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Ukraine

Job centre since 01 June 2022

Important information for refugees from Ukraine from the Heidenheim Job Centre

The financing of your livelihood will change from the Heidenheim District Office to the responsibility of the Heidenheim Job Centre on 01.06.2022.

A change is planned. Responsibility for the job centre is to be transferred to the asylum seeker benefits department. A date is not yet known.

You will find the job centre at Theodor-Heuss-Straße 1 in Heidenheim.

- [Opening hours:](#)
Monday to Friday 08.00 - 11.00 a.m.
Thursday 14.00 - 17.30
- We have set up several quick counters on the 1st floor for you to record your basic data.
- **Please bring the completed application form with you when you visit us.**
- Please bring the completed and signed application documents to the appointment and, if possible, come accompanied by an interpreter. If the appointment cannot be kept, there may be delays in the payment of benefits. Therefore, please be sure to keep this appointment.
- Please decide by the appointment which health insurance company you would like to be insured with.
- If you have bank details, this will facilitate and speed up the processing of your application. If you do not yet have bank details, please decide quickly on a bank of your choice and set up an account by the deadline.

Information on the war in Ukraine

Information from the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

Here you can find out what is important at the moment - for example, what the current [situation](#) is. You can also find rules here if you want to enter Germany or if you need a visa. We have already written down some important questions and answers for you:

I am in Germany without a visa - what can I do now?

If you come from Ukraine, you do not currently need a visa to come to Germany. From the day you arrive, you can stay here for up to 90 days without special permission. You can even stay in Germany without a special residence permit until **4 March 2027**.

During the 90-day visa exemption period, you can consider whether you would like to stay in Germany for longer. There are various options for this:

1. You can apply for a residence permit under Section 24 of the Residence Act within 90 days of your first entry into Germany. This provision specifically regulates the situation for war refugees from Ukraine on the basis of the EU decision. You can find out who is eligible for a

residence permit under Section 24 of the Residence Act [here](#). You can find answers to the procedure [here](#).

2. You can apply for a residence permit for another purpose within 90 days of your first arrival in Germany. For example, to study or for gainful employment. This may be more favourable for you. You can seek advice on this from the authorities if you have an appointment, or you can find out more in advance on the website: <https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/>.
3. Alternatively, you can apply for asylum. However, this option is not recommended due to the less favourable legal consequences - such as the restriction on taking up employment and the obligation to live in an initial reception centre.

Do you have a valid residence permit in accordance with Section 24 of the Residence Act as of 1 February 2026?

Your residence permit will be automatically extended and will then be valid until 4 March 2027. You do NOT need to visit the immigration office for this. You can find more information on [Germany4Ukraine](#).

What happens when you arrive in Germany?

When you come to Germany, there are a few important steps that you have to take one after the other. This is how it works:

- First, you register - this is called registration.
- If you need help from the state (for example money or food), you will be told where you can live.
- Then you register your new address, i.e. where exactly you now live.
- Finally, you apply for a permit so that you can stay in Germany for longer.

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

Can I work in Germany with a residence permit for temporary protection?

Yes, you can. However, before you can work, the immigration authority must authorise it. The immigration authority will often already enter in your residence permit that you are allowed to work - even if you do not yet have a job. This is good, because then you no longer need an extra permit from another authority.

The immigration authorities will issue so-called fictitious certificates as soon as you submit your application. These bridge the right of residence until the actual residence title can be issued and granted. The foreigners authority will also enter "Gainful employment permitted" in the fictitious certificate. This fictitious certificate therefore authorises you to work in Germany either as a self-employed person or as an employee. Special professional access requirements (such as a licence to practise medicine or a permit for a trade requiring a licence) naturally apply to persons with temporary protection in the same way as to all others. However, the procedures for recognising foreign professional qualifications are also open to those affected, just like everyone else.

Persons with a residence permit for temporary protection in Germany can also receive counselling and placement services from the employment agencies in accordance with SGB III.

Should people from Ukraine apply for asylum?

No, that is not necessary. The necessary protection is granted in a different, faster procedure. It is therefore recommended that you do not apply for asylum. However, if you want to apply for asylum later, you can still do so.

As a result of the decision to admit war refugees in accordance with Article 5 (1) of Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001 on minimum standards for giving temporary protection, a residence permit in accordance with Section 24 of the Residence Act (AufenthG - Residence Permit for Temporary Protection) will be granted to the group of persons covered by the decision upon application.

Registration upon entry does not constitute an application for asylum. The asylum procedure requires an application for asylum to be submitted to the responsible branch office of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees.

For these reasons, it is not necessary to file an asylum application to secure a right of residence or to claim social benefits.


Information portal of the German government

The Federal Ministry of the Interior and Homeland offers a digital information portal in German, English, Russian and Ukrainian. Here you will find all official information about residence and living in Germany.

 [Germany4Ukraine](#)

Embassy of Ukraine in Berlin

 [+493028887128](#)

 [Albrechtstraße 26, 10117 Berlin](#)

Important and News

News

February 2026

There is new content on the page [Getting around / orientation](#).

December 2025

Opening Hours of the [District Office](#):

The District Office will be **closed** on the following days:

- December 24, 2025
- December 25, 2025
- December 26, 2025
- December 31, 2025

- January 1, 2026
- January 2, 2026
- January 5, 2026
- January 6, 2026

July 2025

Information about the [payment card](#) is now available on Integreat.

May 2025

Important: The **asylum seeker benefits department** is **closed** on this date!

- Wednesday, 14.05.2025
- Wednesday, 21.05.2025
- Wednesday, 28.05.2025

April 2025

The new page [Child benefit and supplementary child allowance](#) is online.

March 2025

Important: The **asylum seeker** benefits department is **closed** on this date!

Wednesday, 26.03.2025
Wednesday, 02.04.2025
Wednesday, 09.04.2025
Wednesday, 16.04.2025
Wednesday, 23.04.2025

January 2025

Relocation of the Foreigners' Registration Office of the City of Heidenheim (Ausländerbehörde Stadt Heidenheim)

The Foreigners' Registration Office of the City of Heidenheim has moved to the neighbouring building at Grabenstraße 9 (former LBBW building).

January 2025

The page [Electronic patient file \(ePA\)](#) is online.

December 2024

Opening hours of the district office over Christmas and New Year

Monday, 23 December 2024 open
Tuesday, 24 December to Friday, 27 December 2024 closed
Monday, 30 December 2024 open
Tuesday, 31 December to 01 January 2025 closed

September 2024

It is possible to submit some [applications online](#) at the Immigration Office of the District of Heidenheim.

[Online applications](#) can be submitted in German, English, Spanish, French, Russian, Serbian, Turkish and Ukrainian.

July 2024

Until 07 July, you have the opportunity to apply as an expert member of the district's migration advisory board. Detailed information can be found on the [Heidenheim Migration Advisory Council website](#).

June 2024

The Migration Advisory Council will take part in the International Street Festival (28 June and 29 June) in Heidenheim.

Come and visit our stand!

May 2024

Application as an expert member of the Migration Advisory Council

Applications as a member of the Migration Advisory Council of the district of Heidenheim are possible from 01 May to 07 July. The application form can be found on the [Migration Advisory Council website](#). You can fill it out and send it to the [Migration Advisory Council mailbox](#).

We look forward to receiving your applications!

April 2024

Welcome Centre Ostwürttemberg

The Welcome Centre team is fully staffed again. The new employees are Ms Gauditz (international students and international skilled workers) and Mr Schramm (international skilled workers and companies).

March 2024

New opening hours of the Heidenheim job centre

The job centre has had new opening hours since 1 March. You can find these on the [Job Centre website](#).

October 2023

Municipal Health Conference

The district's municipal health conference will take place on 25 October. The event is entitled "Well cared for at the end of life - palliative care in the district of Heidenheim".

The symposium starts at 1:30 pm and ends at 7 pm.

You can find the exact schedule and venue under [Events](#) in Integreat.

The event is free of charge. There are enough places available and no registration is required.

September 2023

[HYPE youth platform](#)

The district of Heidenheim has had its own website for young people since the new school year. At www.hype-hdh.de, young people, parents, professionals and youth enthusiasts can find relevant information, attractive offers and interesting news from the fields of youth work and education.

September 2023

Important: Changed opening hours of the Jobcenter from 02 October:

Monday - Friday 08:00 - 11:00

From now on, you can only clarify your concerns by making an appointment. You can book an appointment online: Appointment - Federal Employment Agency

<https://web.arbeitsagentur.de/portal/terminvereinbarung/pc/jobcenter/anliegenauswahl?dstNr=61108>

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.jobcenter-heidenheim.de/aktuelles/neue-offnungszeiten-ab-02-oktober-2023-mehr-zeit-fur-individuelle>

July 2023

Important: Changed opening hours of the Foreigners' Registration Office (Ausländerbehörde) of the district of Heidenheim

New opening hours of the Foreigners and Naturalisation Authority:

Monday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (with appointment only); 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (with appointment only)

Wednesday closed

Thursday 8:00 am - 11:30 am (with appointment only); 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Friday 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Appointments can be made online at <https://termine.landkreis-heidenheim.de/public/si...> or by calling [073213212226](tel:073213212226).

No appointment is necessary on Monday afternoon, Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

January 2023

From 31 January, all buses and trains on the Brenzbahn in the district of Heidenheim can once again be used without a mask.

At federal level, the mask requirement for long-distance passenger transport is to be abolished on 2 February 2023.

October 2022

The page [Pflegestützpunkt Landkreis Heidenheim](#) (care support) is online.

June 2022

The [map](#) function is now available on Integreat!

April 2022

Integreat is now available in [Ukrainian](#)!

February 2022

From Wednesday 23 February 2022, **access to all district office** services will be possible **without a 3G certificate**.

November 2021

New Integreat feature **TüNews available!**

Under the **heading News** you will find **daily national information** and **news** on topics such as everyday life, language, work, housing and more.

November 2021

The **Corona hotline 0711 410 11160** of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health and Integration has been available in **Arabic, English, Russian and Turkish** since 5 November.

You can call the hotline **Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm**. The Corona hotline provides information on questions about the corona virus. These are, for example, questions about compulsory testing, quarantine, vaccination or entry into Baden-Württemberg.

The **hotline** can be reached in **German** at **0711 904 39555**.

For **deaf people**, the hotline is also available as a **video chat** from Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

October 2021

[Berufenavi.de](https://berufenavi.de) is a site that helps with vocational orientation. In addition to brief information, there are many links that support the search for a suitable occupation.

September 2021

Integreat is now available in **Bulgarian** and **French!**

September 2021

The **district vaccination centre (KIZ)** will **close on 30 September 2021**.

Until 30 September, you can still get vaccinated at the KIZ on Fridays to Wednesdays (08.00 to 18.00) and Thursdays (08.00 to 20.30) without making an appointment.

From October onwards, please contact your family doctor, general practitioner or company doctor for vaccinations. This also applies to second vaccinations. **Important:** Please observe the minimum interval between the first and second vaccination. The vaccination appointment must be arranged with the doctor's practice at least two weeks before the vaccination is due.

If you do not have a GP practice, you can find the location of the nearest Corona specialist practice on the [website of the Kassenärztliche Vereinigung BW](#) via the Corona map Baden-Württemberg.

Existing (second) vaccination appointments at the **district vaccination centre after 30 September** are **invalid**, even if you receive an e-mail reminder.

September 2021

On the new homepage of the [ComputerSpielSchule Heidenheim](#) you will find information about the free offers. The ComputerSpielSchule is a project of the Heidenheim Media Centre and the Heidenheim Public Library.

September 2021

A new AWO integration language course starts in Giengen on 11 October. For more information, please visit the [AWO homepage](#) or contact the [migration advice centre](#) in Giengen.

August 2021

The pages [Vaccination possibilities in the district of Heidenheim](#) and [Further education and training](#) are online.

Juli 2021

The [film "Coping with Flight and Trauma"](#) informs refugees about the psychological consequences of trauma. It also tells you what help is available for this. The video was produced by the University Hospital Tübingen and is available in German, English and Arabic.

July 2021

The new [JobZentrale for the Ostwürttemberg region](#) bundles regional job and vacancy offers as well as training and internship positions. Here you will find a quick overview of the labour market in the region.

July 2021

On 21 July 2021, the Integration product area (Integration Officer and [Integration Management](#)) as well as the hostel management will move from the Integration Centre to the premises at Wagnerstraße 3, 89518 Heidenheim.

July 2021

The free [Lunes app](#) helps you learn German for your job and helps you learn technical words. It starts with 250 vocabulary words for 11 job profiles. More job descriptions and vocabulary will be added.

June 2021

The [Heidenheim Integration Centre](#) will be dissolved on 30 June 2021. Only the asylum seeker benefits office of the District Office will continue to be located at Giengener Straße 149 for the time being. For more information, see [directory of local authorities](#) and [Integrationszentrum Heidenheim](#).

June 2021

The Foreigners' Registration Office of the City of Heidenheim is moving to Grabenstraße 19 (Meeboldhaus) in Heidenheim. Therefore, it will only be accessible to a limited extent between 21 and 25 June. For more information, please visit [the homepage of the City of Heidenheim](#).

April 2021

The page [Employment contracts](#) is online now.

April 2021

Information on Ramadan:

The current 7-day incidence in the district of Heidenheim is over 200.

Therefore, the following applies to breaking the fast:

- A household is allowed to meet with one other person who is not part of their own household. Children under 14 are not counted.
- Ritual prayer: if the prayer is organised by an Islamic community, it is a religious event. Appropriate hygiene measures must be taken and guaranteed by the organiser.

Due to increasing numbers of infections, new rules will apply in the district of Heidenheim from 24 April. These can be found [here](#).

March 2021

Launch of the breastcare app for early breast cancer detection in different languages for women with a migration background. The app is available in German, English, French, Spanish and

Turkish. <https://www.breastcare.app/>

February 2021

The pages "[Health Insurance](#)" and "[Residence status](#)" are online.

February 2021

The page "[Vaccination against the Corona virus](#)" is online.

January 2021

The pages "[Liability insurance](#)" and "[Immigration of skilled workers](#)" are now online.

January 2021

Integreat now supports the read aloud function of Android and IOS. This allows people who cannot see or read well to have content read aloud to them. More information can be found here:

<https://integreat-app.de/die-neue-vorlesefunktion...>

January 2021

Early Support Centres ("Frühe Hilfen") offer support from pregnancy until the child is 3 years old. Here you can find videos in German, Arabic, English, French, Russian and Turkish. They explain what Early Support Centres are. There are also videos with tips, for example how to comfort babies when they cry.

<https://www.fruehehilfen.de/service/filme/>

January 2021

This video explains the Integreat app in sign language:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOiwgL9k0rA>

December 2020

From Wednesday, 16 December 2020, access to the District Office will be restricted and by appointment only.

Please use the main entrance in building A as the central access. You will be redirected there. The visit must be arranged in advance by telephone or e-mail with your contact person or centrally on tel. 07321 321-0.

December 2020

From 16 December, a lockdown will apply in Baden-Württemberg. Since 12 December, there have been curfew restrictions between 8pm and 5am. More information in English is available [here](#).

December 2020

The pages [Family benefits](#) and [Welcome Center Ostwürttemberg](#) are online!

November 2020

On 27 November 2020 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. a virtual information event for refugees interested in studying will take place. You will receive information about the different study possibilities at universities in Baden-Württemberg. Questions like how to get started and start studying will be answered. To participate, please register here: www.hs-albsig.de/kiron

November 2020

Please note the new rules for public life. You can find more information here: [Information on the Corona Virus](#)

October 2020

The Step-by-Step App provides free support for Syrian refugees over 18 years of age who are suffering from mental stress. Further information can be found here: <https://khoutouwat.com/>

October 2020

The Virtual University of Bavaria offers [free online courses](#) in German and English. There is also a course in English for studying in Germany: <https://open.vhb.org/blocks/ildmetaselect/detailp...>

October 2020

Here you can find videos on the Corona Rules in 7 languages:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLV2YHnnz-S...>

September 2020

The virtual training place fair of the IHK Ostwürttemberg offers a supplementary possibility of vocational orientation for pupils with various regional companies and career opportunities. And all this just like in a video game!

You can find the virtual training fair here: www.ihk-ausbildungsmesse.de

September 2020

The Welcome Center Ostwürttemberg now offers a free online consultation every Tuesday from 9-12 o'clock via Skype. The offer is aimed at international professionals, their family members and students who want to live and work in the district of Heidenheim or the Ostalbkreis or who have recently moved here and need support. The Welcome Centre offers initial counselling and provides information on further counselling services.

Where and when: Tuesdays from 9 - 12 am WelcomeCenter OW (click here)

August 2020

On Friday, 18.09.2020 the new women's course "Migrant Women in Everyday Life" on the topic of language orientation will start. The course will take place from 18 September to 18 December 2020 on Fridays from 9 am to 11.30 am. The course venue is the community centre of the city of Heidenheim (Hintere Gasse 60, 89522 Heidenheim). The target group is mainly Syrian women. For further information and registration please contact Mrs Müller (E-Mail: c.mueller@awo-heidenheim.de).

August 2020

The magazine about vocational training of the IHK Ostwürttemberg "Läuft - Dein Weg in den Beruf" offers interesting information on the subject of vocational training, job application, career choice and professions in industry and commerce. In addition, you will also find a large selection of companies that offer apprenticeships in the district of the East Württemberg Chamber of Industry and Commerce. You can read the training brochure as an e-paper here:

<https://issuu.com/cross7/docs/web-laeuft-2020-150...>

August 2020

The VHS learning portal offers an online trainer with 100 exercises for the orientation course. In this section learners can prepare for the test "Living in Germany" or the naturalization test. There are also about 80 original test questions from the exam. The exercises can be found [here](#).

July 2020

On August 8 and 15, an application training for migrants over 27 years of age will take place. Further information can be found [here](#).

June 2020

OnCampus offers a free training course for pronunciation in German. Syrian learners of German can participate. The course lasts 6 weeks and there is no exam.

<https://www.oncampus.de/weiterbildung/moocs/aussp...>

June 2020

The information portal on the recognition of foreign professional qualifications has been revised. You can find information on the recognition of foreign qualifications in 11 languages here:

<https://www.anererkennung-in-deutschland.de>

April 2020

Mask obligation: From Monday, April 27, 2020 you must wear a protective mask in all shops and on public transport such as buses and trains to protect yourself and others.

Multilingual informations about the mask obligation:

[German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#)

April 2020

The Employment Agency is no longer present at the integration centre as of April 2020. Please contact the Agentur für Arbeit in the Ploucquetstraße:

Heidenheim Employment Agency

Ploucquet Street 30

89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz

Phone: 08004555500

E-mail: heidenheim@arbeitsagentur.de

April 2020

Here you will find tips for parents who are at home with their children on 10 languages:

<https://www.kita-einstieg-hamburg.de/elterninfo/m.../>

April 2020

The [immigration counselling \(Migrationsberatung\)](#) and the [youth migration service \(Jugendmigrationsdienst\)](#) of the AWO Heidenheim are on Facebook!

March 2020

Due to the coronavirus, many authorities and institutions are currently closed. But often you can call them. Sometimes you can also make an appointment. Further information can be found on the websites of the authorities and institutions.

- [District Office Heidenheim/Landratsamt](#)

District administration office at the Heidenheim Integration Center

Please report any urgent matters at the known times:

Monday to Friday: 08:00 Uhr – 11:30 Uhr

Monday and Tuesday: 14:00 Uhr – 16:00 Uhr

Thursday: 14:00 Uhr – 17:30 UhrImmigration office (Ausländerbehörde des Landratsamtes Heidenheim)

Telephone: 07321/321-2401

E-Mail: auslaenderbehoerde@landkreis-heidenheim.deAsylum Seekers Benefits Authority (Asylbewerberleistungsbehörde)

Telephone: 07321/60967-33

E-Mail: asylbewerberleistungen@landkreis-heidenheim.deAppointments can be made in urgent cases.

- [Jobcenter Heidenheim:](#)

Tel. 07321 345-0 (Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

Tel.: 07321 345-590 (Monday-Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

- [City of Heidenheim](#)
- [City of Giengen](#)

March 2020

Due to the corona virus, all events in conference room C003 in the integration centre Heidenheim will be cancelled for the time being. This also includes the consultation hours of the Freundeskreis Asyl Heidenheim and the volunteer language mediators.

January 2020

The state education centre Heidenheim offers an open advisory service for language courses on Thursdays from 09:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 17:30. Counselling takes place in the Heidenheim Integration Centre, Giengener Straße 149, 89522 Heidenheim, Room C 014. The offer starts on 23 January 2020.

January 2020

Integreat is now also available in Romanian!

December 2019

The Maternal Health Guide provides comprehensive information on pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum care in 7 languages:

<https://www.mimi-bestellportal.de/shop/publikatio...>

December 2019

"Health for all - a guide to the German health care system" offers basic information in 14 languages:

<https://www.wegweiser-gesundheitswesen-deutschlan...>

November 2019

The Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs has published a multilingual read aloud flyer which contains compact information and tips on the subject of reading aloud. The flyer is available in [German](#), [Turkish](#), [Italian](#), [Arabic](#) and [Romanian](#).

Further information can be found here:

<https://zsl.kultus-bw.de/Lde/Startseite/service/...>

October 2019

The information platform "mbeon" ("Migrationsberatung online") offers immigrants information on many topics. The new website is available in German, English, Russian and Arabic. There is also a chat function. This allows you to chat with counsellors for migrants. The counsellors speak many different languages.

<https://www.mbeon.de>

September 2019

The magazine about vocational training of the IHK Ostwürttemberg "Läuft - Dein Weg in den Beruf" offers interesting information on the subject of vocational training, job application, career choice and professions in industry and commerce. In addition, you will also find a large selection of companies that offer apprenticeships in the district of the East Württemberg Chamber of Industry and Commerce. You can read the training brochure as an e-paper here:

<https://issuu.com/sdz-medien/docs/web-laeuft-2019>

September 2019

The city of Giengen has created a new homepage for the Integration Meeting Point:

<https://www.treffpunkt-integration-giengen.de/>

September 2019

The information desk of the Job Center in the Integration Center Heidenheim will be occupied from 13.09.19 until further notice at the following times:

Monday: 09.00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Thursday: 09:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Scheduled appointments will continue to take place during the regular opening hours.

August 2019

In September, the series of events Women and Career will start again. Women with an refugee or migration background are invited. They can gain an insight into the professional and working world and further discover their professional path. Further information can be found under [News](#) or in the [flyer](#).

August 2019

Access to the BAMF's existing language courses has been modified. Thus the pages [Integration Courses](#) and [German for the workplace](#) have been updated.

July 2019

The Asylum Seeker Benefits Authority and the immigration office of the Heidenheim district council (Landratsamt) in the [Heidenheim Integration Centre](#) (IZH) will be closed on Fridays for personal interviews from 02 August 2019 until further notice. However, telephone availability is still guaranteed on Fridays between 8:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m..

July 2019

From 30 July to 04 August 2019 a free children's holiday course will take place in Herbrechtingen. Children aged 7 to 11 can paint, do handicrafts, work, play and be creative there from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. under expert guidance. We are still looking for participating children. Further information can be found [here](#).

July 2019

The DAK Health Office will close its office in the [Heidenheim Integration Centre](#) on 01 August 2019. In future, DAK-Gesundheit customers will be able to contact the customer centres in [Aalen](#) and [Ulm](#) with questions and concerns.

July 2019

In the [Heidenheim Integration Centre](#), the office of the Federal Employment Agency (Agentur für Arbeit) is temporarily closed until mid-August.

June 2019

The Women's Information Centre (FIZ) is a specialist counselling centre for migrant women on questions of marriage, separation, divorce and residence law. The counselling is confidential and free of charge:

<https://vij-wuerttemberg.de/unsere-angebote/fraue...>

June 2019

On July 29th the third sam's day will take place in Heidenheim, a workshop day for young people between 12 and 16 years. Further information can be found [here](#).

June 2019

The educational year for adult refugees (BEF Alpha) at the VHS Heidenheim starts on June 24th. The course is aimed at refugees with poor language and writing skills. BEF Alpha includes a combination of a language course, vocational orientation and the imparting of everyday knowledge. The course is aimed at refugees between 21 and 35 years, mainly with an unclear perspective of remaining. You can find the flyer here:

<https://fluechtlingeheidenheim.files.wordpress.co...>

May 2019

The contact point "Frau und Beruf" (women and careers) offers a free café for women with a migration background in Niederstotzingen. There women can inform themselves and exchange information on the topics of work, education and occupation in Germany. The café take place from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the following days: 15.05.2019, 04.06.2019 and 10.07.2019.

Meeting place:

Famiienzentrum St. Anna

Bergstraße 20-24

89168 Niederstotzingen

For registration and further information, please contact the contact point "Frau und Beruf":

Phone: 07321 321 2558

E-Mail: frau-und-beruf@landkreis-heidenheim.de

May 2019

The counselling centre "[mira](#)" (Mit RECHT bei der ARBEIT!) offers advice and information on labour law issues for refugees and third-country nationals (migrants who do not come from the EU). If you have problems with issues such as employment contracts, wages, insurance and more, you will find help there. The counselling is also multilingual. There are counselling centres in Stuttgart and Karlsruhe.

<https://mira-beratung.de/>

May 2019

The Federal Government's rainbow portal offers information on LGBTI topics. LGBTI stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender and Intersexual. In addition to information, it is also possible to search for contact points. The portal is available in 5 languages (German, English, Arabic, Turkish and Spanish).

<https://www.regenbogenportal.de/meta-navigation/e...>

April 2019

On Monday, 06.05.2019 starts a [handicraft session for children between 5 and 14 years](#) . The handicraft session takes place every Monday from 16:00 to 17:30 in the Integration Center Heidenheim (IZH), "Raum Integration", C003, Giengener Straße 149, 89522 Heidenheim, Germany. Registration is not necessary, participation is free of charge.

April 2019

The federal program "Kita-Einstieg" has published a flyer with information on child daycare in 12 languages. Among others, [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Persian](#), [Romanian](#) and [Turkish](#) are offered. The flyer can be found [here](#).

April 2019

The Federal Employment Agency has a new revised job search app. The search has been optimized, the filters improved and there is an interactive map. Download: [Android](#) and [IOS](#)

March 2019

To make it easier for new tenants to settle into their neighbourhood and prevent potential problems from arising in the new setting, the organisation BBU Verband has created a document [containingtenant guidelines](#). It is also available in [Arabic](#), [English](#) and [Urdu](#), [Farsi](#), [Tigrinya](#), [Somali](#) and [Russian](#).

March 2019

With [partial qualifications](#) you can learn a profession step by step. In this video with multilingual subtitles, partial qualifications are explained: [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#), [Turkish](#).

March 2019

The new site "[educational and participation package \(BuT\)](#)" is online!

February 2019

In a new study, the BAMF has investigated the individual motives of beneficiaries of protection for travelling to their home country. You will also find information on the current legal situation. When beneficiaries of protection travel to their country of origin, the BAMF initiates a revocation procedure. Further information can be found here:

http://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/EN/Publikationen/EMN/Studien/wp84-reise-ins-hkl.pdf?__blob=public

February 2019

DHBW Heidenheim has created an applicant pool. People who are looking for a dual study place can create an applicant profile there. Companies that have free places can view these profiles and contact them. Further information can be found here:

<https://bewerberboerse.heidenheim.dhbw.de/bewerbe...>

February 2019

The German Red Cross has produced 8 health films in German, English, French, Sorani, Arabic and Pashto. Among other things, they cover the health system in Germany, cancer prevention and dental health. The videos can be found here:

<https://www.drk-gesundheitsfilme.de/>

January 2019

The new portal "Fair Integration for Refugees" provides information in German, English and Arabic about rights and obligations in the employment relationship and thus helps with problems in the job. Beside the information on the portal there are also counselling centres in Germany, e.g. in Stuttgart.

<https://www.faire-integration.de/en/>

January 2019

On the bazaar-calender Heidenheim you can find bazaars (flea markets, children's clothes) in the district of Heidenheim where you can buy used goods: <https://basarkalender-hdh.de/>

December 2018

Starting January 24, 2019, a [weekly recognition and qualification consultation](#) will be offered in the rooms of AJO e.V. (Aalstr. 14/1 in 73430 Aalen). A telephone registration is necessary.

Further information can be found [here](#) or in the [flyer](#).

December 2018

The Jobcenter Heidenheim asks you to make sure before signing a rental agreement that there is no additional clause in the rental agreement stating that the apartment will be renovated by the renter after moving in and that one or two cold rents will be waived. The costs of the apartment for the rent-free period are not covered, nor are any renovation costs.

December 2018

[Serlo ABC](#) is a free literacy app for self studying or as a supplement to the language course. The app is approved as teaching material for integration courses.

November 2018

The state government of Baden-Württemberg has amended the regulations on **apprenticeship prolongation (3+2 regulation)**. Apprentices as **nursing assistants for the elderly** or nursing assistants and persons who are in **Company entry-level qualifications (EQ)** can now apply for a apprenticeship prolongation.

<https://im.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/service/press...>

November 2018

From 3.12.2018 the [volunteer consultation in Nattheim](#) always starts at 17.30 hrs!

November 2018

The multilingual portal "Make it in Germany" offers information on topics such as visa, jobs (including job exchange), study and training opportunities as well as life in Germany in German, English, Spanish and French.

<https://www.make-it-in-germany.com>

October 2018

The multilingual VHS learning portal offers besides the language level A1 now also free online German courses at the language level A2 and a job-related language course B2. A B1 course will follow soon.

<https://deutsch.vhs-lernportal.de/wws/9.php#/wws/...>

October 2018

For courses of the [VHS Heidenheim](#) the public transport in the district Heidenheim can be used free of charge for the whole day. The confirmation of registration is the proof for controls.

October 2018

The new programs of the [Future academy](#) (Zukunftsakademie) are online! Here you can find the programs of the [Junior Academy](#) and the [Hector Children's Academy](#).

September 2018

Due to an organizational change, the **information desk of the Job Center** in the Integration Center Heidenheim will be **occupied** from Monday, 10.09.18 until further notice at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday and Friday: **09:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

Thursday: **09:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** and **2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Scheduled appointments will continue to take place during the regular opening hours.

August 2018

From September 1st the open consultation hour of the [language mediator pool](#) will take place

together with the open consultation hour of [the refugee support group Heidenheim](#).

Time: Saturdays from 13:30 to 15:00 o'clock

Place: Heidenheim Integration Center (IZH)

Room C003

Giengener Straße 149

89522 Heidenheim

August 2018

The free app of the HWK Mittelfranken "MeinVokabular" offers trainees with little knowledge of German the possibility to maintain a digital vocabulary booklet on their mobile phone. Images and sound recordings can also be included for each word. The app can be downloaded here for Android and IOS:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com...>

<https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/meinvokabular/id1...>

July 2018

The magazine about vocational training of the IHK Ostwürttemberg "Läuft - Dein Weg in den Beruf" offers interesting information on the subject of vocational training, job application, career choice and professions in industry and commerce. In addition, you will also find a large selection of companies that offer apprenticeships in the district of the East Württemberg Chamber of Industry and Commerce. You can read the training brochure as an e-paper here:

[https://issuu.com/sdz-medien/docs/laeuft - dein w...](https://issuu.com/sdz-medien/docs/laeuft_-_dein_w...)

