peschke@moenchengladbach.de)

[☎ +49 \(0\) 2161256406](tel:+4902161256406)

If you want to study at a German university, you need a "higher education entrance qualification".


This is a school-leaving certificate that allows you to study. You can use the [anabin](#) database to check whether your qualification is recognised in Germany. The universities decide whether you are allowed to study. This applies to German and foreign applicants. It also applies to applicants without citizenship.

Further information:


Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) | Sekretariat der Kultusministerkonferenz

 [Graurheindorfer Straße 157, 53117 Bonn](#)

 @zabservice@kmk.org

 [+49 \(0\) 228501664](tel:+49(0)228501664)

 <https://www.kmk.org/zab/zentralstelle-fuer-auslae...>

 Telephone consultation hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays from 09.00 - 12.00 and 14.00 - 15.00; Fridays from 09.00 - 12.00

Proof of German language skills

Do you want to study?

Then you usually need a language certificate with [language level C1](#). This applies to universities and universities of applied sciences. Please enquire directly at the university. Some universities also offer intensive German courses. These courses are for people who want to study.

Forms of study

Dual study programme

The dual study programme is a special form of study. It combines studying at a university or university of cooperative education with training in a company. At the end of this degree programme, you will have two qualifications: one from the university and one from the company. This programme is mainly offered in commercial or technical fields, such as economics, mechanical engineering or computer science.

The dual study programme usually lasts three to five years. In order to be admitted to this form of study, you must be authorised to enter German universities.

You can find further information at: www.make-it-in-germany.com

Labour

When can I work?

Persons entitled to asylum and international protection (refugee status and subsidiary protection) have a residence permit and may work immediately.
You do not need any further authorisation.

You may be able to work with a residence permit.
Certain things must apply for this.
For example:

You must have been in Germany for 3 months.
You do not have to live in a reception centre.
You are not banned from working.
Whether you are allowed to work is stated in the permit.
Nevertheless, you must always apply for a work permit at the Foreigners' Registration Office.

Do you have a tolerated stay permit and want to work?
Then this must be stated in the Duldung.
You need a precise job offer.
This can be an employment contract, for example.
Or your employer can confirm that you can work.
You must apply for a work permit from the foreigners authority.
However, there is also a work ban.

If you are not sure who you are.

Do you come from a safe country of origin?
Then your asylum application was rejected for this reason.

If you are preventing your own deportation or

You have only come to Germany to receive benefits for asylum seekers.

How do I find work?

Are you a customer of a job centre or employment agency?
And you fulfil certain conditions?
Then you will automatically receive support in your job search.

You can always look for work yourself.
Do you have a tolerated stay permit or a permit?
Then check whether you are authorised to work before you start looking.
This is stated in your permit.


Nowadays, the most common way to find job vacancies is through online job portals.
Job adverts are collected there.
You can sort the adverts by place of residence or profession, for example.
The most important job portals are

Job vacancies on the Internet:

- [Job exchange of the Federal Employment Agency](#)
- Job exchange "[Make it in Germany](#)"
- "[Workeer](#)" job exchange especially for job-seeking refugees

The employment agency can support you in your search for a job.

Agentur für Arbeit Viersen

 [Remigiusstraße 1, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@Viersen@arbeitsagentur.de](mailto:Viersen@arbeitsagentur.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2151921010](tel:+49(0)2151921010)

 <https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/vor-ort/krefeld/vie...>

If you are already a customer of the job centre, your [local job centre](#) can advise you on finding a job.

Recognition of professional qualifications

Have you obtained a qualification abroad? Then you can have this qualification recognised in Germany. This can help you to find a job.

There are various bodies that can recognise your profession. Which body is responsible depends on your profession.

Do you want to know who is responsible for recognising your profession? You can find out on the Internet. The website is called: anerkennung-in-deutschland.de. This information is available in 11 languages. You can also call the telephone hotline. The telephone number is: [03018151111](tel:03018151111).

Documents

 You should already have the following documents for the counselling:


- Certificates (with translations)
- Curriculum vitae
- Letters and notifications from authorities
- References from your jobs in the past
- Identity card or passport or residence document

Counselling

Orjana Begaj | IQ - Fachstelle Faire Integration

 [Franz-Rennefeld-Weg 5, 40472 Düsseldorf](#)

 [@jana.begaj@dgb-bildungswerk.de](mailto:jana.begaj@dgb-bildungswerk.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 1712031713](tel:+49(0)1712031713)

 <https://www.dgb-bildungswerk.de/migration/iq-fach...>

Further information on this topic:

- Information from the [Employment Agency](#)
- Offers for people with a foreign vocational qualification from the [IQ network NRW](#)
- The [Anabin](#) information portal for information on the recognition of educational qualifications

My rights and obligations

Have you found a job and want to work there?

Then draw up an employment contract.

The contract contains all the important rules.

It deals with the rights and obligations of you and your employer.

For example:

- When does the employment relationship start and how long does it last?
- What are your duties?
- What is your salary?
- How many hours do you work and when do you work?
- How long are your breaks?
- Where do you work?
- How many holiday days do you have?
- What do you have to consider when giving notice?
- Are there any other rules?
- For example:
 - You are not allowed to talk about work.
 - You must pay for something you have broken.
 - You are allowed to have another job.

Salary:

How much salary you get depends on your job.

It is also important how many hours you work per week.

In any case, you are entitled to the minimum wage.

Working hours:

There is a separate law governing working hours.

The law is called the Working Hours Act (ArbZG).

It states that you may work a maximum of 8 hours a day.

You can also work 10 hours.

However, this must be compensated for within six months.

You also have the right to take breaks during work.

This is regulated by law.

If you have worked 6 to 9 hours without a break, you must take a break of at least 30 minutes.

If you have worked more than 9 hours, you must take a break of at least 45 minutes.

Holiday:

You also have the right to holiday.

If you work 5 days a week, you have at least 20 days holiday a year.

This is prescribed by law.

You can also take more holiday days.
This is stated in your employment contract.
You will continue to receive your normal salary during this time.
Important: If you fall ill while on holiday, the time does not count as holiday.
However, you will need a sick note from your doctor.

Illness:

If you fall ill and are unable to work, you must say so immediately.
You must inform your place of work on the first day of illness.
You do not have to state the reason for your illness.
If you are unable to go to work for more than 3 days, you need a certificate from a doctor.
You must also take the weekend into account.
The certificate is called a certificate of incapacity for work.
Please note:
Your employment contract may state otherwise.
You may need the certificate on the first day of illness.
Your salary will continue to be paid during your illness.

Are you ill for longer than 6 weeks?
Then you will no longer receive a salary.
You will then receive sickness benefit from your health insurance fund.
Sickness benefit is 70 per cent of your gross salary.
But it is not more than 90 per cent of your net salary.

Pregnancy:

If you are pregnant, you have special protection against dismissal.
6 weeks before the birth and 8 weeks after the birth, statutory maternity protection applies.
You do not have to work during this time and will still receive your salary.

