


Table of Contents

Learn German	2
Levels of language ability	2
German certificates	2
Language Courses	3
Initial orientation course for asylum seekers	3
Integration Courses	4
Occupational language courses (B2)	6
Standard and Intensive Courses	7
Communication aids	7
Interpreting and translation	8
Test "Leben in Deutschland" / Citizenship test	9
Free German courses	9
Conversation groups: Practise speaking German	11

Learn German

Levels of language ability

There are different levels of language ability. The language and integration courses use the levels of the  [Common European Framework of Reference](#) or CEFR:

Language level A: elementary language use

Language level B: independent use of language (necessary for training or work)

Language level C: competent use of language (necessary for studies 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






There are even further distinctions within these levels (for example A1/1, A1/2, A2/1, A2/2).

Do you have any questions? Contact the  [Integration Counseling](#)

German certificates

What German certificates are there?

In Germany, there are various tests that will determine your language level:

-  [German Test for Immigrants \(DTZ\)](#)
-  [telc](#)
-  [TestDaf](#)
-  [Goethe Certificate](#)
-  [German Language Examination for University Admission \(DSH\)](#)

You will need language certificates, for example, when you apply for a residence title at the Immigrations Office or it may also be required by an employer. That is why it is important that you find out exactly which language certificate you need.

Do I need a German certificate?

In the situations explained below, you either need a certificate confirming your German language level or it is very much recommended.

Application for an apprenticeship or job

A certificate confirming your German language level improves your chances of getting an apprenticeship or job. You will stand out better compared to other applicants if you have a certificate.

Vocational further education or qualification

Certain German language levels and corresponding certificates are often required for participation in vocational qualification programmes.

Access to studying at colleges of higher education and universities

You will need sufficient German language skills to study at a college or university. Each university will decide for itself which certificates are accepted. That is why it is best practice to speak to the university directly and find out which German certificate you need.

For permanent residence (settlement permit) or for naturalisation (obtaining German citizenship)

You must demonstrate sufficient knowledge of German for both the settlement permit and for naturalisation. This is possible, among other things, with the "Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer" (DTZ) certificate. You will receive this certificate, for example, after successfully attending an [integration course](#). A German school-leaving qualification can also serve as a certificate of German competency.

In addition, you must also prove that you have acquired knowledge of the legal and social order and living conditions applicable in Germany. You can do this, for example, by sitting the "Living in Germany" (LiD) test. You will complete the orientation course by sitting this LiD test. The orientation course forms part of the integration course.

Do you have any questions? Contact the  [Integration Counseling](#)

Language Courses

Initial orientation course for asylum seekers

Structure and content


You will be taught beginner's German and be provided with information about everyday life in Germany as part of an initial orientation course. For example, important issues include:


- Work
- Shopping

- Health and medical care
- Kindergarten and school
- Media use in Germany
- Advice about your local area, transport and mobility
- Customs and traditions in Germany and local peculiarities
- Talking about oneself and other people and social contacts
- Housing
- Values and living together

A course consists of six modules which comprise 50 teaching units each (1 teaching unit = 45 minutes) or 300 teaching units in total. No previous experience is necessary. Attendance is free of charge.

Can I take part in an initial orientation course?

Asylum seekers whose prospects of remaining in Germany are unclear may take part in an initial orientation course. Unclear prospects of remaining means that you do not come from a country with a high recognition rate or from a safe country of origin. If there are still places available ("remaining places"), then recognised persons, persons who have been granted discretionary leave to remain and persons with good prospects of remaining in Germany may also be admitted to an initial orientation course. However, the prerequisite is that you do not (yet) have access to an  [integration course](#). You are not allowed to attend these courses if you are still of compulsory school age.

People who do not have access to this offer can contact the  [Integration Coordination at the Munich District Office](#).

Do you have any questions? Contact the  [Integration Counseling](#)



Integration Courses

Structure and content


An integration course consists of a language course and an orientation course. If you successfully complete the integration course, you will receive a certificate for the language level you have attained.

- Language course (600 teaching units in total)
 - You can learn German up to B1 level on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages during the language course. The language course is divided into six modules, comprising 100 teaching units each. 1 lesson corresponds to 45 minutes of teaching.
 - You will sit the "Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer" (DTZ) exam at the end of the course.
- Orientation course (100 teaching units)
 - The orientation course follows on directly from the language course. You will gain knowledge about the legal system, politics and history of Germany during the

orientation course.