July 2018

The new site "[Which profession suits me?](#)" is online!

June 2018

The VHS Heidenheim offers free tutoring for participants in their integration courses. It takes place on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the computer room B (EDV Raum B) of the Meeboldhaus (Grabenstraße 19 in 89522 Heidenheim). If you have any questions, please contact the VHS Heidenheim.

June 2018

The website "[Handbook Germany](#)" offers information on living in Germany in 7 languages. Comprehensive information on topics such as law, education, work and everyday life is provided. The website is available in German, English, Arabic, Persian, Pashto, French and Turkish.

June 2018

The new site "[open sports activities](#)" is online!

May 2018

The "Booklet for Learning German" of the Munich Refugee Aid in 16 languages (including English, Arabic, Farsi, Dari, Somali, French...) can be downloaded here free of charge:

<http://fluechtlingshilfe-muenchen.de/?p=550>

May 2018

The new site "[integration management](#)" is online!

May 2018

The new site "[addiction counselling and help](#)" is online!

March 2018

We added a new site about [job application](#)!

March 2018

School explained in 15 multilingual videos

They cover topics such as school types, cooperation between parents and school, homework and what you should keep in mind when learning German:

The videos are available in [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#) and [Farsi](#).

March 2018

Consumer Tips for Refugees: What do I have to look out for with a bank account? What are the hidden costs in mobile phone contracts? What do I do when I get a payment reminder? What is important to consider when I move into a new flat? The Federation of German Consumer Association (Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband, vzbv) offers free informationen videos on youtube to help refugees orient themselves in Germany and to protect them from consumer pitfalls:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwiPiLJhcD8&list=...>

February 2018

The new programs of the [Future academy](#) (Zukunftsakademie) is online! Here you can find the programs of the [Junior Academy](#) and the [Hector Children's Academy](#).

February 2018

The East-Württemberg Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK Ostwürttemberg) has drawn up two templates for applying for an apprenticeship prolongation ("Ausbildungsduldung"). You can find the templates [here](#).

February 2018

The Bertelsmann Stiftung's new portal "[Meine Berufserfahrung](#)" (My professional experience) provides a **free multilingual** (6 languages: German, English, Arabic, Farsi, Russian and Turkish) and image-supported **self-assessment** in 8 **occupational fields**.

The self-assessment can be completed **in just a few minutes** and provides an overview of various relevant areas of the respective professional field. This can be **helpful as a first orientation**. The use of a memory code allows you to save and access your results.

January 2018

The [trauma picture book](#) **explains trauma in simple pictures and words**. It is designed to help families with traumatized children to better understand what trauma is. It **cannot and should not replace therapy!** The trauma picture book is [available in 10 languages](#), including [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#) and [Farsi](#).

January 2018

[Europass](#) is a **multilingual online portal** (more than 20 languages!) that helps migrants to make their skills and knowledge visible. It allows you to create a [language passport](#) or [CV \(Curriculum Vitae\)](#) with a **free online tool**. This is important if you want to apply for a job, an internship or vocational training. You will also find important **tips on how to apply for jobs**.

December 2017

"[Ein Tag Deutsch in der Pflege](#)" (one day of German in nursing care) is a **free learning game** with real scenarios and exercises on communication, vocabulary, structures and pronunciation - for German learners from level B1 upwards.

December 2017

On the homepage of the University of Ulm you will find a lot of [information about the new tuition fees for international students](#) from third countries in Baden-Württemberg. **EU migrants and most refugees do not have to pay tuition fees.** Those who have a German university entrance qualification do not have to pay tuition fees either. The website also gives information on tuition fees for a second degree course.

November 2017

[Good Morning Deutschland](#) is giving diversity a voice. It is **radio for refugees** that arrived in Germany with their cultural knowledge, interests and ideas of a prospective living in Germany. Good Morning Deutschland offers the opportunity to link with each other, to exchange, getting to know each other and to make music together. We broadcast in Arabic, Farsi, German, English.

November 2017

From now on you have **two new extras** in the Integreat-App version. With the „IHK-Lehrstellenbörse“ (online-apprenticeship-exchange of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce) you can **search for vocational training positions and internships in the local area.** The advanced search ("erweiterte Suche") allows you to adjust the radius (distance). If the new extras are not immediately visible in the app, click "Einstellungen>Einstellungen zurücksetzen".

November 2017

[DeepL](#) is a free online translator that works with artificial intelligence and achieves particularly good results. It is available in English, Spanish, Polish, Dutch, French and Italian.

November 2017

With the **relocation of the [district media centre](#)** ("Kreismedienzentrum") to the new municipal library (**Willy-Brandt-Platz 1, 89522 Heidenheim**) the district media centre opens a **media library for German as a second language** ("DaZ-Mediathek"), which offers a **wide range of materials for teaching** German to new immigrants as a reference collection. The DaZ-Mediathek is **open to teachers** at schools and language schools as well as **volunteers who give language tuition or tutoring, students** and all interested parties. If you would like to get a **first impression**, you can do so already during the **open days** at the opening of the municipal library. These will take place on Saturday, **11.11.2017 from 11:11 am to 8:00 pm** and on Sunday, **12.11.2017 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm.**

October 2017

"Deutsche Welle" offers a [new free online German course](#). It includes placement tests and modules on literacy and German for the workplace.

October 2017

The website "[Rumours about Germany](#)" of the German Federal Foreign Office is the central informational resource to ensure that potential and current migrants, as well as their communities, do not have to rely on false information and rumours spread by people smugglers.

October 2017

The VHS learning portal has introduced a free online German course for beginners (A1). You can register [here](#).

October 2017

[Oroboo Angel](#) is a new communication-app and web-app. It offers free audio/video-translations for 5 minutes to help you with your problem. There is a wide range of language combinations!

August 2017

Welcome to Heidenheim!

Help in case of emergency

Telephone numbers from all landlines or mobile networks (no area code required):

Police:



[110](tel:110)

Fire brigade, rescue services, emergency response doctor:



[112](tel:112)

Emergency poison number:



[0761 19240](tel:076119240)

Medical on-call service:



[116117](tel:116117)

The emergency numbers on mobile phones also work if you have no credit on your prepaid card!

Important information when calling 📞 112:

- **Who** is calling?
- **Where** did it happen?
- **What** happened?
- **How many** injured or ill people are there? Are they children or adults?
- **What type** of injuries or illnesses are there?

Always remain calm and speak clearly so you are better understood. Do not end the call. The emergency service or police will end the call when all necessary information has been given.

Only in an emergency (acute health threat outside of medical opening hours) may you go to the hospital without [a medical treatment certificate](#). You have to show your identity card there as proof that you are an asylum seeker so that those costs can be settled by the local authority.

Migration Advisory Board

The Migration Advisory Council for the district of Heidenheim has been in place since 2021. The advisory board is chaired by District Administrator Peter Polta.

The tasks

The task of the advisory board:

Help and protection so that all people can live together fairly:

- of different nationalities,
- cultures and
- religions
- improve the integration process in the city or community
- create a connection between people with and without a migration background
- Counselling and supporting people
- discuss integration issues in the community and represent them to important authorities
- the opportunity to express opinions and suggestions

The composition

The Migration Advisory Board is made up of

- the district administrator,
- four members of the district council,
- the integration officers of the district of Heidenheim and the large district towns of Giengen and Heidenheim,
- one person representing the towns and municipalities in the district and
- 12 experienced citizens who come from another country.

More detailed information on the meetings of the advisory board can be found [here](#).

Further information

The [statutes of the advisory board](#) can be found on the [homepage of the district of Heidenheim](#).

FAQ

Here you will find direct links to important topics:

- [Housing](#)
- [Migration counselling](#)
- the [youth migration service](#)
- the [integration course](#)
- [German for the job](#)
- [Interpreters and translators](#)
- [Childcare](#)
- the [school](#)
- [Vocational schools](#)
- [When can I work?](#)
- [Training](#)
- the [recognition of certificates](#)
- [job applications](#)

Important links

You can find a selection of important and general links on migration and integration [here](#).

- [RefugeeGuide](#) (**general information for refugees; multilingual**)
- [Ankommen-App](#) (**Arriving app**) (**guide for the first weeks in Germany, multilingual**)
- [News for Refugees](#) (**multilingual**)
- [Rumours about Germany](#) (**this multilingual website ensures that potential and current migrants do not have to rely on false information and rumours spread by people smugglers**).

- Guidance [IOS](#) and [Android](#) (**information on alcohol, drugs and other addictive substances; multilingual**)
- [Federal Office for Migration and Refugees](#) (BAMF) (**website, multilingual**)
- [German Basic Law \(Deutsches Grundgesetz](#) - **brochure to download, multilingual**)
- [German Basic Law \(Deutsches Grundgesetz](#) - movies, multilingual)
- [Integrationsmediathek](#) (media library for asylum and integration)
- [Handbook Germany](#) (information on living in Germany in 7 languages)

Welcome to Germany!

You must have a lot of questions about life in Germany and in the Heidenheim district.

This app is designed to help you navigate various areas of your everyday life.

At the top of the app, you will find the “**News**” item next to the “Categories” section. **New** offers and **events** are always presented here. So check it out regularly!

The content is clearly arranged so you can find your way around easily.

There are also links on the individual pages to help you find further information.

These **links** are **underlined** and you simply tap on them.

The app is meant to serve as a guide, it **cannot be a substitute for personal advice and support!**

Residence status (Aufenthaltsstatus)

Every person who seeks asylum in Germany needs to have an identification card (Ausweis). Your identification card provides details on your status and whether restrictions apply for any potential employment.

There are 5 different documents:

1. Proof of arrival

Status: Asylum seekers

Background: A proof of arrival (certificate of registration as an asylum seeker) is issued to a foreigner if they have requested asylum and have been processed by the registration authorities but have not yet filed an asylum application. Valid for the period between registration as an asylum requester and official application for asylum at the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).



2. Temporary residence permit (Aufenthaltsgestattung)

Status: Asylum seekers

Background: Issued to foreigners who have officially applied for asylum until their application has been considered. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge - BAMF) makes the decision to accept or reject your application. If the application for asylum is rejected for being unfounded, it is possible to appeal the decision before an administrative court. You are allowed to remain in Germany until the administrative court has reached its decision. [SG1]

The ID card for asylum seekers includes conditions of employment, residence and possibly territorial limitations.

- If you require a special permit to take on employment, apply for this permit at the [Bureau for Foreigners \(Ausländerbehörde\)](#) (employer or employee)
- Responsible for work placements: [Employment Agency \(Agentur für Arbeit\)](#)
- Responsible for social services: [Social Welfare Office \(Sozialamt\)](#)



3. Probationary permit (Fiktionsbescheinigung)

Status: Recognised refugees

Background: Certificate confirming the existence of a temporary right of residence, which frequently accompanies the application for the granting or extension of a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) submitted to the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde).



4. Residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis)

Status: Recognised refugees

Background: Positive decision on the application for asylum

The residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) is a temporary residence permit (befristeter Aufenthaltstitel). It is issued in accordance with the Residence Act. For refugees, there are various types of residence permits (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for humanitarian reasons.

- This opens up the option for a future indefinite right of residence (settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis))
- Unrestricted access to the labour market
- Responsibility for work placements and social benefits: [jobcenter](#)



5. Exceptional leave to remain (Duldung)

Status: Person with exceptional leave to remain (Geduldete)

Background: Negative decision on the application for asylum

An exceptional leave to remain (Duldung) is a temporary postponement of deportation. This document is only granted if deportation is impossible for legal, practical, humanitarian or personal reasons.

- General regulation for temporary legal suspension of deportation for certain groups by order of the highest state authority for a maximum duration of 3 months ("suspension of deportation")
- A work permit is always necessary and can be requested from the [Bureau for Foreigners \(Ausländerbehörde\)](#) (employer or employee)
- Responsible for work placements: [Employment Agency \(Agentur für Arbeit\)](#)
- Responsible for social services: [Social Welfare Office \(Sozialamt\)](#)



The district of Heidenheim



The **district of Heidenheim** is located in the east of the **federal state of Baden-Württemberg**.

With about 133,000 inhabitants, it is one of the smallest districts in Baden-Württemberg.

The district of Heidenheim includes **11 cities and municipalities**:



Heidenheim, Giengen, Herbrechtingen, Niederstotzingen, Dischingen, Gerstetten, Hermaringen, Königsbronn, Nattheim, Sonthheim an der Brenz, Steinheim am Albuch.

You can find opportunities for leisure activities throughout the district [here](#).

Community life in Germany

The Basic Law (Grundgesetz)

In every country, there are rules that everyone has to follow. The most important law in Germany is the Basic Law. It is a collection of 146 articles. Each article stands for a law, meaning a rule. These rules determine how we live together here in Germany. The basic rights protect the freedom of each individual. They are stipulated in Articles 1 to 19 of the Basic Law (Catalogue of Fundamental Rights).

🌐 Here you can find the Basic Law in 11 languages:* [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Italian](#), [Persian](#), [Polish](#), [Russian](#), [Serbian](#), [Spanish](#), [Turkish](#), and of course in [German](#).

🎬 This film illustrates how the German legal state works:
[German](#), [Dari](#), [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Pashto](#), [Urdu](#).

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Human rights are important rights that apply to everyone all over the world. Human rights are rights that every person has on the basis of their humanity. They protect the dignity of every human being and apply to every person equally, regardless of " (...) race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." (Article 2 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10.12.1948)

There are 30 rights. The most important are:

- All people are equally worthy.
- Everyone is allowed to have their own opinion.
- All people have the right to live in peace and safety.

Children's rights

Children need extra protection, which is why they also have special rights. The individual children's rights are stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1989 and subsequently ratified by 196 countries. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child includes 54 articles.

🌐 The 10 most important children's rights are visually explained here: [German/Arabic](#) and [German/Persian](#).

Cities and municipalities

Municipality of Dischingen

Municipality of Dischingen

Market place 9
89561 Dischingen



[07327810](tel:07327810)

@

info@dischingen.de



<http://www.dischingen.de>

Opening hours:

Consultation hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8:00 - 12:00

Friday: 8:00 - 13:00

also Thursday: 14:00 - 18:00

For appointments at the Citizens' Office, please make an appointment by calling [07327 / 81-0](tel:07327810)

Offers in Dischingen

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [Katzenstein Castle excursion](#) centre

You can find daycare centres in Dischingen under: [Daycare centres](#)

Schools in Dischingen can be found under: [Schools](#)

Health in Dischingen can be found under: [Health](#)

Clubs in Dischingen can be found under: [Clubs](#)

Gerstetten

Gerstetten

Wilhelmstr. 31

89547 Gerstetten

 [07323840](tel:07323840)

@

rathaus@gerstetten.de



<https://www.gerstetten.de>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Wednesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Thursday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Friday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Offers in Gerstetten

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [youth centre](#)
- The [excursion option: The railway museum](#)

You can find the schools in Gerstetten under: [Schools](#)

You can find the daycare centres in Gerstetten under: [Daycare centres](#)

You can find the health services in Gerstetten at [Healthcare](#)

You can find the clubs in Gerstetten under: [Clubs](#)


You can find the sports facilities in Gerstetten under: [Sports facilities](#)

Giengen

Giengen

Marktstr. 11

89537 Giengen

 [073229520](tel:073229520)

 @stadtverwaltung@giengen.de

 <https://www.giengen.de>

Opening hours:

City administration

Monday: 09:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tuesday: 09:00 am to 1:00 pm

Wednesday: 07:30 am to 1:00 pm

Thursday: 09:00 am to 6:00 pm

Friday: 09:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tourist information

Monday: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Tuesday: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Friday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Saturdays: open from 1. April to 31 October.

"Unicorn-Card" of the City Giengen:

The "Einhornkarte" (unicorn card) for residents with low incomes offers many discounts and advantages:

<http://www.giengen.de/ceasy/modules/core/resource...>

Offers in Giengen

- [Integration management](#)
- [Migration counselling](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [youth centre](#)
- The [open sports programme](#)
- The [excursion](#) programmes

Schools in Giengen can be found here: [Schools](#)

Daycare centres in Giengen can be found here: [Daycare centres](#)

Health and care in Giengen can be found here: [Health and care](#)


Clubs in Giengen can be found here: [Clubs](#)

City of Heidenheim

City of Heidenheim

Grabenstr. 15

89522 Heidenheim

 [073213270](tel:073213270)

 @rathaus@heidenheim.de

 www.heidenheim.de

Opening hours:

Town hall:

Monday: 08:30 - 16:30

Tuesday: 08:30 - 16:30

Wednesday: 08:30 - 16:30

Thursday: 08:30 - 18:00

Friday: 08:30 - 12:30

Further opening hours can be found [here](#)

Promotion pass of the city of Heidenheim:

The [subsidy pass](#) for residents with a low income offers many discounts and benefits.

Offers in Heidenheim

Here you will find offers in Heidenheim:

- [Integration management](#)
- [Migration counselling](#)
- The [youth migration service](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [youth centres](#)
- [Meeting places for families](#)
- The [open sports centres](#)
- The [open cafés](#)
- The [excursion options](#)

You can find the schools in Heidenheim under: [Schools](#)

You can find the daycare centres in Heidenheim under: [Daycare centres](#)

The clubs in Heidenheim can be found under: [Clubs](#)

You can find the sports programmes in Heidenheim under: [Sports programmes](#)

City of Herbrechtingen

City of Herbrechtingen

Lange Str. 58
89542 Herbrechtingen



[073249550](tel:073249550)



info@herbrechtingen.de



<https://www.herbrechtingen.de>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:30 - 12:00 and 14:00 - 16:00
Tuesday: by appointment
Wednesday: 08:30 - 18:00
Thursday: 07:30 - 12:00 and 14:00 - 16:00
Friday: 08:30 - 12:00

Herbrechtingen subsidy pass:

The [subsidy pass](#) for low-income residents offers many discounts and benefits.

Offers in Herbrechtingen

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [youth centre](#)
- The [monastery family meeting point](#)
- The [excursion possibilities](#)

Schools in Herbrechtingen can be found under: [Schools](#)

Daycare centres in Herbrechtingen can be found under: [Daycare centres](#)

The clubs in Herbrechtingen can be found under: [Clubs](#)

Hermaringen

Hermaringen

Karlstraße 12
89568 Hermaringen
 [0732295470](tel:0732295470)
 info@hermaringen.de
 <http://www.hermaringen.de>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:30 am to 12.00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12.00 noon
Wednesday: 08:30 am to 12.00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Thursday: 08:30 am to 12.00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Friday: 08:30 am to 12.00 noon

Offers in Hermaringen

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [Güssenburg excursion](#) centre

You can find the school in Hermaringen under [Schools](#)

You can find the day care centre in Hermaringen under: [Day care centre](#)

Health in Hermaringen can be found under: [Health](#)

You can find the clubs in Hermaringen under: [Clubs](#)

You can find the sports facilities in Hermaringen under: [Sports facilities](#)

Königsbronn

Königsbronn

Herwartstraße 2

89551 Königsbronn

☎ [0732896250](tel:0732896250)

✉ @rathaus@koenigsbronn.de

🌐 <https://www.koenigsbronn.de>

Opening hours:

Town hall

Monday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Wednesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Thursday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Friday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Registry office

Monday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Tuesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Wednesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon and 2:30 am to 5:30 pm

Donnerstag: 07:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Freitag: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Offers in Königsbronn

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [youth centre](#)
- The [excursion possibilities](#)

Schools in Königsbronn can be found under: [Schools](#)

Daycare centres in Königsbronn can be found under: [Daycare centres](#)

Health and care in Königsbronn can be found at: [Health and care](#)

Clubs in Königsbronn can be found under: [Clubs](#)

Sports facilities in Königsbronn can be found under: [Sports facilities](#)

Nattheim

Nattheim

Fleinheimer Straße 2

89564 Nattheim

☎ [0732197840](tel:0732197840)

@ info@nattheim.de

🌐 <https://www.nattheim.de/>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Tuesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Wednesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Thursday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Friday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Offers in Nattheim

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [excursion options: Coral and local history museum and Ramensteinbad](#)

Health in Nattheim: [Health](#)

Daycare centres in Nattheim: [Daycare centres](#)

School in Nattheim: [School](#)

Clubs in Nattheim: [Clubs](#)

Friends of Asylum Nattheim:

If you would like to contact the Freundeskreis Asyl Nattheim, you can contact Mrs Rödner (☎ [0160 551 08 33](tel:01605510833)).

Niederstotzingen

Niederstotzingen

Im Städtle 26

89168 Niederstotzingen

☎ [073251020](tel:073251020)

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

www.niederstotzingen.de

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Wednesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Thursday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Friday: 08:00 am to 1:00 pm

Offers in Niederstotzingen

[Integration management](#)

[Library and state education centre](#)

[Excursion Archaeopark Vogelherd archeological park](#)

Schools in Niederstotzingen:

<http://www.stadt-niederstotzingen.de/de/Leben-in-...>

Kindergartens in Niederstotzingen:

<http://www.stadt-niederstotzingen.de/de/Leben-in-...>

Health in Niederstotzingen:

<http://www.stadt-niederstotzingen.de/de/Leben-in-...>

Clubs and associations in Niederstotzingen:

<http://www.stadt-niederstotzingen.de/de/Freizeit-...>

Sontheim an der Brenz

Sontheim

Brenzer Straße 25

89567 Sontheim an der Brenz

 [07325170](tel:07325170)

[@info@sontheim-brenz.de](mailto:info@sontheim-brenz.de)

[http://www.sontheim-brenz.de/](http://www.sontheim-brenz.de)

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12:00

Wednesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Thursday: 08:30 am to 12:00 noon

Friday: 08:30 am to 12:30 pm

Offers in Sontheim

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)

- The [Galluskirche excursion centre](#)


Schools in Sontheim can be found under: [Schools](#)

Daycare centres in Sontheim can be found under: [Daycare centres](#)

Steinheim am Albuch

Steinheim am Albuch

Hauptstraße 24
89555 Steinheim

 [0732996060](tel:0732996060)

 info@steinheim.de

 <https://www.steinheim.com/startseite>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Tuesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Wednesday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Thursday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Friday: 08:00 am to 12:00 noon

Opening hours citizens' office:

Tuesday: 08:00 am to 1:00 pm

Offers in Steinheim

- [Integration management](#)
- The [library and the adult education centre](#)
- The [Meteor Crater Museum excursion](#) programme

Information about

- the schools
- daycare centres and
- the clubs

in Steinheim can be found here: [Municipality of Steinheim](#)

Contact points

Important offices

District Office Heidenheim

There are many authorities, offices and advice centres in the district office. For example, the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Office, the Vehicle Licensing Office, the Youth Welfare Office or the Health Office.

You can find a list of all the services on offer on the [District Office homepage](#).

[District Office Heidenheim](#)

Felsenstr. 36
89518 Heidenheim



[073213210](tel:073213210)




post@landkreis-heidenheim.de

The Asylum Seekers' Benefits Office

During your asylum procedure, you will receive your money from the Asylum [Seekers' Benefits](#) Office.

The tasks are: asylum seeker benefits, issuing treatment vouchers, processing [BuT applications](#)...

House A, ground floor, room A 003
Felsenstr. 36
89518 Heidenheim
 0 [7321321](tel:7321321) 2125



asylbewerberleistungen@landkreis-heidenheim.de

The Social Welfare Office

The tasks of the [Social W](#)elfare Office include the implementation of social welfare. These tasks are

- basic security in old age and in the event of reduced earning capacity
- assistance with care
- assistance with living expenses
- Integration assistance for people with disabilities
- assistance to overcome particular social difficulties
- assistance with health
- assistance in other life situations

The tasks of the Social Welfare Office also include counselling and support.

The Youth and Family Department

The [Youth and Family](#) Department helps children, young people and families with a wide range of services. Preventative help is particularly important. The aim in every area is to create positive living conditions and equal opportunities for children and young people. We are also happy to assist parents (before or after birth, whether with young or older children).

Immigration Offices (Ausländerbehörden)

In order to be able to live as a non-German national in Germany, you need a residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel) (visa, residence permit, EU Blue Card, or permanent residence – of which there are two slightly different forms, "Niederlassungserlaubnis" and "Erlaubnis zum Daueraufenthalt"). In order to apply for a residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel), you need to go to the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde).

Other things you can do at the Immigration Offices (Ausländerbehörden) :

- Renew an arrival certificate
- Get or renew a temporary residence permit (Aufenthaltsgestattung)
- Apply for a work permit
- Registration certificate, registering and de-registering from a place of residence
- Residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) and special permits for travel

Contact details:

Areas of responsibility: ID card application, ID card extensions, work permits, subsequent admission of family members, transfer applications, residence requirements, etc.

Please note the particular jurisdiction area!


Heidenheim immigration offices (Ausländerbehörde Stadt Heidenheim)

(responsible for the municipal areas of Heidenheim, Schnaitheim, Mergelstetten, Oggenhausen and Großkuchen)

Stadt Heidenheim (Meeboldhaus)

Grabenstraße 9 (former LBBW building)

89522 Heidenheim

 [073213273320](tel:073213273320)

@

auslaenderwesen@heidenheim.de

Access by appointment only!

You can find more detailed information about booking an appointment here:

<https://www.heidenheim.de/rathaus-und-verwaltung/...>

 Opening hours

Monday: 08:30 am to 12:00 pm

Tuesday: 08:30 am to 12:00 pm

Wednesday: closed

Thursday: 08:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Friday: 08:30 am to 12:30 pm

City of Giengen immigration offices (Ausländerbehörde Stadt Giengen)

(responsible for the city of Giengen, Burgberg, Hohenmemmingen, Hürben and Sachsenhausen)

Rathaus Giengen

Marktstraße 11

89537 Giengen an der Brenz

 [073229522330](tel:073229522330)

@

auslaenderwesen@heidenheim.de

 Opening hours

Monday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Tuesday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Thursday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm


District of Heidenheim immigration offices (Ausländerbehörde Landkreis Heidenheim)

(responsible for all other communities)

Landratsamt Heidenheim


Felsenstr. 36

89518 Heidenheim

 [073213210](tel:073213210)

@auslaenderbehoerde@landkreis-heidenheim.de

[Appointments can be made online](#) or by phone at [073213212226](tel:073213212226)

 Opening hours

Monday: 08:00 am to 11:30 am (by appointment only) and 2 pm - 4 pm

Tuesday: 08:00 am to 11:30 am (with appointment only)

Wednesday: closed

Thursday: 08:00 am to 11:30 am (with appointment only) and 2 pm to 5 pm

Friday: 08:00 am to 11:30 am

Guide to authorities

There are many authorities in Germany. They are responsible for different topics. The most important authorities are listed in alphabetical order on this page:

The asylum seeker benefits authority

During the asylum procedure, you will receive your money via the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Authority.

The tasks are, for example: asylum seekers' benefits, issuing treatment certificates, processing BuT applications, etc.

You can find [addresses and information](#) here

The immigration authorities

Tasks: applying for ID cards, renewing ID cards, work permits, family reunification, redistribution applications, residence requirements, etc.

You can find [addresses and information](#) here

The Federal Employment Agency

The tasks: job placement, counselling, qualification, unemployment benefits, etc.

[Federal Employment Agency Heidenheim](#)

[Ploucquetstraße 30](#)

[89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz](#)



[08004555500](tel:08004555500)



heidenheim@arbeitsagentur.de

www.arbeitsagentur.de (German, English)



Monday to Friday 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
or by appointment

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees is responsible for [processing your asylum application](#).

[Federal Office for Migration and Refugees \(BAMF\)](#)

P.O. Box 90343 Nuremberg

The residents' registration office

Can be found under [Town Halls](#).

The tax office

The areas of responsibility: Issuing income tax cards, tax returns, information on taxes, [etc.](#)

[Heidenheim tax office](#)

Marienstraße 15
89518 Heidenheim



[07321380](#)



Monday 8:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 15:30
Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Do you need **help with your tax return?** You can contact a [tax consultant](#) or an [income tax assistance organisation](#). These services **cost money**.

The health department

You can find it at [Heidenheim District Office \(Felsenstraße\)](#)

The job centre

Its tasks include Benefits according to SGB II (applications for [unemployment benefit 2](#), [education and participation](#)), job placement, education and participation.

[Job Centre Heidenheim](#)

Theodor-Heuss-Str. 1
89518 Heidenheim



[073213450](#)



Monday to Friday 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Thursday 14:00 - 17:30

Appointments are also available outside opening hours.

The consulates/foreign missions

You can use the consulates to obtain original documents from your home country, for example.

You can find a [list of consulates in Germany](#) here

The District Office Heidenheim (Felsenstraße)

There are many different authorities, offices and advice centres in the district office. For example, the vehicle registration office, the youth welfare office or the health department.

Here you will find an overview of all the [services](#) offered by the District Office.

District Office Heidenheim

Felsenstr. 36
89518 Heidenheim



[073213210](tel:073213210)

The town halls

As a rule, each municipality has its own town hall. In the town hall you will also find various authorities (for example the registry office or the residents' registration office).

You can find them under [Towns and municipalities](#)

The police stations

Most towns and municipalities have their own police station. (Please note that not all stations are staffed at all times).

Heidenheim police station

Schnaitheimer Str. 14
89520 Heidenheim

Schnaitheim police station

At the town hall 8
89520 Heidenheim

Herbrechtingen police station

Pfarrstraße 4
89542 Herbrechtingen

Giengen

Schwagestraße 16
89537 Giengen an der Brenz

Sontheim

Brenzer Street 25
89567 Sontheim an der Brenz

Steinheim

Forststraße 2
89555 Steinheim am Albuch

Gerstetten

Wilhelmstraße 30
89547 Gerstetten

Nattheim

Neresheimer Street 25
89564 Nattheim

The social welfare office

You will find it under [District Office Heidenheim \(Felsenstraße\)](#)

The registry office

Can be found under [Town Halls](#)

There is also a [guide to the authorities in Heidenheim](#).

Job centre

The job centre is your contact in the event of unemployment and need of assistance. It pays financial benefits. It also offers job placement and training as required.

For example, it enables you to

- participation in a language course,
- placement in career counselling or
- the recognition of certificates.

- Job Centre staff are not permitted to pass on any information about customers. A power of attorney is required as a voluntary accompanying person. The power of attorney must be completed in full and signed by both parties.
- If you have a residence permit (asylum procedure still ongoing) or a tolerated stay permit (asylum procedure legally rejected), the employment agency is responsible for questions relating to employment promotion.

The steps after a positive decision

You have received a positive decision from the BAMF. The asylum procedure has been successfully completed. This means that you are recognised as entitled to asylum or have been granted refugee protection. These are the next steps:

1. the personal interview

- You must go to the Job Centre during opening hours.
- You will be registered there as a customer.
- Your background will be recorded.
- Two appointments will be made: a counselling appointment with the benefits department and an appointment with the job centre
- You will be registered as a jobseeker.

2. the benefits department

- Important: You need an appointment for the counselling. There is no counselling without an appointment!
- Benefits are applied for (with an appointment) with the responsible caseworker.


