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Education, Work und University Studies

Information on training, work and study

Would you like to work in Germany? Then you need to know: How can I work in Germany? And where can I get help? You can find everything you need to know about work and jobs here: [Access to the labour market](#)

Have you already obtained a qualification abroad? For example, a school-leaving qualification or a professional qualification? Then you need to have the qualification recognised here in Germany. You can find out how to do this on the page: [Recognising foreign qualifications](#).

There are over 400 different professions in Germany. Do you want to learn a profession? Then you can find information on [training](#) here. For example: How can I do an apprenticeship? What professions are there?

Children and young people have to go to school. They must be at least 6 years old for this. Children and young people go to [general school](#). There they learn for their future life. For example, so that they can learn a profession. Or: so that they can graduate from a university.

Do you want to catch up on your school-leaving qualifications in Germany (for adults)? [Here](#) you have the opportunity to catch up on a school-leaving qualification or obtain a higher school-leaving qualification. You can catch up on your Abitur [here](#).

Do you want to study? Then you can find information about [studying](#) here. And you can see which people you can contact.

[The education atlas](#) is an overview of all education programmes for new immigrants in the Lahn-Dill district.

Looking for work

Access to the Job Market

Regulations on access to the job market

👥 Do you come from an EU country? Do you now live in Germany? And would you like to work? Then it's easy for you to do so. Any EU citizen can work in Germany. Without any restrictions.

👥 Are you a refugee in Germany? Then your residence status is important. It decides whether you are allowed to work. The following explains what to expect. You will also find information on related advice centres below.

👥 Asylum seekers with proof of arrival or residence permit:
Are you living in an Initial Reception Centre (EAE)? Or in an AnKER centre? Then you are not allowed to work at all for 9 months. After 9 months, you will normally be allowed to work. However, the decision is always made by the Immigration Office (Ausländerbehörde). So you must submit an application to the Immigration Office. There are certain rules you must follow.

In order for the Immigration Office to decide, you must meet the following requirements:

👥 Asylum seekers with proof of arrival or residence permit in AnKER or EAE:

- 9-month ban on working
- After 9 months, you are entitled to work. That is if you do not come from a safe country of origin. Or your asylum application must have been rejected by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge – BAMF) as obviously without reason.
- The priority check is not applicable. However, the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) will check the working conditions.

👥 Asylum seekers with proof of arrival or residence permit outside AnKER or EAE:

- 3-month ban on working
- Do you not come from a safe country of origin? Did you make your asylum application after 31 August 2015? Then the Immigration Office will decide.
- Do you not come from a safe country of origin? Did you make your asylum application after 31 August 2015? Or has your asylum application been rejected as being without reason? Then you have the right to work after 9 months.
- The priority check is not applicable. However, the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) will check the working conditions.

👥 Tolerated persons:

It is always the [Immigration Office \(Ausländerbehörde\)](#) that decides whether you are allowed to work or not. So you must submit an application to the Immigration Office. The Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) can impose a general work ban on you. There are certain rules you must follow.

Tolerated persons in AnKER:

- Do you not come from a safe country of origin? Did you make your asylum application after 31 August 2015? Does your exceptional leave to remain (Duldung) last for 6 months? Then the Immigration Office will decide if you are allowed to work.
- Persons with an exceptional leave to remain (Duldung) because of unclear identity (§ 60b AufenthG) are always prohibited from working.
- The priority check is not applicable. However, the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) will check the working conditions.

Tolerated persons outside AnKER:

- 3-month ban on working
- Do you not come from a safe country of origin? Did you make your asylum application after 31 August 2015? Does your exceptional leave to remain (Duldung) last for 3 months? Then the Immigration Office will decide if you are allowed to work.
- Persons with an exceptional leave to remain (Duldung) because of unclear identity (§ 60b AufenthG) are always prohibited from working
- The priority check is not applicable. However, the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) will check the working conditions.

Refugees with residence permits (Aufenthaltserlaubnis):

If you have been recognised by the BAMF as a person entitled to asylum, a refugee or a person entitled to subsidiary protection, the [Foreigners' Registration Office](#) will grant you a residence permit. This entitles you to do any kind of job and therefore also gives you full access to the job market.

 There are different rules for [self-employment](#)! A prerequisite for the above applications is ALWAYS a definitive job offer.