Parental leave:

After the birth of your child, you are allowed to take "parental leave".
This applies to fathers and mothers who live in the same household as the child.
You may not be dismissed during this time.
However, you will not receive a salary from your company.
You can apply for parental allowance instead.
You will receive this from the state.
Both mother and father are entitled to 14 months of parental allowance.
If only one parent receives parental allowance, it is 12 months.
Parental allowance is approximately 65 per cent to 67 per cent of your last net income before the birth of your child.

Cancellation:

Under certain conditions you can be made redundant.
Perhaps the company has too little work.
Perhaps you have not behaved properly.
Then the company can dismiss you.
If you want to resign yourself, there are time limits.
These deadlines can be found in your employment contract.
Resignations must always be in writing.

This applies to you and your company.
Verbal notices of termination are not valid

Minimum wage

There is a statutory minimum wage in Germany.
This means that there is a rule about how much money you have to be paid per hour as a minimum.
The minimum wage is regularly redefined by a group of people.
This group is called a commission.
At the moment, the minimum wage is 12.82 euros per hour.
From 1 January 2026, the minimum wage will be 13.90 euros per hour.
From 1 January 2027, the minimum wage will be 14.60 euros per hour.

The minimum wage does not apply to these persons:

- Young people under the age of 18 without completed vocational training
- Trainees
- Long-term unemployed persons in the first 6 months of their employment after the end of unemployment
- voluntary work.
- Interns in certain types of internships, for example
 - a school internship
 - a student internship
 - an internship for professional orientation for up to 3 months.

Taxes and social security contributions

If you work and are employed, you will receive your salary from your employer.
Taxes and social security contributions are deducted from this salary.
This happens before you receive your salary.
The salary you receive is called your "net salary".
These taxes and social security contributions are deducted from your salary:

- Income tax
- solidarity surcharge
- Pension insurance
- health insurance
- nursing care insurance
- Unemployment insurance

Exactly how much is deducted depends on the amount of your salary.
It also depends on the tax class.
The tax bracket depends on the family situation, for example.

You pay taxes and social security contributions.
In return, you receive many benefits from the state free of charge.

For example, you receive good medical care.
If you lose your job, you will receive unemployment benefit.
And when you are old, you will receive a pension.

You have to pay tax on your income in Germany. If you are employed, you will receive the net amount of your salary from your employer, i.e. your taxes have already been deducted. If you are self-employed, you must pay tax on your income yourself.

Tax identification number

The tax ID is an 11-digit number and is used for income tax purposes. The place of work requires this number. If you do not have this number in your documents, you can obtain it in person from the registration office or in writing from the Federal Tax Office.

■ If you need help with your tax return, it is best to contact your local income tax association. The tax office can also help you with further questions.

Internship

Internships are a special form of employment.
An internship usually lasts 1-4 weeks.
You can get to know a job and everyday life in a company.
Many companies only hire people after they have completed an internship.
They first want to see whether someone is suitable for the job.

There are different types of internships.
There are voluntary internships and compulsory internships.
Different rules also apply to the different internships.

Perhaps an internship is used as a trial period.
You want to check whether someone is suitable for a particular job.
Then the minimum wage applies.

Are you doing an internship to orientate yourself professionally?
Then the company only has to pay you after 3 months.
This applies to the minimum wage.

Do you have a residence permit or a tolerated stay permit?
Then you must obtain permission from the foreigners authority before starting an internship.

Are you a customer of the job centre?
Then you must inform your case manager.
You must do this before your internship begins.

💡 It is important that you inform the job centre (people with residence status) or the foreigners authority (people with ongoing proceedings and tolerated status) before you start your internship:

[Brüggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Nettetal](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [Viersen](#), [Willich](#)

Apprenticeship and internship search


You can search for an apprenticeship or internship on the following pages:

 [Job exchange](#) of the Federal Employment Agency

Counselling and help

The following facilities in the district of Viersen will support you in all aspects of your job search:


BLZ Brüggen / Nettetal | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Poststr. 19, 41334 Nettetal](#)

BLZ Kempen / Grefrath / Tönisvorst | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Arnoldstr. 13c, 47906 Kempen](#)

BLZ Schwalmtal / Niederkrüchten | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Hospitalstr. 16, 41366 Schwalmtal](#)

BLZ Viersen | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen


 [Am Schluff 18-20, 41748 Viersen](#)

BLZ Willich | Jobcenter Kreis Viersen

 [Gießerallee 8, 47877 Willich](#)

Contact all job centres /BLZ:


 kreis-viersen.de

 [02162/2661100](tel:021622661100)

Agentur für Arbeit Krefeld/Viersen

 [Philadelphiastr. 2, 47799 Krefeld](#)

 Krefeld@arbeitsagentur.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2151921010](tel:+49(0)2151921010)

 <https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/vor-ort/krefeld/sta...>

Contact shop "Entry into care"

The "Einstieg in die Pflege" contact centre helps people who would like to work in a care profession.


Here you can get guidance and support on the subject of care.

What the contact shop offers:

- Visits to care facilities: You can get to know care homes and see how work is done there.
- Help with the search for internships, jobs or training programmes.

- Support with job applications: Help with writing job applications.
- Communication training in the care sector:
You will learn how to speak well.

Kontaktladen "Einstieg in die Pflege"

 [Burgstr. 2, 41747 Viersen](#)

 kontaktladen@brueckenbau-viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 21629194203](tel:+49(0)21629194203)

 <https://www.brueckenbau-viersen.de/InfoInteressen...>

Application and job interview

If you want to start an apprenticeship or work in Germany, you must apply in writing. In most cases, you apply to a company because it has placed a job advert on the Internet or in the newspaper. This means that the company is looking for new employees. The job advert states what kind of work or training is involved and what expectations the company has of the employee. It also states where and how you should apply.


If the company is interested in you, you will usually be invited to an interview where you can introduce yourself in person. Please allow enough time and make sure you arrive on time for the interview. It is best to prepare for the interview in detail beforehand and gather important information about the company. Visit the website and read through the company's history, find out about the products or services. If you arrive on time for the appointment and ask questions during the interview, you will show the company your motivation and interest in the apprenticeship or job.

An application usually consists of three parts:

Cover letter: In your personal cover letter, you briefly introduce yourself and say why you are suitable for the vacancy. For example, describe what experience you have already gained in your home country. Find out more about the company and describe why you would like to work there. Your cover letter should fit on one page. Sign your cover letter. There are many templates and aids on the Internet. It is important that you do not simply copy and paste. Your cover letter must suit you and the position.

Curriculum vitae: The CV lists all your experience and is structured like a large table. Write from when to when you worked at which company. Write where you completed your training or studies. Write where you went to school and what school-leaving qualification you obtained. You don't have to include a photo in your CV, but many companies like it if you do.

Certificates and supporting documents: It is important that you include copies of your certificates (no originals!). Certificates are your school-leaving certificate, your degree and work references from the past. The certificates should be in German or English, otherwise they should be translated. You should also send proof of internships, further training relevant to the job or certificates from your German course.

 The job advert will tell you how to apply. Please read it carefully.

In writing: Buy an application folder and put your cover letter, CV and certificates in it. Then send the application to the address given in the job advert.