3. the job centre

- Important: You need an appointment for counselling. There is no counselling without an appointment
- You must bring the integration course obligation or confirmation of participation in an integration course with you.
- Do you have documents about
 - School attendance,
 - training,
 - work certificate,
 - Recognition of qualifications obtained abroad ...Please bring these with you.
- Tell us about your special skills (e.g. craftsmanship or language skills).
- Think about which areas of work you are interested in before your appointment.

Contact us:

[Jobcenter Heidenheim](#)

Theodor-Heuss-Str. 1
89518 Heidenheim

 [073213450](tel:073213450)



Monday - Friday 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Thursday 14:00 - 17:30

You can book an appointment for a telephone call or a face-to-face meeting via the [online appointment](#) system.

The job centre can be reached by telephone at  [07321 345 0](tel:073213450) from Monday - Friday 08:00 - 18:00.

Employment Agency

The Federal Employment Agency is responsible for everything to do with employment. If you are looking for a job, need help choosing a career in Germany, need your qualifications recognised or similar, the Employment Agency is your point of contact.




- If your asylum procedure is still ongoing (Aufenthaltsgestattung) or if you are tolerated (Duldung), then the Employment Agency is your point of contact for questions about the transition from school to work (careers advice), job placement and advice on further vocational training and for employer advice (employer service).
- Are you recognised and receive benefits from the job centre? Then the job centre is your contact for advice and placement in the labour market.

If you are looking for a job, you can search for offers on the [Employment Agency website](#).

The contact:

The Federal Employment Agency

Areas of responsibility: Job placement, counselling, qualification, unemployment benefits, etc.

Federal Employment Agency Heidenheim
Ploucquetstraße 30
89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz
 [08004555500](tel:08004555500)
 @heidenheim@arbeitsagentur.de
 [Federal Employment Agency](#) (German, English)



Monday to Friday 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
or by appointment
[online appointments](#)

Advice and assistance

Migration counselling

Do you need individual and practical help with German culture and bureaucracy?

The [AWO Heidenheim migration counselling](#) service offers

- **free counselling** and support

for all **adult migrants**.

The AWO Heidenheim migration counselling service offers

- free counselling and support

for all adult migrants aged 27 and over.

It helps new immigrants to find their feet in their

- new,

- culturally unfamiliar environment


and integrate smoothly into everyday life.

Counselling is available on these topics:


- Personal concerns
- legal issues
- housing
- Integration courses
- the recognition procedure
- Papers and certificates
- the language course/school
- the job/training
- Kindergarten
- Health issues
- Everyday and leisure activities


Contact and opening hours in Heidenheim:


Arbeiterwohlfahrt Heidenheim Kreisverband e.V.

 Talstraße 90

89518 Heidenheim

 [07321983624](tel:07321983624) or [07321983647](tel:07321983647)

 @migration@awo-heidenheim.de

 Open consultation hours:

Thursdays: 14:00 - 16:00

Or by appointment

Contact and opening hours in Giengen


Workers' Welfare Organisation (AWO) Giengen

 Johann-Sebastian-Bach Street 28

89537 Giengen

 [015258895550](tel:015258895550)

 @migration@awo-heidenheim.de

 Open consultation hours

Tuesday: 9:00 - 13:00

Or by appointment

MBE on [Facebook](#)

[Mbeon](#) - the online migration counselling service

The information platform "mbeon" provides immigrants with information on many topics. The new website is available in

- German,
- English,
- Russian and
- Arabic.

There is also a chat function. You can chat with counsellors. The counsellors speak different languages.

Youth migration service

The [Youth Migration Service \(JMD\)](#) of the Workers' Welfare Association in Heidenheim supports the successful integration of young migrants between the ages of 12 and 27.

The most important goal of the JMD is to **improve opportunities in**

- **school,**
- **training and**
- **work.**

Young migrants should be supported in school and training processes in order to develop themselves. They will then be able to enter the labour market later on.

The JMD offers young people with a migration background many opportunities to realise their goals.

As part of individual integration support or in group programmes, they receive **free** support with integration and orientation difficulties.

The services

- Integration support planning (case management procedure)
- Socio-educational counselling
- Personal concerns and crisis situations
- job applications and applications
- German courses
- Language support and homework help
- further education courses (IT courses, job application coaching)
- School, training, studies or work
- Recognition of school and university degrees and professional qualifications obtained in the home country
- Placement in other programmes in the local network

For the parents

Working with parents is one of the JMD's most important tasks.

The JMD


- offers counselling on educational and parenting issues
- puts parents in touch with contact persons
- translates in the event of comprehension problems and
- improves the framework conditions under which the children's school and professional careers take place.

The contact

[Arbeiterwohlfahrt Heidenheim Kreisverband e.V. Youth Migration Service \(JMD\)](#)

Talstraße 90

89518 Heidenheim

 [07321983628](tel:07321983628) or [07321983631](tel:07321983631) or [01746879053](tel:01746879053)

Thursday 14:00 - 16:00

The JMD on [Facebook](#)

Jugendberufsagentur

The Heidenheim Youth Employment Agency is a project of the Job Centre, the Employment Agency and the District Office. Young people up to the age of 25 receive support here with problems, questions about working life or the citizen's allowance.

We always have an open ear for you and your concerns - just drop by!





Jugendberufsagentur Heidenheim

Friedrichstraße 2

89518 Heidenheim

 www.jba-hdh.de

 [07321 74777 0](tel:07321747770)

 Opening hours:

Monday - Wednesday: 08:00 - 16:00

Thursday: 08:00 - 17:30

Friday: 08:00 - 11:30

Welcome Centre Ostwürttemberg

Are you new to Germany? Do you have questions about living and working in Germany?

The [Welcome Centre Ostwürttemberg](#) will provide you with information free of charge. These are topics

- the recognition of foreign school and professional qualifications,
- work, job search and application,
- training and studying,
- learning German,
- the right of entry and residence,
- the healthcare system,
- childcare,
- mobility,
- the religious communities,

- the school,
- insurance,
- clubs and leisure activities,
- housing
- ... and much more.

The Welcome Centre speaks these languages:

- German,
- English,
- French and
- Spanish

The counselling appointments:

Counselling is free of charge. You can find the exact times on the [homepage](#). Appointments are available in Aalen, Ellwangen, Giengen, Heidenheim and Schwäbisch Gmünd.


Online counselling is available by appointment.

Contact:

The management of the Welcome Centre Ostwürttemberg

Steffen Kohnle

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

 [07171 927 53 24](tel:071719275324)




[0176 747 874 12](tel:017674787412)

Skype: WelcomeCenter OW

@kohnle@ostwuerttemberg.de

Daniel Schramm

International skilled workers - SMEs/companies


 [07171 927 53 31](tel:071719275331)

 [0176 747 874 12](tel:017674787412)

@schramm@ostwuerttemberg.de

Solveigh Gauditz

International Students - International Professionals

 [0736 157 617 05](tel:073615761705)

 [01522 604 39 29](tel:015226043929)

@solveigh.gauditz@hs-aalen.de

Integration management

Integration managers are the **point of contact for refugees in follow-up accommodation**. Counselling can be provided on an outreach basis.

Their tasks include

- Social counselling by providing information or contact persons
- Drawing up a joint integration plan
- Support and guidance in achieving the goals of the integration plan
- Guiding you to local associations, volunteer programmes and integration offers

The place where you live decides who is responsible for you. If necessary, please get in touch with the relevant contact person!

Contact persons in the district of Heidenheim

Note: For refugees in the shared accommodation centres, the social-pedagogical support of the Heidenheim district office is responsible!

For the town of Heidenheim

City of Heidenheim

Wagnerstraße 3

89518 Heidenheim

@integration@heidenheim.de

[☎073212772240](tel:073212772240)

Consultation hours:

Appointment by arrangement

For Härtsfeldstraße in the town of Heidenheim:

Caritas Ostwürttemberg

Härtsfeldstraße 19

89520 Heidenheim

@pravilov@caritas-ost-wuerttemberg.de

[☎0732155049610](tel:0732155049610)

[☎0732155049612](tel:0732155049612)

For the town of Herbrechtingen:

eva Heidenheim gGmbH

Herbrechtingen Town Hall

Lange Str. 58

89542 Herbrechtingen

@integrationsmanagement@eva-heidenheim.de

[☎073249551800](tel:073249551800)

[☎073249551801](tel:073249551801)

🕒 Office hours:

Monday: 08:00 - 12:00 and 14:00 - 16:00

Tuesday: 08:00 - 12:00

Wednesday: 14:00 - 18:00

At other times: Appointment by arrangement

For the town of Giengen, municipality of Dischingen, municipality of Hermaringen:

City of Giengen

Integration Management Giengen
Integration meeting point
Market Street 24
89537 Giengen an der Brenz

 [073229568948](tel:073229568948)

 [073229568949](tel:073229568949)

 @integration@giengen.de



<https://www.treffpunkt-integration-giengen.de>

Office hours:

Monday 9:00 - 13:00

Tuesday 9:00 - 13:00 and 14:00 - 16:00


Wednesday 7:30 - 13:00

Thursday 12:00 - 18:00

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For the municipalities of Königsbronn, Nattheim and Steinheim:

District Office Heidenheim
Felsenstraße 36

 [07321321 2198](tel:073213212198)

 @integration@landkreis-heidenheim.de

Consultation hours in the municipalities:

Königsbronn Monday 13:00 to 16:00

Steinheim Tuesday 13:00 to 16:00

Nattheim Wednesday 13:00 to 16:00

At other times: Appointment by arrangement

For the municipality of Gerstetten:

Municipality of Gerstetten

Integration Management
Gerstetten Town Hall
Room 3 (ground floor)
Wilhelmstraße 31
89547 Gerstetten

 @aideen.jakob@gerstetten.de

 [0 7323843 61](tel:0732384361)

 [016099712436](tel:016099712436)

Fax: 07323 84 309

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 - 12:00 and by appointment

For the town of Niederstotzingen and the municipality of Sontheim an der Brenz:

Niederstotzingen Town Council

Im Städtle 26

Room U3 (ground floor)

89168 Niederstotzingen

@swetlana.schmid@niederstotzingen.de

[0732510229](tel:0732510229)

Fax: 0732510236

 Office hours:

Monday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 - 17:00

Municipality of Sontheim an der Brenz

Integration Management

Brenzer Street 25

Room 107 (1st floor)

89567 Sontheim an der Brenz

@mailto:s.schmid@sontheim-brenz.de

[073251725](tel:073251725)

Fax: 07325 17 47

 Office hours:

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 9:00 - 17:00

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Return counselling

Would you like to return to your home country before the BAMF has decided on your asylum application?

Do you need financial help for your return journey?

The Central Return Counselling Service (ZRB) will advise you on how voluntary departure to your home country can work. The counselling is open-ended. This means that you decide yourself after the counselling whether or not you want to leave voluntarily.



District Office Heidenheim

Felsenstraße 36

89518 Heidenheim

Further information on voluntary return:

- on the website of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) and
- the multilingual portal [Returning from Germany](#).

Integration and volunteering team

Contact person and contact of the migration team in the district of Heidenheim:


Yasemin Yelen

Integration Officer

 [073213212128](tel:073213212128)

 [@Y.Yelen@Landkreis-Heidenheim.de](mailto:Y.Yelen@Landkreis-Heidenheim.de)

 [Homepage](#)

Are you considering becoming a volunteer yourself? Are you looking for a new task? There is a need for volunteers in many areas. This can be support in everyday life, leisure activities, tutoring or translation. We would be happy to help you find a suitable volunteer position, please contact  ehrenamt@landkreis-heidenheim.de.

Asylum and refugees

Family asylum and international protection for family members

Family asylum and international protection for family members

Family members of people who have been granted protection can also apply for asylum. If the application is accepted, they receive the same protection status (asylum, refugee status or other protection).

Family asylum includes these family members:

- Spouses or registered partners
- Unmarried children under the age of 18
- Parents, if they have custody of a minor, unmarried child
- Other adults caring for an unmarried minor child
- Siblings under the age of 18 if they are unmarried

For spouses to be granted asylum, the marriage must have already existed in the country of origin. The asylum application must be submitted before or at the same time as the person entitled to protection or directly after entry. In addition, the protection status of the main person must not have been cancelled.

Born in Germany:

If a child is born in Germany after the parents have applied for asylum, it can be granted its own asylum procedure under certain conditions.

To do this, the parents (if at least one parent is still in the asylum procedure) or the immigration authority must notify the Federal Office of the birth. The asylum application is then automatically filed for the baby. The parents can state their own reasons for asylum for their child. If they do not do this, the same reasons as for the parents will be applied. If the application is rejected, they can take it to court.

To protect the child, the following also applies: If a child is still a minor, they may not be separated from their parents and deported alone.

Further information can be found directly on the BAMF [website Family reunification \(BAMF\)](#)

Support groups

Are you looking for **companionship or support in every-day tasks**, for example

- with shopping
- with homework help for schoolchildren
- with learning German
- with visits to the authorities and doctor's visits
- with leisure activities
- with getting in contact with clubs?

Then you can get in touch with the following contacts.

These are people **engaged in volunteer work** who have come together in support groups or friendship circles to help refugees and recent immigrants.

Contact:

Heidenheim:

@info-asyl-hdh@gmx.de

@inihelp@yahoo.de

@monikacharisius@web.de ; ☎ [0176 754 132 68](tel:017675413268)

Giengen:

@Lukas.schuler@giengen.de ; ☎ [073229568949](tel:073229568949)

Gerstetten:

@kontakt@freundeskreis-asyl-gerstetten.de

Hermaringen:

@freundeskreis-asyl.hermaringen@gmx.de

Königsbronn:

@wietschorke@se-hdhn.de ; ☎ [07328 922 039](tel:07328922039)

Nattheim:

@roedner@web.de

Niederstotzingen:

@thehardman@gmx.de ; ☎ [07325 921 730](tel:07325921730)

Steinheim:

@rosi.tietboehl@gmx.de ; ☎ [0151 152 412 46](tel:0151_152_412_46)

Asylum application and BAMF

The [asylum procedure](#)

If you come to Germany as a refugee, you must **apply for asylum**. The application will be examined by the **Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)**. It will then decide whether you are allowed to stay in Germany or not.

The **asylum procedure** is briefly summarised here.

On the BAMF website you will find more detailed [information on the asylum procedure in Germany](#) (also available in several languages) and [the asylum procedure](#).

1. the asylum application (1st interview)

Once you have arrived in Germany, you will be registered at an **initial reception centre**. Here you will receive your **temporary identity card**. This is called Ankunftsnaachweis, BüMA or Laufzettel. There are initial reception centres in Ellwangen, Karlsruhe and Heidelberg, for example.

You usually submit your asylum application there. Sometimes it is later. You will then be assigned to a **district or urban district**, for example to the district of Heidenheim.

You will live there in **temporary accommodation**. You will receive your **residence permit** from the [immigration office responsible for](#) you. This is a green identity card.

If you have not yet applied for asylum, please contact your responsible counsellor.

2. the interview (2nd interview)

After you have submitted your asylum application, you will receive an appointment by post for the **interview** at the initial reception centre responsible for you.

Please take this letter to the [Asylum Seekers' Benefits Office](#). There you will receive confirmation that the costs for the train will be covered.

At this interview, you must explain why you have fled to Germany. The BAMF will then decide on your asylum application.

Please understand that many people have currently applied for asylum. Therefore, you may have to wait longer for an appointment.

3. the decision

Some time after your interview, you will receive your **decision** by post. This will state how your asylum procedure will be decided. There are various options (selection):

- **Refugee status:**
 - Residence permit for 3 years,
 - then extension under certain circumstances.
 - [Family reunification possible](#).
- **Subsidiary protection:**
 - Residence permit for 1 year,
 - then extension under certain circumstances.
 - Family reunification currently not possible.
- **Ban on deportation:**
 - Residence permit for 1 year,
 - then extension under certain circumstances.
 - Family reunification not possible.
- **Refusal:**
 - Obligation to leave the country/deportation;
 - possibly temporary toleration.

Take your decision to the responsible immigration office and the asylum seeker benefits office as soon as possible!

Benefits and accommodation during the asylum procedure

→ **During** your asylum procedure, you will receive money from the Heidenheim District Office. You will be housed in accommodation provided by the Heidenheim District Office.

→ After the positive decision, you will receive your money from the job centre. You must [look for](#) your own [flat](#). If you have not found a flat within 3 months of receiving your decision, you will be moved to accommodation in a town or municipality in the district. This is called "Anschlussunterbringung" (AU).

Voluntary return

Would you like to return to your home country voluntarily during your ongoing asylum procedure or after a rejection? The [return counselling](#) service [of the](#) district office will provide you with information and support.

Further information on voluntary return can be found on the [website of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees](#) and the multilingual portal [Returning from Germany](#).

EU migrants and late repatriates

EU migrants

If you are a **citizen of an EU member state**, you can generally enter, live and work in Germany legally (Freedom of Movement Act/EU).

You must then register with the [relevant residents' registration office](#). To do this, you will need a

valid identity card or a valid passport from your country of origin.

Please remember that you are not entitled to social benefits in Germany for the first 5 years (if you are not working).

Late repatriates

After you have received your **notice of admission** in your country of origin, you may enter Germany.

There you will be assigned to a district by the Federal Office of Administration in Friedland (for example the district of Heidenheim). If you cannot find private accommodation, you will be accommodated by the district.

You can find further information [here](#)

Payment card for asylum seekers

General information about the payment card



The payment card for asylum seekers works like a bank card. People who come to Germany from other countries and need help receive this card from the state. It contains money every month that they can use for things like food, clothing or travel tickets. They no longer receive cash, but pay directly with the card. If they still need cash, they can withdraw up to 50 euros a month. The card costs nothing.

What exactly is a payment card?



The payment card is a card to which money is loaded **monthly** by the district office. The card can be used to **make purchases and pay for important items**.

It works like other Visa debit cards and looks exactly the same.

What are the advantages of the payment card?



- **No German bank account required:** the card works without an account at a bank or savings bank.
- **Fast payout:** no long waiting times to receive the benefits.
- **Flexibility:** no need to appear in person on the day of payment.
- **Neutral design:** the card looks neutral, with no recognisable features.
- **Cashless payment:** Retail purchases can be paid for directly with the card.
- **Withdrawal of cash:** cash can be withdrawn at the till in participating shops.
- **Security:** in the event of loss or theft, the credit balance can be blocked and transferred to a replacement card.

Who will receive a payment card?



Each adult in a family will receive their own card.

Children and young people will not receive their own card.

Persons receiving supplementary asylum seeker benefits also receive a payment card.

How does the payment card work?



Exactly as much money is loaded onto the card as you are supposed to receive. **So you can only spend the money that is on the card.** You do not need your own bank account to use the card.

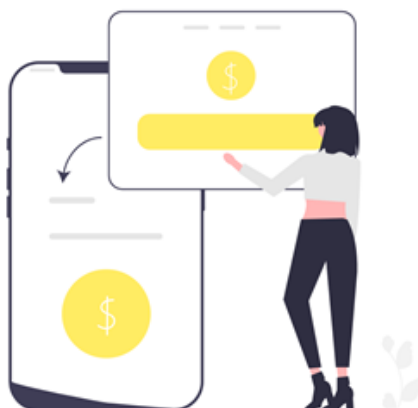
The card only works in Germany. You cannot use it in other countries. You cannot send money to anyone with the card. Every month, the district office automatically adds new money to the card.

You will receive the PIN together with the card in a sealed letter. The PIN is located at the bottom right behind a small security window on the letter.

If you lose your card, you must block it immediately. You can do this in the [app](#) or [online](#). You can also call 116 116 to block the card. Information about a new payment card can be obtained from the Asylbewerberleistungsabteilung.

Very important: If you lose your card, inform the office immediately!

Is there an app or an online portal for the payment card?



[The app is available in the Google Play Store \(for Android mobile phones\) and in the App Store \(for Apple mobile phones\).](#)

[The online portal can be found here.](#)

Both applications can be used in **several languages**.

You can do the following things here:

- View the current card limit.

- See what money has already been spent on.
- Block or unblock the card if it is lost.
- Set a new PIN (secret code).

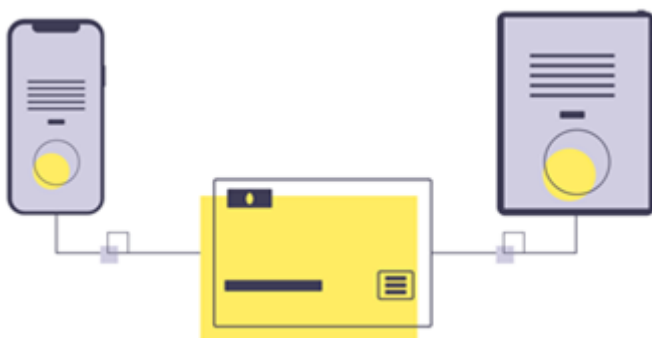
💡 Registration is required before the applications can be used.

Registration only works with:

- A special code with 8 digits.
- The long card number with 19 digits.

Refugees receive this information together with their card in a sealed envelope.

Can I shop online with the payment card?



Online purchases are generally possible with a payment card.

Transfers and direct debits are entered in the online portal and reviewed and approved by the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Department. You will then receive a notification that your request has been reviewed and approved.

Proof is required for transfers and direct debits. You can upload this evidence in the online portal.

Where can I shop with the payment card?



The payment card is accepted at over 1.3 million Visa acceptance points.

The card can be used to make purchases in all shops displaying the VISA symbol:



Can I withdraw money with the payment card?



In these shops, cash can be withdrawn free of charge at the till if the required minimum purchase value has been reached. These are some examples:

- Aldi Süd
- Aldi
- Rewe
- Müller
- DM
- Netto
- Rossmann
- Kaufland
- ...

Cash can also be withdrawn from any ATM for a fee of €0.65.

💡 A total of €50 cash can be withdrawn per person per month.

Where can I get help with the payment card?



The FAQ with many useful questions and answers about the payment card can be found [here](#).

 [030 166387260](tel:030166387260)

Language

Language

When you live in Germany, it is important that you learn to speak German. If you speak German, this will help you in everyday life and in your contact with other people. Also, if you want to start working, start an education or course of studies, it is very important to know the language.

All children under the age of 18 learn German at [kindergarten](#), [school](#) or [vocational school](#).

Help with communicating in German

If you do not speak German yet, it may be difficult to communicate with others. There are free **communication aids** that you can use:

- [Refugee Phrase Book](#): **multilingual** free **dictionary** on different topics.

You can also use **free apps** that translate things for you:

- Google Translate (→[Android](#) and [IOS](#))
- [DeepL](#) (works with artificial intelligence; is available in 29 languages).
- [Voice Translator \(Android\)](#)
- [Voice Translator Pro Speech \(IOS\)](#)
- [Oroboo Angel](#) (free audio/video-translations for 5 minutes, wide range of language combinations!)

If you need to see a doctor, you can find [pictures and translation aids](#) here.

This [image dictionary](#) can also help.

Learning German

Levels of language ability

There are different levels of language ability. The levels used in language and integration courses correspond to the Common European Framework:

- Level A: basic language skills
- Level B: independent language skills (necessary for training or work)
- Level C: proficient language skills (necessary for higher education and certain professions)

There are even more sub-divisions in the levels:

- A1: Beginner
- A2: Basic knowledge
- B1: Advanced language skills
- B2: Independent language skills
- C1: Expert language skills
- C2: Approaching native speaker proficiency

Starting dates of language courses

You can find all current courses on [Kursnet](#) and [Webgis](#). Enter your place of residence and choose "Integration course".

Online language courses

You can learn German on your **smartphone or computer** (also free of charge). Use the offers to learn German quickly. In this way, you can make good use of the waiting time for a language course. These offers can also be helpful during a language course.

- [I-want-to-learn-German](#)
This portal is from the German Adult Education Centre Association. It offers exercises at levels A1 to B1+. You have to register. The portal is free of charge.
- [Ich-will-lernen](#)
This portal (German Adult Education Association) is aimed at people who cannot read, write or do maths. You should be able to understand spoken German in order to use it.
- The [VHS learning portal](#) offers free online German courses. Language levels: A1, A2 and B2.
- [Lunes app](#)
You can use the app to learn vocabulary for your job. There is vocabulary for various professions.
The app is free of charge. Download from Google Play and App Store.
- [Basic language course from Deutsche Welle](#)
This online language course contains modules on literacy and job-related language skills.
- [Serlo ABC](#)
A free alphabetisation app for self-study or as a supplement to the language course. The app is approved as a textbook for integration courses.
- [Einstieg Deutsch](#)
A free language learning app for initial language skills.
- [Arrive App](#)
This app has a self-study course for the first few weeks in Germany, level A1 and above

- **[DaFür - German as a foreign language](#)**
Online modules and apps for learners with and without basic knowledge
- The **[Goethe-Institut](#)** offers various interesting apps for learning German.
"Deutschtrainer A1": Exercise materials on vocabulary and structures for beginners at level A1
- **"Die Stadt der Wörter "**
App for playful vocabulary learning without prior knowledge in German, English, French and other languages
- **Phase 6**
Offline app for learning vocabulary
- **Language placement test**
onSET-online language placement test for refugees
- **My German book**
Extensive offer for learning the German language. The website is aimed at learners and teachers.
- **Vocabulary for your job**
On this page you will find lists of the most important vocabulary for your everyday working life. You can choose between different professions. For example: geriatric care, electronics, specialised sales, horticulture, machine and plant management, carpentry and many more. You can visit the site in English, Arabic, Farsi, Russian and Turkish.
- **B1 - German on the job**
With this free course you can practise German for your job. You can choose from these professional fields: Catering, plant engineering, building cleaning, nursing, retail. There are seven learning units for each occupational field. They contain videos and tasks that will help you learn the vocabulary and typical phrases and sentences used in the respective industry.
- The **"My German book"** page provides an overview of German grammar. It can be used as a reference book. But you can also learn new grammar.
- On the page **"SprakuKo - Deutsch lernen"** you will find simple and understandable explanations of German grammar.
- The website **"Deutsch aber hallo"** offers free scripts with grammar exercises. They are available for all levels from A1 to C1.

You can find more information here:

<http://www.integrations-mediathek.de/deutsch-lern...>

German courses for initial language orientation

The German courses for initial language orientation (also known as initial orientation courses) teach

- basic German language skills and
- information about life in Germany.

The content is designed to help you get started in your new environment and make it easier to find your way in everyday life.

A course lasts 300 teaching units of 45 minutes each.

The modules of the course deal with topics such as:

- Health/medical care,
- work,
- kindergarten/school,
- housing,
- local orientation/transport/mobility.

The focus is on oral communication. The aim is to learn as quickly as possible how to cope with everyday life. All modules also focus on teaching values.

Initial orientation courses are intended for asylum seekers with unclear prospects of remaining in Germany.

If there are free places on the course, recognised

- recognised asylum seekers,
- tolerated persons and
- asylum seekers with good prospects of remaining

can also take part.

However, the initial orientation courses are not intended for people who are subject to compulsory schooling or compulsory vocational training. If you gain access to an integration course while taking part in the initial orientation course, you can switch to this course. The people on the courses have very different educational backgrounds. Illiterate people can attend the courses, as can university graduates.

Initial orientation courses are free of charge.


The course language is German. Interpreters are not present on the course.

Please contact the Heidenheim Adult Education Centre

[VHS Heidenheim](#)

Am Wedelgraben 5

89522 Heidenheim

 [073213274422](tel:073213274422)

[@info@vhs-heidenheim.de](mailto:info@vhs-heidenheim.de)

Counselling and registration for language courses:

Monday: 09:00-12:00

Tuesday: 09:00-12:00

Wednesday: 09:00-12:00

Thursday: 09:00-12:00 and 14:00-18:00

District administration language courses

Educational Year for Adult Refugees (BEF Alpha)

The educational year for adult refugees with no or little language and writing skills (BEF-Alpha) combines language courses, vocational orientation and the teaching of everyday knowledge.

Target group:

- Illiterates: who cannot read or write or
- Refugees: who do not know the Latin alphabet
- Refugees between 20 and 35 years of age (mainly with unclear prospects of staying).

Scope:

- 35 teaching weeks with a total of 980 teaching hours
- Internship over 5 weeks

Language [level A2](#) can be achieved.

The provider is the [VHS Heidenheim](#).

Integration courses

Integration courses

You can learn German in the BAMF integration courses. There are different types of courses. The language schools will help you to find the right course for you. If you have any questions, the [migration counselling](#) service and the [youth migration service](#) will help you. If you are a refugee, the socio-educational counselling and support service in your accommodation or the responsible [integration management](#) will help you.

You can find information on integration courses on the [BAMF](#) website.

Who can attend an integration course?

- Late repatriates and new immigrants with permanent residence status
- Foreign nationals who have been living in Germany for some time
- EU citizens and Germans in particular need of integration
- Asylum seekers and asylum seekers
- Tolerated persons with a residence permit according to § 60a para. 2 sentence 3 AufenthG
- Persons with a residence permit in accordance with § 24 or 25 Para. 5 AufenthG
- Persons with a residence permit in accordance with § 104c AufenthG (right of residence with opportunities).

[Section 44 of the Residence Act](#) regulates the details.

If you have received a [positive decision](#) and a residence permit, you **must** attend an integration course!

You can obtain application forms for admission to an integration course [here](#).

You can find out when the next integration course starts [here](#).

Language schools

There are 4 language schools in the district:

[AWO Giengen](#)

Johann-Sebastian-Bach Str. 28
89537 Giengen
☎ [07321/9361-911](tel:073219361911)
@info@awo-heidenheim.de

[Neue Sprachenwelt](#)

Olgastraße 13
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321349750](tel:07321349750)
@neuesprachenwelt@t-online.de

[SBB - Languages & Vocational Training Centre](#)

Wilhelmstraße 16
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [0732144802](tel:0732144802)
@info@sbb-zentrum.de

[VHS Heidenheim](#)

Am Wedelgraben 5
89522 Heidenheim
☎ [073213274422](tel:073213274422)
@info@vhs-heidenheim.de

Counselling and registration for integration courses:
Monday: 09:00-12:00
Tuesday: 09:00-12:00
Wednesday: 09:00-12:00
Thursday: 09:00-12:00 and 14:00-18:00

Course types

- **Integration course:** The general integration course consists of 600 teaching units (UE) language and 100 UE orientation.
- **Integration course with alphabetisation:** If you cannot read and write in any script or do not know the Latin script well, you should attend this course. You will receive 900 units of language and 100 units of orientation.
- **Second language learning course:** If you can read and write in your native language but do not know the Latin alphabet well, you can attend this course.

German for the workplace

Job-related language training

If you have completed the integration course at B1 level, you can attend these **language courses**. The courses last 400 lessons and take you up to [B2, C1 or C2 level](#). This is important for an [apprenticeship](#), or to be able to work successfully in a career. If you want to study,

please note the information on [University studies](#). **You can participate:**

- if you have a temporary resident permit and come from Syria, Somalia or Eritrea, have attended an integration course and/or reached at least B1 level.
- Regardless of your country of origin, if you have a residence permit and have completed an integration course and/or at least B1 level.
- You are an asylum seeker, you have been permitted in Germany for at least 3 months and you entered the country before 01. August 2019. In addition, you are looking for work or vocational training, are in work or vocational training or cannot do so because you have children.
- You have been tolerated for at least 6 months and have no employment ban. In addition, you are looking for work or training or are currently working or training.