- The orientation course concludes with the "Leben in Deutschland" (short: LiD) test.
- You can also study independently for the "Living in Germany" test. For example, you can use the  [BAMF's online test centre](#) or the  ["Leben in Deutschland Test" app](#). It is also possible to take the LiD test without having attended an orientation course.
- Special courses
 - Special courses also consist of a language course and an orientation course. They comprise 900 teaching units.
 - Special courses are integration courses aimed at a specific target group. As such, they cover other focal points in terms of content. There are, for example:
 - Integration courses for people with impairments, for example for people with visual or hearing impairments.
 - Integration courses for second language learners which is specifically aimed at people who do not know or hardly know the Latin alphabet.
 - Literacy courses for people who are illiterate.
 - Intensive courses for people with learning experience.







Can I take part in an integration course?

Integration courses are funded by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). As such, you need a permit from the BAMF to attend them. The permit is called "**Berechtigungsschein**" (entitlement certificate). Whether you can obtain an entitlement certificate will depend on your residence status. You can find more information on the admission requirements according to your residence status here:  [Handbook Germany: Integration courses](#) (in 9 languages).

You can only take part in an integration course without a BAMF certificate of eligibility if there are still places available. Without an entitlement certificate, you will have to pay the full cost of € 458 per module yourself. You will then participate as a "self-payer".

How do I get an entitlement certificate?

You can obtain an entitlement certificate either from the Immigration Office, the Jobcentre or directly from the BAMF by making an application.

- If you receive benefits from the Jobcentre, please contact your responsible person from  [case management](#).
- If you are still awaiting the results of your asylum application, you can submit an  [application to the BAMF](#).  [Here](#) you can find multilingual leaflets with helpful information on the integration course.
- If you are an EU national, you can submit an  [application to the BAMF](#) .
- If you have a residence permit for at least 1 year, contact the  [Immigration Office at the Munich District Office](#) or you can apply directly at  [BAMF](#).

How much does an integration course cost?


You must pay a contribution to costs of €2.29 per lesson to the course provider, which makes €229 for each module. You can be exempted from the contribution to costs if you receive

social benefits such as "Bürgergeld" (citizen's income), "Asyl-Leistungen" or "Hilfe zum Lebensunterhalt" (assistance for subsistence) or if you are financially needy for other reasons. Furthermore, you can be exempted from the contribution to costs if you are employed and your gross monthly pay does not exceed a certain amount.


Reimbursement of the Contribution to costs


The Federal Office can reimburse you 50% of the contribution to costs paid if you successfully took the final test and no more than two years have passed between the first issuing of your qualification certificate and the final test. You must apply for reimbursement at the responsible regional office of BAMF.

How can I register?

You can find more information on integration courses in several languages, for example German, English, French, Arabic, Persian and Kurdish here:  www.bamf.de/.

If you receive an entitlement certificate, you can choose a language school. At the beginning of a course, the language school will conduct a placement test with you. A specific course module will be recommended to you based on your test results. Afterwards, you will be able to register for an integration course.


You can find offers for various integration courses and special courses close to your place of residence at  [BAMF-Navl](#). The website is available in German and English.

The  [Integration Office of the Munich District Office](#) will be happy to assist you in applying for an entitlement certificate and in finding a suitable integration course. They will also advise you if you are unable to access an integration course and would like to find out about other ways to learn German.

Do you have any questions? Contact the [Integration Counseling](#)

Occupational language courses (B2)

What are occupational language courses?


Occupational language courses consist of 400 or 500 lessons of 45 minutes each. You can reach the following  [target language level](#) B2. You cannot achieve a language level higher than B2 with the occupational language course.

You will be prepared for the German labour market and learn job-related German skills. For example, you will learn how to communicate with colleagues and superiors and how to get in touch with customers.

These courses can be attended alongside a job, education or a vocational qualification programme, occupational recognition or as preparation for starting a career in Germany.




You can find further information here:  [BAMF: Information sheet on occupational language courses](#) (available in 15 languages).

Can I take part in an occupational language course?


To take part in an occupational language course, you must either have already taken part in an  [integration course](#) or prove language skills at B1 level.


Occupational language courses are funded by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). And, as such, you will need a permit to participate. The permit is called "Berechtigungsschein" (entitlement certificate).

How do I get an entitlement certificate?