Advice centres for refugees

The following contact persons are specifically for refugees in need of counselling or employment opportunities - here, too, there are differences depending on whether your asylum procedure is still ongoing or whether you are recognised or tolerated.


Department for Education and Work, Local Authority:

You can get general information on internships, employment, training and work here.

 [Refugee Office Wetzlar, Karl-Kellner-Ring 19-21, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

 Office hours Mondays, 10.00 to 12.00

 [Dillenburg Refugee Office, Berliner Straße 42, Dillenburg](#)

 Office hours Thursdays, 13.30 to 16.30

Employment Agency:

 [Sophienstraße 19, 35576 Wetzlar](#)


 [Moritzstraße 17, 35683 Dillenburg](#)

 <https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/vor-ort/limburg-wet...>

Lahn-Dill Local Job Centre:

If you have any questions, please contact the Refugee and Migration Unit.

 [Eduard-Kaiser-Strasse 38, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

 [0644121075120](tel:0644121075120)

 FS_Fluechtlinge@jobcenter-lahn-dill.de/

Employment contract

Anyone who starts a job gets an employment contract. It governs the most important conditions of your work. It explains when you work, how much holiday you get, and how much you are paid. Both sides – workers and employers – must abide by these agreements. When you sign the contract, it becomes legally binding. So you should only sign it once you fully understand its content.

Types of contracts:

Permanent job contract (Unbefristeter Arbeitsvertrag)

Usually, there is a probationary period of three or six months. During this period, employment

can be terminated within two weeks. The employer may terminate the employment agreement. As an employee, you may also resign. At the end of the probationary period, permanent employment begins. This gives you longer protection against dismissal. Working hours are usually up to 40 hours a week.

Fixed-term employment contract (Befristeter Arbeitsvertrag)

The employment ends at the agreed time, without the need for notice of resignation.

Minijob

The maximum monthly salary is € 520 and is not taxed.

Labour law:

There are numerous laws that regulate and ensure the rights of employees in Germany. These include:

- Regulation of working time
- Minimum wage
- Leave claim
- Protection against dismissal
- Representation of interests in the workplace (Works council)
- Trade union labour regulations
- and a few more

Taxes and social security payments:

Every employee in Germany pays part of his or her salary in taxes. These fund federal, state and local government spending. Employers, in turn, are obliged to pay social security contributions for their employees. These social security contributions fund the German social system. This system guarantees that you receive money from the state if you are unemployed.

Tax ID number:

Your tax ID is an 11-digit number and is used for income tax purposes. The number applies throughout your life. The number allows the authorities to identify you at all times. Your employer needs this number. Do you not have this number in any of your documents? Then you can get it in person from the registration office (Meldebehörde). Or you can fill out a form and send it to the Federal Tax Office ([Bundesamt für Steuern](#)).

Social security number:

For a job, you need a social security number. This can be obtained from your health insurer (for example AOK, DAK).

Illegal work:

You have paid work. But this work is not registered with the Tax Office (Finanzamt) or a health insurance provider. So you do not pay any taxes or social security contributions. This is

illegal. It can be punished with fines and prison! Do you receive social benefits or unemployment benefit? Despite this, are you working? And have you not told the Social Welfare Office (Sozialamt), the Employment Agency (Arbeitsagentur) or the Job Centre about it? This is **illegal** too. It means you are wrongly receiving state benefits, even though you are in paid employment.

Job applications and interviews

Would you like to start professional training or get a job in Germany? Then you need to make a written application.

Many companies place job advertisements. Either in newspapers or online. The company is therefore looking for new employees. The job advertisement describes what type of work or professional training it involves. It also states what the company expects from its employees. It includes information about where and how to apply.

Have you been invited to a job interview? Then the company is interested in you. The job interview is a chance for you to get to know each other. Please give yourself enough time to get to the interview. It's crucial that you arrive on time. It's best to prepare for the interview in detail beforehand. This might include finding out important information about the company. Visit the website and read through the company's history. Find out about their products or services. Do you want to show that you're interested in the job? Then you should ask questions during the interview. This will show that you are familiar with the company. And it will show that you are motivated.

An application usually consists of three parts:

Cover letter: Your personal cover letter briefly introduces yourself. You should say why you're suitable for the vacant position. For example, describe what previous experience you have gained in your home country. Find out about the company and explain why you want to work there. Your covering letter should fit on one page. Sign your covering letter. There are many templates and guides online. It is important not simply to copy something you find. Your cover letter needs to be unique to you and suitable for the position.