Special modules below B1:

These special modules **take you to the A2 or B1 level**. They offer 300 teaching units for German and an additional 100 teaching units to prepare for the exam. They are intended for people



- who have completed the integration course and only achieved A2 or below despite repeating
- who are not entitled to an integration course, or
- who have not attended school in their home countries or are “slow learners”.

Ask your advisor at the Federal Employment Agency or Job Centre. Only a few language schools offer [these courses](#) so far:

In Heidenheim

- [SBB - Sprachen & Berufsbildungszentrum](#)
Wilhelmstraße 16
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 448 02](tel:0732144802)
@info@sbb-zentrum.de
- [Neue Sprachenwelt](#)
Olgastraße 13
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 349750](tel:07321349750)
@neuesprachenwelt@t-online.de

-
- In Aalen, [DAA](#)
Ulmer Straße 126
73434 Aalen
☎ [07361 49060 0](tel:07361490600)
@info.aalen@daa.de
 - In Ulm [inlingua](#)
Bahnhofstr. 17
89073 Ulm

 [0731 398064 0](tel:0731_398064_0)
 [@info@inlingua-ulm.de](mailto:info@inlingua-ulm.de)

Language mediator

Become a language mediator

If you speak several languages and would like to help with translation as a volunteer, please contact the Department of Social Security and Integration of the Landratsamt Heidenheim regional council (Fachbereich Soziale Sicherung und Integration) (ehrenamt@landkreis-heidenheim.de).

Use of language mediators

The language mediators help with **translating and writing letters, filling out applications** and **accompanying people to appointments** (flat hunting, parents' evenings, public authorities; but not for doctor's appointments!).

Language mediators are **not trained interpreters** and cannot stand in for them.

Languages:

Arabic, Bosnian, Croatian, English, French, German, Kurdish, Persian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish and Ukrainian.

Interpreters and translators

Official documents such as

- certificates,
- marriage or
- birth certificates

may only be translated by state-certified interpreters in Germany. These translations can be very expensive. You should therefore check in advance whether a certified translation is necessary.

You can find a list of state-certified interpreters in this [database](#) .

Find an interpreter:

- Select the federal state (Baden-Württemberg)
- Select the district court Ellwangen
- Select the language you are looking for

Health

General information

Family doctors

In Germany everyone has a **family doctor**. If you are ill, you go to this family doctor. If you need a special examination, your family doctor will send you to a **specialist** or to the hospital with a “**referral**”.

Consult your doctor when

- you are very ill or have pain.
- you are chronically ill (for example with diabetes). If you have any medicine or your medicine packaging, bring it with you to the doctor. If you have already been to the doctor or hospital because of your illness, please bring the doctor’s report.
- If you are pregnant.

Health care using asylum seekers’ benefits

In the current asylum procedure, asylum seekers receive health care through the asylum seeker benefit authority (Asylbewerberleistungsbehörde) in the regional council (Landratsamt).

They are entitled to

- Basic medical care for acute illness and pain.
- Medical care during pregnancy.
- Vaccinations.
- Preventative checkups.

Once you have a **residence permit**, you must register with a **health insurance company!**

Health care with the health insurance company

You must choose your health insurance company **yourself**. You will receive an **insurance card** from this health insurance company. Take this to your doctor’s appointment. If you are insured through the health insurance company, you are entitled to the same benefits as all other legally insured people.

The medical basic care of the health insurance company includes:

- Services to prevent and alleviate diseases.
- Services during pregnancy.
- Services for the detection of diseases.
- Services for the treatment of diseases.

Also visit our care and health network ([Netzwerk Pflege und Gesundheit](#)) in the district of Heidenheim!

The health care system in Germany

The health system in Germany is explained in 40 languages:

<https://www.krankenkassenzentrale.de/wiki/interna...>

Multilingual health videos:

The German Red Cross has produced [8 health films](#) in German, English, French, Sorani, Arabic and Pashto. You can find them here:

The following topics will be covered:

[Our Health Care System](#)

[Pregnancy and Birth](#)

[Preventing Infections](#)

[Mental Health](#)

[Healthy Children](#)

[Healthy Teeth](#)

[Precautions against Cancer](#)

[Health care for newly arrived asylum seekers](#)

Visiting a doctor

Family doctors and specialist doctors

If you are ill, see your family doctor. You can choose your own doctor.

General doctors are open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The opening hours are decided by the doctors themselves. So you need to make an **appointment** if you need to see a family doctor.

Your family doctor will give you a general check-up and is your first point of contact when you are ill. They also decide what medication you need and whether you need to see a specialist.

If necessary, your family doctor will **refer** you to a **specialist** who can carry out specific tests.

Paediatricians

Children are usually examined by paediatricians. Regular check-ups and vaccinations by the paediatrician are important for the health of each child. These check-ups are called "**U-check-ups**" and in some cases are mandatory.

Gynaecologists


It is important that women are regularly examined by a gynaecologist. This helps detect illnesses early enough to treat them. This is called **screening**. You can also discuss contraception there.

Dentists

If you have toothache, you go to the dentist.

Medical emergencies

If you need a doctor in the **evening**, at **night** or at the **weekend**, but it is **not an emergency**, you can call the on-call medical service in Heidenheim:

 [116 117](tel:116117)

Consultation hours:

Monday from 6:00 pm until Tuesday 8:00 am

Tuesday from 6:00 pm until Wednesday 8:00 am

Wednesday from 1:00 pm until Thursday 8:00 am

Thursday from 6:00 pm until Friday 8:00 am

Friday from 4:00 pm until Monday 8:00 am

Bank holidays from 8 am until the next day at 8 am.

Information about the health care of asylum seekers

The [asylum seeker benefits authority](#) at the regional office (Landratsamt) will give you a **medical treatment certificate**. You need a new treatment certificate every **quarter**:

1st quarter: January, February, March

2nd quarter: April, May, June

3rd quarter: July, August, September

4th quarter: October, November, December.

Only **one** treatment certificate is issued per person every quarter. A separate treatment certificate is issued for each person in the family. **The treatment certificate for the next quarter is usually handed out at the same time the asylum seeker receives their benefits in the month that the current treatment certificate expires. If you have a bank account, you can pick up the treatment certificate at the asylum seekers benefit office.**

Give the treatment certificate to your **family doctor**. With this treatment certificate **you do not pay for your doctor's appointment**. However, there are limitations.

Verification of referrals and prescriptions

A **referral to the specialist** must be verified by the [asylum seeker benefit office](#) before the appointment. You can go to the specialist doctor only after being approved. **Prescriptions for medicines** must also be verified by the asylum seeker benefit office.

Dentist appointments

Dental treatment can only be processed for acute problems. If you need an appointment with the dentist, the [asylum seeker benefit office](#) issues a **dental treatment certificate**. You get a dental treatment certificate by giving details of the **dentist appointment** to the asylum seeker benefit office.

Information about medical care under the health insurance scheme

When you go to the doctor, show your **health insurance card**. With this, most check-ups are free. You will have to pay for certain screenings yourself though. You will pay a portion of the

cost yourself for therapies (e.g. physiotherapy) and supplemental products (for example bandages). People who have low incomes can apply to have their portion of the cost waived. Please ask your health insurance company about this.

The cost of basic dental treatment is paid by the health insurance company. If a tooth needs to be repaired or replaced though, you must pay a part of the cost.

The cost of hospital treatment is also paid by the health insurance company. However, a hospital fee of 10 euros is charged for each day spent in hospital (people with low incomes can be exempted from this).

Electronic patient file (ePA)

On **15 January 2025**, a new digital patient file called the **electronic patient file (ePA)** was introduced in Germany. This file stores all important health data, such as what the doctor has found out about your health, what medication you are taking or what examinations you have had.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contents of the EPC:

- All important information from your visits to the doctor is automatically included in the EPR if it is available in digital form. This means, for example, that findings or diagnoses that the doctor writes down are transferred to the EPR.
- You can also upload information such as vital signs (e.g. your height or weight) or older medical documents to the ePA yourself.
- Since 15 January 2025, there has been a digital list of medications you are taking in the ePA. This will be supplemented by a special medication plan in the course of 2026.
- The medication plan will not only show which medication you have been prescribed. It will also explain how you should take the medication and at what time.

Access rights:

- You can specify which doctors or hospitals are authorised to access your ePA. If you want to make changes, you can do so via the ePA app or contact the ombudsman's office of your health insurance company.

- If your health card is read at a doctor's surgery or hospital, they will have temporary access to your ePA for 90 days unless you object.

Use and accessibility:

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

Legal regulations:

- The ePA for all was first launched in some regions on 15 January 2025. These include Hamburg and parts of North Rhine-Westphalia, for example. From 29 April 2025, the ePA was gradually introduced throughout Germany. Since 1 October 2025, doctors' surgeries, hospitals and pharmacies, for example, have been required to use the ePA.
- Privately insured persons can also use an ePA. Whether this is possible depends on the private health insurance provider.

Advantages:

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

Challenges:

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

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

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

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

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

Health Insurance

In Germany, it is mandatory to be insured. That means that as soon as you have a residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel), you must register with a regular health insurance company. From the health insurer, you will get a health insurance card. With this card, you have the right to the same health services as all residents in Germany.

In the case of an acute illness, you will also receive basic care in many foreign physician' practices and hospitals (information on this can be obtained from your health insurance

company).

You can choose a general practitioner (family doctor) of your choice. If you need treatment from a specialist, you will receive a referral from your general practitioner.

Remember to take your insurance card with you if you are being treated by doctors, in hospitals or by recognised therapists.

Insurance card

With the insurance card of a health insurance company, you can take advantage of medical services throughout Germany. On the back is the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). With it you are also covered in all EU states as well as many other European countries and even some non-European territories.

For a trip abroad outside of the EU, we recommend travel health insurance as a supplement, as you will get even more services.

This [website](#) provides information in German and English on the basic aspects of the German healthcare system.

You can find all relevant information about health insurance in 40 languages [here](#). It will have an explanation for different target groups in which it will explain who is covered by statutory and private health insurance, what needs to be considered and more.

Refugees and asylum seekers who are not yet covered by health insurance require health certificates in order to see a doctor. You can get these certificates from the [Social Welfare Office \(Sozialamt\)](#).

Medication and Pharmacies

If you need medicine, you get a **prescription** from your doctor. You hand in the prescription at the chemist and receive the medicine.

Chemists are open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The opening times vary according to each chemist. If you urgently need medication outside normal opening hours, you will find a sign at every chemist with the name and address of the chemist which is open for **emergencies**. **You will also find the emergency chemist service on the [Internet](#).**

If you do not have a prescription and need medication, you will have to pay in full at the chemist. Some medication, for example antibiotics, must be prescribed. This means you cannot buy this medicine without a prescription.

Information about the health care of asylum seekers

Even with a prescription, not all medication is free of charge. You need to ask your doctor about this and present the chemist with a “**certificate to be exempt from the supplementary charge** according to § 61 SGB V”, which is available from the [asylum seeker benefit office](#) every quarter.

Information about medical care under the health insurance scheme

Medicine which is on a red prescription is partly paid for by the health insurance company. You must pay a **contribution** of a minimum of €5 yourself. You do not have to pay this for children up to 18 years of age. You must pay for medicines that do not need a prescription yourself – for example cough syrup (a green or blue prescription).

Hospitals and counselling centres

Hospital in Heidenheim

You can visit the accident and emergency department in Heidenheim Hospital with **any urgent health problems** outside your doctor's opening hours and those of the emergency practice in Heidenheim:

[Heidenheim Clinic](#)
Schloßhaustraße 100
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321330](tel:07321330)

There are other hospitals for specific health issues in the area surrounding Heidenheim (for example in Ulm and Stuttgart). If your doctor refers you to one of these hospitals, please ask for the address.

Advice Centres

If you need assistance in the following matters, you can go to the counselling centres listed. All counselling centres keep your details and information strictly confidential. There is a [contact person](#) for children and young people at school.

[HIV / AIDS counselling](#)
Heidenheim District Health Authority
Felsenstraße 36
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [073213210](tel:073213210)

[Addiction counselling](#)
Diakonisches Werk (welfare organisation) Heidenheim
Bahnhofstraße 33
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321359421](tel:07321359421)

[Psychology and trauma](#)
The Ulm treatment centre for victims of torture
Innere Wallstraße 6
89077 Ulm
☎ [073122836](tel:073122836) or [07319215442](tel:07319215442)

[Psychotherapeutic support for traumatized refugee children and unaccompanied foreign minors](#)
Caritas Ulm
Spielmannsgasse 6

89077 Ulm

☎ [073140342160](tel:073140342160)

@pfl@caritas-ulm.de

Ecumenical Psychological Counselling Centre

Weidenfelder Straße 12

73430 Aalen

☎ [0736159080](tel:0736159080)

Helpline for refugees

☎ [022871002424](tel:022871002424)

Consultation hours:

Monday till Thursday 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Protection provided by vaccination

Every day we come into contact with **viruses, bacteria or fungi**. This contact can result in illness, but it does not have to. Often the body protects itself with viruses, bacteria or fungus.

You can get vaccinated to protect yourself against many infectious diseases. For example, against the flu, mumps, chickenpox or measles.

Infectious disease means: people can pass the disease on to other people. Some pathogens may also be found on objects or in food. You can also be infected by animals, for example by ticks.

It is best to consult your doctor about which vaccinations are appropriate for you. Some vaccinations must be repeated after a certain period of time so that vaccination protection is not lost.

You can find more information about vaccination on the [Internet](#).

You can get up-to-date vaccination recommendations in 20 languages from the Robert-Koch-Institute's [vaccination calendar](#).

Hygiene

Good hygiene helps you to stay healthy. Regularly **washing your hands** is just as important as **clean toilet hygiene**.

You can get [tips on hygiene](#) on the Federal Centre for Health Education website.

Measles Protection Act

Materials on the Measles Protection Act for parents and guardians can be found on [this page](#). Multilingual information can be found [here](#).

Pregnancy

You can find more information about pregnancy and birth [here](#).

Pregnant women are given **special care** in Germany. You are entitled to medical care as well as counselling.

Women who receive asylum seekers' benefits or unemployment benefit II (ALG II) from the job centre can receive **financial support** for new purchases for their child.

Medical care and aftercare midwife care

If you are pregnant, go to your **family doctor** and they will refer you to a **gynaecologist**. The gynaecologist carries out the screenings that are necessary.

You will get a "**Mutterpass**" (maternity record) from the gynaecologist: this will show that you are an expectant mother and includes important information about the health of both you and your baby. Always keep your Mutterpass with you.

The gynaecologist will refer you to a hospital where you will give birth.

Every woman needs an **aftercare midwife** for aftercare following the birth. The aftercare midwife is a medically trained person who helps with any problems the mother or new baby have. It is important to arrange after an aftercare midwife before giving birth. There is a list of aftercare midwives in Heidenheim [here](#).

Pre-natal care

The **AWO and Caritas** Pregnancy Advisory Centres give you support during pregnancy as well as after the birth of your baby. They are there to give you immediate answers to your questions or problems and to inform you how to get financial help.

Their advice is confidential and free of charge. Make an appointment if you would like to talk to a member of the pre-natal staff. The pre-natal care service given by AWO ensures that women can consider issues around pregnancy termination and more specifically abortion through pregnancy conflict counselling, according to § 219 StGB (criminal code).

AWO pre-natal care

Bergstraße 8
89518 Heidenheim
Tel: 07321 21503

Caritas Centre Heidenheim

Catholic pre-natal care
Kurt-Bittel-Straße 8
89518 Heidenheim
Tel: 07321 359060

Important information

Inform the [asylum seeker benefits authority](#), as well as the appropriate social worker and community accommodation's management, that you are pregnant as soon as possible. If you are receiving unemployment benefits (ALG II), inform the [job centre](#) about your pregnancy.

After your baby's birth, the hospital will issue a **confirmation of birth**. Bring this confirmation with your identification papers and certificate of marriage to the registry office and you will receive a **birth certificate**. If you are not married, present your own birth certificate. Also show this confirmation document to the asylum seeker benefits authority, the immigration office as well as to the appropriate social worker and your community accommodation's management. Recipients of unemployment benefit (ALG II) submit this birth certificate to the job centre.

Financial support

You can receive supplementary benefits from your [asylum seekers' benefits authority](#) for maternity wear and baby equipment. Unemployment benefit recipients (ALG II) can receive equivalent benefits from the job centre.

You have to **apply** to the asylum seeker benefits authority or the job centre for these.

Maternal Health Guide

The Maternal Health Guide provides comprehensive information on pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum care in 7 languages:

<https://www.mimi-bestellportal.de/shop/publikatio...>

Care support centre for the district of Heidenheim

What is the care support centre?

The care support centre is a place. You can get help and information here. People can get advice there

- people who need care
- people who are ill,
- people with a disability
- older people and
- their families or friends.

Who can get help?

Anyone in the district of Heidenheim with statutory health and care insurance can go to the care support centre for advice. It does not matter which

- illness or
- need for care

someone has.

Those affected are informed about the topic of care. The counselling is:

- neutral,
- comprehensive,

- individual and
- free of charge

What help is available?

- Information on care insurance benefits.
- Information about other financial assistance.
- Advice on care at home or in a care home.
- Help with filling out applications.
- Organisation of offers of help.
- Information on health care proxies and living wills.
- Naming of relief offers for caring relatives.
- Information about aids, home emergency calls and "meals on wheels".
- Advice on the topics of [dementia](#) and palliative care.

Counselling can also take place before care is provided. It can be obtained by telephone or in person at the advice centre. Counselling is also available at home if required.

You can find more information about the care support centre on the [website](#).

You can find support services in the [guide](#).



Schnaitheimer Str. 12

3rd floor

Veronika Bruckner ☎ [07321 321 2473](tel:073213212473)

Christel Krell ☎ [07321 321 2424](tel:073213212424)

@pflgestuetzpunkt@landkreis-heidenheim.de

Addiction counselling and help




An addiction is a

- pathological and
- compulsive

dependence on a substance. This can be alcohol or drugs, for example. Non-substance-related addictions are special types of behaviour. This can be, for example, gambling or computer addiction.

The transition from "normal" use of a substance to addiction is dangerous. Sometimes it is not easy to recognise. Do you have any questions about addiction? Do you need help? Then get in touch with the contact persons:

Addiction counselling

- The [Diakonisches Werk Heidenheim](#)
Bahnhofstraße 33
89518 Heidenheim
 [073214881350](tel:073214881350)
 sb-diak@onieheidenheim@elk-wue.de
Monday 3.00 - 5.30 pm and Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am
- The **Clinical Centre for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics**
Schlosshausstraße 100
89522 Heidenheim
 [07321332452](tel:07321332452)

There are various [self-help groups](#) in the district of Heidenheim. The offers are mostly free of charge.

Further information:

Various information on the topic of addiction can be found here:

- The [explanatory videos for refugees](#), published by the Hessische Landesstelle für Suchtfragen e.V. (HLS)
- The [information cards and flyers](#), published by: Unabhängig bleiben! The Berlin Centre for Addiction Prevention
- [Leaflets and brochures](#) on addiction prevention, published by the City of Nuremberg
- Specialist publications and materials [on the subject of prevention](#), published by: Landesgesundheitsamt Baden-Württemberg

Zanzu: my body in words and pictures



[ZANZU My body in word and pictures](#)

Zanzu is a website on health.

It provides information in thirteen languages (for example, **Arabic, English, Farsi**) on the topics: **your body, family planning and pregnancy, infection, sexuality, relationships and feelings, your rights and the law.**

This information can be read by the user or alternatively there is a spoken version.

breastcare app

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer worldwide. One in every eight women in Europe contracts breast cancer during the course of their lives. In Germany alone, around

70,000 women get breast cancer every year. The earlier the illness is detected, the higher the chance of recovery in most cases. Also, 25% of illnesses could be prevented through a healthy lifestyle. The breastcare app explains everything important concerning the topics of breast cancer, early detection and a healthy lifestyle in a science-based and easy-to-understand manner. The app is currently available in seven languages: Arabic, German, English, Farsi, French, Spanish and Turkish.

The breastcare app

- reminds you to feel your own breasts with a calendar reminder
- explains how to feel by yourself with illustrated step-by-step instructions
- clarifies risk factors and symptoms and provides specific tips on a healthy lifestyle
- answers questions on early detection medical examinations in Germany
- links to numerous points of contact, such as breast centres, integration officers or support services to which women can refer in the event of questions
- tells the stories of women affected that provide encouragement

The app can be downloaded free of charge from the app stores of Apple and Google. The app can be used without the collection of personal data. It is free of advertising and set up for the long term. More information is available in seven languages at: www.breastcare.app

Family

Family benefits

Parental leave

In Germany, the state supports you in raising your children. Employees are entitled to parental leave until the child's third birthday.

Parental leave offers you the opportunity to look after your child. You can work up to 30 hours a week during parental leave, but you do not have to. Your job will remain and may not be terminated by the employer.

Mothers and fathers can take parental leave alone or together.

You must submit the application for parental leave to your employer no later than seven weeks before the start of parental leave. After parental leave, your employer must usually offer you an equivalent job.

Parental benefits

Parental benefits are a state support for parents who look after their child themselves during the first child's 14 months of life. Since they cannot work, or cannot work full-time, they receive parental benefits.

Parents who were not employed before the birth also receive parental benefits.

Parents who are separated can also claim the parental benefits.

The amount of the parental benefits depends on the level of income. It amounts to about two thirds of the income before birth - at least 300 euros and 1,800 euros at most.

There are 12 monthly amounts of parental benefits for the parents. If mother and father share the parental allowance and their income is lost, they will receive a maximum of 14 monthly amounts of parental allowance together.

You can also claim parental benefits if you have a residence permit or a permanent permit in Germany.

You can find the application for parental allowance at the L-Bank [here](#).

More detailed information in German, English, Turkish and Russian can be found [here](#).

Do you need advice on family benefits?

The pregnancy advice centres also provide information on parental leave, parental benefit and child benefit.

Child benefit and supplementary child allowance

Child benefit in Germany is money from the state and part of the family benefit equalisation system. The [Family Benefits Office of the Federal Employment Agency](#) supports you with child benefit, child supplement and other financial assistance.

In 2025, child benefit will amount to 255 euros per month for each child. From 1 January 2025, the child supplement will be up to 297 euros per month per child. However, it depends on your family's situation. This includes the immediate supplement of 25 euros per month per child.

You can apply for child supplement and child benefit directly [online](#)!

You can apply for child benefit if...

- your child is under the age of 18 (under certain conditions, you can also apply for and receive child benefit for children of full age),
- you look after your child regularly and they live in your household (this also applies to stepchildren, grandchildren or foster children) and
- your place of residence is in Germany, another EU country, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland or Switzerland. You can find out more on the page [Child benefit for people living in or from abroad](#).

The payment of child benefit is not dependent on your income!

You can receive child supplement if...

- Your child lives in your household, is under 25 years old and is not married or in a registered civil partnership,
- you receive child benefit (or a comparable benefit) for your child,
- Your family's gross income is at least 900 euros (couples) or 600 euros (single parents),
- you would have enough money to support your family if you received child supplement and possibly housing benefit in addition to your income.

Tip! If you want to find out quickly whether you can receive child supplement: Simply enter your personal details in the [interactive video tool "KiZ-Lotse"](#) and find out your entitlement!

Child benefit in Germany is money from the state and part of the family benefit equalisation system. The [Family Benefits Office of the Federal Employment Agency](#) supports you with child benefit, child supplement and other financial assistance.

You can receive child supplement if your income is sufficient to cover your own living expenses, but not enough or only just enough to cover all your family's needs.

In 2026, child benefit amounts to 259 euros per month for each child. Since 1 January 2025, the child supplement has been up to 297 euros per month per child. However, it depends on your family's situation. This includes the immediate supplement of 25 euros per month per child.

You can apply for child supplement and child benefit directly [online!](#)

You can apply for child benefit if...

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Meeting places for families

You will find meeting places and facilities offering lectures, courses and other offers for the whole family here.

[Family Training Centre \(Familienbildungsstätte - Haus der Familie Heidenheim e.V.\)](#)

August-Lösch-Straße 25
89522 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 936 60](tel:0732193660)

@ info@familienbildung-heidenheim.de

Child Protection Association (Deutscher Kinderschutzbund Kreisverband Heidenheim e.V.)

Robert-Koch-Straße 28
89522 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 235 50](tel:0732123550)

@ info@kinderschutzbund-hdh.de

Note: Every Thursday from 9am to 11.30am the "Café Mamamia" takes place. Parents can bring their children with them and meet with other parents.

Meeting point Kloster Herbrechtingen

Eselsburgerstraße 8
89542 Herbrechtingen

☎ [07324 981 666](tel:07324981666)

@

treffpunkt-kloster@t-online.de

Town Hall (Bürgerhaus Heidenheim)

Hintere Gasse 60
89522 Heidenheim

☎: [07321 327 1062](tel:073213271062)

@ buergerhaus@heidenheim.de

Stadtteiltreff Oststadt - Stadtteiltreff „sLädle“

Römerstr.51
89522 Heidenheim

☎ [073213271064](tel:073213271064)

Stadtteiltreff Zanger Berg

am Berliner Platz 11
89518 Heidenheim

☎ [073213271063](tel:073213271063)

Multigenerational house Heidenheim

Integrative House of Health (Integratives Haus der Gesundheit)

August-Lösch-Straße 26/1
89522 Heidenheim an der Brenz

☎ [07321/ 558 556 0](tel:073215585560)

@ info@mgh-heidenheim.de

Child welfare and child protection

If your **children** are threatened with domestic violence or have already experienced it, you can get help and advice:

- For emergency aid and imminent danger, dial the emergency number for the police:
Tel: 110

- If you are at risk of danger as a child, you can contact the [General Social Service \(Allgemeiner Sozialer Dienst ASD\)](#) in your regional council (Landratsamt) free of charge.
Tel: [07321 321 0](tel:073213210)
- If you suspect sexual abuse, you can contact the Centre for Prevention and Violence in the regional council ([Fachstelle für Prävention und Gewalt](#) im Landratsamt) free of charge and anonymously if you wish.
Tel: [07321 321 2596](tel:073213212596)
- The child protection association ([Kinderschutzbund](#)) in Heidenheim also has further counselling services.
You can find more information here:
<http://www.nummergegenkummer.de>
<http://weisser-ring.de/>

Help in case of domestic violence

If you need protection and help for yourself and your children because you are living under the threat of domestic violence, you can do the following:

- For immediate help or if you are in imminent danger, dial the [emergency number for the police](#): ☎ **110**
- The Diakonie Women and Children's Protection Centre ([Frauen- und Kinderschutzhhaus der Diakonie](#)) offers protection and a safe place to live temporarily. Its aim is to help affected women and their children in an acute emergency swiftly and without bureaucracy. The women's and children's shelter is accessible day and night, also on Sundays and public holidays.
Admission to the women's & children's shelter is from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm after telephone registration on ☎ [07321 240 99](tel:0732124099)
After 5:00 pm, on Sundays and bank holidays and at the weekend, it is arranged through the police by calling the emergency ☎ 110
- The [helpline](#) advises affected women in all cases of violence: domestic, sexual violence, forced marriage, human trafficking, genital mutilation.
Consultation is anonymous, confidential, barrier-free and possible in many languages due to the help of interpreters. Family members and professionals can also make use of the service.
☎ [08000 116 016](tel:08000116016)
- If you are a victim of domestic violence, please contact the district council (Landratsamt Heidenheim) for advice. The initial counselling office will contact you after being informed about your situation.
- You can get advice and assistance with vital issues and in matters relating to social law from the [Diakonie advice centre](#).
- In cases of suspected sexual abuse, you can contact the Centre for Violence Prevention in the Landratsamt ([Fachstelle für Prävention und Gewalt](#)) (free of charge and anonymously if you wish). ☎ [07321 321 2596](tel:073213212596)
- The Women's Information Centre (FIZ) is a specialist counselling centre for migrant women on questions of marriage, separation, divorce and residence law. The counselling is confidential and free of charge:
<https://vij-wuerttemberg.de/unsere-angebote/fraue...>

- Other advice centres:
[Life coaching at Diakonie \(Lebensberatung der Diakonie\)](#)
[General Social Services \(Allgemeiner Sozialer Dienst\)](#)
[Child Protection Association Heidenheim \(Kinderschutzbund Heidenheim\)](#)
[Number Against Sorrow](#) (Nummer gegen Kummer)
[Weisser Ring advice centre](#)
- The “[Notinsel](#)” (safe harbour) stickers at stores in the town of Heidenheim show children that they can get help and protection there.

Pregnancy and birth

There are many ways to get advice and support during pregnancy and impending birth.

See also this page: [Pregnancy](#)

During pregnancy and before the birth

- As soon as you know that you are pregnant and would like to be looked after by a midwife, you should immediately look for a [midwife](#).
- During their [pregnancy](#), women are offered pre-natal preparation courses, which prepare them for and give them information about the [birth](#). Preparations for childbirth are recommended from the 25th week of pregnancy, (6th – 7th month of pregnancy) and are generally offered by [midwives](#), usually in a hospital with an affiliated childbirth department, in a midwife practice or [here](#).
- You should register for the birth in the hospital beforehand, usually from the 34th week of pregnancy (8th month). The hospital also offers [information evenings](#) with delivery room tours.
- Financial aid and free advice: Application for “Support from the Federal Foundation” (Hilfen der Bundesstiftung) from the [AWO](#) or [Caritas Pregnancy Counselling Centres](#).
- [Here](#) you can find shops for cheap clothes and toys.

After giving birth

- In the [post-natal rehabilitation course](#), the pelvic floor is strengthened and the pelvic, leg and spinal muscles are exercised. This is important to prevent any discomfort before you can begin any other kind of fitness regime. There are also courses where you can take your baby with you. Very often, [midwives](#) offer post-natal rehabilitation courses. You can start about 6-8 weeks after birth. Your health insurance company will pay a share of the costs for this course!
- Information, counselling and guidance for pregnant women and parents-to-be or those with children in the first years of life are available at the [Early Support Centres \(Frühe Hilfen\) of the Regional Council \(Landratsamt\)](#).
- Also consider the offers in the [family meeting points \(Treffpunkte für Familie\)](#).
- In the district of Heidenheim there are many offers for parents through the programme “[Stärke](#)”. There are offers for parents with children in their first year of life, offers for parents with children in special situations (for example single parents or parents with a migration background) but also open meetings for parents. Further information about the offers on site can be found [here](#).

People with disabilities

People who are physically, mentally or psychologically disabled, or who vulnerable to such a disability have a right to help. No one will be discriminated against because of disability. This is regulated by law in Germany.

People with disabilities want to live the same way as those without disabilities. They want to be mobile and able to manage their everyday life without the help of others.

[Here](#) you will find a guide for people with disabilities. The guidebook is also available in [simple language](#).

Identity card for persons with severe disability (Schwerbehindertenausweis)

Among other things, people with disabilities can apply for a disability identity card. The disability identity card is designed to make everyday life easier for you. For example, you can travel on the train for free.