- If you receive Citizens' Allowance ("Bürgergeld") from  [Jobcenter](#), you can get an entitlement certificate from your case management contact person. You will then be able to attend that course free of charge.
- If you are unemployed and **do not** receive Citizens' Allowance from the Job Centre, you can register as a jobseeker at  [Employment Agency](#) and inquire about eligibility for an occupational language course.
- If you are employed and subject to social insurance contributions, you can submit an  [application for admission to the occupational language course to the BAMF](#) yourself. If your taxable annual income exceeds 20,000 euros in the case of single assessment or 40,000 euros in the case of joint assessment with your spouse, you must make a contribution to costs.





How do I register for an occupational language course?

With the entitlement certificate, you can register with a certified course provider of your choice:  [Kursnet: Search for occupational language courses](#) (in German)

The  [Integration Office of the Munich District Office](#) will be happy to assist you in applying for a certificate of eligibility and in finding a suitable course. They will also provide you with advice if you are not obtaining an entitlement certificate.

Do you have any questions? Contact the [Integration Counseling](#)

Standard and Intensive Courses

In addition to the state-funded  [integration courses](#) and  [professional language courses](#), there are many private language schools. Courses run by private language schools are usually very expensive. You usually have to pay for them yourself. You can attend German courses at a  [adult education centre](#) if you are looking for an inexpensive and good alternative. There are adult education centres that run German courses in the district and in the city of Munich. You usually have to pay extra for  [official language exams and certificates](#).












Standard courses teach you the target language at a normal pace. Intensive courses, however, will teach you the language at an accelerated rate. You will cover the same learning content as a standard course, but in a much shorter time.

Do you have any questions? Contact the [Integration Counseling](#)

Communication aids

Aids to communication

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


-  [Refugee Phrasebook](#) is a multilingual dictionary on various topics.
- There are websites and apps that translate texts:
Google Translate exists as a  [website](#) and as an app for download in the  [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#) or  [App Store \(IOS\)](#).
DeepL is also available as a  [website](#) and as an app to download for  [Google Play Store \(Android\)](#) or  [App Store \(IOS\)](#).
- There are various apps that translate voices and read them out loud:
 [Voice Translator \(Translate\)](#) or  [Voice Translator All Languages](#) (Android)
 [Voice Translator pro Speech](#) (IOS)
-  [Oroboo Angel](#) connects you with language partners. In difficult situations, you can quickly connect with a person who speaks the language via video or phone. 5-minute chat with possible extension. There are many different language combinations.
- The [picture dictionary](#) helps when you have a doctor's appointment.

Interpreting and translation

TranslAID: Volunteer interpreters

TranslAid finds volunteer interpreters to assist refugees and migrants, for example, with personal appointments, doctor's visits or visits to the authorities.


We operate in the S-Bahn area of the City of Munich and can be contacted via telephone regardless of location.

Bookings request must be made at least 48 hours prior to the appointment for appointments scheduled for weekdays.  [Click here](#) to send a request to TranslAid

Cultural interpreters

Cultural interpreters are people who have also experienced migration and who have received specialist training in language and cultural interpreting. In other words: They will interpret conversations and ensure that no misunderstandings arise as a result of cultural differences.

Some authorities and institutions may instruct (cultural) interpreters to assist with consultations. The service is free. It is therefore best practice to ask whether an interpreter will be present when you make an appointment.

Are you interested in becoming a cultural interpreter yourself? You can find more information on the page  [Volunteering and Engagement](#).

Test "Leben in Deutschland" / Citizenship test

What is the test "Leben in Deutschland"? What is the citizenship test?

The test "Leben in Deutschland" (also known as "LiD test") and the citizenship test ("Einbürgerungstest") are the same test. They are just two different names.


By successfully completing the test "Leben in Deutschland", you demonstrate your knowledge of the legal and social order and living conditions in Germany. You will often be asked by the Migration authorities to provide proof of the LiD test. For example, if you are applying for citizenship.


The LiD test consists of 33 questions. You have 60 minutes to complete it. There are four possible answers to each question. Only one answer is correct. If you answer at least 17 questions correctly, you have passed the test. If you answer fewer than 17 questions correctly, you can retake the test.

Taking the LiD test costs 25 euros.


How can I prepare for the test?

You can prepare for the test yourself or you can take a preparation course.

If you want to prepare yourself, you can practise all 310 possible test questions online:  [BAMF question catalogue for test preparation](#). To start, select "Bavaria" as your federal state. There are also interactive apps to prepare for the "Leben in Deutschland" test in the usual app stores.