Curriculum vitae (CV): The CV lists all your experience. It is structured in the form of a large table. Write when you started and stopped working at each company. Include where you undertook training or a course of studies. Specify where you went to school and what type of qualification you left with. You do not have to include a photo in your CV, but many companies prefer it if you do.

Credentials and references: It is very important that you include copies of your credentials and references in the application (do not send the original documents!). They include your school-leaving certificate, your university degree and any job references from the past. They should be in German or English – if they are not, you should have them translated. You should also send certificates from any internships, work-relevant professional development courses, or German courses you have taken.

💡 The job advert provides information about how to apply. Please read it carefully.

Written (hard copy) applications: Buy a nice application folder and insert your cover letter, CV, and credentials and references. Then mail the application to the address mentioned in the job advertisement.

E-mail: These days, many applications are sent by email. Bring your covering letter, your CV and your certificates and references together into a single PDF file. Add the PDF file as an attachment to the email. Write a short text in the email to the person who will receive your application.

Online: Large companies have their own website through which you have to apply. You need to register with your email address before you can send your application through the website.

🌐 You can find some more helpful tips for your application at [Planet Beruf \("Planet Career"\)](#).

🌐 [Europass](#) is a multilingual (more than 20 languages) online platform that helps migrants make their skills and expertise obvious to others. It provides you with the opportunity to create a language passport or a CV using a free online tool. You can also find important tips on writing good applications on Europass.

🌐 You can have a free CV and cover letter created here: [Bewerbung.net](#), [StepStone](#) or [Lebenslauf2go](#). You may also be able to import your data from Xing or LinkedIn. It is also possible to write your own text within the template or import files.

🌐 You can find more information and templates for cover letters and CVs here: [Bewerbung2go](#), [BewerbungsWissen](#), [Karrierebibel](#)

Language practice

🌐 You can find exercises for practising job applications and general aspects of starting a career on the [VHS learning portal "I want to learn German"](#) and on the [Goethe-Institut's website "German for you"](#). You can learn more about the professional world and improve your German language skills.

Looking for Work - Advice and Help

The following Lahn-Dill district organisations will support you in all aspects of your job search:

🌐 **Employment Agency**

📍 [Sophienstraße 19, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

📍 [Moritzstraße 17, 35683 Dillenburg](#)

🌐 **Local Job Centre Lahn-Dill**

📍 [Eduard-Kaiser-Straße 38, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

📍 [Wilhelmstraße 18-22, 35683 Dillenburg](#)

🌐 **District Administration, Office for Education and Labour**

📍 [Refugee Office Wetzlar, Karl-Kellner-Ring 55, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

📍 [Dillenburg Refugee Office, Berliner Straße 42, 35683 Dillenburg](#)

Immigration of Skilled Workers

Information

There is a law in Germany. The aim of this law is to make it easier for skilled workers to come to Germany. These skilled workers have vocational training. They are not academics. There

are already laws governing immigration of these people to Germany.

🌐 This and more information can also be found on the page [Make it in Germany](#)

🌐 Here you can also perform a [quick test](#) to see your possibilities!

International nursing staff

International nursing staff for Hesse

Have you completed training in the field of nursing and healthcare abroad? Would you like to work in your profession in Hesse?

We will be happy to advise you! On recognition, language courses, knowledge tests, preparatory courses or adaptation programmes. The PQZ Hessen will support you from recognition to successful integration with your new employer. We will discuss your individual requirements and clarify your questions. Our counselling is free of charge.

📍 [PQZ Hessen, Zu den Sandbeeten 5, 35043 Marburg](#)

☎ [06421985484](tel:06421985484)

@ PQZ-Hessen@integral-online.de

🕒 Monday - Thursday, 08:00 - 16:00, Friday, 08:00 - 12:00

Welcome Centre Hesse

WELCOMECENTER HESSEN - Start your career in Hessen!

Information and support for: international workers, specialists and managers, trainees and students.

Are you new to Hessen? Then you probably have a lot of questions about living and working in your new home. For example:

- German courses in the neighbourhood
- Searching for work
- Visa support
- Preparation of your application documents
- Preparation for a job interview

Then you've come to the right place! We also offer workshops on various topics.