Applications for a severely handicapped person's identity card are available from the authorities (Versorgungsämter) at the district council ([Landratsamt](#)). They verify the degree of the disability and, if appropriate, issue the identity card.

You can find further information about this identity card and help in applying for one [here \(German\)](#).

Pupils with special educational needs

Pupils with disabilities usually attend [general schools](#).

There are **special educational institutions (Sonderschulen)** for children and young people with disabilities and high special educational needs.

Here, the pupils are given more intensive care and are specifically taught according to their needs.

There are the following special educational institutions in the Heidenheim district (with their specific focus in brackets):

Pre-schools

- [Kindergarten: Schulkindergarten der Arthur-Hartmann-Schule Heidenheim](#) (language)
- [Kindergarten: Schulkindergarten für Körperbehinderte Villa Kunterbunt](#)
- [Kindergarten: Schulkindergarten für Sehbehinderte und blinde Kinder an der Königin-Olga-Heimsonderschule](#)
- [Kindergarten: Schulkindergarten der Lebenshilfe](#) (mental and motor skills)

Special educational and consultancy centres of the district

- [Arthur-Hartmann School](#) (language and long-term hospital treatment)
-

- [Pistorius School](#) (mental and motor development)
- **Other special education institutions**
 - [Karl-Döttinger School](#) (special business technical college)
 - [Christopherus School](#) (learning)
 - [Königin-Olga-Heimsonderschule special school](#) (visual)

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

Advice Centres

There is a [commissioner for people with disabilities](#) at the Landratsamt Heidenheim. She advises people with disabilities and their relatives.

Other **advice centres**:

[Clarification and counselling centre for the promotion of inclusion in the Heidenheim district](#)

Bergstraße 52
89518 Heidenheim
Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

[Advisory office of the Lindenhof Houses](#)

Hinteren Gasse 22 89518 Heidenheim
Wednesdays 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Thursdays 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

[Lebenshilfe Heidenheim counselling centre](#)

Waldstraße 5
89522 Heidenheim

Grants for families and individuals in the district of Heidenheim

The Baden-Württemberg state family pass

In Baden-Württemberg there is the state family pass.

This allows you to visit various excursion destinations in Baden-Württemberg

- free of charge or
- cheaper

visit. You can find more detailed information [here](#). You can apply for the state family pass at the [municipal or local authority in your place of residence](#).

The subsidy passes in the cities

Residents with low incomes have many advantages with the subsidy pass.

You can find the links to the subsidy passes here.

- **Heidenheim:**
The [subsidy pass of the city of Heidenheim](#)

- **Giengen:**
The [unicorn card of the city of Giengen](#)
- **Herbrechtingen**
The [support pass](#) of [the town of Herbrechtingen](#)

Offers for parents in the district of Heidenheim

There are many offers for parents in the district of Heidenheim via the state programme Strength.

There are offers for

- Parents with children in their first year of life
- Parents with children in special situations. These include, for example, single parents, parents with a migration background or open meetings for parents.

You can find more information about the local programmes on the [Heidenheim district website](#).

Funding for education

- **The education and participation package:** can be found [here](#).
- Further **funding opportunities** can be found on the [pages Further education in Baden-Württemberg](#) or [Studying](#).
- **Funding from the Hanns Voith Foundation:**
The study grant: applications for study grants for studying natural sciences, engineering and economics. About the [Hanns Voith Foundation](#).

Unaccompanied foreign minors

Underage refugees who have travelled to Germany unaccompanied are looked after and accompanied by the **youth welfare office**. They are also known as "unaccompanied minor aliens", UMA.

The first step is to check

- How old is the young person?
- Are there any family members?
- or legal guardians of the young person in Germany?
- Is [family reunification](#) possible?

If this is not the case

- depending on the age and
 - maturity of the young person
- an **educational support plan** is developed.

UMAs are cared for

- in special **residential groups** run by recognised providers (e.g. eva, SPF, Caritas) or
- in foster families

Each UMA is also assigned a **guardian**.

The guardian is the

- personal and

- legal

contact person for the young person. They represent and support them, for example in the asylum procedure and with the authorities.

The tasks of the guardian are

- Determination of residence.
- Applying for youth welfare measures.
- The care and upbringing of the ward.
- The care of education.
- Representation in immigration law and asylum proceedings.
- Health care.
- Applying for and enforcing claims.
- The development of educational and professional prospects.
- The promotion of integration.

Further information on the topic of guardianship can be found in the flyer ["Dein Vormund vertritt dich" \(German\)](#).

Multilingual videos on guidance for unaccompanied minors are available [here](#) and [here](#).

Detailed information on the topic can be found directly on the [BAMF website](#).

The minors in the family group

For minors under the age of 18,

- who live without their parents

- but **with other family members**, e.g. with an uncle or aunt, with cousins or older siblings there **are two options**:

- An adult relative applies to the family court for guardianship:
With guardianship, the relative assumes full responsibility for the minor. This is done in place of the parents.
- The relative can exercise parental authority. This can be transferred to them informally by the parents and can also be derived from the appropriate and responsible behaviour of the parties involved.

In both cases, the minor can remain with the relative. However, if this is refused by the minor or their relative, the minor will be treated as an unaccompanied minor refugee and taken into the care of the youth welfare office (see above).

Also of interest: [Family reunification and family reunification](#)

Uniting family members

If you and your family are not living in the same place, or if you have family members abroad, there are different options depending on your residence status.

Bringing family members to join you

If you live in Germany and you already have a residence permit, you may be able to bring direct family members (parents, children, spouses) over from abroad.

This is only currently possible if you have been granted refugee status by the BAMF (for further information, please click [here](#)).

You must apply for this within 3 months of receipt of your notification from the BAMF (the 3 month period does not apply to [unaccompanied minor refugees](#)). In addition, your family members who are to travel to Germany must apply for a visa at the German representation in the respective/current country of residence.

→ **The exact sequence of uniting family members is explained step by step [here](#) (multilingual). You can also directly apply there within the time limit.**

You can also get more information on uniting family members at the [immigration authority responsible for you](#).

Reuniting families

When you come to Germany as an asylum seeker, you are assigned to a specific district in Germany (for example, the district of Heidenheim). As a general rule, you must live there at least until the completion of your asylum procedure.

In certain circumstances, however, you can change locations, for example, if direct relatives (children, spouses or parents) live in other districts.

To do so, you must submit a redistribution application (Umverteilungsantrag) to the immigration authority responsible for you. If the application is approved, you may move.

If you already have a residence permit and you receive a condition of fixed abode (Wohnsitzauflage), you must look for an apartment within the specified municipality.

If you still want to move to another municipality within the district of Heidenheim, you must justify this to the immigration authority responsible for you. Currently a move is only possible because of work.

If you want to move to another district in Germany, this must be approved by the district immigration authority into which you wish to move.

Search service

The search service helps people in their worldwide search for relatives and advises on all questions of reuniting family members.

The search service is a starting point for people who do not know where their relatives are due to current wars and armed conflicts, disasters, resettlement, flight, expulsion and migration. The search service supports people who have been involuntarily separated from one another and dispersed in different countries and who wish to live together again in one country.

You can find search services here:

[Search service at the German Red Cross](#)

[International search service at the Red Cross / Red Crescent Soc.](#)

Kindergarten, school and education

Childcare

Daycare ("Kita")

Kita is a term for children's day care facility (in German "Kinder-Tages-Einrichtung"). Your child can attend a day care centre before attending school, from one to 12 years. At the Kita your child is looked after by educators and learns many important things. Some facilities also accept children under one year of age. "Krippe", "Kindergarten" and "Horts" are different types of day care centres for different age groups.

Kindergarten

Children aged from 3 years up to school entrance age are looked after in **nursery school (kindergarten)**. Here, your child can form friendships, learn German by being with carers, children and other parents and explore new things. Visiting a child-care facility is very important and good preparation for school.

Since your child is very well looked after there, you can attend to your own needs during this time. For example, you will have more time to attend a German course and later to get a job.

[Here](#) you can find more information on the subject of children's day-care facilities (multilingual).

[Here](#) you can find a multilingual explanation video.

Kindergarten registration

Unfortunately there are not always enough places in the kindergartens. Sometimes it is necessary to make enquiries at several kindergartens and to have your child put on the waiting list. If you are staying in district council (Landratsamt) accommodation, the assigned social educational counsellors and support workers will help you.

For the following kindergartens there is the possibility of online registration:

[Heidenheim](#) (You can find an overview of all the kindergartens in Heidenheim [here](#).)

[Gerstetten](#)

Kindergartens in the district of Heidenheim

On this portal you will find all kindergartens in the district of Heidenheim: <http://www.bw-kita.de/>

[Heidenheim](#)

[Giengen](#)

[Herbrechtingen](#)

[Gerstetten](#)

[Steinheim](#)

[Niederstotzingen](#)

[Sontheim](#)

[Königsbronn](#)

[Hermaringen](#)

[Nattheim](#)

[Dischingen](#)

Kindergarten costs

It is worth visiting the kindergarten.

Under certain circumstances, the cost of the kindergarten can be covered, for example, if you do not have work and are receiving benefits from the Landsratsamt or the job centre. To do this, you must submit an application at the **youth welfare office of economic aid** in the [Landratsamt](#). Their expert social educational advisors and support workers will be happy to assist you.



Incidentally: One of the best-known German children's programmes, "[Die Sendung mit der Maus International](#)"

explains many things you need to know about Germany, and is also available in Arabic, Kurdish and Dari.

Although the programme is primarily aimed at children, adults can also get some useful tips about life in Germany from it.

Types of childcare

Child day care ("Kindertagespflege")

The "Kindertagespflege" is aimed primarily at children under 3 years of age. In day care, qualified childminders look after children by the hour or all day as required. The care of the children takes place in the home of the day care parents, the family or other suitable rooms. You can find more information [here](#).

Krippe

The so-called "Krippe" is a facility for children from one to three years of age. In the day nursery, specially trained staff encourage the children in their development in small groups. Attention and care by the caregivers are especially important.

Kindergarten

The kindergarten is a facility for children from 3 years of age until school entrance. In the kindergarten children can play, paint, do handicrafts and learn with other children. In the last year of kindergarten, the children also have regular pre-school lessons to prepare for school. There are private and public kindergartens. Whether attending kindergarten costs you anything depends on the kindergarten and your place of residence.

After-school care for school children up to 12 years ("Horts")

There are also after-school care options for school children from six to 12 years, so-called "Horts". There are many different childcare models such as after-school care, lunchtime childcare or all-day school. In all models the children are supported in doing their homework. Your primary school or the Youth Welfare Office ("Jugendamt") will tell you which care model exists for (primary) school children in your city.

Schools in the district of Heidenheim

School

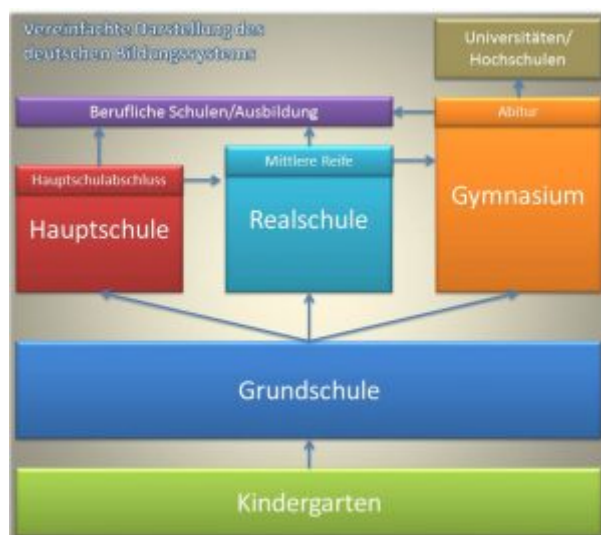
General school education

In Germany, **all children between 6 and 18 years of age** have to go to school (**compulsory schooling**). If you have school-age children, you should register them immediately at an appropriate school. If you are staying in Landratsamt accommodation, the responsible supervisor will register your child directly at a school. You will then receive an

invitation to register at this school. After that, your child can go to school.

Types of schools

There are **different types of schools** in Baden-Württemberg. The school your child goes to depends, among other things, on how old he/she is, but also about his/her school performance:



Primary school

The primary school is a comprehensive school, which runs from the **1st to the 4th class**. After primary school, you move up to a **secondary school**. There are four different secondary schools, which lead to different leaver's certificates: **Hauptschule (basic secondary school, Realschule (standard secondary school), Gymnasium (grammar school) and Gesamtschule (comprehensive school)**.

After the basic or standard secondary school ("Hauptschule" or "Realschule") certificate there are many ways to acquire more advanced qualifications (standard or higher secondary school certification "Abitur") in Germany.

Hauptschule and Werkrealschule (Basic secondary school)

The Hauptschule is intended for students who want to do an apprenticeship after leaving school. This school prepares pupils for their working life. Besides theoretical knowledge, the emphasis is on practical knowledge and skills. Hauptschule lasts **5 years**. After successfully completing the final examination, pupils receive a **secondary school leaving certificate**.

Realschule (Standard secondary school)

Pupils here can, for example, learn a second foreign language. More independent learning is expected than in the basic secondary school and you acquire a more advanced general education. Compared to the higher level grammar school ("Gymnasium"), students in a standard secondary school have a more job-related education. The final secondary school leaving certificate from the Realschule (known as the "mittlerer Bildungsabschluss" or "**mittlere Reife**") generally provides the basis for higher professions of all kinds.

Gymnasium (Grammar school)

Compared to a Realschule and Hauptschule, the pupils here are expected to take even more responsibility. The goal is to prepare for **academic study**. The Gymnasium lasts **8 or 9 years** finishing with a final exam, the university entrance certificate (also called the "**Abitur**").

Comprehensive schools

In comprehensive schools pupils from the 1st class up to the 10th class are **taught together** regardless of their level of performance. As a rule, **all qualifications** which can also be taken at the above mentioned general education schools can be obtained here. Comprehensive schools are always **all-day schools**. You can find more information about comprehensive schools [here](#).

Special needs education

There are special educational institutions for children and young people with disabilities and high special educational needs. You can find more information [here](#).

In principle, higher school certificates can also be completed later. For example, you can also take the Abitur at a Gymnasium after obtaining your intermediate secondary school-leaving certificate (Mittlere Reife). This can also be done, for example, in [vocational schools](#) or at [night school](#).

You can find an overview of the schools of every type in the district at the following links:

[Heidenheim](#)

[Giengen](#)

[Herbrechtingen](#)

[Gerstetten](#)

[Steinheim](#)

[Niederstotzingen](#)

[Sontheim](#)

[Königsbronn](#)

[Hermaringen](#)

[Nattheim](#)

[Dischingen](#)

VKL classes

When you are new to Germany, your child usually first attends what is called a “VKL” preparation class. VKL classes are available in all types of schools. In these classes the pupils are there above all to improve their German. The goal is to be able to successfully participate in normal classes as soon as possible. When a student progresses to the normal class, the decision is made in close collaboration between the school management, the teachers, the parents and the student concerned.

You can find a list of preparatory classes in the district of Heidenheim [here](#).

General information

Compulsory education:

The parents of children have a duty to ensure that their children **attend school regularly**. If compulsory education is not respected, the parents will be held accountable. A fine can be imposed, since it is considered a misdemeanour.

Reporting ill at school:

If your child is ill, he/she should not go to school. You have to **excuse him/her from attending classes**. To do so, please call the secretary at the school before the start of the lesson and give the name and class of your child. Also say how long your child will not be in class.

Holidays:

You can find a holiday calendar for the current school year [here](#).

School materials:

You usually get a list of things your child needs at school from the school (for example, pens and paper). Please make sure that your child always takes his/her school material to school!

Meeting the costs:

School supplies, bus tickets or school trips cost money. Under certain circumstances, the costs may be borne by the Landratsamt or job centre. To do so, you must submit an **application for education and participation (BuT application)** to the relevant authority. Their expert support workers will be happy to assist you.

School explained in 15 multilingual videos

It is important that **parents support their children in school**. Here you will find **15 videos** explaining different aspects of school. This will show you **how school works** in Baden-Württemberg. You will also learn **how to support your child** and **how parents can get involved in school**.

The videos are available in [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#) and [Farsi](#).

- [Parents and school: How to work together?](#)
- [Werkrealschule \(basic secondary school\)](#)

- [Realschule \(standard secondary school\)](#)
- [Gymnasium \(grammar school\)](#)
- [The way to school](#)
- [School bag](#)
- [sick note for school](#)
- [Breakfast](#)
- [Packed lunch for school](#)
- [Learning at home](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Parent-teacher conference](#)
- [Parent representative](#)
- [Parents' association](#)
- [School conference](#)

Vocational schools

Vocational schools offer various possibilities for adolescents and young people over the age of 15 who **no longer attend general education schools**. You can **prepare for a profession** here and it is also possible to complete **general [school certificates](#)**.

Vocational schools in the district of Heidenheim:

- [HEID-TECH /Technische Schule Heidenheim](#)
Clichystraße 115
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321321 7960](tel:073213217960)
@ info@heid-tech.de
- [Kaufmännische Schule Heidenheim](#)
Heckentalstraße 86
89518 Heidenheim an der Brenz
☎ [07321 321 7831](tel:073213217831)
@ info@ks-heidenheim.de
- [Maria-von-Linden-Schule](#)
Heckentalstraße 86
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 321 7800](tel:073213217800)
@ info@mvl-hdh.de
- [Progenius-Schule Heidenheim](#)
Robert-Bosch-Straße 2
89520 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 20284](tel:0732120284)
@ heidenheim@progenius.org

There are also **special offers for new immigrants**. These offers are **useful** if you **do not have a [training place](#)** and **do not attend a general school**. **Children and youths** up to the age of 18 **must attend school in Germany** (compulsory schooling)!

If you live in district council (Landratsamt) accommodation, the social educational support services will help you with the registration.

VABO: Pre-qualification year work and occupation - without knowledge of German

The young people there mainly **learn German**. The target is [level A2 or B1](#). There are also **practical parts** in factories.

There are VABO classes in the following schools in the Heidenheim district:

- [Maria-von-Linden-Schule](#)
Heckentalstraße 86
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 3217800](tel:073213217800)
✉ [@info@mvl-hdh.de](mailto:info@mvl-hdh.de)
- [HEID-TECH](#) /Technische Schule Heidenheim
Clichystraße 115
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 321 7960](tel:073213217960)
✉ [@info@heid-tech.de](mailto:info@heid-tech.de)

VABR: Pre-qualification year work and occupation in regular form

Here, more **German is learned** and pupils **prepared for their profession**. There are also **practical parts** in factories. Other subjects are also taught. You can also take a [secondary school leaving certificate](#). This helps when beginning a [training course](#).

There are VABR classes in the following schools in the district of Heidenheim:

- [Maria-von-Linden-Schule](#)
Heckentalstraße 86
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 3217800](tel:073213217800)
✉ [@info@mvl-hdh.de](mailto:info@mvl-hdh.de)
- [HEID-TECH](#) /Technische Schule Heidenheim
Clichystraße 115
89518 Heidenheim
☎ [07321 3217960](tel:073213217960)
✉ [@info@heid-tech.de](mailto:info@heid-tech.de)

The following types of schooling exist at vocational schools:

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

These are programmes for students with or without a certain type of secondary-school diploma (Hauptschulabschluss) who are not yet sure what kind of career they are interested in and do not yet have a vocational training placement (apprenticeship). They are introduced to

various professions and can build on either a secondary school degree (Hauptschulabschluss) or an educational level equivalent to a "Hauptschulabschluss".

Vocational school (Berufsschule):

At these schools, training is through a dual-track system. This means that part of the vocational training focuses on theory, which is learned at the school, while the other part involves getting practical experience at a company that provides vocational training.

You can find more information on this in the vocational training section or [here](#).

Vocational schools for specific professions (Berufsfachschule):

This type of vocational school offers 1 to 3 years of basic vocational education, preparation for a specific profession or professional qualification. Students can obtain a degree ranging from a secondary school degree one level above the one they have to a basic secondary school degree. This type of vocational school are usually split into the following professional fields:

commercial/business professions
home economics/socio-educational care or nursing
business/technical professions
You can get more information [here](#).

Preparatory training school (Fachschule):

This type of preparatory training school offers one- or two-year programmes for professional development. This means that students are building on their previously completed vocational training programme and corresponding employment, and further developing the qualifications they have already acquired. These schools prepare students for mid-level management or self-employment. These schools are likewise split up into the following subject areas:

Technology
Economics
Social work
Agricultural economics
Design
You can get more information [here](#).

Vocational college (Berufskolleg):

Vocational colleges, which offer programmes of between one and three years, build on a basic secondary-school degree, and students aim to achieve a more advanced professional qualification or qualification for higher education at a technical university (eligibility for university study). There are vocational colleges for the following fields:

Technology
Economics and administration
Social education
Health and nursing
Home economics
You can get more information [here](#).

Upper secondary vocational school (Berufsoberschule):

To attend an upper secondary vocational school, you need to have already completed a vocational training programme (apprenticeship) and, at minimum, a basic secondary school

degree (mittlerer Schulabschluss). These schools' programmes usually last two years and prepare students for a subject-specific university entrance certificate or, if they speak a second foreign language, a general university entrance certificate. This makes them eligible to study at a university. 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)

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

Vocational grammar school (Berufliches Gymnasium):

Students with a basic secondary-school degree and average grade of 3.0 in the main subjects may attend a three-year vocational grammar school. The vocational grammar school ends with a general university entrance certificate (Abitur) and makes the student eligible to study at any research university or university of applied sciences. 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

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

Extra tuition and learning support

Tutoring or learning assistance is **additional support for a school subject outside of class**. This usually has to be paid for by the student.

Tutoring and learning assistance are useful, for example, if promotion or graduation are at risk or if someone does not know a lot of the content in class. **Talk to the teachers** at school and ask whether tutoring or learning assistance makes sense. Maybe the school itself has something to offer.

It is sometimes possible to get paid learning support through education and participation. You will need confirmation from the school that this is necessary.

If you can imagine **doing voluntary tutoring yourself**, please contact the Department of Social Security and Integration at the District Office of Heidenheim (ehrenamt@landkreis-heidenheim.de).

Individual tutoring and learning assistance institutes are presented here ([subject to a fee](#)):

Heidenheim

- [ABACUS Einzelnachhilfe zu Hause Nachhilfeinstitut](#)
Telefon: [07321279077](tel:07321279077)
- Augustin Schüler- und Studentenförderung
Christianstraße 13
89522 Heidenheim

Telefon: [073217589939](tel:073217589939)

- [Lernstudio Barbarossa Heidenheim](#)
Eugen-Jaekle-Platz 35
89518 Heidenheim
Telefon: [073219203996](tel:073219203996)
Email: heidenheim@lernstudio-barbarossa.de
- [LOS Lehrinstitut für Orthographie und Schreibtechnik](#)
Bahnhofplatz 11
89518 Heidenheim
Telefon: [073213496060](tel:073213496060)
E-Mail: LOS-Heidenheim@t-online.de
- [Schülerhilfe](#)
Bahnhofplatz 1
89518 Heidenheim
Telefon: [0732130996923](tel:0732130996923)
- [Bildungsforum Brenz e. V.](#)
Steinheimerstraße 9/1
89518 Heidenheim
Telefon: [073214896563](tel:073214896563)
- Studienkreis Heidenheim
Karlstraße 6
89518 Heidenheim
Telefon: [0732123343](tel:0732123343)
- Pädagogische Schüler-Förderung
Schnaitheimer Str. 9
89520 Heidenheim
Telefon: [07321948161](tel:07321948161)
- Nachhilfe Einstein
Individual tutoring at home; assistance with the application
Mobile / WhatsApp: [0173 65 65 307](tel:01736565307)
E-Mail: ulrike.zeitler@nachhilfe-einstein.de

Giengen

- Sprach- und Lernhilfe
Geißenmarkt 16
89537 Giengen
Telefon: [07322931459](tel:07322931459)
- [Studienkreis Giengen](#)
Obertorstraße 2
89537 Giengen
Telefon: [07322932128](tel:07322932128)

Herbrechtingen

- Pädagogische Schüler-Förderung für Nachhilfeunterricht
Lange Str. 44
89542 Herbrechtingen
Telefon: [07324982431](tel:07324982431)

Gerstetten

- proSchüler
Am Bahnhof 2
89547 Gerstetten
Telefon: [07323920540](tel:07323920540)

Advice and help

School social workers

There are school social workers in many schools. These people will **help you** if you

- Have problems at school or with other pupils.
- Have problems at home with your parents or family.
- Have questions and problems in other life situations (addiction, drugs, pregnancy...).

Contact the **school social worker at your school**.

Youth career assistance

The Maria-von-Linden-Schule and HEID TECH vocational schools provide youth career assistance in our district. Youth career assistants **help** young people **find a job** that suits them. They also help with the search for internships and with applications.

[Maria-von-Linden-Schule](#)

Heckentalstraße 86

89518 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 321 7800](tel:073213217800)

@info@mvl-hdh.de

[HEID TECH](#) / Technical School Heidenheim

Clichystraße 115

89518 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 321 7960](tel:073213217960)

@info@heid-tech.de

Talent Company:

The Talent Company at HEID TECH has advice and information on vocational training, career orientation and transition to school-based vocational training offered by cooperating companies, trainees and school teachers.

The room is equipped with computers and printers so applications can also be written here. The Talent Company can be used by arrangement from Monday to Friday.

Target group: Students of the schools in the district of Heidenheim from age 15 years.

Contact:

[HEID TECH / Technical School Heidenheim](#)

Clichystraße 115

89518 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 321 7960](tel:073213217960)

@info@heid-tech.de

Consulting teachers

At many schools there are consulting teachers you can also turn to. These help parents and students with learning and performance problems as well as school progress issues. You can find a list of consulting teachers in the district of Heidenheim [here](#).

School psychological counselling centre (Schulpsychologische Beratungsstelle)

If you have any questions or problems where the school social worker can not help, you can contact the school psychological counselling centre. They help pupils

- with problems with teachers or other pupils,
- with learning or concentration problems and
- fear of examinations or fear of school.
- They also help parents if the children have problems with learning, are afraid of school or do not feel like school; problems at school or with other pupils; behavioural problems at school.

Contact:

[School psychological counselling centre \(Schulpsychologische Beratungsstelle\)](#)

Galgenbergstraße 8

73431 Aalen

☎ [07361 52656 0](tel:07361526560)

@spbs@aa.ssa-gp.kv.bwl.de

Education and participation package (BuT)

Do you receive social benefits? If so, you may receive financial support for your child through the "education and participation package".

This is possible for

- Children up to their 18th birthday and
 - for young adults up to their 25th birthday,
- who attend school but do not earn money as part of an apprenticeship.

The benefits at a glance

One-day excursions and school trips lasting several days with the school or day care centre

If the entire group takes part, these costs are covered:

- travel costs,
- catering costs and
- the entrance fee

The actual costs incurred are paid

- without pocket money and
- without personal equipment.

The communal lunch

Lunch is paid for. Lunch must be provided by the school or the day care centre.

School transport

If the nearest school is too far away, transport costs can be reimbursed. This is only possible from a certain distance.

School supplies

Schoolchildren receive a lump sum for school materials every half term. The lump sum depends on your standard needs. The amount is adjusted each year. The lump sum is paid in August and February.

Learning support

- Sometimes learning support or [tutoring](#) can be paid for. But only for a certain period of time.
- Learning support is only paid if the learning goals are otherwise not achieved.
- Confirmation from the school is always required. The confirmation must be submitted with the application.

Participation in social and cultural life

For children and young people under the age of 18, a maximum of €15 per month for

- membership fees and participation fees in the following areas
 - sport,
 - games,
 - culture and
 - socialising (e.g. football club)
- lessons in artistic "subjects", for example music lessons
- participation in camps, for example theatre camps, or guided cultural education activities

Please note:

- The benefits are only for children and young people who receive social benefits.
- Only up to the age of 25 (if attending a general or vocational school) or, in the case of the "cultural and social participation" benefit, children and young people up to the age of 18.
- Pupils with a training allowance are excluded from the benefit.

- Every child and young person needs a separate application.
- In order to be able to decide whether you will receive benefits, the need must be expressed in concrete terms and supported by suitable evidence. Your contact person will tell you which documents and evidence are required.

Contact persons and the application process

If you receive benefits in accordance with SGB II (unemployment benefit II/social benefit):

The [Heidenheim Job Centre](#)

Education and Participation Team

Theodor-Heuss-Straße 1, 89518 Heidenheim

@jobcenter-Heidenheim.Geldleistungen-Team3-BuT@job...

[☎07321 345 0](tel:073213450)

Fax: 07321 345 114

If you receive asylum seeker benefits:

The [District Office Heidenheim](#)

Social security and integration

Asylum seeker benefits

House A, ground floor

Felsenstr. 36

89518 Heidenheim

@asylbewerberleistungen@landkreis-heidenheim.de

[☎07321 321 2125](tel:073213212125)

If you receive housing benefit, child benefit supplement, basic income support according to SGB XII, subsistence assistance according to SGB XII:

The [Heidenheim District Office](#)

Social security and integration

Education and participation

Felsenstraße 36

89518 Heidenheim

[☎07321 321 0](tel:073213210)

Libraries and state education centres

State education centres (Volkshochschulen - VHS) in the district of Heidenheim

State education centres (Volkshochschulen - VHS) have **various offers for children, teenagers and adults.**

There are often **courses and events** on topics such as language, health, computers, culture, art and music.

Every VHS has **different offers** that you can use. You need to **pay something** for most offers. Almost all the secondary schools in the Heidenheim district have also the “young VHS” **free offers for children.**

You will find more information about the offers on the VHS websites:

- [VHS Heidenheim](#)
Am Wedelgraben 5
89522 Heidenheim
☎ [073213274422](tel:073213274422)
@info@vhs-heidenheim.de
- [VHS Giengen](#)
Spitalstraße 5
89537 Giengen an der Brenz
☎ [07322 7758](tel:073227758)
@vhs@giengen.de
- [VHS Herbrechtingen](#)
Eselsburger Straße 8
89542 Herbrechtingen
☎ [073249551360](tel:073249551360)
@vhs@kulturzentrum-kloster.de
- [VHS Sontheim](#)
Brenzer Straße 25
89567 Sontheim
☎ [073251772](tel:073251772)
@vhs@sontheim-an-der-brenz.de
- [VHS Niederstotzingen](#)
Pommernweg 3/1
89168 Niederstotzingen
☎ [07325 102 27](tel:0732510227)
@vhs@Niederstotzingen.de
- [VHS Dischingen](#)
Marktplatz 9
89561 Dischingen
☎ [07327810](tel:07327810)
@vhs@dischingen.de
- [VHS Hermaringen](#)
Karlstraße 12 (Rathaus)
89568 Hermaringen
☎ [07322 9547 11](tel:07322954711)
- [VHS Gerstetten](#)
Karlstraße 24
89547 Gerstetten
☎ [07323919250](tel:07323919250)
@vhs@gerstetten.de
- [VHS Nattheim](#)
Schulstraße 18a
89564 Nattheim
☎ [07321979426](tel:07321979426)

@vhs@nattheim.de

- [VHS Königsbronn](#)
Herwartstraße 2
89551 Königsbronn
[☎07328 9625 13](tel:07328 9625 13)
@volkshochschule@koenigsbronn.de

Libraries

You can borrow **books, magazines, CDs and DVDs in libraries**. You can then keep the books and media for a few weeks (**loan period**). Most of it is in German, but sometimes there are books in other languages, such as English. If you want to borrow something, **you need a card**. This card can be obtained in the library. You usually have to **pay a small amount for it**. If you do not **return the books and media in time**, you will have to pay overdue fines!