E-mail: Many applications are now sent by e-mail. Combine your cover letter, CV and references into one PDF file and send this as an attachment to the e-mail. In the e-mail, write a short text addressed to the person who will receive your application.

Online: Large companies have their own website where you have to apply. You have to register there with your e-mail address and can then send your application there.

☐ You can find helpful tips for your application at planet-beruf.de.

☐ [Europass](https://europass.europa.eu) is a multilingual online portal (over 20 languages) that helps migrants to visualise their skills and knowledge. It offers the free opportunity to create a language passport or a CV using an online tool. You will also find important tips for good job applications on Europass.

Language exercises

☐ On the [VHS learning portal "I want to learn German"](https://www.vhs.de/learning-portal-i-want-to-learn-german) and the [Goethe-Institut](https://www.goethe-institut.de) website "[Deutsch für dich](https://www.goethe-institut.de/deutsch-fuer-dich)" you will find exercises on the subject of job applications and the world of work in general. This will help you learn about the world of work and improve your German language skills.

Have you applied and can you get the job?

Then the employer will contact you.

They will invite you to an interview.

At the interview, the employer wants to get to know you personally.

They may have questions about your CV.

Find out about the company before the interview.

You can go to the website, for example.

You may be asked questions such as:

- What do you know about our company?
- Why do you want to work here?

Think about what questions might be asked about your CV.

There may also be questions about your professional experience.

Prepare the answers to these questions.

You can also ask the employer questions if something is not clear to you.

This shows your interest and commitment.

Important: Make sure you arrive on time for the appointment!

You can find more tips and information on the subject of "job interviews" here:

www.arbeitsagentur.de

Forms of employment

There are different types of employment.

They differ in certain characteristics.

How much do you work?

Do you work full-time or part-time?

Full-time employment is usually between 38 and 40 hours per week.

This depends on the industry and the collective labour agreement.

The contributions for health insurance, unemployment insurance and pension insurance are shared.

One part is paid by the employee and one part by the employer.

In the case of part-time employment, the number of working hours varies.

The employee and employer discuss this.

They then write it in the employment contract.

Otherwise, however, the same rules apply as for a full-time position.

How long does the employment contract last?

Is it permanent or temporary?

Do you have an employment contract for a fixed term?

Then the contract ends automatically.

There does not need to be an extra notice of termination.

Otherwise, the same rules apply as for an open-ended contract.

What is your legal situation?

Are you a salaried employee?

Are you a temporary worker?

Are you an apprentice or trainee?

Or are you self-employed?

There is traditional work as a salaried employee.

But there is also the option of temporary work.

Here, people are hired by a temporary employment agency.

They are then "loaned out" to another company.

If you do an apprenticeship, special rules apply.

You get money for your training.

This is called a training allowance.

You only have to pay a small amount of money for pension insurance, health insurance, long-term care insurance and unemployment insurance.

If you are self-employed, you may have to register a business.

You then have to do this with the municipality.

This depends on what you want to do.

You also have to take care of your own health insurance and long-term care insurance.

And you have to take care of your pension provision.

Job loss

If you lose your job, there are a few things you need to do.

Register with the Employment Agency as a "jobseeker" within 3 days.

Have you lost your job?

Then you must inform the immigration office immediately.

You may then need a new identity document.

Actively try to find a new job.

For example, use the job exchange of the employment agency or other websites.

Have you **worked for at least 12 months** and paid social security contributions?

Then you can apply for unemployment benefit.

[Here](#) is the link to the "Taxes and social security contributions" section.

Important: You have given notice yourself?

Then you cannot receive unemployment benefit for up to 12 weeks.

Have you worked **for less than 12 months**?

Then your residence status is important.

If you have a residence permit or settlement permit, you will receive citizen's allowance.

You must contact the job centre for this.

If you have permission or toleration, you will receive asylum seeker benefits.

You must contact the social welfare office for this.

Seek advice from the Job Centre or the Employment Agency.

That way you are safe.

What benefits can you receive?

Health and care

In Germany, you are entitled to basic medical care for acute illnesses and pain. You are also entitled to every officially recommended immunisation and check-up. In addition, you are entitled to free medical services that are essential to safeguard your health. See 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 have any remaining medication or the package leaflet for your medication, bring this with you to the doctor's appointment. If you have already been to a doctor or hospital because of the illness, please also bring the results 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 will be entitled to the same benefits as all citizens in Germany.

The German healthcare system

The German healthcare system ensures that people receive medical care. Most people are covered by health insurance. The insurance covers the costs of visits to the doctor, medication and hospitalisation.

In Germany, many things are part of the healthcare system. There are three areas in the healthcare system:

1. outpatient medical care provided by doctors and pharmacies. Here, the patient goes to a doctor or pharmacy and then goes home again.

2. inpatient medical care through acute care in hospitals. The patient stays in hospital to be treated there.

3. health protection of the population through services provided by the health authorities.

The German healthcare system in 14 languages

[Here you](#) can find important information in 14 languages.

The public health department has the task of protecting people's health.

Here are some examples:

- Anonymous HIV tests
- Infection protection
- Examination before starting school

The public health department also has tasks to prevent people from becoming ill. For example, it provides information and counselling on health. The aim is to enable everyone in the district to lead a healthy life.

The health department organises many projects at schools. In these projects, children and young people learn in a playful way what is important for a healthy life.

You can find more information about the health department [here](#).

Emergency

An emergency is an acute threat to health. You should only contact an emergency doctor or the ambulance service in the event of an emergency or an acute health threat.

Emergency contacts

Police 📞 110

Fire brigade, rescue service 📞 112

Ambulance, emergency doctor 📞 112

💡 The emergency numbers on mobile phones always work, even if you have a prepaid card without credit/money!

Important information for an emergency call

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

Remain calm. Speak slowly and clearly so that you can be better understood. Do not end the call. The emergency call centre / police will end the call when all important information has been

transmitted.

■ Do not forget your identity card or proof of arrival when you go to hospital! If you are registered with a health insurance company, bring your insurance card with you.

■ As an asylum seeker, you may only go to hospital without a treatment voucher in an emergency. At the hospital, you must show that you are an asylum seeker with your proof of arrival. The costs will be covered by the social welfare office.

Doctors and pharmacies

Visiting a doctor

General practitioners and specialists

If you are ill, go to your family doctor. You can choose this yourself. You should therefore make an appointment if you need help from a GP.

GPs carry out important examinations and are your first point of contact in the event of illness. They also decide what medication you need and whether a specialist examination is necessary.

If necessary, your GP will refer you to a specialist who can carry out specialised examinations.

💡 If the practice is closed, the medical on-call service can help (telephone: [116 117](tel:116117)).

Paediatricians and paediatricians

Children are usually examined by paediatricians. Regular check-ups and vaccinations at the paediatrician are important for the health of every child. The prescribed check-ups are called "**U examinations**" and are always free of charge and at a specific time. Please take your child to a paediatrician to find out about the regular, prescribed U-examinations.

Dentists and dentists

If you have a toothache, go to a dentist.