We are happy to help. Free of charge in German, English, Spanish and Kiswahili.

We are also happy to advise Hessian companies, businesses and administrations.

Contact us by e-mail or telephone.

We will be happy to advise you personally.

🌐 <https://www.work-in-hessen.de/welcomecenter-he>

🌐 [Current offers 2022](#)

@

info@welcomecenterhessen.com

☎ [06997172122](tel:06997172122) or [08006665788](tel:08006665788)

In addition to the workshops, there are regular online get-togethers! We look forward to your enquiry!

Your WELCOMECENTER Hessen

For employers

Accelerated skilled labour procedure: Employers need an authorisation from the skilled worker. This allows you to initiate an accelerated skilled worker procedure. You do this at the responsible immigration authority. The company concludes an agreement with the authority. All parties involved agree on what the employer, the skilled worker and the authorities may and must do. The agreement describes the procedures.

💡 The **fees** amount to 411 euros. There is also a visa fee of 75 euros. As well as all other fees incurred (certified copies, translations).

The foreigners authority advises the employer. It provides support to ensure that the foreign qualifications of the skilled worker are recognised. The foreigners authority obtains the approval of the Federal Employment Agency. It checks what is required for the visa to be issued. The recognition centres only have a certain amount of time before they have to make a decision. So does the Federal Employment Agency.

💡 Have all the **requirements** been met? Then the foreigners authority issues a so-called preliminary approval. The employer can forward this to the skilled worker. The skilled worker then books an appointment with the diplomatic mission abroad. The visa is applied for at this appointment. At this appointment, the skilled worker must present the original pre-approval. The skilled worker must also bring the other documents required for the visa application.

Have you submitted the complete **visa application** from the skilled worker? Then a decision will be made within three weeks.

💡 The **family of** the skilled worker can also be considered. The application must be submitted at the same time. The family must fulfil the requirements for family reunification.

For skilled workers

💡 **Definition of skilled worker:** Do you have a university degree? Or have you completed professional training? Did this training last at least two years? Does it mean you are qualified for a profession? Then you are a skilled worker. Do you want to be officially recognised as a skilled worker? Then you need to make an application. Your qualifications must be recognised by the relevant body in Germany.

🌐 <https://kultusministerium.hessen.de/Schulsystem/Internationales/Internationale-Bildungsnachweise>

Looking for Work

Entering the labour market:

Entry into the labour market will be made easier: As a skilled worker, you need to demonstrate three things. You need an employment contract. You must have a concrete job offer. And you need a qualification which is recognised in Germany. We no longer check whether there is a German available for the job. But the Federal Employment Agency still checks the working conditions.

Employment options:

You have a particular qualification. That means you are qualified for a specific profession. You are permitted to work in this profession. You can also work in related professions. Skilled workers with training from university studies can also do other work. For example, skilled workers can work in a profession where no university studies are required.

But skilled workers are not permitted to perform menial labour. Skilled workers must work in a profession which requires vocational training. For the EU Blue Card, you will need work which corresponds to your qualifications.

Skilled workers with vocational training:

Skilled workers with vocational training can work in any profession. The only requirement is that their training must qualify them for that profession. They no longer have to work only in jobs where there is a shortage of workers.

Rules for entering the country

Entering the country to find a job:

Skilled workers with vocational training can enter Germany. You can enter Germany in order to find work here. You will receive a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for up to six months. Your qualification(s) must be recognised in Germany. You must have a secure livelihood for the duration of your stay. You must already speak German well enough to work in your profession. Normally, German language skills level B1 or better are required. Would you like to try out a job first? Then you can work for up to 10 hours a week. This helps you find out whether you like the job. Your employer can get to know you. Skilled workers with recognised academic qualifications can also try out jobs.

Residence for qualification purposes:

You get more opportunities to obtain qualifications in Germany. Have you tried to get your qualifications recognised? Have the authorities identified problems? Do your qualifications not correspond to German qualifications? Then you need sufficient German language skills. That means German level A2. Then you can apply for a visa. This visa allows you to come to Germany for 18 months. During this time, you can get qualifications. The authorities can extend your visa for 6 months. After that, you can apply for another visa. For example, in order to complete professional training. Or to study at a university. Or to work.

Settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) for skilled workers from abroad:

Foreign skilled workers can obtain a settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) in Germany after only four years (previously five years).


For training and studies

Entering the country to find a training placement: Would you like to do a vocational training course? Then you can enter the country to look for a training placement. You need

German language skills level B2. You also need a school-leaving qualification which entitles you to study at a university. You must be no more than 25 years old. You must be able to pay your own living costs in Germany.

Expanded transfer possibilities for international students in Germany: International students can get a new residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) before they complete their studies. For example: You want to train for a professional after studying. To do this, you get a residence permit. The new law for skilled workers makes this transfer easier: Are you a student? And do you want to get a job? Then you can accept a job. You must meet specific conditions for this. These conditions are set by the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit). Once everything has been checked, you will get a new residence permit.

Settlement permit for graduates of a training programme in Germany: Under the new law, foreign graduates of vocational training programmes in Germany, like university graduates, can obtain a settlement permit after only two years.

 **German language course** in preparation for training: Do you have the right visa? Then you can attend a German language course. This course will prepare you for your training.


Self-employment


Who can start their own business in Germany?

Is your asylum procedure not yet completed? Has your application been rejected? Do you have an exceptional leave to remain (Duldung)? Then you are prohibited from becoming self-employed. In principle, everyone else has the opportunity to become self-employed in Germany.

More information

 ["GründerZeiten" online guide](#) (German and Arabic; "GründerZeiten")

 [Business start-up portal](#) (German, French, Italian, Russian and Turkish)

 [Homepage for the IQ-Fachstelle für Migrantenökonomie \(Specialist Unit for Ethnic Entrepreneurship\)](#) (German, English, French, Polish, Spanish, Pashto, Bosnian, Russian, Chinese, Ukrainian, Turkish, Tigrinya, Vietnamese, Arabic)

Education (dual training and full-time school)

Would you like to start working? Then having a **professional qualification** will give you a big advantage. People with professional qualifications earn more money on average over their career. They are less likely to become unemployed. They are less likely to get fixed, short-term contracts.

Dual training

A special feature in Germany is the dual training system. You can work at a business. At the same time, you can go to a school or college. That way, you learn both theory and practice. You spend two thirds of your time working. You spend one third of your time in school or college. Training takes 3 years. Depending on the profession, it may take longer. If you have the general qualification for university entrance (Abitur), you can complete your training more quickly.

Depending on the type of profession you would like to learn in dual training, you should contact the right place:

Chamber of Crafts (HWK; Handwerkskammer)

The [Chamber of Crafts and Trades \(HWK\)](#) is responsible for professional trades. This includes professions such as bakers, bricklayers or painters.

[Seibertstraße 4, 35576 Wetzlar](#)

[064414472800](#)

[Contact Welcome Guide](#)

[0611136150](#)

[@anja.kloos@hwk-wiesbaden.de](mailto:anja.kloos@hwk-wiesbaden.de)

Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK Industrie- und Handelskammer)

The [Chamber of Industry and Commerce \(IHK\)](#) is responsible for occupations in industrial manufacturing, trade and the service industry. Here, for example, we are talking about plant mechanics or wholesale and foreign trade clerks.

[IHK Lahn-Dill, Wetzlar Office, Friedenstraße 2, 35578 Wetzlar, Germany](#)

[0644194480](#)

[IHK Lahn-Dill, Dillenburg Office, Am Nebelsberg 1, 35685 Dillenburg](#)

[023412320](#)

Information for [refugees](#)

Preschool education at the vocational school

In Germany, however, there is also full-time education at a Berufsfachschule (vocational college). This type of training provides a completed vocational training in theory and practice outside of the dual training system (without an apprenticeship at a company). It usually lasts two to three and a half years. Classes are full-time. They include general education subjects as well as subjects related to the specific profession. Vocational schools vary greatly in terms of their training courses, admission requirements, duration of training and further education opportunities. So you should talk to the school you're interested in.

Vocational schools in the Lahn-Dill district

[Here](#) you will find an overview of our vocational schools.

Berufsschule

Are you over 15 years old? Are you no longer in a general-education school (Allgemeinbildende Schule)? Then you have lots of opportunities at vocational schools. You can prepare for your future career. You can get a general school-leaving qualification. In Germany, everyone under the age of 18 must attend school!