- [Stadtbibliothek Heidenheim library](#)
Willy-Brandt-Platz 1
89522 Heidenheim
- [Stadtbibliothek Giengen library](#)
Marktstraße 41
89537 Giengen an der Brenz
- [Ortsbibliothek Steinheim am Albuch library](#)
Hauptstraße 24
89555 Steinheim am Albuch
- [Stadtbücherei Herbrechtingen library](#)
Eselsburger Straße 8
89542 Herbrechtingen
- [Ortsbücherei Sontheim an der Brenz library](#)
Brenzer Straße 25
89567 Sontheim an der Brenz
- [Ortsbücherei Gerstetten library](#)
Gartenstraße 25
89547 Gerstetten
- [Ortsbücherei Nattheim library](#)
Schulstraße 16
89564 Nattheim

Kreismedienzentrum media centre

In the Kreismedienzentrum media centre, many **audio-visual and digital media** and **devices** can be borrowed. The offer can be used by schools, kindergartens, educational institutions and associations. Even private individuals can borrow there for a small fee.

Contact:

[Medienzentrum Heidenheim](#)

Willy-Brandt-Platz 1
89522 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 321 1652](tel:07321_321_1652)

@info@medienzentrum-hdh.de

Opening hours:

Monday: 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Tuesday: 12:30 am to 4 pm

Thursday: 12:30 am to 4 pm

Friday: 8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Educational options

Future academy (Zukunftsakademie):

The “**Heidenheim Future Academy**” has various **offers for children and young people, most of them free**. There are **courses on various topics**: Language, art, music, natural sciences, mathematics, technology...

- The [Junior Academy \(Juniorakademie\)](#) there is for children and young people of all schools types class 5 and upwards.
- The [Hector Children's Academy \(Hector-Kinderakademie\)](#) is for children in kindergartens and primary schools. The kindergarten or primary school has to recommend that the child attends a course at the Hector Children's Academy. [This is where](#) you can search for courses.

Contact:

[Heidenheim Future Academy](#)

Research workshop (Forscherwerkstatt Gelbe Halle)

Schmelzofenvorstadt 33/4

89520 Heidenheim

☎ [07321/9245-310](tel:07321/9245-310)

@zukunftsakademie@heidenheim.de

STARTKLAR starter project:

“**STARTKLAR**” starter project is designed to help young people in school classes 8, 9 and 10 get a **school leaving certificate and a training place**.

You have a contact person at the school who will help you find a suitable profession. The project also includes an **internship**. There are no additional costs. You can find more information [here](#).

The “**STARTKLAR**” starter project is available at these schools:

- Bühlschule Giengen
- Bildungszentrum Gerstetter Alb
- Egauschule Dischingen
- Gemeinschaftsschule am Brenzpark Heidenheim
- Hirscheckschule Schnaitheim

- Bibrisschule Herbrechtingen
- Hillerschule Steinheim
- Grund- und Realschule Sontheim
- Schulverbund im Heckental Heidenheim
- Georg-Elser-Schule Königsbronn
- Christophorus-Schule Heidenheim

If you are interested in the project, ask at school.

Young VHS:

The **Volkshochschulen (VHS)** state evening schools in the district also offer courses for children and young people. This is called “Junge VHS”, young VHS. **Many of these courses are free.** Sometimes, however, the material you need for the course has to be paid for. Books, for example.

Look at the Volkshochschulen website to find out what courses are available.

Note: The VHS Heidenheim offers **free German courses** for pupils with foreign roots. Only the books have to be paid for.

Please contact the [VHS Heidenheim](#) directly.

Summer school

In the summer school, girls and boys from the **6th to 8th classes** can attend a free course for one week. In these courses, **German, maths and English are taught.** In the afternoon there are **workshops** such as drumming, photography and fancy dress.

Students from all the vocational, lower and middle secondary schools (Hauptschulen, Werkrealschulen, Gemeinschaftsschulen, Realschulen) in the district of Heidenheim can participate. **Participation is free, including lunch.**

For further information and to register, please contact [VHS Heidenheim](#).

Abendgymnasium Ostwürttemberg evening gymnasium

The evening gymnasium is a **school for adults.** Here, people can take the middle secondary school certificate (**mittlere Reife**) or the higher secondary school certificate (**Abitur**). This is also possible if you are at work. The **lessons are in the evening** or at the weekend. There is a cost for it (€500 a year). If you don't have much money, there is support available. Then you have to pay less.

You can find more information here  <http://www.abendgymnasium-ostwuerttemberg.de/>

Vocational training, university study and work

General information

General information

There are many ways to find employment. You will find many job advertisements in major **newspapers** or on the **internet**. You can also place your own advertisement or search for work personally in your neighbourhood.

The [new JobZentrale for the Ostwürttemberg region](#) bundles regional job and vacancy offers as well as training and internship positions. Here you will find a quick overview of the labour market in the region.

If you have completed **training** or a **course of study**, it will help you find a suitable job. Your chances increase the more knowledge and experience you have. **Knowledge of German** is very important in the job market. It is an advantage if you know other languages, such as English or French.

If you completed training or a degree in your home country, you should have these **qualifications recognised** in Germany. You can find more information [here](#).

Which profession suits me?

A **profession** is a **permanent job** in a specific **occupational field**. In Germany, a profession usually requires **vocational training**, such as an [apprenticeship](#) or a [degree programme](#). Once you have learnt a profession, there are also opportunities for further training. You can also study after completing an apprenticeship. Without a profession, it is more difficult to find and keep a job in Germany. Without vocational training, you usually earn less money. You also have fewer opportunities for career advancement.

Think about it beforehand: which profession interests you and what suits you and your skills? An **internship helps** you to gain an insight into a profession before you start vocational training.

Further information

At [Planet Beruf](#) you will find extensive information and a roadmap for choosing a career.

Here you will find information on the various occupational fields:

- [Occupational and study fields](#)
- [Well trained](#)
- Professions encyclopaedia [Azubiyo](#)

Here you will find videos in which professions are explained:

- Employment Agency - [Berufe.tv](#)
- [Occupational zapping](#)
- [Watchado](#)

The AzubiWelt app from the Federal Employment Agency offers a wide range of services for people looking for an apprenticeship.

[Android](#)
[IOS](#)

A collection of helpful online and print media for career orientation can be found [here](#).

The vocational orientation tests

There are tests that you can use to see which professions might be of interest to you:

- [Employment agency](#): Which profession suits me?
- [Bildungsmesse24](#): [free tests](#)
- finest jobs: [free tests](#)
- [Albus](#) digital career finder

If you already have work experience:

The "[My work experience](#)" portal provides a **free multilingual** (6 languages: German, English, Arabic, Farsi, Russian and Turkish) and **image-based self-assessment** in **8 occupational fields**.

The self-assessment can be completed in **just a few minutes**. The result is an overview of various areas of the respective occupational field. This can be helpful as an initial orientation.

Help on site

Please also take note of the information in the [training](#) and [study programmes](#). If you are unsure or have any questions, these contacts can help you:

- Pupils at general education and vocational schools should contact teachers, [school social workers and/or youth career counsellors](#) with initial questions.
- The **careers advice centre at the Federal Employment Agency** is a good place to go (please note: you must make an appointment in advance!):
Ploucquetstraße 30
89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz
 [08004555500](tel:08004555500)
@Heidenheim.151-U25@arbeitsagentur.de
- Adults should contact their local employment agency [or job centre](#).
- Training fairs are one way of gaining an overview. You can talk to companies and trainees.
- [Training counselling](#) at the Ostwürttemberg Chamber of Industry and Commerce (advice on training in industrial-technical and commercial professions)
- [Training counselling](#) at the Ulm Chamber of Crafts (advice on training in skilled trades)

Job application

If you would like to start vocational training or work in Germany, you must apply in writing. Most of the time, you apply to a company because it has placed a **job advertisement**. This means that the company is looking for new employees. The job advertisement states what kind of work or training is involved and what the company expects from the employee. **There** you will also find out **where and how to apply**.

If the company is interested in you, you will usually be invited to an **interview** in which you introduce yourself personally. Please plan your time and be sure to **arrive on time**. It is best to **prepare yourself thoroughly** for the interview beforehand and collect important information about the company. Visit the website and read through the history of the company and find out about its products or services. If you arrive on time and ask smart questions during the interview, you show your motivation and interest in training or work at

the company.

Here you will find information on the search for [vocational training](#) and [jobs](#).

Your application consists of three things:

- **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 had in your home country. Find out about the company and explain why that is the place where you want to work. Your cover letter should fit on one page. Sign your letter.
- **C.V. (curriculum vitae):** The CV lists your entire experience and is set out in the form of a table. Write from when to when you worked with what company. Write where you undertook training or a course of studies. Write where you went to school and what degree you have gained. You do not have to include a photo in your CV, but many companies prefer it if you do.
- **Certificates:** It is very important that you include copies of your certificates in the application (not the originals!). Certificates are your school leaver's certificate, your degree and any job references from the past. You should also enclose the certificate of your German course, internships or relevant training courses. The certificates should be in German or English, otherwise they should be [translated](#).

It often states in the job advertisement how you should apply. Please read it carefully.

- **In writing:** Buy a nice job application folder and place your cover letter, C.V. and certificates inside. Then send the application to the address mentioned in the job advertisement. You can also drop off your application personally.
- **E-Mail:** Many applications are now sent by e-mail. Add your cover letter, your CV and your testimonies together in a PDF file and send it as an e-mail attachment. Write a short text in the e-mail to the person who receives your application.
- **Online:** Large companies have their own website on which you have to apply. In these cases just log in with your email address and complete your application there.

Local assistance

If you have any questions about applications or need support, please contact your relevant local job placement officer ([Agentur für Arbeit](#) or [Job Center](#)). The [youth migration service](#) and [migration counselling](#) can also be of help.

You can find further **helpful tips** for your job application at [Planet Beruf](#).

Europass

Europass is a multilingual online portal (more than 20 languages!) that helps migrants to make their skills and knowledge visible. It allows you to create a language passport or CV (Curriculum Vitae) with a free online tool. This is important if you want to apply for a job, an internship or vocational training. You will also find important tips on how to apply for jobs.

<http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/>

Help for your job application:

You can create your CV and cover letter here for free. You can also import your data from Linked in or Xing and it is possible to write your own text into the template or import files.

<https://generator.bewerbung.net>

<https://generator.bewerbung.de>
<https://www.lebenslauf2go.de/>

Further Information:

You can find further information and templates for cover letters and CVs here:

<https://www.bewerbung2go.de>
<https://www.bewerbungswissen.net>
<https://karrierebibel.de/bewerbungsschreiben/>

Language exercises

On the VHS learning portal "Ich will Deutsch lernen" (I want to learn German) and the Goethe-Institut website "Deutsch für dich" (German for you) you will find exercises on the subject of job application and the professional world in general. This way you learn something about the working world and improve your German language skills:

<https://www.iwdl.de>

App "Bewerbung: Fit fürs Vorstellungsgespräch" ("Job Application: Fit for the job interview")

This app can be used to prepare and follow up interviews. Available for [IOS](#) and [Android](#).

Recognition of credentials

Many professions are **regulated differently in Germany than abroad**. If you have received a school certificate or a professional qualification abroad, you have the option of **having these officially recognised**. Some professions require you to have your qualification recognised in order to work (regulated professions). The recognition of professional qualifications costs money. Recognition can **help you find work** though. Recognition can even be **helpful** for **training** or a **course of study**.

General advice:

First you need to speak to your contact person in the **Federal Employment Agency (Agentur für Arbeit) or a Job Centre**.

In the district of Heidenheim (Landkreis Heidenheim), you can get **assistance** from the **youth migration service (Jugendmigrationsdienst)** and the **migration counselling service (Migrationsberatung)** in having qualifications recognised.

The hotline "Working and Living in Germany" (Arbeiten und Leben in Deutschland) offers you an **initial telephone consultation** on the recognition of foreign professional qualifications (in **German** or **English**). Tel: [03018151111](tel:03018151111)

In Stuttgart and Schwäbisch Gmünd there are [expert advisors on gaining recognition](#):

AWO Stuttgart

Olgastraße 63
70182 Stuttgart
E-Mail: anerkennung@awo-stuttgart.de
Tel: [07112106117](tel:07112106117)

Phone consultation hours:
Monday: 10:00 am to noon a
Wednesday: 10:00 am to noon and 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Thursday: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Aalen

Please make an appointment by phone.

AJO e.V.

Aalstr. 14/1

73430 Aalen

Tel: [07112106117](tel:07112106117)

Phone consultation hours:

Monday: 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 10:00 am to noon

Wednesday: 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Schwäbisch Gmünd

Please make an appointment by phone.

Anlaufstelle Pfiff

Bahnhofplatz 8

73525 Schwäbisch Gmünd

Tel: [07112106180](tel:07112106180)

Phone consultation hours:

Phone consultation hours:

Monday: 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tuesday: 10:00 am to noon

Wednesday: 10:00 am to noon and 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

IN VIA in Ulm

Wengengasse 15

89073 Ulm

E-Mail: anerkennung@invia-drs.de

Tel: [073138852213](tel:073138852213)

Specific advice:

If you have learned a profession in **industry, trade, gastronomy and services** abroad, please contact the [Chamber of Industry and Commerce \(IHK\)](#).

There is the possibility of a **free initial consultation** at the IHK Ostwürttemberg in Heidenheim. You must make an **appointment**. You must also bring your **documentation** to the appointment. You can find more information here: [IHK Ostwürttemberg](#).

If you have learned a profession in a **trade field**, please contact the **Handwerkskammer Ulm** (Chamber of Trade). You can find more information here: [Handwerkskammer Ulm](#).

If you want to study, please consider the **information under [University studies](#)**.

Having qualifications recognised costs money. If you have a low income, you can apply for **financial aid**. You can find further information in this [leaflet](#).

Information on the Internet

Three large information portals are available on the Internet that provide information on the recognition of foreign qualifications:

"[Anabin](#)" offers **information on evaluating foreign educational qualifications** and supports authorities, employers and employees, as well as private individuals, on how to classify a foreign degree within the German educational system.

"Recognition in Germany" ([Anerkennung in Deutschland](#)) can help to **clarify whether or not persons with foreign professional qualifications require an official notification of recognition ("Anerkennungsbescheid")** to be able to work in their field of expertise.

The "[BQ-Portal](#)" offers chambers and companies exhaustive information and a working platform online to better assess and **evaluate** whether there is a German dual education or training degree similar to the **foreign professional qualification**.

Here you can check whether a profession is regulated and if recognition of the qualification is necessary in order to work in Germany:

<https://berufenet.arbeitsagentur.de>

Vocational Training

Education

Vocational training is required for many professions in Germany. The duration of vocational training depends on the occupation. It can last between 2 and 4 years. During vocational training, you will learn **the practical activities in your training company**. You will learn the **theory at a vocational college**. You will also be **paid** during your training (the training allowance). That is why it is also called "**dual training**".

How long does an apprenticeship last? The **duration** of a vocational training programme depends on the occupation. **As a rule**, it lasts **3 years**. At the end of the training period, you take a **final examination**. If you pass the exam, you can then work in this profession. There is no age limit for an apprenticeship.

Training can also be completed **part-time**. Part-time training lasts just as long as normal full-time training. The daily or weekly **training time in the company** is reduced.

A successfully completed vocational training programme offers you many **opportunities**. You can also go on to study after completing an apprenticeship.

A **work placement** is a good way to gain an **insight into a profession**. You can then find out whether you like the job and also improve your German language skills.

Multilingual information:

Vocational training is presented in various languages in a short film.
The videos are available in

- [German](#),
- [English](#),
- [Arabic](#),
- [Farsi](#) and
- [Tigrinya](#).

You can find multilingual [information flyers](#) and videos at the Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

Here you will find a **parents' guide** to training in Germany in various languages:

- [English](#)
- [Arabic](#)
- [Persian](#),
- [French](#),
- [Italian](#)
- [Turkish](#),
- [Bulgarian](#),
- [Greek](#),
- [Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian](#),
- [Romanian](#),
- [Spanish](#),
- [Portuguese](#),
- [Ukrainian](#),
- [Russian](#),
- [Polish](#) and
- [Chinese](#).

The Federal Employment Agency will provide you with information on the various [occupational fields](#) in which you can do an apprenticeship. For most apprenticeships, you apply directly to the company. The multilingual information booklet "[My Future NRW](#)" summarises information on the German vocational training system.

The [multilingual specialised glossary](#) "In-company training" explains 41 terms relating to training for entrepreneurs. The page is available with the individual terms in

- English,
- Arabic
- Russian
- Polish,
- Italian,
- Russian and
- Turkish

available.

Residence during training for refugees and asylum seekers

If you start a training programme as an asylum seeker **but your asylum application is rejected**, you can **apply** for a **tolerated stay permit**. This means that you are tolerated in Germany for the duration of your training. If you work in the profession you have learnt after your training, you will be tolerated for a further 2 years ("3+2 regulation"). Enquire at the relevant [immigration office](#) or find out more [here](#).

You can find templates for applying for training toleration [here](#).

[Since November 2018](#), trainees for geriatric nurse assistants and nursing assistants, as well as people in an introductory qualification programme, can also apply for a tolerated stay for training purposes.

Company entry qualification (EQ) - the bridge to vocational training

In-company entry qualification (EQ) is a programme offered by the Federal Employment Agency for

- Applicants and
- employers.

It involves a long-term internship of at least 6 to a maximum of 12 months. The aim is to be taken on as an apprentice by the employer. You will be taught the basics of the profession based on the recognised training occupations. At the same time, employers can get to know future trainees.

Funding starts from 1 October at the earliest, in exceptional cases from 1 August.

Remuneration is agreed between the EQ participant and the company. The EQ programme is an employment relationship subject to social insurance contributions. You will receive a certificate after completing the EQ programme.

Another advantage is that the EQ can be counted towards the training period if you start an apprenticeship in the same profession.

If you have any questions, please contact your local [employment agency](#) (Agentur für Arbeit or job centre).

Further information:

- [planet-beruf.de](#) - mein Start in die Ausbildung | Bundesagentur für Arbeit (German - text information, images and films)
- [Which professions suit you?](#) - the first steps with the BERUFE-Entdecker|Federal Employment Agency (German - text information, pictures and films)
- [BERUFENET](#) - Find detailed career information|Federal Employment Agency (German - text information, pictures and films)
- [Ich mach's!: More than 300 professions in portrait|ARD-alpha](#)(German - text information, pictures and films)
- [Tips for finding a training place](#)
- [Applying for a training or study place](#)

Find vacant training places

- the [employment agency job exchange](#)
- the [Chamber of Industry and Commerce apprenticeship exchange](#)
- the [Ulm Chamber of Crafts Apprenticeship Exchange](#)

Advice and help for training

It is possible to get support and help during your apprenticeship.

- The [Migration Counselling](#) Service and the [Youth Migration Service](#) also support migrants with questions about vocational training.
- The caretaker of the IHK Ostwürttemberg supports companies and refugees on the topics of application, training and work.

[IHK East Wuerttemberg](#)

Ludwig-Erhard-Straße 1

89520 Heidenheim

Olusegun Okejimi

☎ [07321324193](tel:07321324193)

@okejimi@ostwuerttemberg.ihk.de

Please note: You must make an appointment in advance.

The **perfect match**

Here, migrants and Germans are helped to find a suitable training position and receive support with their application.

- [Ulm Chamber of Crafts](#)
- The **careers counselling** service **of the Employment Agency** will help you choose a profession. Please note: You must make an appointment in advance.
Ploucquetstraße 30
89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz
☎ [08004555500](tel:08004555500)
@Heidenheim.151-U25@arbeitsagentur.de
- The **Welcome Guides** provide information and support **to companies and refugees on the subject of training and work.** They also help with the search for apprenticeships and jobs. They also help with the preparation of application documents.

[BBQ Vocational Training gGmbH](#)

Hopfenstraße 22

73430 Aalen

☎ [07361526721](tel:07361526721)

☎ [07361526713](tel:07361526713)

@info-aalen@biwe-bbq.de

Difficulties during training

The **employment agency** and the **job centre** also offer [help in the event of difficulties during training](#). There is an [assisted training](#) programme or [training support](#). Talk to your counsellor.

The VerA programme

The VerA programme is an offer for anyone who is experiencing difficulties during training and is considering dropping out of their apprenticeship. The young people are supported by senior experts with professional and life experience.

Senior Expert Service (SES)

Buschstraße 2

53113 Bonn

☎ [02282609040](tel:02282609040)

@vera@ses-bonn.de

University Studies

General information:

There are many different degree courses in Germany. There are different types of universities:

- Universities (scientifically oriented)
- (Specialist) universities of applied science (practice-oriented)
- Dual universities (very practice-oriented)
- Art film and music colleges (for artistic subjects)

There are state colleges and private colleges. The quality of private colleges is not necessarily better, but you often have to pay high study fees there.

You can find many helpful sites online:

- [Hochschulkompass](#) (all courses and universities in Germany)
- [Study in Germany](#) (information for refugees)
- [Federal Employment Agency \(Agentur für Arbeit\) Study programme orientation](#)
- [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst \(DAAD\) German Academic Exchange Service](#)

Pre-requisites:

- If you [want to study in Germany](#), you need a [university entrance qualification](#). If you do not have a German Abitur (school leavers certificate), you have to check whether you can study in Germany with the school leaving certificate from your home country. You can find further information on the [Anabin](#) website, in the [information portal "Recognition in Germany"](#) and the [German Academic Exchange Service DAAD](#).
- You must also provide proof that you have a good knowledge of German ([level C1](#)). E.g. TestDaF, DSH or telc German C1 University. There is also the possibility of support from the educational advice university funds ([Bildungsberatung Garantiefonds Hochschule](#)). You can get further information from the German Academic Exchange Service [DAAD](#).
- Some universities also offer preparatory semesters in which you can also learn German. For example the [Dual University of Heidenheim](#).

Find out directly from the [university](#) where you would like to study. Most universities have consulting services for this. Please also note the deadlines in which you can apply for a course

of studies!

The University of Ulm regularly provides [information events](#) for refugees.

The **professional advice centre at the of Federal Employment Agency** will help you to choose a profession.

Please note: You must make an appointment beforehand.

Ploucquetstraße 30

89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz

 [0800 4 5555 00](tel:0800455500)

@

Heidenheim.151-U25@arbeitsagentur.de

Tuition fees for international students from third countries

The homepage of the University of Ulm provides detailed [information on tuition fees for foreign students in Baden-Württemberg](#). EU migrants and most refugees do not have to pay tuition fees. Those who have a German university entrance qualification do not have to pay tuition fees either. The website also gives information on tuition fees for a second degree course.

Financing:

Many people go to work to finance their studies. During term time (semester), you must not work more than 20 hours a week. You can also try to get state support.

You can find an overview of the financing possibilities for refugees here:

<https://www.studentenwerke.de/sites/default/files...>

BAföG = Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz (Federal Training Assistance Act)

Students receive money every month for a certain period of time from the BAföG grant organisation. How much you get depends on your personal circumstances. Not every student can get BAföG. If you get [asylum seekers benefits](#), you cannot get BAföG. Only one full-time course of study is supported.

You can find more information at www.bafög.de/leichte-sprache

You can find an Arabic online tutorial about BAföG at www.youtube.com/BAföG/arabisch

Grants

A grant is financial support, for university studies for example. There are many grants for which you can apply. And not just for the first semester but for your whole course of studies. You can get an overview on the website www.stidendienplus.de. Some take account of social engagement, political orientation, degree programme, grades or personal circumstances. Some organisations work together with certain universities.

The “Deutschlandstipendium” (www.deutschlandstipendium.de, available in simple language, English and German) itself has a wide range of support offers, which also means that it can be accessible to many students.

Without university entrance qualification:

If you are able to study with your school leaving certificate in your home country, but not in Germany, you may be able to obtain a university entrance through [Studienkolleg](#) preparatory courses. Foreign study applicants are specifically prepared there for studying at a university or a university of applied sciences in Germany.

Universities in the district of Heidenheim and surroundings:

Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg Heidenheim (DHBW Heidenheim):

Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University

Marienstraße 20

89518 Heidenheim

<http://www.dhbw-heidenheim.de/>

DHBW Heidenheim has created an applicant pool. People who are looking for a dual study place can create an applicant profile there. Companies that have free places can view these profiles and contact them. Further information can be found here:

<https://bewerberboerse.heidenheim.dhbw.de/bewerbe...>

Universität Ulm: Ulm University

Albert-Einstein-Allee 5

89081 Ulm

<https://www.uni-ulm.de/>

Hochschule Ulm: University of Applied Science Ulm

Prittwitzstraße 10

89075 Ulm

<https://studium.hs-ulm.de/>

Hochschule Neu-Ulm: University of Applied Science Neu-Ulm

Wileystraße 1

89231 Neu-Ulm

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

Pädagogische Hochschule Schwäbisch Gmünd: University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd

Oberbettringer Str. 200

D-73525 Schwäbisch Gmünd

<http://www.ph-gmuend.de/>

Hochschule Aalen: University of Applied Science Aalen

Beethovenstraße 1

73430 Aalen

<https://www.hs-aalen.de/>

Hochschule für Gestaltung Schwäbisch Gmünd: University of Design Schwäbisch Gmünd

Rektor-Klaus-Straße 100
73525 Schwäbisch Gmünd
<https://www.hfg-gmuend.de/>

Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Umwelt Nürtingen-Geislingen: Nuertingen-Geislingen University

Campus Geislingen Pa4
Parkstraße 4
73312 Geislingen a.d. Steige
<https://www.hfwu.de/>

Kiron University

You can also start to study at university **without university admission**. One option of pursuing a study course is the [Kiron University](#), which allows you two years to get recognition of your certificates. However, you need proof of university admission for your third year at a university in Germany. You must make sure to get this in the first two years of your studies.

Kiron students complete the first two years of their study course online and their third year at a partner university. The qualifications offered are recognised.

Online courses of study are possible through Massive Open Online Courses and Small Private Online Courses. These are courses from world-renowned elite universities such as Harvard, Stanford, MIT or Yale, which have been made available to the general public. In consultation with the providers, Kiron takes over the free courses and combines these with the latest e-learning technologies into learning modules. The partner universities credit these online courses and allow students to finish the third year of the selected study course on site.

External examination and partial qualifications

The external examination

If you

- have worked in a profession for **at least one and a half times the prescribed [standard training period](#)** (for 3 years of training, you must have worked in this profession for at least 4.5 years),
- but have **no vocational training**,

you can take an **external examination**. This means that you **take part** in the normal **final examination** of the training programme in this occupation. If you pass the exam, you will receive a recognised vocational qualification.

For further information, please contact the [Chamber of Industry and Commerce Ostwürttemberg](#) (IHK) or the [Ulm Chamber of Crafts](#) (HWK).

The partial qualifications

With a partial qualification, you can **continue your training step by step**. A recognised **training occupation is divided into 5 to 8 partial qualifications** (modules). Each module has a **theoretical part and a practical part**.

A partial qualification lasts **2 to 6 months**. It is completed with a skills assessment. If you pass, you will receive an official **certificate** from the IHK. The certificate will help you in your future career. Once you have completed all modules of a training occupation, you can take the external examination.

Partial qualifications can be

- **part-time or**
- **full-time.**

full-time. They are primarily aimed at **adults over the age of 25**.

Do you have any questions? Contact your **local [employment agency](#)** (Agentur für Arbeit or job centre).

You can find an **explanatory video with multilingual subtitles** on partial qualifications here: [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#), [Turkish](#).

Further information can be found here: [Employer initiative - Partial qualification](#)

Further training

Further education and training

After completing your training or studies, you can continue your education. This will qualify you for new professional tasks. You adapt to changes in the labour market. Sometimes there are funding opportunities. In this case, you only have to pay part of the costs.

Free counselling is available from

- the employment agency
- the Chamber of Industry and Commerce or
- the Chamber of Crafts.

Career advancement

With [career-orientated further training](#), you can prepare yourself for

- more demanding or
 - specialised professional tasks
- more demanding or specialised professional tasks.

Professional qualification

With [further training](#), you can expand your knowledge and skills

- expand or
- adapt to new technical developments.

You can also obtain a vocational qualification in this way.

Funding opportunities for further training

If you want to continue your education, there are many options for support and [financial assistance](#) (for example with an education voucher or the Upgrading BAföG).

Further information

You can find an overview of further education opportunities and advice centres on the [Further education in Baden-Württemberg](#) page.

Free counselling

Ask your counsellor at the

- [job centre](#) or
- at the [employment agency](#).

- The [Chamber of Industry and Commerce Ostwürttemberg \(IHK\)](#)
Ludwig-Erhard-Straße 1
89520 Heidenheim
- [Ulm Chamber of Crafts \(HWK\)](#)
Olgastrasse 72
89073 Ulm

Work and job

Employment contracts

Immigration of Skilled Workers

The Skilled Workers Immigration Act (Fachkräfteeinwanderungsgesetz)

The Skilled Workers Immigration Act makes it easier for skilled workers with vocational, non-academic training to immigrate to Germany for work purposes. Existing regulations for skilled workers with university degrees will be maintained and in some cases made even easier.

1. For companies:

- **Accelerated skilled worker procedure:** With the power of attorney of the skilled worker, employers can file an accelerated skilled worker procedure with the competent Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) in Germany. An agreement must be concluded between the company and the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde). Among other things, the agreement must contain the powers of attorney and responsibilities of the employer, the skilled worker and the authorities involved (Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde), Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit), recognition offices, diplomatic representation abroad) as well as a description of the procedures including the parties involved and deadlines.
- The **fees** for the accelerated skilled worker procedure at the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) come to 411 euros. In addition, there is a visa fee of 75 euros as well as any other applicable fees (certified copies, translations).
- **The Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) advises the employer** and supports them in carrying out the procedure for the recognition of the foreign qualification of the skilled worker. The Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) shall obtain the approval of the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) and check the conditions for granting the permit under aliens law. The recognition offices and the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) must decide within the specified deadlines.
- If all **requirements** are met, the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde) will issue a so-called advance approval, which it will then send to the employer for forwarding to the skilled worker. The skilled worker then books an appointment with the diplomatic

representation abroad to apply for the visa, which will take place within three weeks. At this appointment, the original advance approval must be presented together with other documents required for the visa application.

- Once the completed **visa application** has been submitted by the skilled worker, a decision will normally be made on it within an additional three weeks.
- The **accelerated procedure** for skilled workers also includes the skilled worker's spouse and underage, unmarried children if they meet the legal requirements for family reunification.