Preparation courses are often offered at adult education centres. Why not enquire at your local  [Volkshochschule](#)?

How do I register for the LiD test?

Many  [adult](#) education centres (VHS for short) offer test dates. You can find the dates by entering "Einbürgerungstest" in the search field on the VHS website. You can book an appointment with the provider of your choice. Dates often fill up quickly. It is therefore worth comparing the available dates of different providers to avoid long waiting times.

Do you still have questions? Contact the  [integration counselling service](#).

Free German courses

Free German courses are often run by volunteers. The courses usually take place once a week. You will not receive a certificate at the end of the course. It is usually possible to join the course at any time if places are available.

Caritas - Akademie der Nationen

Courses are offered for beginners and advanced learners. In the courses you will learn the basics of the German language. The current course times can be found at: 🌐 [Course schedule Academy of Nations](#). There is no childcare. The courses do not take place during school holidays. Register by e-mail: @ akademie-der-nationen@caritasmuenchen.org

Akademie der Nationen

📍 Landwehrstraße 66, 80336 München

Bellevue di Monaco - German courses with Francesca and Sabine (Level A0 to B2)

Francesca and Sabine will help you learn German. There are groups for the language levels from A0 to B2.

The courses always take place two days a week. They last 90 minutes per session.

You can find the current dates and times here: 🌐 [Bellevue German courses](#)

Please enquire about available places by emailing @ info@bellevuedimonaco.de.

Bellevue di Monaco

📍 [Müllerstraße 2, 80469 München](#)

Bellevue di Monaco - Online course for women with babies (Level A1.1)

Have you already attended a German course? Would you like to improve further? Or are you just starting to learn German? Do you still find speaking German very difficult?

No matter how good your German is: learn together with us!

For information, please call: ☎ [+49 \(0\) 8955057750](tel:+4908955057750)

📺 The course takes place online on Tuesdays from 3 pm to 4.30 pm.

Ability Aid - Practice German for refugees (A1 - B2)

Weekly German courses at A1 and A2 level as well as B1/B2 conversation groups are offered.

The courses can be attended by refugees with and without disabilities. You can find the course times and enrol online here: 🌐 [AbilityAid German courses](#)

AbilityAid München

📍 Dachauer Straße 21a, 80335 München (ground floor)

☎ [+49 \(0\) 1794284264](tel:+4901794284264)

@ katharina.stoib@arrivalaid.org

Conversation groups: Practise speaking German

💡 All programmes are free of charge. Some courses require registration, others you can simply take part in.

From level A1

Taufkirchen: Language Café for Mothers with Childcare

Mums from all over the world come together at the 'Language Café'. Over breakfast, we chat in German about topics such as visits to the paediatrician. It's enjoyable and helps you find your way around everyday life. Children are welcome. There is a lovely play area in the same room. A carer is on hand to look after the children.

🕒 Mondays from 9am to 11am (except public holidays).

INTEGRA Haus der Familie

📍 Postweg 8 a, Obergeschoss, 82024 Taufkirchen

☎ [+49 \(0\) 896797115818](tel:+490896797115818)

@ faze@integra-hachinger-tal.de

🌐 [Sprachcafé Taufkirchen](#)

Unterschleißheim: Practising German for mothers with babies and toddlers

For mums with babies and toddlers who want to improve their German. We speak and practise German together in a friendly atmosphere.

💡 The offer is free of charge.

Nachbarschaftshilfe Unterschleißheim

📍 Alexander-Pachmann-Straße 40, 85716 Unterschleißheim

☎ [+49 \(0\) 893707356](tel:+490893707356)

@ fsp@fz-ush.de

🌐 [Deutsch üben für Mamas](#)

There are no meetings during holidays and public holidays!

Yallah Chät language café

In our language café we practise speaking German together. You'll meet lots of nice people here. If you get on well, you can meet up more often.

Then you will become language partners! What is that? We'll explain it to you!

Just drop by! We look forward to seeing you.

📍 Cafe Bellevue di Monaco, Müllerstraße 2, 80469 Munich

🕒 Every last Monday of the month from 6 to 9 pm

☎ [+49 \(0\) 17645507797](tel:+49017645507797)

🌐 [Yallah Chät language café](#)

Munich City Library: German discussion groups

Are you learning German and would like to practise and improve your language skills?