Gynaecologists (female and male gynaecologists)

It is important that women are regularly examined by a gynaecologist. This allows diseases to be recognised in good time. This is called a check-up. You can also discuss the topic of contraception there.

💡 If you need help finding a suitable doctor, ask your helper organisation or your accommodation service.

If you are an asylum seeker and need to see a doctor, you will receive a treatment voucher from the local social welfare office. With this, the doctor's visit is free of charge for you.

[Brüggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Nettetal](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [City of Viersen](#), [Willich](#)

If an operation is necessary and it is not an emergency, the social welfare office must authorise the hospital stay in advance. Your doctor will issue you with a certificate to this effect. Only medically necessary operations can be covered.

Medication and pharmacies

If you need medication, you will receive a prescription from your doctor. You can obtain your medication with this prescription from any pharmacy. Even with a prescription, not all medicines are usually free of charge. Some medicines, such as antibiotics, require a prescription. This means that you cannot buy them without a prescription.

Pharmacies are usually open from Monday to Saturday. Opening hours vary depending on the pharmacy. If you need urgent medication at night or at the weekend, you will find a sign at every pharmacy with the name and address of the pharmacy that is open for emergency service. You can also find this information on the Internet.

Search for pharmacy emergency services: aponet.de

💡 As an asylum seeker, you will receive many medications without a co-payment. You should therefore ask your doctor.

💡 **If you do not have a prescription, you will always have to pay for the medication.**

Health insurance

Important: Everyone in Germany must have health insurance.

Health insurance is compulsory in Germany. Therefore, everyone must have health insurance. Some people become very ill in the course of their lives. Or they have an accident. The costs for doctors or hospital care can quickly become very expensive. That's why health insurance is very important. It covers most of the costs.

💡 Remember to take your insurance card with you when you are being treated by doctors or in hospital.

Insurance card

With the insurance card of a health insurance company, you can use medical services throughout Germany. The European Health Insurance Card is on the back. With this card, you are also covered in all EU states and many other countries in Europe.

On this [website](#) you **can** find out about the basics of the German healthcare system in German and English.

[Here you will find](#) all the important information about health insurance in 40 languages.

Refugees and asylum seekers need health insurance vouchers to be able to see a doctor. You can obtain these licences from your local social welfare office:

[Brüggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Nettetal](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [City of Viersen](#), [Willich](#)

Electronic patient file

Since 15 January 2025, there has been a new digital patient file in Germany. This is called the electronic patient file (ePA).

This file stores all important health data. For example, 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.

Contents of the electronic patient file:

- All important information from your visits to the doctor is automatically included in the ePA. For example, findings or diagnoses entered by the doctor.
- You can also enter information yourself. For example, your height or weight.
- There is an automatic overview of all the medication you are taking.

Pregnancy and birth

Pregnancy and birth

Pregnant women in Germany are under special protection and are entitled to counselling, a doctor and support with new purchases for the child.


If you are pregnant, you must first go to a gynaecologist. Have the check-ups carried out there. 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 record with you in case of emergencies.

Advice and help - pregnancy counselling

Sozialdienst kath. Frauen e.V.


 [Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@info@skf-viersen.de](mailto:info@skf-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21622498399](tel:+49(0)21622498399)

Emergency call for pregnant women in crisis situations

Working group "Mother-child health"

 [0173/2704000](tel:01732704000)

 weekdays from 9.00 - 12.00 and from 14.00 - 16.00

Midwife

Midwives support women and their families from the beginning of pregnancy to the end of breastfeeding. Midwives provide counselling during pregnancy. They can help with the birth, introduce breastfeeding after the birth and also take care of the woman's recovery.

Any woman can call on the help of a midwife. Most services are covered by health insurance.

 [Website Midwives Association](#)

Delivery and aftercare

Your gynaecologist will refer you to a maternity clinic. After the birth, ask there for a midwife or obstetrician for aftercare. You will receive a birth certificate from the clinic.

Notification to the registry office

Newborn children must be registered with the registry office. The maternity clinic will register the birth with the registry office. There you will receive the birth certificate for your child together with your ID and the birth certificate from the clinic.

Local registry offices:

[Brüggen](#), [Grefrath](#), [Kempen](#), [Niederkrüchten](#), [Nettetal](#), [Schwalmtal](#), [Tönisvorst](#), [City of Viersen](#), [Willich](#)

■ Please only submit original documents. An officially certified German translation is required for foreign-language documents.

If you live in shared accommodation, please provide your accommodation manager with a copy of your birth certificate so that your child can be registered.

Paediatricians and paediatricians

There are ten early detection examinations (U1-U9 and J1). This means that children are regularly examined and their development monitored up to the age of 6. The U1 (examination after birth) and U2 examinations usually take place in the clinic.

For further examinations, you must make an appointment with your paediatrician.

💡 Proof of complete early detection examinations **may** be requested when [registering for daycare](#).

💡 Further information and local contacts can be found in the brochure "[Schwanger im Kreis Viersen](#)" (pdf).

Counselling

Counselling services for families with children

Barbara Bovenschen | Heilpädagogisches Zentrum Krefeld-Kreis Viersen gGmbH

📍 [Kommunikationsstr. 8, 47807 Krefeld](#)

✉ b.bovenschen@hpzkrefeld.de


☎ [+49 \(0\) 15223130104](tel:+49(0)15223130104)

🌐 <https://www.hpz-krefeld-viersen.de/>

Kornelia Coenen | Heilpädagogisches Zentrum Krefeld-Kreis Viersen gGmbH

 [Kommunikationsstr. 8, 47807 Krefeld](https://www.krefeld.de/lokal/kommunikationsstr-8-47807-krefeld)

 k.coenen@hpzkrefeld.de

 [+49 \(0\) 1723867476](tel:+4901723867476)

 <https://www.hpz-krefeld-viersen.de/>

Aids counselling


Gesundheitsamt Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](https://www.kreis-viersen.de/lokal/rathausmarkt-3-41747-viersen)


 gesundheitsamt@kreis-viersen.de

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/gesundheit>

Suchtberatung "Kontakt, Rat und Hilfe" Viersen | Hauptstelle Viersen

 [Kreuzherrenstr. 17-19, 41751 Viersen](https://www.krh-online.de/lokal/kreuzherrenstr-17-19-41751-viersen)


 zentrale@krh-online.de

 [+49 \(0\) 216295110](tel:+490216295110)


 <https://www.krh-online.de/>


Suchtberatung "Kontakt, Rat und Hilfe" | Außenstelle Willich

 [Wilhelm-Hörmes-Straße 52, 47877 Willich](https://www.krh-online.de/lokal/wilhelm-hormes-strasse-52-47877-willich)

 [+49 \(0\) 021548147557](tel:+49021548147557)


Suchtberatung "Kontakt, Rat und Hilfe" | Außenstelle Kempen

 [An St. Marien 16, 47906 Kempen](https://www.krh-online.de/lokal/an-st-marien-16-47906-kempen)

 [+49 \(0\) 21528979929](tel:+49021528979929)

Suchtberatung "Kontakt, Rat und Hilfe" | Außenstelle Nettetal


 [Süchtelner Straße 1, 41334 Nettetal](https://www.krh-online.de/lokal/suechtelner-strasse-1-41334-nettetal)

 [+49 \(0\) 21531217828](tel:+49021531217828)

Sozialpsychiatrische Dienst Kreis Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](https://www.kreis-viersen.de/lokal/rathausmarkt-3-41747-viersen)

 spdi53@kreis-viersen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2162391507](tel:+4902162391507)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/gesundheit/so...>

Counselling for older people with mental health problems

Counselling for older people with mental health problems. These are, for example, people with dementia or depression.