The following types of schooling exist at vocational schools:

Career-entry (Berufseinstiegsjahr - BEJ) year or career-preparatory year (Berufsvorbereitungsjahr - BVJ)

Vocational schools offer courses for pupils with or without a secondary school leaving certificate. Have you not yet confirmed a place on a training course? Do you not yet have a clear idea of where you want to work? This will give you insights into various professional fields. You can build on your Hauptschule qualification. Or you can get your Hauptschule qualification.

Vocational school

At these schools, training is through a dual-track system. Part of your training happens at the school. The other part happens at a company.

Vocational school

Vocational schools for specific professions can prepare you for your future career. The courses last between 1 and 3 years. You will get basic professional training. Or preparation for a profession. Or even a professional qualification. If you already have a school-leaving qualification, then you can get your next qualification here. Vocational schools are usually split into the following professional fields:

- commercial/business professions
- home economics/socio-educational care or nursing
- business/technical professions

Technical school

You can continue your professional training at a Fachschule. The courses usually last 1 or 2 years. Do you already have professional training? Have you worked before? These courses will expand your knowledge. Their aim is to go into more depth on what you know. Once you have completed these courses, you can work in middle management. Or you can become self-employed. These schools are likewise split up into the following subject areas:

- Engineering
- Economics
- Social work
- Agricultural economics
- Design

Vocational college (Berufskolleg)

You need an intermediate school-leaving certificate (mittlerer Bildungsabschluss) in order to attend a vocational college. A vocational college is a place where you can get more professional qualifications. You can also get an advanced technical college certificate. That means you can

study at a university. There are vocational colleges for the following fields:

- Engineering
- Economics and administration
- Social education
- Health and nursing
- Home economics

Vocational high school

Have you already completed training? Do you have an intermediate school-leaving qualification? Then you can attend an upper secondary vocational school (Berufsoberschule). You will spend two years there. This school prepares you for the general university entrance certificate. To do this, you must learn a second foreign language. If you don't learn a second foreign language, you will get a subject-specific university entrance certificate. That means you can only study certain subjects. The following types of upper secondary vocational schools exist:

- Technical upper secondary school (Technische Oberschule)
- Upper secondary school for economics (Wirtschaftsoberschule)
- Upper secondary school for social work (Oberschule für Sozialwesen)

Vocational grammar school

Would you like to study at a university? Then you will need an Abitur, the general qualification for university entrance. You can earn your Abitur at a vocational Gymnasium (grammar school). To do so, you need an intermediate school-leaving certificate. Your grades must be 3.0 or better on average. Then you can attend a vocational Gymnasium for three years. After the three years, you will get your Abitur. This type of school is likewise split up into corresponding subject areas:

- Technical subjects
- Economics
- Social work and healthcare
- Agricultural sciences
- Biotechnological subjects
- Nutritional science

Vocational schools in the Lahn-Dill district

Here you will find an [overview](#).

Study

University-level study

General information


In Germany, there are many different courses of study. There are also different types of universities:


- Universitäten = universities (more academically focused)
- Fachhochschulen = universities of applied sciences; polytechnics (more practically focused)
- Duale Hochschulen = “dual universities” (very practically focused)
- Kunst-, Film- und Musikhochschulen = universities for art, film and music (for the arts and performing arts)


There are public and private universities. Private universities are not necessarily better than public ones. However, you will have to pay high tuition fees at private universities.

Helpful websites:

 [Hochschulkompass \(Higher Education Compass\)](#) (list of all courses of study and universities in Germany)

 [Study in Germany](#) (information for refugees)

 [Agentur für Arbeit](#) Studienorientierung (study programme orientation from the Federal Employment Agency)

 [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst \(German Academic Exchange Service\)](#) (DAAD - All study programmes in Germany)

Prerequisites


Would you like to study in Germany? Then you will need a qualification for university entrance. This can be an Abitur. It can also be an advanced technical college certificate. Do you have a qualification for university entrance in your home country? Then it may allow you to study in Germany. You can check that.

You can find more information on the [Anabin](#) website. On that site, go to the “Recognition in Germany” information portal. The same applies for the [“German Academic Exchange Service” \(DAAD\)](#)

You must also bring proof that you have a good knowledge of German (language level C1). This can be the “German as a Foreign Language” test. Or the German Language Examinations for Studies at German Universities. Or “Telc Deutsch C1 Hochschule”.