2. For skilled workers

- **Definition of skilled worker:** Skilled workers are defined as persons with a university degree or qualified vocational training of at least two years. A prerequisite for both groups is that their foreign qualifications have been recognised by the competent authority in Germany.
- **Labour market entry:** Entry into the labour market will be made easier: The qualified skilled worker must have an employment contract and a concrete job offer and a qualification recognised in Germany. The so-called priority review by the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit; BA) no longer applies. This means that it is no longer necessary to check whether an applicant from Germany or the EU is available for the specific job. The examination of working conditions by the BA remains in place.
- **Employment opportunities:** A skilled worker may be employed in an occupation that their qualification allows them to do. This means that it is possible to work in related professions. Additionally, skilled workers with an academic education are allowed to work outside of jobs that require a university degree. They may also be employed in other qualified occupations which fall within the professional context of the qualification and for which, in principle, vocational, non-academic training is required. Assistant professions and training professions are excluded, it must be qualified employment in all cases. The EU Blue Card always requires employment appropriate to the professional qualification, which usually requires an academic degree.
- **Skilled workers with vocational training:** The employment of skilled workers with vocational, i.e. non-academic training is no longer limited to occupations with shortages. With a vocational training that has been recognised in Germany, residence permits (Aufenthaltstitel) for qualified employment will also allow these skilled workers access to all professions in which their qualifications allow them to work.
- **Entering the country to find a job:** Skilled workers with qualified vocational training are also able to enter the country to look for a job. You will receive a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for up to six months. Prerequisites are that the foreign qualification has been recognised by the competent authority in Germany, that your livelihood is secured for the duration of your stay and that you have the appropriate knowledge of German for the job you are seeking. As a rule, a minimum knowledge of German at level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is required. During your stay while looking for a job, trial employment of up to ten hours a week is possible. This allows employers and foreign skilled workers to test whether they are suitable for each other. Trial employment is also possible for skilled workers with recognised academic qualifications, who are also allowed to enter the country for up to six months in order to look for work, as before.
- **Residence for qualification purposes:** The possibilities of staying in Germany for qualification purposes are being expanded. The prerequisite for this is generally that a

recognition procedure from abroad has been carried out at the competent authority in Germany, in which deficits have been identified in the acquired foreign qualification in comparison to the German training (notice of recognition). An additional requirement for the issue of a visa for the purpose of undergoing qualification programmes is above all a knowledge of German corresponding to the qualification programme. These are usually at least sufficient German language skills (corresponding to language level A2). For example, the 18-month residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) can now be extended by six months to a maximum period of two years for this purpose. After expiry of the maximum period of the residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis), a residence permit may be issued for the purpose of training, study or employment.

- **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).

3. For training and studies

- **Entering the country to find a training placement:** It is already possible for prospective students to enter the country in search of a university placement. Under the new regulation, people interested in training can also enter the country to look for a training placement. Requirements are a level B2 knowledge of German, a degree from a German school abroad or a graduation certificate that entitles the holder to enter university, a maximum age of 25 years and independent livelihood provisions.
- **German language course** in preparation for training: With a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for a qualified vocational training course, a German language course or a job-related German language course may be attended in preparation.
- **Expanded changeover possibilities for international students** in Germany: International students already have the opportunity to change to other residence permits (Aufenthaltstitel) even before they have completed their studies. For example, instead of continuing their studies, they can start vocational training and receive a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for vocational training. The Skilled Workers Immigration Act has expanded the possibilities for such changes: Under special conditions and after examination by the BA, a job offer as a skilled worker can be accepted even during a study visit or a stay for vocational training or further education. This is accompanied by a change to a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) for qualified employment.
- **Settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) for graduates** of an apprenticeship in Germany: Under the new law, foreign graduates of vocational training in Germany can, just like university graduates, obtain a settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) after only two years.

🌐 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!

Job turbo

The Job Turbo helps people who are new to Germany to find a job quickly. First, they learn the German language. Then they should quickly find a suitable job.

The aim is for them to be able to work quickly in a profession and earn money to pay their own way.

The Job Turbo consists of three phases:

1. finding a job
2. arriving at the job
3. getting started

Further information on the Job Turbo can be found on the website of the [Federal Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour](#) and on the website of the [Employment Agency](#). The information provided by the Federal Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour is available in [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#).

Here you will find [videos](#) on the subject of Citizen's Income, the obligation to co-operate and the Jobturbo. The videos are in simple language and in Ukrainian.

The information sheet "[Look for work now and take up employment](#)" explains labour market integration for refugees (Jobturbo). The information is in German and Ukrainian.

Do I need a work permit?

Refugees and asylum seekers with a residence permit or tolerated stay:

As an asylum seeker who has arrived in Germany, you need a work permit to be allowed to work.

When are you not allowed to work?

Have you come to Germany as an asylum seeker? Then you are not allowed to work for the first 3 months. During this time, your identity document will state: "**Gainful employment not permitted.**"

When do you have access to the labour market?

After the work ban period has expired, there are two different types of access to the labour market (if you do not have a tolerated stay permit with a work ban):

1. the restricted work permit:

This means that you must apply for a work permit from the immigration authority before starting work. This applies if the asylum procedure is still ongoing and you have a **residence permit**. You can also apply for a work permit if you have a **tolerated stay permit**. In this case, your residence permit or tolerated stay permit will state: "**Gainful employment only permitted with the authorisation of the immigration authority.**"

You will then **need** a work permit

- for any job
- for in-company vocational training

- for an internship

You do not need a work permit for school-based training.

2. the unrestricted work permit

This means that

- you can **accept any job** and
- **do not** need to **apply for a work permit**.

This applies if you have received a residence permit. This also applies if you have a temporary residence permit or a tolerated stay permit (and no work ban) and have been legally resident in Germany for 48 months.

If you have a **tolerated stay permit**, the foreigners authority can permanently deny you a work permit. A work ban is always explicitly stated in your identity document ("**Gainful employment not permitted**").

Further information

- People who have a temporary residence permit or a tolerated stay permit may also work for a **temporary employment agency**.
- Persons with a **residence permit do not** receive a **separate right of residence** when they take up employment or training. The **integration performance** plays **no role** in the examination of the **asylum application** with regard to the granting of asylum protection.
- For persons with a **tolerated stay permit**, the individual circumstances and **integration achievements** are **taken into account** when **extending the tolerated stay permit** or granting a residence title.

Refugee with a residence permit:

If you have a **residence permit**, you have full access to the labour market. There are therefore no restrictions. You do not need to apply for employment. This also applies to [subsidiary protection](#).

EU citizens and EEA citizens:

Citizens of the European Union (also known as EU citizens) have **unrestricted access** to the German labour market. This also applies to nationals of the European Economic Area (EEA) and their family members.

Swiss nationals and their family members also have freedom of movement within the EU. However, they must apply for a **special Swiss residence permit**.

Further information can be found at: [Federal Office for Migration and Refugees](#).

" see also [the guide to authorities](#)

Citizens of a third country:

If you are a citizen of a **third country**, i.e. not a national of a member state of the European Union or a national of the European Economic Area and wish to stay **in Germany permanently**, you will need a **work permit**. This is called a residence permit. You can find more information [here](#).

Information for asylum seekers

Every job seeker in Germany is responsible for finding work themselves. If you are looking for a job, you can register with the Federal Employment Agency (Agentur für Arbeit) where you will receive support and assistance.

Counselling and employment services for refugees:



Bundesagentur für Arbeit Heidenheim

Ploucquetstraße 30

89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz

☎ [0800-4555500](tel:0800-4555500)

@

heidenheim@arbeitsagentur.de

🌐 www.arbeitsagentur.de (Deutsch, English)

The **welcome guides** ("Willkommenslotsen") **inform and support companies and refugees** on the subject of **training and work**, including the search for training places and jobs or the preparation of application documents.

[BBQ Berufliche Bildung gGmbH](#)

Hopfenstraße 22

73430 Aalen

☎ [07361 5267 21](tel:07361526721)

☎ [07361 5267 13](tel:07361526713)

@

info-aalen@biwe-bbq.de

Search for vacancies online and get information:

- [JOB EXCHANGE](#) of the Federal Employment Agency

- JOB EXCHANGE app: free of charge Employment Agency app for Android and iPhone - here you can find Federal Employment Agency vacancies
Download for Android >> [click here](#)
Download for IOS >> [click here](#)

[make-it-in-germany.com](#) is the official multilingual online portal for international professionals

The chambers of trade (Handwerkskammern) have developed an [app](#) which makes it possible to search for training and internship vacancies.

Advisory portal "Fair integration for refugees"

The new portal "[Fair Integration for Refugees](#)" provides information in German, English and Arabic about rights and obligations in the employment relationship and thus helps with problems in the job. Beside the information on the portal there are also [advice centres](#) in Germany, e.g. in Baden-Württemberg.

<https://www.faire-integration.de/en/>

The counselling centre "[mira](#)" (Mit RECHT bei der ARBEIT!) offers advice and information on labour law issues for refugees and third-country nationals (migrants who do not come from the EU). If you have problems with issues such as employment contracts, wages, insurance and more, you will find help there. The counselling is also multilingual. There are counselling centres in Stuttgart and Karlsruhe.

<https://mira-beratung.de/>

Further online offers on work and training

Information for asylum seekers, job seekers and employers

[Another job exchange for refugees -> www.workeer.de](#)

[Network integration through qualification \(IQ\)](#)

[Jobs for refugees](#)

The purpose of "[refugees can!](#)" is to facilitate refugees' integration into the job market through a job exchange.

The European Commission has created the [Science4Refugees Initiative](#) for refugees scientists and researchers to help you find the right job.

Information for recognised refugees and immigrants

Counselling and employment services

for recognised refugees:

With your recognised status, you switch to the Heidenheim job centre and are treated as job seekers; you have to apply for a personal application.



Counselling and employment services for other immigrants and EU citizens:

[Job centre Heidenheim](#)

[Theodor-Heuss-Str. 1](#)
[89518 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz](#)

General rule:

- You have to look for a job yourself.
- You are covered by health insurance.
- You can find an apartment (before signing a rental contract ask in the job centre whether the rent is considered reasonable).
- You will receive basic benefits under SGB II as long as you are not able to cover your living expenses yourself. EU citizens must also have "employee status".

The **welcome guides** ("Willkommenslotsen") **inform and support companies and refugees** on the subject of **training and work**, including the search for training places and jobs or the preparation of application documents.

[BBQ Berufliche Bildung gGmbH](#)

Hopfenstraße 22

73430 Aalen

Tel: [07361 5267 21](tel:07361526721)

Tel: [07361 5267 13](tel:07361526713)

E-Mail: info-aalen@biwe-bbq.de

Counselling and employment services

for EU citizens and immigrants:



[Federal Employment Agency Heidenheim](#)

[Ploucquetstraße 30](#)

[89522 Heidenheim a. d. Brenz](#)

Tel: [0800 4 5555 00](tel:08004555500)

E-Mail: heidenheim@arbeitsagentur.de

>> [More information](#)

Contact point - women and jobs

The [contact point for women and jobs](#) provides free and confidential advice to women and girls about these topics:

- Re-entering a profession
- Vocational education and training
- Vocational guidance
- Career planning
- Business start-upThe advice is given in Heidenheim, Giengen, Dischingen and Niederstotzingen. There is also a **mentoring programme** for migrant women and refugee women. A mentor helps you to get to know the job market in Germany. In this connection, women are still being sought who want to volunteer as mentors! You can find more information [here](#).

Contact:

[Contact point - women and jobs](#)

Ostwürttemberg-Heidenheim

Bergstraße 36

89518 Heidenheim

Tel: [07321 321 2558](tel:073213212558)

E-Mail: frau-und-beruf@landkreis-heidenheim.de

Advisory portal "Fair integration for refugees"

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<https://mira-beratung.de/>

Advice for EU citizens on the subject of work

You come from an EU country and work in Germany? If you have questions about work, you can get free advice on your rights from the VIJ. For example, if you do not have an employment contract, work too many hours, or receive little or no pay. Counselling is

provided in German, English or Romanian. If necessary, it can also be provided in other languages.

<https://vij-wuerttemberg.de/beratung-bei-arbeitsa...>

Working and living in Germany hotline

The “[Working and Living in Germany hotline](#)“ answers your questions on the following topics in German and English:

Job search, work and profession

Recognition of foreign professional qualifications

Entry and residency

Learning German

>> **The hotline can be reached Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on: +49 30 1815 - 1111.**

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- [EURES](#) - The European job mobility portal
 - [JOB EXCHANGE](#) of the Federal Employment Agency
 - JOB EXCHANGE app: free of charge Federal Employment Agency app for Android and iPhone - here you can find Federal Employment Agency vacanciesDownload for Android >> [click here](#)Download for iPhone >> [click here](#)

Everyday life and leisure activities

Everyday Life

Other activities

Asylum seekers and such recognised persons can take up employment in the [Federal Voluntary Service](#) (Bundesfreiwilligendienst BufDi) and in the [Voluntary Social Year](#) (Freiwilliges Soziales Jahr FSJ) without the consent of the central foreigner and specialist job agency.

The **consent of the immigration authority** is required. People in the BufDi (12 to 24 months) receive a qualification and a reference which can help them on their future career path and they learn German too. Furthermore, you are covered by health insurance and receive an insurance card.

Not-for-profit activities or participation in **refugee integration schemes**

(Flüchtlingsintegrationsmaßnahmen FIM) are also a good way to learn German and get qualifications. Compensatory pay is 85 cents per hour for a maximum of 20 weeks voluntary work and 30 hours of refugee integration schemes. For more information, please contact your residence management.

There are clear rules for **business start-ups (self-employment)**. If you are only temporarily resident in Germany, you need permission from the immigration authority to start a business.

» You can find more information about this subject [here](#) and [here](#).

Getting around / orientation

City map



For example, you can find a **street map of Heidenheim and the district of Heidenheim** [here](#).

You can also download the free app “[MAPS.ME](#)”. Here is a street map of Heidenheim. The street map is **free of charge**. It works **offline** and has a navigation function.

(→[MAPS.ME app in Google PlayStore](#) and im [Apple AppStore](#))

Alternatively, you can also use Google Maps for example.

Bus and train

You can easily get around the entire district by **bus and train**. It is very important that you always have a **valid ticket** for them. If you do not have a valid ticket, you will have to pay a large fine.

You can find **timetable information for bus and train** [here](#).

Simply enter from where you are going (**start**), where you want to go (**destination**) and when you want to go (**date / time**).

The timetable is also available as an app (→Bus & Train app im [Google PlayStore](#) and im [Apple AppStore](#))

Bicycle

Of course you can also get around by bicycle.

There are many **cycle paths** throughout the district, which will get you to lots of places.

Bicycles also have to obey **traffic rules**.

An overview of the most important traffic rules in Germany (especially for cyclists) can be found in different languages on the "germanroadsafety.de" page.

Important road rules for cyclists (excerpt):

- Always ride on the right-hand side of the road
- Do not ride next to each other, but one behind the other
- If there is a cycle path, you must ride on the cycle path (always on the right side of the road in the direction of travel).
- Only children up to the age of 11 are allowed to cycle along the walkways
- Using a mobile phone on a bicycle is prohibited.

Purchase and repairs: When you buy your bike, make sure that it is equipped as follows and therefore safe to drive. Otherwise, you will have to pay a fine when subject to a police check.

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

You can buy second hand bicycles cheaply. You can find more information [here](#).

Sustainable mobility

Sustainable mobility means:

We move around in a way that is good for us and has a low impact on the environment. Sustainable mobility means less noise and fewer exhaust fumes. This improves our lives in the countryside and in the city.

There are many ways of travelling sustainably:

- Walking or cycling: Both are healthy and produce no harmful exhaust fumes, as well as being quiet.
- Use buses and trains: They often run in large and smaller cities and make it easier to get around without a car.
- Carsharing (Car sharing): Means that several people use the same car. But at different times. So there are fewer cars on the roads. Not everyone needs their own car. Car sharing is a way to save high costs for purchase, insurance, tax, maintenance and parking.
- Electric cars: When driving, electric cars do not emit any exhaust fumes and are therefore better for the environment.

Baden-Württemberg wants to enable sustainable mobility for everyone: environmentally friendly, affordable, barrier-free, safe and suitable for everyday use.

It's about travelling flexibly and in combination. Whether on foot, by bike, on the train or in a car-sharing car. This allows us to reach our destination quickly and conveniently while protecting the environment.

Sustainable mobility therefore not only means protecting the environment, but also travelling safely and comfortably.

Carpooling

Travelling together

Carpooling is a good way to travel flexibly and cheaply. Several people travel together in one car. They have the same destination or travel to work together. This saves money, reduces traffic and protects the environment.

Advantages of carpooling

- **Save money:** All carpoolers share the costs. For example, for petrol or parking. Everyone pays less.
- **Less traffic:** When more people drive together, there are fewer cars on the road. There are fewer traffic jams and the air is cleaner.
- **More social contact:** People who carpool easily strike up conversations and meet new people.

How can I find a carpool?

There are many websites and apps for this. Some transport associations or cities also offer such platforms. There is a website for the whole of Baden-Württemberg. [Here](#) you can find many carpooling offers at a glance.

Driving licence

There are many different ways to be mobile in Baden-Württemberg. In cities in particular, you can use bicycles, buses and trains or Carsharing services. There are also alternatives in the countryside, such as on-call buses or carpooling.

A car and a driving licence can still be very useful. If buses and trains only run infrequently or if you have to travel long distances, a vehicle is helpful. The important thing to remember is that you don't necessarily have to have your own car. Many mobility options can also be easily combined.

Local public transport

Many cities have buses, underground trains and trams. This is called local public transport.

Public transport is a good way to get from one place to another.
For example, to work, school, the doctor or the shops.

From early in the morning until late at night (but not continuously), buses and trams transport many people across the region every day.
They help to make everyday life more convenient. Without the need for a car.

Which means of transport are part of local public transport?

- Buses
- Trams (trams)
- Underground trains
- suburban trains
- Regional trains (for short distances in the neighbourhood)

Where can I get a ticket?

You need a ticket if you use local public transport.
If you do not have a valid ticket and you are checked, you will have to pay a fine.
Tickets are checked by staff on the bus, on the train or on the platform.

You can buy tickets:

- At ticket machines,
- Via the internet or an app (for example with the bwegt app),
- At the sales points of the transport companies,
- At the Deutsche Bahn travel centre. Deutsche Bahn travel centres are gradually being expanded into bwegt passenger centres.
- Also directly with the driver on the bus.

Children on public transport

Children under the age of 6 are generally transported free of charge. Discounted tickets are available for children between the ages of 6 and 14.
People with season tickets can take children with them free of charge at certain times.

Dogs on public transport

Dogs also need their own ticket on buses and trains. Police dogs, guide dogs, assistance dogs and small dogs in containers can travel free of charge.

Carriage of bicycles

Bicycles are carried free of charge on local public transport in Baden-Württemberg. On Mondays to Fridays, bicycles are free of charge before 6 a.m. and from 9 a.m. onwards. On Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, transport is free all day.

How do I behave on buses and trains?

- Before boarding: Buy and validate your ticket.
- Leave seats free for older people, pregnant women and people with disabilities.
- Take rubbish with you. Please do not leave any rubbish lying around.
- If you are listening to music or watching videos, please use headphones.
- Talk or make phone calls at a reasonable volume. This will keep everyone comfortable on the bus or train.
- When getting off: press "Stop" in good time or go to the door.

Where can I get information?

If you are travelling by bus or train, you want to know
When does my bus leave? Where do I have to change? Which ticket do I need?

Timetables and route network

Timetables are displayed at bus stops. You can see them there:

- When the bus or train leaves,
- Where it stops,
- How often it runs.

Many transport companies offer a route network map.
There you can see the stops and connections between different lines.

Apps and the internet

Many cities have transport apps that you can use free of charge (for example the bwegt app).

In the apps you will find:

- Departure times and connections,
- Information on delays,
- recommendations for the best connection,
- ticket purchase and prices.

The apps often show information in real time. In other words, completely up-to-date.

Tip:

There is free WLAN at many large railway stations.
This means you can call up information on your mobile phone even without mobile internet.

Information at the station or on the train

There are electronic displays with departure times at railway stations.
Many trains and trams have announcements,

- Where you are at the moment,
- Which station is next,
- When you can get off at a station to continue to the airport, the exhibition centre or other important places.

These announcements are often also available in English.

Bahnmissionsmission (Station mission)

The station mission helps people directly at the station. Free of charge and without registration.

It provides support, for example:

- With information and assistance with communication,
- Boarding the train,
- Carrying luggage,
- Finding the right platform.

There are station missions at many large railway stations. Look out for the station mission logo. You will find help there.

[Here you will](#) find further information in many languages.

Other services at the station

Large railway stations often offer more than just transport. There are:

- Supermarkets for your daily shopping,
- snack bars, bakeries or cafés for a short break,
- shops for buying clothes, magazines or travelling supplies,
- pharmacies and toilets.

So you can make good use of the waiting time or do something quickly.

Smoking is not permitted in railway stations. In some cases, there is a specially signposted area where smoking is permitted.

Comfort on the bus and train and at the stop

Many trains and buses have:

- WLAN (free of charge or with login),
- Air conditioning so that it is not too hot in summer and pleasantly warm in winter,
- sockets for charging mobile phones or laptops,
- space for pushchairs, wheelchairs, bicycles or luggage.

There are bus shelters at many stops:

- Bus shelters or waiting shelters for sheltering in the rain or wind,
- benches to rest on.

Supplementary offers to local public transport

Many transport associations offer further options for travelling flexibly:

- Rental bikes or e-scooters,
- **Car sharing** (borrowing a car without owning it),
- community buses and cars on demand.

Long-distance transport

If you want to travel far, you can use the long-distance services of Deutschen Bahn.

These trains are part of the long-distance service:

- ICE (Intercity-Express): very fast, with few stops.
- IC (Intercity): fast, stops at more stations.
- EC (Eurocity): connects German cities with other countries. For example with Switzerland, Austria or France.

Long-distance trains take you quickly and comfortably to large cities, even across state and national borders.

Where can I get a ticket?

You can get tickets for long-distance transport online at www.bahn.de or in the app "DB Navigator" app, at ticket machines in the station or at the Deutsche Bahn travel centre (ticket counter in the station). In Baden-Württemberg, the Deutsche Bahn travel centres are gradually being expanded into bwegt passenger centres.

Depending on the offer, the tickets are only valid for a specific train and a specific connection.

To buy a ticket online or with the "DB Navigator", you need:

- A bank account with SEPA direct debit,
- A PayPal, Apple Pay or Bonvoy account or
- A credit card or payment card.

You can also pay in cash at the ticket counter.

To pay online, you usually need a customer account at Deutschen Bahn. You can create one free of charge in the app or at www.bahn.de.

What can you do with the DB Navigator?

The DB Navigator app is the Deutschen Bahn app.

You can use it to easily search for train connections, buy tickets and plan your journey. All on your mobile phone or PC.

Search for connections:

Enter from where to where you want to travel. The app will show you suitable trains, changes and times.

Buy tickets:

You can buy a ticket directly in the app - for ICE, IC, EC, regional trains or even the

Deutschlandticket.

Save tickets:

You can find your purchased tickets in the app. You don't need to print out a paper ticket. Simply show the ticket in the app at the ticket inspection.

See delays & tracks:

You can see if the train is on time, if the track has changed or how long you have to change trains.

Book a seat:

You can also book a seat or reserve one afterwards.

Facilities on the train:

- Most long-distance trains have WLAN, power sockets and air conditioning.
- There are toilets and usually also an on-board bistro or dining car.
- There are barrier-free seats for people with disabilities.
- There are separate family areas for families. It is advisable to reserve a seat at peak times, i.e. when the trains are full.

You do not have to reserve a seat, but it often makes sense - especially on long journeys or at peak times, it is not guaranteed that you will get a free seat. You can also book a seat reservation (online, via app or at the ticket counter).

There is then an electronic display on the seat with the message "Reserved".

You can take your bike on some long-distance trains - but only with a bike ticket and reservation.

Ask in advance whether bicycle spaces are available on the desired train.

Mobilitätsservice the Deutschen Bahn

If you are travelling with Deutschen Bahn , you can book assistance in advance.

This is called Mobilitätsservice.

The railway will then organise, for example

1. Help boarding the train
2. Assistance when changing trains
3. Help getting off the train

You must register Mobilitätsservice before travelling, preferably a few days in advance.

Your personal contact to the Mobilitätsservice centre (MSZ)

 Telephone: +49 (0) 3065212888

 @E-mail: msz@deutschebahn.com

 [online](#)

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday 6-22 hrs,
Saturday, Sunday and on public holidays 8-20 h

Baden-Württemberg ticket

Baden-Württemberg-Ticket (Baden-Württemberg-Ticket) - flexible travel without a season ticket

With the Baden-Württemberg-Ticket you can travel through the region for a whole day for as many journeys as you like.

If you are travelling from one region to another, you will normally need several tickets. This is because there are many transport regions in Baden-Württemberg. Each region has its own tickets and prices.

With the Baden-Württemberg-Ticket, a single ticket is sufficient for the entire journey on local and regional transport.

What is the Baden-Württemberg-Ticket?

- The ticket allows you to travel and change trains throughout Baden-Württemberg. Even if you are travelling there and back. Or if you take detours or take longer breaks.
- The ticket is valid for one day. From Monday to Friday, however, only from 9 am. On Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from 0 am. You can always travel until 3 a.m. the next day.
- The Baden-Württemberg-Ticket is not a season ticket (subscription). You only buy a ticket when you need it.
- The ticket is valid for the entire journey on local and regional transport. For example, on all city trains, trams and buses. And on IRE, RB, RE and MEX trains.
- The ticket is not valid on long-distance trains such as ICE, IC, EC or with private providers such as FlixTrain.
- You can also buy a ticket for a group of up to 5 people. The more people travelling, the cheaper it is per person.
- Up to 3 children between the ages of 6 and 15 can travel free of charge.
- Children under the age of 6 do not need a ticket.
- There is also a Baden-Württemberg-Ticket Young for young people under the age of 27. It is a little cheaper.

Where can I get a Baden-Württemberg ticket?

- At the ticket machines in railway stations.
- At the Deutsche Bahn travel centre. The Deutsche Bahn travel centres in Baden-Württemberg are gradually being expanded into bwegt passenger centres.
- In customer centres of the transport associations.
- Online at www.bahn.de or in the app "DB Navigator"
- In the ticket apps of the transport associations or at bwegt-App.

Bicycle transport:

From Monday to Friday, bicycles can be taken on almost all local and regional trains in Baden-Württemberg free of charge. This applies to the period before 6 a.m. and from 9 a.m. onwards. For the time in between, you need an extra ticket for the bicycle. On Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, transport is free all day.

The ticket is also valid on selected routes in neighbouring federal states and Switzerland. If you want to take a bicycle with you, you will need an extra ticket on routes in other federal states and Switzerland.

Germany ticket

Deutschlandticket (Deutschlandticket) - travelling simply and cheaply

The Deutschlandticket costs 63 euros per month (as of January 2026). The Deutschlandticket is cheaper than many monthly travelcards. With this ticket, you can use all buses, S-Bahn trains, underground trains, trams and regional trains (e.g. IRE, RE, RB, MEX, etc.) throughout Germany.

Important to know:

- The ticket is not valid on long-distance trains such as ICE, IC, EC or with private providers such as FlixTrain.
- It is a subscription that is automatically renewed every month.
- You need a bank account with SEPA direct debit for the subscription. You can also get the ticket without a bank account with SEPA direct debit. But then not as a subscription (see below).
- The cost of the ticket will be deducted from your bank account each month.
- If you no longer need the ticket, you must cancel it by the 10th of the month. You can cancel the subscription in writing by e-mail or letter. But also online if you have a customer account. Or if you have ordered the ticket via an app.
- The ticket is only available digitally. It is stored on a chip card or smartphone.
- If you take out a subscription or buy the ticket once, you can use the ticket immediately.

Where can I buy the ticket?

- Online on the websites and via the apps of the transport associations.
- Online at www.bahn.de or in the app "DB Navigator".
- To buy a season ticket online, you need a bank account with SEPA direct debit. The Deutschlandticket can also be purchased online using the payment card. However, only if a Visa card is accepted as a means of payment in the provider's payment system.
- If this is not the case, you can purchase a Deutschlandticket locally at a Deutsche Bahn travel centre. In Baden-Württemberg, the Deutsche Bahn travel centres are gradually being expanded into bwegt passenger centres. These are usually located at major railway stations in large cities. You can pay for your Deutschlandticket there in cash, with a payment card or by credit card. However, you will not receive the Deutschlandticket as a subscription. You have to buy a new one every month.

- The ticket can also be purchased online using another person's account. You can use it if your name is entered at the time of purchase.
- In many cases, it is not possible to buy a Deutschlandticket at local transport association sales points. It is best to ask at the local offices of the transport associations whether this is possible.

Who can use the ticket?

Anyone who lives in Germany or is visiting here can buy the Deutschlandticket. It cannot be passed on to other people. It can therefore only be used by the person whose name is on the ticket. Children under the age of 6 can travel free of charge.

Are there discounts?

For young people in Baden-Württemberg there is the discounted D-Ticket JugendBW.

Additional benefits:

In some regions, Deutschlandticket holders receive discounts, for example for visiting leisure facilities.

D-Ticket JugendBW

The ticket for young people

What is the D-Ticket JugendBW (D-Ticket JugendBW)?

The D-Ticket JugendBW is a low-cost season ticket (subscription) for young people in Baden-Württemberg.

It is for example for:

- Pupils,
- trainees,
- students,
- people doing voluntary service.

What does the D-Ticket JugendBW offer?

- **Validity:** With this ticket, young people can use all local and regional transport throughout Baden-Württemberg and Germany. This includes all buses, suburban trains, underground trains, trams and regional trains (e.g. IRE, RE, RB, MEX etc.). The ticket is not valid on long-distance trains such as ICE, IC, EC or with private providers such as FlixTrain.
- **Price:** The D-Ticket JugendBW is an **annual subscription**. It costs 540 euros per year [as of January 2026]. This means you pay 45 euros per month.
- **Cancellation:** You cannot cancel the subscription in the first year. After that, it can be cancelled every month. If you move house, you can sometimes cancel the ticket earlier. This is decided by the transport association.

Who can use the D-Ticket JugendBW?

The D-Ticket JugendBW is for all young people who live in Baden-Württemberg but do not work:

- Going to school (up to the age of 21),
- Studying (up to 27 years),
- Doing an apprenticeship (up to 27 years),
- or doing voluntary service (up to 27 years).

The ticket always belongs to a specific person. The name is on it and the person is not allowed to pass it on.

Where can I buy the D-Ticket JugendBW?

- Online on the websites of the transport associations in Baden-Württemberg.
- On site in the customer offices of the transport associations.
- Online at www.bahn.de or in the app "DB Navigator".
- At railway stations or at Deutsche Bahn travel centres. The Deutsche Bahn travel centres in Baden-Württemberg are gradually being expanded into bwegt passenger centres.
- You can also order the ticket by post using an order form.

Important:

- You need a bank account with SEPA direct debit for the subscription. The cost of the ticket will be deducted from your bank account each month.
- The subscription is automatically renewed for an indefinite period. At most, however, until the end of the training period or until you turn 27.
- The ticket is issued either on a chip card or on your smartphone.