Counselling is also available for associated people. For example, family, friends or neighbours. They are counselled about

- Mental illnesses (memory disorders, depression, dementia)
- Diagnosis and treatment
- Dealing with the illness
- Help and relief
- You can call the counselling centre if you need help or have questions.


 [0216289741666](tel:0216289741666) or

 [0 2162897 41228](tel:0216289741228)


Severely disabled person's ID card


People with a disability can apply for a severely disabled person's ID card in Germany. The ID card helps with employers, authorities or social benefit providers. The status 'severely disabled' gives people special rights. For example, special protection against dismissal, free travel on public transport or therapeutic services. A severely disabled person's ID card can be applied for from the city of Mönchengladbach.

Versorgungsamt | Schwerbehindertenausweise

 [Fliethstr. 86-88, 41050 Mönchengladbach](#)

 [@schwerbehindertenrecht@moenchengladbach.de](mailto:schwerbehindertenrecht@moenchengladbach.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2161250](tel:+4902161250)

 Telephone consultation hours


Mondays, Wednesdays: 1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Thursdays: 08.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

Children and youth hotline "Nummer gegen Kummer"

A nationwide telephone service for children and young people - free of charge and anonymous.

Nummer gegen Kummer

 [+49 \(0\) 800111033](tel:+490800111033)

 <https://www.nummergegenkummer.de/>


 Mondays to Saturdays: 2.00 - 8.00 p.m.

Women's counselling centres:


Women's counselling centres are facilities for women and girls aged 16 and over. The centres offer counselling sessions and help in difficult situations.


There is also telephone counselling. Counselling is available to all women. It doesn't matter which country the women come from or what they believe in.

Frauzentrum Viersen e.V.

 [Gladbacher Str. 25, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@frauzentrum-viersen@t-online.de](mailto:frauzentrum-viersen@t-online.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 216218716](tel:+490216218716)


 Open counselling: Mondays 16:30 - 18:00, Thursdays 9:00 - 10:30

Sozialdienst kath. Frauen e.V.

 [Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](#)


 [@info@skf-viersen.de](mailto:info@skf-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21622498399](tel:+49021622498399)

 Mondays to Thursdays: 9:00 - 12:30 and 14:00 - 16:30
Fridays 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

Frauenhaus Kreis Viersen

 [@frauenhaus@skf-viersen.de](mailto:frauenhaus@skf-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 2162814342](tel:+4902162814342)

Hilfetelefon „Gewalt gegen Frauen“

 [+49 \(0\) 8000116016](tel:+4908000116016)

 <https://www.hilfetelefon.de/>

The violence against women helpline advises women throughout Germany. It provides information and refers women to the right local support. The counsellors on the helpline provide advice on all forms of violence against women. With the help of translators, counselling is available in many languages.

Notruf für Schwangere in Krisensituationen | Arbeitsgemeinschaft "Mutter-Kind-Gesundheit"

 [+49 \(0\) 81732704000](tel:+49(0)81732704000)

 https://www.hilfetelefon-schwangere.de/?mtm_campa...

Breast cancer prevention

[Pink Ribbon](#) offers information on breast cancer screening in several languages.

The free [breastcare app](#) regularly reminds you to palpate your breasts. It also reminds you of necessary medical check-ups. You can record special things and changes in the notebook. Certified breast centres in the vicinity are displayed for the best medical care.

The app is available in 7 languages:

1. German
2. English, German
3. French, German
4. Spanish
5. Turkish
6. Arabic
7. Farsi

The app is available for [IOS](#) and [Android](#).

Instructions for breast palpation in different languages:

[German](#)

[English, German](#)

[Arabic](#)

[Farsi](#)


[French, German](#)

[Spanish](#)


[Turkish](#)

Counselling in parenting, couple and life issues

Evangelische Beratungsstelle Viersen | Diakonie Krefeld-Viersen

 [Hauptstr. 120, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@beratungsstelle-vie@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de](mailto:beratungsstelle-vie@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 216215030](tel:+49(0)216215030)

Vaccinations

Because of vaccinations, some diseases no longer exist in Germany, or only rarely. Nevertheless, it is important to be immunised so that you don't get sick yourself and spread diseases.

The best person to advise you on which vaccinations you need is your doctor.

How do vaccinations work?

During a vaccination, the body is specifically brought into contact with pathogens. These pathogens can no longer cause disease, but stimulate the immune system to produce its own defence substances.

The same thing happens in the body during vaccination as in the case of a natural disease: the body's own immune defence reacts by producing antibodies that later protect against the infectious disease in question. Certain vaccinations must be refreshed from time to time in order not to lose protection. (from Kassenärztliche Bundesvereinigung: Vaccinations - Questions and answers)

Further information for download

Information on vaccinations for children and adolescents can be found [here](#)

The currently recommended vaccinations can be found in the Robert Koch Institute's [vaccination calendar](#) in 20 different languages.

Flight and trauma

After a long, arduous journey from your home country, you may not be feeling well. Perhaps you have lost loved ones or had to endure physical pain. You may now be in a reasonably safe environment and can find some peace and quiet. Perhaps your soul will now come forward with one of the following questions:

- How can I go on living with my worries / my memories of stressful things?
- How can I continue to live with the current news from my home country?
- How can I continue to live with the homesickness for those who have stayed behind?

What can I do in the event of trauma?

Therapy is probably the best way to overcome trauma in the long term. A counselling centre or a doctor can provide you with more information about therapy options.

Unfortunately, professional therapy is often associated with a waiting period.

Immediate online help with Refugee Trauma Help

Online emergency help from Refugee Trauma Help can help to bridge the waiting time for professional therapy that may be necessary.

 Refugee Trauma Help: [refugee-trauma.help](https://www.refugee-trauma.help)

🗨️ Refugee Trauma Help is also of interest to refugee support groups. There they can find information on how they can support refugees with trauma.

Psychosocial Centre Mönchengladbach (PSZ)

The Mönchengladbach Psychosocial Centre offers professional counselling and therapy.

There you can talk about your experiences, fears and worries. The centre will also help you with questions about your asylum procedure. The PSZ offers counselling in many languages through interpreters.

📍 [Odenkirchener Str. 7, 41236 Mönchengladbach](#)

☎️ [02166 130 9766](tel:02166_130_9766)

✉️ [@psz@skm-ry.de](mailto:psz@skm-ry.de)

Registration forms in various languages can be downloaded:

[German](#)

[English](#)

[Arabic](#)

Care

Entitlement to long-term care in Germany

Anyone with statutory health insurance in Germany automatically has long-term care insurance. Long-term care insurance is there to cover the costs of caring for a person in need of care. To this end, it is checked whether and how a person is in need of care.