You can also get support from the “Garantiefonds Hochschule” educational advice programme.

Some universities offer preparatory semesters. These can be a chance to learn German.

 **Find out more at the university where you would like to study.** Most universities offer advice services. There are deadlines for applying to a university. These are called the application deadlines. Be aware of these deadlines. Universities will not accept applications after the deadlines.

Without a university entrance qualification

Are you able to study at a university in your home country with your school-leaving certificate? But are you not able to study in Germany? You can attend a preparatory college (Studienkolleg) to get your university entrance qualification. Studienkollegs are specifically

intended for university applicants from other countries. They prepare you for university study in Germany.

Justus Liebig University Giessen:

🌐Advice <https://www.uni-giessen.de/studium/beratung/zsb>

🌐For refugees <https://www.uni-giessen.de/zielgruppen/fluechtlin...>

Technical University of Central Hesse:

🌐Advice: <https://www.thm.de/site/hochschule/zentrale-berei...>

🌐For international students: <https://www.thm.de/site/en/international/welcome-...>

Financing and Scholarships

As a student, you can access financial support in Germany. This comes from the Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz, a federal act for promoting higher education known as “BAföG” for short. The Federal Ministry of Education makes BAföG payments every month. In the best case scenario, you will be given funding throughout your studies. The monthly sum provided by the BAföG can be somewhere between €399 and €735. You must pay back half of the BAföG total after completing your course of study. The exact BAföG terms and conditions change regularly. For more detailed information, see the following link:

🌐[Website about BAföG for refugees and migrants](#)

As an alternative to the BAföG, it is also possible to get a scholarship. Usually, you do not have to pay back a scholarship. Good grades are important in order to get a scholarship. The organisation providing the scholarship will also assess your voluntary work. You will usually get the same amount of money as the BAföG. There is also additional “Büchergeld”. This is a monthly book allowance of up to €300.

There are certain foundations which offer scholarships. Scholarships are given to people with lots of potential. These foundations are called “Begabtenförderungswerke” in German. The following foundations offer programmes, among other things, especially for refugees. The websites tell you how you can apply. They also explain what the foundations expect from you.

🌐[Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung \(FES\) - Scholarships for Refugees](#)

🌐[Böckler-Aktion Bildung by the Hans-Böckler-Stiftung](#)

🌐[Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung \(KAS\) - Scholarships for Refugees](#)

🌐[Villigst - Our Scholarships for refugees](#)

🌐[Brot für die Welt - Flüchtlingsstipendienprogramm \(Refugee Scholarship Program\)](#)

One exception is the Otto Benecke Stiftung guarantee fund. The programme is aimed at young migrants who have recently arrived in the country. Do you want to get your university entrance certificate in Germany? Do you want to study in Germany? Do you want to work in academia? Then you can apply for a scholarship. There is also the “Deutschland-Stipendium” scholarship. This provides financial support of €300 a month. The Deutschland-Stipendium is

awarded through the respective universities.

 [University guarantee fund from Otto Benecke Stiftung in Bonn](#)

 [Deutschlandstipendium: Become a scholarship holder](#)

You will find further information on the website for the 'Hochschulaktion für Geflüchtete' (College action for refugees).

 [Hochschulaktion für Geflüchtete website](#)

Recognition of credentials


Recognition of foreign educational qualifications

Qualification certificates are very important in Germany. You can get them at school. Or at a university. Or while you are working. At work, they are called work certificates. Certificates are used to demonstrate what you have learned and accomplished. Certificates are the key requirement for getting a job. You will also need a certificate to be admitted to a school or university. Do you already have certificates from another country? Then get these certificates **recognised** in Germany. The authorities will check what your certificates qualify you for in Germany. Your skills are "translated", so to speak. It may be that you no longer have your certificates with you. In this case, you can try to have your professional experience and professional abilities recognised by passing some tests.

Specialist advice centre for recognition

 [Overseas qualifications recognised in Hesse](#)

 [Evaluating overseas certificates and diplomas](#)

 If you want to study or work as a scientist, please get in touch with the universities to have your certificates recognised.

Official authentication of certificates/credentials

You have a document. For example, a certificate. The authorities want to know if the document is genuine. To do this, you must get the document officially authenticated. This is also important if you want to enrol at a university. All copies of your certificates must be officially authenticated.

 [Notarise documents](#)