Advantages of the D-Ticket JugendBW

- **Favourable price:** only 540 euros per year. This is particularly attractive for young people who regularly use public transport.
- **Valid throughout Baden-Württemberg and Germany:** The ticket is valid for all local and regional public transport in the state.
- **Easy to use:** No need to buy tickets all the time - you always have a valid ticket to hand.

bwegt app

With the **bwegt-App (bwegt app)** you can conveniently travel and pay for bus and train journeys throughout Baden-Württemberg. All on your mobile phone. Without having to buy a ticket at a ticket machine or from the driver.

Timetable and connections in real time

With the **bwegt app**, you can easily search for a connection to your destination and plan your journey.

- **The app shows real-time data:** you can see immediately whether your bus or train is on time, delayed or cancelled.
- **Live map:** The live map shows you nearby stops, routes, car-sharing vehicles and bicycle parking spaces.
The app provides you with up-to-date information on your journey. For example, disruptions, roadworks or tips for excursions. It is available in German and English.
- **Ticket purchase:** Use the app to buy your ticket for the journey at the same time.

Simply buy your ticket with CiCoBW

CiCoBW is included in the bwegt app. With CiCoBW you can check in when boarding and check out again when alighting - simply by swiping your mobile phone. The app then automatically calculates the best price for your journey.

How does CiCoBW work?

1. You download the bwegt app onto your mobile phone, create a customer account and set up the CiCoBW function.
2. Before boarding, swipe your mobile phone to check in.
3. When you get off, swipe again to check out.
4. The app automatically calculates the cheapest price for your journey.

If you change trains, the app recognises this automatically. It also automatically recognises when you end your journey and checks you out.

During the journey, the app displays a ticket on your mobile phone. You show this at an inspection.

You don't need a subscription or any prior knowledge of tickets or prices.
You can simply set off. Completely flexible.

Important:

To use the function, you need a bank account with SEPA direct debit, a credit card or a payment card.

Advantages of the bwegt app:

- **Clear:** see timetables immediately, no long searches.
- **Practical:** Buy tickets without fare knowledge thanks to CiCoBW.
- **Individual:** save favourites, personalise settings

The app is valid on all local and regional transport in Baden-Württemberg, in all transport associations and across all transport networks with bwtarif. This means on buses, suburban trains, underground trains, trams and regional trains (e.g. IRE, RE, RB, MEX etc.).

You can download the bwegt app here:

[To the App Store](#)

[To Google Play](#)

Go on foot

Travelling on foot - easy, healthy and suitable for everyday use

Walking is part of everyday life.

You walk to the bus stop, to the shops or take the children to school.

Walking is uncomplicated. It costs nothing and keeps you fit.

In Baden-Württemberg, around one in four journeys are made on foot. This shows how important walking is for everyday life.

Why walking is good

- It's easy and cheap.
- You don't need a ticket or technology.
- Walking strengthens the circulation, muscles and balance.
- It helps you stay fit and can reduce stress.
- Even short journeys on foot are good for you and help you stay independent. For example, to the doctor or the supermarket

Tips for safe walking

- Always walk on the pavement if there is one.
- Watch out for cars and bicycles when crossing the road.
- Always use the zebra crossing or traffic lights to cross the road.
- Wear light-coloured clothing or reflectors in the dark so that you can be seen more easily.
- Do not look at your mobile phone when you are walking. Stay alert.

Better paths - safe and comfortable

Many cities and municipalities are improving paths for people who walk.

For example:

- More benches to rest on in between.
- Wider pavements and fewer obstacles.
- Safer crossings. For example zebra crossings or traffic lights.
- Signposts so that you can orientate yourself better.
- In traffic-calmed zones, cars are only allowed to drive slowly. People can move more safely and freely there. This is particularly important for children, older people and people with disabilities.

Many towns and municipalities provide walking maps on the internet. Or maps for people who have a disability and are dependent on a wheelchair, for example.

Housing

The law says that as long as your asylum procedure is in progress, you will live in **community accommodation**. Once you have received your approval, you will need to look for **private accommodation**. The [job centre](#) will pay for a suitable apartment for you. Please keep in mind what your **residence requirements** are.

When looking for a place to live, you can get help from your social worker at the community residence, from the [volunteer office](#) and from the [migrant council](#).

You can search for apartments in the following places for example:

- [Vonovia](#)
- [ImmobilienScout24](#)
- [Immobilien Welt](#)
- [Heidenheimer Zeitung](#) newspaper every Saturday, and every Wednesday in the Neuen Woche newspaper
- [Kreisbau](#)
Burgstraße 30
89537 Giengen

Explanation of important abbreviations for housing listings:

Whg. = Wohnung (flat); App. = apartment; WG= Wohngemeinschaft (shared accommodation); Zi. = Zimmer (room); ZKB = Zimmer-Küche-Bad (one room with kitchen and bathroom); EG = Erdgeschoss (ground floor); 1. OG = 1st Obergeschoss (1st floor); Wohnfl.= Wohnfläche (living space) EBK = Einbauküche (fitted kitchen); teilmbf. = teilmöbliert (partly furnished); Inkl. = inklusive (included); MM = Miete pro Monat (rent per month); NK = Nebenkosten (incidental costs); HK = Heizkosten (heating costs); Kaut = Kautio (security deposit)

Once you have found an apartment that might be suitable, you should arrange a **viewing appointment** straight away. If necessary, you should bring an interpreter. After the appointment, you should inform the agent straight away if you think the apartment is suitable.

If the landlord wants to rent the apartment to you, he should give you an **overview of the rental and incidental costs** or a **rental contract**. It must state the size of the apartment, the cost of the rent, and what the rent includes.

Please make sure before signing a rental agreement that there is no additional clause in the rental agreement stating that the apartment will be renovated by the renter after moving in and that one or two cold rents will be waived. The costs of the apartment for the rent-free period are not covered, nor are any renovation costs.

Important: You should not sign the rental contract yet!

First, you must bring it to the [job centre](#). The **job centre checks** the apartment. The job centre then decides whether the apartment is appropriate. You may have to send additional documents to the job centre or the landlord. You should do this as quickly as possible.

If the job centre thinks the apartment is appropriate, you can sign the rental agreement and move in. Before your move, consider the **transport options** for moving your possessions. If you need more furniture, you should make an **application for basic necessities** at the job centre as early as possible.

Please remember to inform the following institutions about your change of address:

- Job centre
- Registry office of your new place of residence
- Immigration office of your new place of residence
- Bank
- Health insurance company
- If you have children: School and kindergarten

It is advisable to arrange a “[Nachsendeantrag](#)“ ([forwarding request](#)) at the post office so that your post will be forwarded to your new address.

Tenant guidelines

To make it easier for new tenants to settle into their neighbourhood and prevent potential problems from arising in the new setting, the organisation BBU Verband has created a document [containingtenant guidelines](#).

It is also available in [Arabic](#), [English](#) and [Urdu](#), [Farsi](#), [Tigrinya](#), [Somali](#) and [Russian](#).

Some of the topics covered in the guidelines (and described clearly using words and pictograms) are: “Proper care of the apartment”, “Heating and ventilation”, “Waste disposal” and “Living in a community”.

Broadcasting fees

In Germany, the broadcasters ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio provides independent radio, television and online content. The reporting on these channels is not influenced by economic or political interests. Everyone living in Germany pays money so that these services can exist. This is called “broadcasting fees”.

According to the law: A broadcasting fee must be paid by every residence in Germany. However, only one person in each residence needs to pay the broadcasting fee. It costs €18.36 per month and must be paid to the Fee Services department (Beitragservice) of ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio. You can find more information on the Rundfunkbeitrag website: https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/index_ger.html

There is also multilingual information:

[https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/index_ger....](https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome/index_ger...)

Do I need to pay too?

Some people can be exempted from this payment. This is true, for example, for people who receive benefits under the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act, or other benefits. You need to submit an application to receive [an exemption from the broadcasting fees](#). The image in the following [flyer](#) (also available here in [English](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#)) explains the steps you need to follow.

Contracts, telephone and internet

Do not sign anything you do not understand or cannot read.

It is possible that by signing your name you will be entering into a contract or an agreement. This could be expensive for you. Once a contract has been signed, it is very hard to cancel it.

Always compare different offers and do not let yourself be forced into signing anything.

Contracts in Germany (general)

In Germany, [freedom of contract](#) applies. If you want to use a smartphone, rent a flat, or join a gym, you will have to enter into a contract (either verbal or written). **Pay close attention to what the contract says.** How is the total price calculated? Are there additional monthly fees besides a one-off payment?

Contracts are binding and have to be followed. You can only terminate a contract within the **notice period** stated. If you are not sure if you can pay the ongoing costs or whether you

have understood everything correctly, do not enter into the contract. Otherwise you could be liable for prosecution.

Explanatory videos in other languages: [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Urdu](#), [Pashto](#), [Dari](#).

Mobile phones (Handy)

a) You can enter into a **fixed contract** with a minimum contract term. This contract will renew automatically if it is not terminated. If you do not want this contract to be renewed automatically you have to make this known in writing. Make sure to observe the notice period.

b) You may enter into a **pre-paid contract** for your mobile phone. This contract offers more flexibility, as there is no minimum contract term. There are no monthly fees to be paid, because you decide when you need credit for your mobile phone.

Ask someone to help you find a good contract that suits your needs.

10 important questions about taking out a contract:

- What is the monthly fee? Does the fee increase after a certain period?
- Is there a minimum monthly fee?
- How long is the contract period (e.g. 12 or 24 months)?
- If I don't terminate the contract, will it automatically renew? When do I have to terminate the contract if I do not want it to be renewed?
- How much are the fees for setting up, changing or deactivating?
- What is the charging period (60/1, 10/10)?
- How much does it cost each minute (different/same network)?
- What are the costs for buying a mobile phone with and without a contract?
- How much does Internet access cost?
- How much does it cost to call abroad?

Internet

Asylum-seekers in Germany have **no legal right** to Internet access in their accommodation. There is therefore usually no Internet access in the accommodation facilities.

More information

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

If you have problems concerning a contract, do not wait, but ask for help immediately. For example, make use of the social services support services at your accommodation.

If you have a contract-related problem, the Consumer Advice Centres in [Heidenheim](#) and [Ulm](#) offer a fee-based consultation.

You can find a list of lawyers in Germany [here](#).

Consumer Tips for Refugees

What do I have to look out for with a bank account? What are the hidden costs in mobile

phone contracts? What do I do when I get a payment reminder? What is important to consider when I move into a new flat? The Federation of German Consumer Association (Verbraucherzentrale Bundesverband, vzbv) offers free informationen videos on youtube to help refugees orient themselves in Germany and to protect them from consumer pitfalls: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwiPiLJhcD8&list=...>

Third-Party Liability Insurance

If you do not intentionally cause damage to a person in Germany, you must pay compensation according to the law. This applies to personal injury, property damage and financial losses in the private sector. For example, if you cause a traffic accident or if your child breaks a window pane with a ball.

In Germany, you can take out a personal liability insurance policy that pays for these damages for you and your family/children. You can decide for yourself whether you want to take out this insurance. But we strongly recommend it.

Your Support Network can assist you in finding a good offer for personal liability insurance.

Please note the following checklist in [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#), [English](#), [Russian](#) and [German](#)!

Waste separation

Waste is produced in everyday life. The waste must be separated and then disposed of. The district waste management company is responsible for this. It takes care of collecting and disposing of the waste.

District waste management company Heidenheim

📍 Schmittenplatz 5, 89522 Heidenheim

☎ [07321 9505-0](tel:0732195050)

🌐 www.abfall-hdh.de

✉ info@abfall-hdh.de

This waste is collected:

- The brown bin - this is the organic waste bin
- The black bin - this is the residual waste bin
- The blue bin - this is the paper bin. Waste paper is also collected by organisations.
- The yellow bag - this is packaging waste

Which waste belongs in which bin?

- The brown bin is for organic waste.
For example, leftover food and plants, paper kitchen towels or egg cartons belong in the organic waste bin.

- The black bin is for residual waste.
For example: cigarette butts, dirt, vacuum cleaner bags, nappies, sanitary towels and tampons, plasters, clothes hangers, paper with foil (stickers and photos), ladies' tights, baking paper, toothbrushes, razor blades belong in the residual waste bin
- The blue bin is for paper waste.
Only cardboard and paper belong in the paper bin. For example: newspapers and advertising, books, letters and envelopes, packaging boxes.
You can also put your old paper out at the kerbside on fixed dates. These dates are listed in the collection calendar, which everyone receives in their letterbox at the end of the year.
- The yellow bag is for packaging and light plastic
Packaging belongs in the yellow bag. For example: plastic packaging for crisps, plastic bottles without a deposit, Tetra packs, tins and aluminium.

When is the rubbish collected?

At the end of the year, everyone receives the collection schedule by post. It shows when the rubbish is collected. You can also create a [personalised collection calendar here](#).

IMPORTANT: Put the rubbish at the kerbside by 06:00 am on the day of collection.

You must take this rubbish away yourself:

- Old glass
Glass containers must be placed in collection containers.
You can throw the glass in from Monday to Saturday from 08:00 to 19:00.
The collection containers for glass include, for example: glass bottles, preserving jars, tinned food jars.
You must separate the glass by colour. Then throw the glass into the correct collection container.
- Waste containing hazardous substances
Waste containing harmful substances is bad for your health and for the environment. Therefore, hazardous substances must not be disposed of in the residual waste. This waste must be handed in at the hazardous waste collection point at the Mergelstetten disposal centre.
The address is
📍 Zoeppritzstraße 100
89522 Heidenheim.
The opening hours are
🕒 Monday 8:00 to 12:00 and Thursday 13:00 to 17:00

What is a Wert-Stoff centre?

This is a place where recyclables can be handed in. These are, for example, small electrical appliances, glass, wood, plastic, metal or scrap metal.

Recyclables are waste that can be reused. It is therefore a good idea to hand in this waste at the recycling centre.

What is a waste disposal centre?

A disposal centre is a very large place for waste. You can hand in special waste there. For example: garden waste or bulky waste. Click here to go to the waste disposal centre: <https://www.abfall-hdh.de/abfuhr-und-entsorgung/standorte-zeiten/>

Here you can find more information on how to separate waste: <https://www.abfall-hdh.de/abfallwissen/>

Here you can get information sheets in other languages: <https://www.abfall-hdh.de/ueber-uns/downloads/>

Shopping

Here are some tips for where to buy inexpensive food and clothing.

Shopping tips:


- Reduced price food items can be found on the bottom shelves.
- Inexpensive food and toiletries can be found in discount supermarkets.
- Shopping trolleys can only be used inside the supermarket, which means you must use shopping bags to take your purchases home. It's best to bring your shopping bag with you.
- Cheap second-hand clothing is available in second hand clothing or charity shops.

Second hand clothing or charity shops:

- **[Kleiderkammer Heidenheim](#)**
Schloßhaustraße 98
89522 Heidenheim
 [07321 3583 27](tel:07321358327)

Tuesday: 9.00 am to 11.00 am
Wednesday: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
- **[Der Sieben-Zwerge Laden](#)**
Cheap children's clothing, toys and books, baby equipment and prams
August-Lösch-Straße 16
89522 Heidenheim

Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
Saturday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
- **Second Hand Laden Herbrechtingen**
Eselsburgerstr. 8
89542 Herbrechtingen

 [07324 981666](tel:07324 981666)

 info@treffpunkt-kloster.de




Monday to Friday: 9.00 am - 12.00 pm

Tuesday to Thursday: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

- **[DRK Kleiderladen Giengen](#)**

Marktstraße 39

89537 Giengen

 [07322 9566630](tel:07322 9566630)

 kleiderglueck@drk-heidenheim.de



Tuesday to Friday: 09.30 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday to Friday: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Saturday: 09.30 am - noon


Markt für Gebrauchtes

You will find used furniture, bicycles, electrical appliances and more here.

[AWO Markt für Gebrauchtes](#)

Leimgrubenäcker 1

89520 Heidenheim

 [07321 929370](tel:07321 929370)

Fax: 07321 929 572

Barter shop Stadtteiltreff Zanger Berg

Zanger Berg district meeting place

Berliner Platz 11



Every Monday afternoon 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm

Every Thursday afternoon from 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm

The "Give and Take" project offers citizens the opportunity to give away or take away unused items.

Basar calendar Heidenheim

On this page you will find bazaars (flea markets, children's clothes) in the district of Heidenheim where you can buy used goods:

<https://basarkalender-hdh.de/>

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, queer and intersex* (LGBTQI*) people

People of different religions, different genders, different places of origin and different political views all live together peacefully in Germany and have the same rights. This also applies to sexual orientation and gender identity. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender*, queer and intersex* (LGBTQI*) people have the same rights as anyone else in Germany.

For official documentation, Germany has recently added a third option, “divers”, to the traditional “female” and “male”. In Germany, transgender individuals can have their name and gender legally changed. Women are allowed to fall in love with and marry other women in Germany; the same is true for men.

🌈 Many LGBTQI* people have fled their countries of origin due to discrimination and travelled to Germany. If you are a refugee who is lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender*, queer or intersex*, you can find support, community and social contact and information from the many LGBTQI* organisations in Germany. The “Queer Refugees Deutschland” project from LSVD can provide contact details and other information:

Lesben- und Schwulenverband in Deutschland (LSVD) (Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany)

“Queer Refugees Deutschland” project

www.queer-refugees.de

queer-refugees@lsvd.de

The environment

Saving energy

Saving energy is important for the environment, and it can also save you a lot of money. To save energy, please keep the following in mind:

- When you have the heating on, make sure that all doors and windows are closed. Do not turn the radiator up all the way.
- Air your apartment for 10-15 minutes each day. Switch off the heating while you are airing it.
- Use water sparingly.
- Always disconnect any electrical equipment that you are not using.
- Turn off the light when you are the last one to leave a room.

Separation household waste

In Germany, everyone must separate their household waste. There are specific regulations about how to dispose of waste and how to separate it beforehand.

- The only waste that can go in the **general waste bin** is waste that cannot be sorted into the following disposal categories – for example, clumps of dirt.
- Kitchen and garden waste must be disposed of in the **brown organic “bio” waste bin**. If you have large amounts of garden waste that do not fit into the organic waste bin, this must be bundled up on and can be left in front of the house for collection on specific dates.
- Sales packaging such as plastic containers, plastic films, aluminium and cans must be disposed of in the **yellow bag**. Yellow bags are available at the town hall, among other places.
- **Waste paper** can be disposed of in recycled paper containers or can be placed ready for collection in front of the house. Collection associations (Vereinssammlungen) need to put their waste paper either in a box or tied up in a bundle.

Glass and cans for recycling can be disposed of in a **general collection container**.

Unwanted items of clothing can be disposed in a recycled clothing container or given to a second-hand clothing or charity shop.

Items which contain **pollutants** must be **disposed of in a special way**. Batteries are an example of these. These can be disposed of at the [waste disposal centre in Mergelstetten](#) or at [recycling centres](#).

You can find the collection dates for household waste and organic waste bins, yellow bags, collection associations and garden waste in the [collection calendar](#).

Money

Current account

To open a current account, you need to choose a bank.

Tip: Different banks offer current accounts with different terms. Find out exactly what the monthly cost is for a current account and what services the bank offers for this.

To open the account you need a **valid ID** (for example, your temporary residence permit). This must be the **original** – a copy is not sufficient.

If you do not speak German or English, come with a **translator** or a [language mediator](#).

A current account allows you to:

- Deposit and withdraw money at the bank's counter
- Pay using a bank card instead of cash
- Transfer money
- Print your account statements
- Set up standing orders

Once your bank account has been opened, you will receive a **bank card** and a 4-digit **PIN code**. Sign the bank card on the back and memorise your PIN code. You need a PIN to make bank card payments and withdraw cash at the ATM. Keep the PIN code and the bank card separate!

If you enter your PIN code incorrectly 3 times, your card will be retained and disabled. If this happens, contact your bank.

If your bank card is lost or stolen, you should immediately have your card disabled: Tel: [116 116](#) (available 24 hours).

To do this, you must provide your bank sort code and your account number or IBAN number. You will need to apply for a new bank card at your bank.

It is important that you have sufficient money in your account when you make withdrawals and payments. Otherwise you might have to pay additional fees.

Services

If you receive **monthly payments from the regional council (Landratsamt)**, you can have them paid directly into your account. You must show the **original copy of the bank account contract** to the [asylum seeker benefit authority](#).

As soon as you are recognised as a person entitled to asylum or refugee status, your right to benefits under the AsylbLG law ends. You then receive benefits under the Social Security Code (SGB). You can apply for these at the [job centre](#).

Leisure time

There is a [state family pass](#). With this pass, you can visit various excursion destinations in Baden-Württemberg. Admission may be cheaper or free of charge. You can find more information [here](#). The state family pass can be applied for at the [town or municipal administration](#) in your place of residence.

Current events in the town and district of Heidenheim can be found here: [Events in the district](#)

Open sports programmes

Open sports programmes

City of Heidenheim

[Parcour followed by a boxing workshop](#)

Target group: teenagers and young adults (**bring clean sports shoes!**)

The training is different from most sports. It is tough and a lot of fun. The focus is on playing with your own environment, being creative and training to surpass yourself and your own limits. Be it on walls, stairs or ledges. This is followed by a boxing workshop, which is supervised by an expert trainer.

Start in March

- Every week on Thursdays from 17:30 - 19:00
Gym of the Ostschule
Ostplatz 1
89522 Heidenheim an der Brenz

[Midnight sports](#)

Target group: Teenagers and young adults aged 12 to 20 (**bring clean trainers!**)

Under the supervision of sports instructors and social pedagogues, young people can transform the hall into a sports arena for all sports suitable for indoor use. The type of sport and the team formation is up to the young people.

Once a month, on Saturdays from 20:00 to 24:00 (for under 14s until 22:00)

- Gymnasium Hellensteingymnasium
Bahnhofplatz 8
89518 Heidenheim an der Brenz

- Contact details: City of Heidenheim Youth Department
Telephone: [07321 3275315](tel:073213275315)
E-mail: jugendreferat@heidenheim.de

City of Giengen

["Smart & courageous - violence loses!"](#)

Target group: young people and adults(**bring clean trainers and socks for Sambo!**)

Various martial arts are offered in Giengen as part of the "Sport Integrativ" programme.

- AWO workshop,
Heidenheimer Str. 49
89537 Giengen an der Brenz

Open cafes

An open cafe is a place where people go to meet up, whether by prior arrangement or simply by dropping in. This offers the opportunity to come into contact with a wide range of people.

Also consider the [meeting places for families](#).

There are the following open cafes in Heidenheim, for example:

- [Café 8](#)
Bergstraße 8
89518 Heidenheim
Opening hours:
Monday to Thursday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am to 1 pm
- [Cafe in the multigenerational house Heidenheim](#)
The multi-generational house offers an open café for people of all ages
August Lösch road 26/1
89522 Heidenheim at the Brenz

Youth centres

A youth centre is a place **for young people** where they can spend their free time.


The **contact people on site** offer various offers and programmes for children and young people.

There are the following youth centres in the district of Heidenheim:

Heidenheim:

- **Treff 9**
Friedrichstraße 9

89518 Heidenheim

 [07321 3275350](tel:073213275350)

 treff9@heidenheim.de




Tuesday to Friday: 2:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- **Jugendtreff Schwende - closed at the moment!**

Friedrichstraße 9

89518 Heidenheim

 [073215305633](tel:073215305633)

 jugendtreffschwende@heidenheim.de




Tuesday to Friday: 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- **Kinder- und Jugendhaus Mittelrain**

Mittelrainstraße 118

89520 Heidenheim

 [0732165796](tel:0732165796)

 jugendreferat@heidenheim.de




Tuesday to Thursday: 2:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

- **Jugendtreff MOVE Voith-Siedlung**

Walther-Wolf-Straße 18

89522 Heidenheim

 [01622742114](tel:01622742114)

 k.hoecker@awo-heidenheim.de



Tuesday to Friday: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- **[Redbox Heidenheim](#)**

open youth work

Sudetenstraße 9

89518 Heidenheim

 info@redbox-heidenheim.de

Redbox Jugendtreff


Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Giengen:

- **[Haus der Jugend Giengen](#)**

Spitalstraße 5/1

89537 Giengen

 [07322 958640](tel:07322958640)

@HausderJugend@giengen.de



Tuesday to Thursday: 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Friday: 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Herbrechtingen:

- [**Jugendhaus Herbrechtingen**](#)

Lange Straße 56

89542 Herbrechtingen

 [07324 9833076](tel:07324 9833076)

@jugendhaus@stadt-herbrechtingen.de



Monday to Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Friday 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Königsbronn:

- **Caritas - Ostwürttemberg Jugendtreff Königsbronn**

Paul-Reusch-Str. 6

89551 Königsbronn



Monday 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday 1:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Gerstetten:

- [**Caritas Ostwürttemberg C-Punkt Gerstetten**](#)

Karlstraße 67

89547 Gerstetten

Clubs

There are a lot of **clubs and associations** in the district of Heidenheim. Everything is represented, from sport clubs, to music societies to animal protection associations.

Anyone can join a club. This is a great way to get in touch with people and find new friends.

You normally have to pay an annual **membership fee** to become a member. For more detailed information, please contact the club directly.

The membership fee could possibly be paid by the [regional council or job centre](#). You need to complete an Education and Inclusion ([Bildung-und-Teilhabe \(BuT\)](#)) application. Their expert advisors will be happy to assist you.

You will find a list of all the local clubs in each place on the city's web pages:

[Heidenheim](#)

[Giengen](#)

[Herbrechtingen](#)

[Sontheim](#)

[Gerstetten](#)

[Dischingen](#)

[Steinheim](#)

[Niederstotzingen](#)

[Königsbronn](#)

[Hermaringen](#)

[Nattheim](#)

Excursions in the district

There are various excursion options in the district of Heidenheim. Most of the excursions are suitable for the whole family.

Visit the homepage of the [Heidenheim Brenz region](#). There you will find lots of information on cycle paths, hiking trails and excursions.

Königsbronn

Brenzursprung

The Brenzursprung is one of the most beautiful and important karst springs in the Swabian Alb. Next to the Brenzursprung you will find the town hall and the hydroelectric hammer mill with Kneipp facility.



Herwartsteinstraße
89551 Königsbronn

[Georg Elser memorial](#)

The Georg Elser memorial commemorates Georg Elser, a carpenter who grew up in Königsbronn. He wanted to prevent the war by assassinating Adolf Hitler on 8 November 1939.



Herwartstraße 2
89551 Königsbronn

Lake Itzelberg

Lake Itzelberg is a popular local recreation area in the Itzelberg suburb. There is a circular path around the lake.

Gerstetten

[Railway museum and museum trains on the local railway](#)

Railway operations and construction are documented using plans, drawings and photos. Other areas of the exhibition include historical railway and track construction technology and the railway manager's office.

From May to October, museum trains run on the local railway between Gerstetten and Amstetten on all Sundays and public holidays.

Tickets are available on the train. Pushchairs and bicycles are carried free of charge on all trains.



At the railway station 1
89547 Gerstetten

Giengen

[Steiff Museum](#)

Giengen an der Brenz is known as the birthplace of teddy bears. The Steiff Museum was opened to mark the 125th anniversary of the company. It contains over 2000 Steiff animals.



Margarete-Steiff-Platz 1
89537 Giengen

[Cave Experience World - Charlottenhöhle](#)

The Charlottenhöhle is one of the longest show caves in southern Germany. A visit to the cave always includes a guided tour. A journey of discovery through the history of the earth is made possible.

The HöhlenHaus provides information about the formation, discovery and opening of the cave.



Lonetalstraße 61

89537 Giengen-Hürben

[Mountain pool](#)

The mountain pool has a main pool and a non-swimmers' pool. There is also a giant slide and a children's paddling pool with mini slide. You can also play table tennis, mini golf or beach volleyball there.



On the Schießberg
89537 Giengen

[Indoor pool in the Walter-Schmid-Halle](#)



Beethovenstraße 12
89537 Giengen

Steinheim am Albuch

[Meteor Crater Museum](#)

The museum shows the effects of the meteorite impact above and below the earth's surface. Fossilised animals and plants are also exhibited and explained.



Hülbenweg 4
89555 Steinheim am Albuch

Dischingen

[Katzenstein Castle](#)

Katzenstein Castle is probably one of the oldest castles in southern Germany.



Oberer Weiler 3
89561 Dischingen

Nattheim

[Coral and local history museum](#)

The coral and local history museum offers an insight into local history. In addition to fossilised sponges and corals, various fossils are also on display.



Neresheimerstrasse 9
89564 Nattheim

Ramensteinbad

The Ramensteinbad has a sports pool and an outdoor pool. There is also a water slide, a parent-child area and an outdoor beach volleyball court.



Dieselstraße 22
89564 Nattheim

Herbrechtingen

Jurawell

The Jurawell has a swimmers', non-swimmers' and children's pool. There is also a sauna area.



Baumschulenweg 27
89542 Herbrechtingen

Hermaringen

Güßenburg Castle

Güßenburg Castle is located on the Schlossberg and was probably built in 1216. It was destroyed in 1448 during the town war and has not been rebuilt since.

Sontheim an Brenz

Gallus Church in Brenz

The foundations of this church date back to Roman times.



Schloßstraße
89567 Sontheim an der Brenz

Excursions in the town of Heidenheim

There are various excursion options in the district of Heidenheim. Most of the excursions are suitable for the whole family.

Visit the homepage of the [Heidenheim Brenz region](#). There you will find lots of information on cycle paths, hiking trails and excursions.

Heidenheim

The Brenzpark

The Brenzpark is a destination for the whole family. You can relax and unwind in dirt at any time of year. There are beautiful garden areas and many activity and play areas. For example,

playgrounds and the skate park.

Hellenstein Castle

Hellenstein Castle is the landmark of the town of Heidenheim. It is located 74 metres up on the Hellenstein rock. The [opera festival](#) takes place every year in the remains of the Knights' Hall.

The [Hellenstein Castle Museum](#) is located on the castle grounds.



Hellenstein Castle
89522 Heidenheim

[The museum in the Roman baths](#)

The museum shows the remains of the important Roman settlement of Heidenheim, ancient Aquileia, 3 metres below today's street level.

Admission is free of charge.



Theodor-Heuss-Straße 3
89518 Heidenheim

[The Eichert Wildlife Park](#)

The wildlife park is located **in the middle of the forest on the Schlossberg**. There are many **different animals** there. The animals may only be fed with special food from the vending machines provided.

Opening times: freely accessible all year round

Admission is free of charge.



Wildparkweg
89522 Heidenheim

The [Heidenheim Art Museum](#)

A selection of Picasso posters and prints are on display in the permanent exhibition. Changing exhibitions showcase classical modern and contemporary art.



Marienstrasse 4
89518 Heidenheim

The [HellensteinBad aquarena](#)

There are various swimming pools and slides. There are also saunas, solariums, Kneipp pools and a relaxation area.



Friedrich-Pfennig-Straße 24
89518 Heidenheim

The [Waldfreibad Heidenheim](#)

The Waldbad offers a sports pool, a diving facility, a children's pool and a non-swimmers' pool.



Jahnstraße 43
89518 Heidenheim

[Playgrounds in Heidenheim](#)

There are over 100 public [playgrounds](#) in Heidenheim.