Who is in need of care is defined in a law (§15 SGB XI). It states that a person is only in need of long-term care if certain characteristics of a need for long-term care are fulfilled for at least 6 months. An example of this is: You or one of your relatives has had an accident and now needs support with care or everyday tasks for at least 6 months.

Care insurance can be used to employ a carer for this period. To do this, you or your relative must submit an application for the need for care.

The application for the need for care

The application for the need for long-term care is submitted via the long-term care insurance. You or your relatives can submit the application independently. To do this, you or your relatives call the health insurance company and ask to speak to the long-term care insurance fund.

As soon as the application has been received by the long-term care insurance fund, the long-term care insurance fund will commission the Medical Service. The Medical Service is there to determine the need for care. To do this, the Medical Service will arrange an appointment with you or your relatives. The Medical Service staff will then visit you or your relatives at home. They will ask questions to find out your current state of health. It is an unfamiliar situation and this can cause anxiety. Ask a trusted person if they can accompany you or your relative to the

appointment.

The care level awarded

As soon as the medical service has all the documents, the application for the need for care will be analysed. You or your relatives will receive the result in a letter. The health insurance company will also receive the result by letter. If the letter confirms a need for care, a care degree will be awarded.

A care level describes how much care you or your relatives need. There are a total of five care levels, which build on each other. Care level 1 means slightly in need of care and care level 5 means severely in need of care. Depending on the care level, the care insurance pays a fixed amount for care. You or your relatives decide who should provide the care.

Choose between professional care (care services) or a person from your family or circle of friends. If you or a relative takes over the care, the care insurance fund pays a contribution to the person receiving care. The amount from the care insurance fund can be used to pay the carer. The care services are paid directly by the care insurance.

If you or your relatives have any questions about counselling in old age and the need for care, please contact us. Further information can be found on the Viersen district website or directly [here](#).

Information on care services is available in the following flyer in 18 languages:

[Arabic.pdf](#)

[Bulgarian.pdf](#)

[German.pdf](#)

[English.pdf](#)

[Farsi.pdf](#)

[French.pdf](#)

[Greek.pdf](#)

[Italian.pdf](#)

[Croatian.pdf](#)

[Kurmanji.pdf](#)

[Polish.pdf](#)

[Portuguese.pdf](#)

[Romanian.pdf](#)

[Russian.pdf](#)

[Sorani.pdf](#)

[Spanish.pdf](#)

[Turkish.pdf](#)

[Ukrainian.pdf](#)

Long-term care insurance

If you have statutory health insurance, you are automatically covered by long-term care insurance. You can find more information about health insurance [here](#).

If you have private health insurance, you also need private long-term care insurance.

Long-term care insurance helps you if you are no longer able to wash, shop or do the housework on your own for a long time - for example, because your body or head can no longer cope.

How much help you receive depends on how difficult and how long you need help. To this end, an assessment is made of how well you can still cope with everyday life on your own. This is called a care assessment. This is carried out by a team from the Medical Service. You can find more information about this [here](#) in several languages.

Depending on how much help you need, you will be given a care level. With this level of care, you will then receive certain assistance from the long-term care insurance. A [list of the assistance](#) is also available in several languages.

You can find more information on care and care insurance at the [Federal Ministry of Health](#).

If you need help or care, you can speak to an advice centre free of charge. They will help you.

Precaution

For many illnesses, the chances of recovery are better if the illness is recognised early.

Even if you feel completely healthy, you go for a check-up.

During a preventive medical check-up ("screening"), an examination is carried out to see if there are any abnormalities in your body.

For example, women are examined to see if there are any hardenings in their breasts.

After the examination, the doctor will discuss the results with you.

There are different screening examinations for women, men and children.

There are different check-ups for different ages

Examples: Dental health, breast cancer, bowel cancer, sexually transmitted diseases.

If you are pregnant, there are special check-ups.

You can find more information about pregnancy [here](#)

Important: Ask your health insurance provider before the examination whether the costs will be covered.

You can find an overview of preventive medical check-ups [here](#).

Further information on early detection and preventive care for women can be [found here](#).

Mental illnesses

If you are mentally unwell, the social psychiatric service can help you. It looks after people with mental illnesses.

There are various mental illnesses. For example:

- Anxiety.

- Depression.
- Suicidal thoughts.
- Drug addiction.

Help is available here:


Sozialpsychiatrische Dienst Kreis Viersen

- [📍 Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)
- @spdi53@kreis-viersen.de
- [☎ +49 2162391507](tel:+492162391507)
- [🌐 https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/gesundheit/so...](https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/gesundheit/so...)

Psychiatrische Hilfgemeinschaft Viersen e.V.


- [📍 Große Bruchstr. 28-30, 41747 Viersen](#)
- @verwaltung@phg-viersen.de
- [☎ +49 21622662980](tel:+4921622662980)
- [🌐 https://www.phg-viersen.de/](https://www.phg-viersen.de/)

Telephone counselling for children and young people:

 Number against grief

[☎ 116 111](tel:116111)

Anonymous and free counselling for crises:

 Telephone counselling

[☎ 116 123](tel:116123)

Psychosocial counselling for refugees

Some people who have had to flee have suffered trauma. Some refugees have become ill as a result of their experiences.

There are counselling centres for these people:

Psychosoziale Beratung für geflüchtete Menschen in Mönchengladbach

- [📍 Waisenhausstraße 22c, 41236 Mönchengladbach](#)
- [🌐 https://psz-mg.de/](https://psz-mg.de/)

There are many services for children and young people who are experiencing difficulties. We have summarised a selection of services that you can turn to here.

Crisis chat - help around the clock via chat

The crisis chat is always available - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Well-trained counsellors will help you via confidential text messages.
The crisis chat is free of charge and there are no long waiting times.

How the crisis chat works:

1. Go to www.krisenchat.de
2. Start a chat
3. Write about your problems
4. A counsellor will answer you quickly

"Number against grief" for children and young people up to the age of 20

The counsellors listen to you and take your concerns seriously. You can talk about any topic.
The counselling is free, anonymous and confidential. Young counsellors aged 16-21 also offer advice on Saturdays.


 [116 111](tel:116111)

 Monday to Saturday: 14:00 to 20:00

 www.numm.ergegenkummer.de

U25 Germany - email counselling for young people in serious crises

U25 is free, anonymous and helps you with serious crises and suicidal thoughts. You write emails with the counsellors. They take a lot of time for detailed discussions. Free counselling slots are not always available - if you need help quickly, use other services that you can also find on this page.

 www.u25-deutschland.de and click on "Write a helpmail"

JugendNotmail - Professional email counselling for children and young people in difficult situations

JugendNotmail is a free online counselling service run by volunteer experts. They are trained in psychology and social pedagogy. JugendNotmail is confidential and anonymous. You will be given a nickname. Jugendnotmail will try to answer you within 24 to 48 hours, i.e. within a maximum of 2 days. They will help you with counselling on topics such as depression, self-harm and violence.

 www.jugendnotmail.de click on "Start now" and register.

bke online counselling - support for young people aged 14-21

You've come to the right place for small and big worries, arguments or trouble with parents, problems with yourself, with friends or at school. You've come to the right place for heartache and secrets that are on your mind. At the bke youth counselling service, you will find many other young people with whom you can talk and experienced counsellors who will support you.

In the **email counselling** service, you can write your thoughts and worries in peace without any time pressure. They will respond to your first enquiry within 48 hours (on working days) at the

latest. You will always stay with the same counsellor during the counselling session. Completely confidential and readable.

 You can register at <https://www.bke-beratung.de/jugendberatung/online...>

In **chat counselling**, you have several options to get in touch with the counselling team immediately and directly: In the live chat without registration, in the individual chat counselling with registration and in the group or topic chat. In the group and topic chats, you can talk to other young people as well as the counsellors.

 <https://www.bke-beratung.de/jugendberatung/chatte...> You can also find the opening hours of the chats here 

Disability

Disability? What is disability?

If a person is permanently unable to participate in society in many areas, this is called a disability. This can happen if someone is physically, mentally, psychologically or sensory impaired for a long time. Obstacles in the environment can also make it difficult to participate.

Every person with a disability, disadvantage or mental illness should have the opportunity to participate in society. This is particularly important at a young age, for example at school and during training.

Is a disability an illness?

A disability is not an illness - but an illness can be the reason for a disability.

In fact, only three per cent of all disabilities are congenital. 89 per cent of disabilities occur in the course of life due to illness. Other causes can be accidents.

What types of disabilities are there?

There are many different types of disability. They can be categorised as follows:

- physical disability
- mental disability
- mental / psychological disability
- learning disability
- Sensory disability (blindness, deafness, hearing impairment)
- Speech impediment

What is the "degree of disability" / GdB?

The degree of disability expresses how severe a disability is. This ranges from 20 to 100 in increments of ten, with a degree of disability of 50 or more. People who are diagnosed with a severe disability can apply for a severely disabled person's pass. This card gives you special rights, e.g. better protection against dismissal in an employment relationship.

Free telephone counselling for refugees with disabilities and their relatives is available [here](#)

Do you work and need disability-related technical work aids or personal assistance? [The Viersen District Specialist Centre for Disabled People in Working Life](#) can advise and support you.

Applying for a severely disabled person's pass

People with a degree of disability of 50 or more receive a severely disabled person's pass.

Anyone who has the card is under special protection. They also receive benefits. For example


- Tax relief.
- Concessions on buses and trains.
- Housing benefits.

The Versorgungsamt is responsible for issuing and changing the ID cards for the city of Mönchengladbach and the district of Viersen.

Versorgungsamt

 [Fliethstr. 86-88, 41050 Mönchengladbach](#)

 @schwerbehindertenrecht@moenchengladbach.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2161250](tel:+49(0)2161250)

Counselling and support

From the age of 18: Municipal Integration Management (KIM)

The Municipal Integration Management offers help for people with a history of immigration in the district of Viersen.

The aim of KIM is to

To make access to education, work and housing easier.

This means that everyone should be able to participate - at school, at work and in everyday life.

What KIM offers:

- Personal counselling on topics such as work, education, language and health.
- Help with forms and applications.
- Referrals to advice centres, courses or services in the district of Viersen.
- Video interpreters: This allows conversations to be held in many languages.

Important information:

- Counselling is voluntary - nobody has to attend.
- Counselling is free of charge - you do not have to pay anything.
- The counselling is confidential - all conversations remain private.
- The counselling service is available to all people with a history of immigration.

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

@kim@kreis-viersen.de

[+49 \(0\) 2162391643](tel:+49(0)2162391643)

<https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>

12-27 years: Youth Migration Service (JMD)

The Youth Migration Service, JMD for short, is a counselling centre in the district of Viersen. It is there for young people with a history of immigration. This means young people and young adults between the ages of 12 and 27 who have come to Germany from another country.

The JMD helps them to settle in well in Germany. It helps them to find their way in everyday life, for example at school, in training or at work. The aim is for young immigrants to live well with other people and become part of society.

Services offered by the JMD:

- Individual counselling on school, training, work and residence
- Help with language acquisition and job applications
- Support in dealing with authorities
- Group programmes to strengthen social skills

Counselling is free, confidential and multilingual. It is possible and recommended to make an appointment.

Rita Neumann

[Süchtelner Str. 5-7, 41747 Viersen](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Süchtelner+Str.+5-7,+41747+Viersen)

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[+49 \(0\) 21621029570](tel:+49(0)21621029570)

<https://www.jugendmigrationsdienste.de/jmd/viersen>

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[+49 \(0\) 1757246495](tel:+49(0)1757246495)

<https://www.jugendmigrationsdienste.de/jmd/viersen>

From the age of 27: Migration counselling for adult immigrants (MBE)

Migration counselling helps adults aged 27 and over who have come to Germany from another country.


They can receive counselling if they are allowed to stay in Germany.

The counselling costs nothing - it is free of charge.


The migration counselling service provides support on many everyday issues:

- Authorities: Help with understanding letters or notices. Explanation of what you need to do.
- Residence: Information on residence permits and rights in Germany.
- Work: Support with work permits, job searches and applications.
- Money and applications: Help with filling out forms.
- Language: Information on integration courses and German courses.
- Qualifications: Help if you have school or university qualifications from your country of origin.
- Education and social affairs: Explanation of how school, training, work and insurance work in Germany.
- Living in Germany: Information about life and rules here.
- Family reunification: Support if family members want to come to Germany.

Youssef Meskour

 [Hauptstraße 120, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@youssef-meskour@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de](mailto:youssef-meskour@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21628178712](tel:+49(0)21628178712)

 <https://diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de/unsere-angebo...>


Local offers

Would you like to volunteer? Please get in touch!

Daniela Seipelt | Ehrenamt & Engagement

 [Rathausmarkt 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

[@daniela.seipelt@kreis-viersen.de](mailto:daniela.seipelt@kreis-viersen.de)


 [+49 \(0\) 2162391143](tel:+49(0)2162391143)

 <https://www.kreis-viersen.de/themen/soziales/komm...>


Bruges

Offers from local volunteers.


Volunteers help people who are new to Germany. They explain everyday life and help them learn the language. They accompany people to appointments and listen to them. These services make it easier to settle in and build trust.

 [Narzissenweg 11, 41379 Brüggen](#)


[@info@kab-bracht.de](mailto:info@kab-bracht.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21577204](tel:+49(0)21577204)

Flüchtlingshilfe Brüggen

 [Stiegstraße 24, 41379 Brüggen](#)

[@Gefluechtetenberatungbrueggen@web.de](mailto:Gefluechtetenberatungbrueggen@web.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21578949704](tel:+49(0)21578949704)

Grefrath


DINGENS youth centre

Contact point for mobile youth work


Frau Brinkmann | Leitung und pädagogische Fachkraft

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)

[@joyce.brinkmann@grefrath.de](mailto:joyce.brinkmann@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 1751538064](tel:+49(0)1751538064)

Frau Splinter | Sozialarbeit

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)


[@tatjana.splinter@grefrath.de](mailto:tatjana.splinter@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 15157149314](tel:+49(0)15157149314)


Herr Ulbrich | Sozialarbeit

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)


[@jan-pirco.ulbrich@grefrath.de](mailto:jan-pirco.ulbrich@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 1754300833](tel:+49(0)1754300833)

Frau Frühling | Partizipation von Kindern und Jugendlichen

 [Rathausplatz 5, 47929 Grefrath](#)

[@melissa.fruehling@grefrath.de](mailto:melissa.fruehling@grefrath.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 15121931961](tel:+49(0)15121931961)

Opening hours

Mondays and Tuesdays Counselling appointments by arrangement

Wednesdays and Thursdays 16.00 - 21.00 hrs
1st to 3rd Friday of the month: 19.00 - 23.00 (from 16 years)
Saturdays 14.00 - 20.00 hrs

Outside the box

Monika von Söhnen

 [An der Ev. Kirche 25, 47929 Grefrath](#)


@grefrath@ueberdentellerrand.org

Kempen

SKM - Catholic Association for Social Services Viersen District e.V

 [Von-Loe-Str. 24-26, 47906 Kempen](#)

@info@skm-viersen.de


 [+49 \(0\) 21519929600](tel:+49(0)21519929600)

KEMPEN HILFT

Kempen Hilft | Ehrenamt

 [Hohenzollernplatz 19c, 47906 Kempen](#)

@kempenhilft@kempen.de

 [+49 \(0\) 2152962170](tel:+49(0)2152962170)

 <https://www.kempenhilft.de/>

Meeting café Kempen

Begegnungscafé Kempen

 [Wachtendonker Straße 4, 47906 Kempen](#)

@begegnungscafe.kempen@ekir.de

Niederkrüchten

Volunteer counselling

Volunteers help people who are new to Germany. They explain everyday life and help them learn the language. They accompany people to appointments and listen to them. These services make it easier to settle in and build trust.

Flüchtlingshilfe Niederkrüchten

[📍 Dr. Lindemann Str. 7, 41372 Niederkrüchten](#)

@fluechtlingshilfe.nk@gmail.com

Schwalmtal

Schwalmtal asylum centre

The Schwalmtal Asylum Circle offers help to refugees. Counselling, discussions, support, sometimes also material assistance.

The bicycle workshop helps people to get a bicycle and thus more mobility.

[📄 asylkreis-schwalmtal.de](http://asylkreis-schwalmtal.de)

Christian Rosendahl | Sankt Matthias Schwalmtal, Beratung und Betreuung von ausländischen Flüchtlingen

@asyl-schwalmtal@t-online.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 1727284663](tel:+49(0)1727284663)

[🌐 https://st-matthias-schwalmtal.de/](https://st-matthias-schwalmtal.de/)

Consultation hours:

[📍 Dülkener Straße 202, 43166 Schwalmtal](#)

[🕒](#) Mondays 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.; Wednesdays 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.; Fridays 9.00 - 11.00 a.m.

Tönisvorst

SKM Kreis Viersen e.V.

Sarah Almati | Sozialarbeit

[📍 Industriestr. 5, 47918 Tönisvorst](#)

@s.almati@skm-viersen.de

[☎ +49 \(0\) 15111687170](tel:+49(0)15111687170)

[🌐 https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/](https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/)

Ines Osho | Sozialarbeit

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[☎ +49 \(0\) 16098048842](tel:+49(0)16098048842)

[🌐 https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/](https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/)

Viersen

SKM Kreis Viersen e.V.

Helena Jansen | Flüchtlingssozialdienst

 [Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@h.jansen@skm-viersen.de](mailto:h.jansen@skm-viersen.de)

 [+49 1784477473](tel:+491784477473)

 <https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/>

Philipp Schütt | Flüchtlingssozialdienst

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 [+49 1784477496](tel:+491784477496)


 <https://www.skm-viersen.de/migration/>

**Sozialdienst kath. Frauen e.V. Viersen: Café Agnes - open meeting place for
refugee women and their children**

 [Hildegardisweg 3, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@info@skf-viersen.de](mailto:info@skf-viersen.de)

 [+49 21622498399](tel:+4921622498399)


 Thursdays 09.30-12.15 hrs

Integration agency Diakonie Krefeld & Viersen

Angeliki Asimakopoulou

 [Hauptstraße 120, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@angeliki-asimakopoulou@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de](mailto:angeliki-asimakopoulou@diakonie-krefeld-viersen.de)


 [+49 21628178711](tel:+4921628178711)

City of Viersen

Nina Himmelpach-Fischer | Integrationsteam der Stadt Viersen

 [Rathausmarkt 1, 41747 Viersen](#)

 [@integration@viersen.de](mailto:integration@viersen.de)

 [+49 2162101407](tel:+492162101407)

[🌐https://www.viersen.de/unsere-stadt/gesellschaft-...](https://www.viersen.de/unsere-stadt/gesellschaft-...)

Sumru Özbas-Furunci | Integrationsteam der Stadt Viersen

📍 [Rathausmarkt 1, 41747 Viersen](#)

✉️ @integration@viersen.de

☎️ [+49 2162101407](tel:+492162101407)

🌐 <https://www.viersen.de/unsere-stadt/gesellschaft-...>

Mosaik e.V.

Recep Eroglu

📍 [Kränkelsweg 13, 41747 Viersen](#)

✉️ @info@mosaikamniederrhein.de

🌐 <https://mosaikamniederrhein.de/kontakt/>

Sonnenschein e.V.

Elena Rollmann

📍 [Bergstr. 29, 41749 Viersen](#)

✉️ @sonne-15@gmx.de

☎️ [+49 17643489369](tel:+4917643489369)

🌐 <https://sonnenschein-viersen.de/kontakt.html>

Evangelische Kirchengemeinde Viersen | Flüchtlingshilfe

📍 [Hauptstr. 124, 41747 Viersen](#)

✉️ @viersen@ekir.de

☎️ [+49 2162939900](tel:+492162939900)


🌐 <https://www.evangelischinviersen.de/?p=5000>

Willich


Arbeitskreis Fremde in der Stadt Willich e.V.

The AkF Willich offers German courses, projects and a bicycle workshop.

Arbeitskreis Fremde in der Stadt Willich e.V. | Ehrenamt

 [Hochstr. 6, 47877 Willich](#)


 [@buero@akf-willich.de](mailto:buero@akf-willich.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 21548138296](tel:+49(0)21548138296)

 <https://www.akf-willich.de/>

KuKt - Internationaler Kunst- und Kulturtreff in Willich e.V

KuKt - internationaler Kunst- und Kulturtreff in Willich e.V.


 [Peterstr. 16, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@info@kukt-willich.de](mailto:info@kukt-willich.de)


 <https://kukt-willich.de/>

Cultural Forum Willich

Beate Krempe | 1. Vorsitzende

 [Bahnstr. 14, 47877 Willich](#)

 [@krempe@kulturforum-willich.com](mailto:krempe@kulturforum-willich.com)

 [+49 \(0\) 215640394](tel:+49(0)215640394)

 <https://www.kulturforum-willich.com/>