The discussion groups are organised by students of the subject "German as a foreign language".

Locations and dates can be found here:  [Munich City Library German discussion groups](#)

International Family Centre: Language café

Organiser:  [Diakonie Munich](#)


"Treffam" is a meeting place for families of all nationalities with children aged 0 to 6.


People from all over the world have fun practising the German language in the language café.

There is a games corner for children and the language cafés take place on the following dates:

- Mondays: 10 to 11 a.m.
- Tuesdays: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Thursdays: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.


Treffam International Family Centre


 Tübinger Straße 11, 80686 Munich

 [Programme Treffam](#)



Dialogue cafés in Munich

The dialogue café is for everyone who wants to speak German. For anyone who wants to learn new words. For everyone who wants to meet nice people. For everyone who wants to get to know Munich. No matter how old you are. No matter whether you are shy or not. Whether you already know a lot of German words or not. Everyone can take part.

You can find the locations and dates of the dialogue cafés here:  [Dialogcafés Munich](#)

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact us at  info@dialogcafe-muenchen.de

Seidlvilla: German conversation

Organiser: Nachbarschaft Schwabing,  [+49 \(0\) 89398299](tel:+49(0)89398299),  nachbarschaft@seidlvilla.de

People for whom German is a foreign language meet here. They talk about anything that interests them and practise speaking German for everyday life. Do you have a basic knowledge of German? Then simply drop by without registering.

There is barrier-free access to the building and the rooms. There is a disabled toilet.

📅 Wednesday, 2.30 pm to 4 pm
📅 Thursday, 9.30 am to 11 am
📍 Seidlvilla, Nikolaipplatz 1B, 80802 Munich, 1st floor.
🌐 [Seidlvilla Conversation German](#)

Conversation course for LGBT*I*Q+

Organiser: 🌐 [LeTra and SUB](#)

Do you want to get to know other lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, inter* and non-binary migrants and refugees?

Do you want to have fun improving your oral German in a group of LGBT*I*s from all over the world?

Do you want to get to know the queer scene in Munich better?

Then come to our German conversation course! The course takes place twice a week:

- every Tuesday: 19:30 at the LeTRa Centre, Angertorstraße 3, Munich
- every Thursday: 19:30 in the Sub, Müllerstraße 14, Munich

💡 The course is free of charge for refugees, people without work and students. For all others, the participation fee is between 50 and 80 euros.

For registration and questions, please contact Raphael Kosecki at: @ dkk@subonline.org

From level A2

Hohenbrunn: German open meeting (A2/B1)

Organiser: 🌐 [Pfarrgemeinde St. Stephanus Hohenbrunn in cooperation with the Helferkreis Asyl Hohenbrunn/Ottobrunn](#)

We meet every Monday to practise speaking German freely in small groups.

📅 Mondays, 5 to 6 p.m. (There are no meetings during the holidays and on public holidays.)



📍 St. Stephanus parish centre in Hohenbrunn, Taufkirchnerstraße 1, entrance courtyard, 85662 Hohenbrunn

Please register at: @ info.helferkreis.sprache@gmail.com

Taufkirchen: German conversation course (A2-B1)


Practise speaking German in a relaxed atmosphere under the guidance of a German teacher.


There are two dates:

-  Fridays, 9 to 11 am
-  Fridays, 17:30 to 19:30

 Please enrol.


Volkshochschule Taufkirchen

 Ahornring 121, 82024 Taufkirchen

 [+49 \(0\) 896145140](tel:+490896145140)

 info@vhs-taufkirchen.de

ClubIn: Language club for young people (A2/B1)

ClubIn is an international meeting place for young people aged between 17 and 27. The language club takes place once a month. We talk about various topics in a relaxed atmosphere. You can find the dates here:  [ClubIn language club](#)

 Friedrich-Loy Straße 16, 80796 Munich

 [+49 \(0\) 89306686913](tel:+49089306686913)


 clubbuero@vij-muenchen.de


From level B1

AbilityAid: German B1/B2 conversation group for refugees

Refugees with and without disabilities can take part in the conversation group free of charge. Dates: Every Tuesday from 5 pm to 6.30 pm

Please register online:  [AbilityAid conversation group](#)

 Dachauer Straße 21a, 80335 Munich (ground floor)

 [+49 \(0\) 1794284264](tel:+4901794284264)

 katharina.stoib@arrivalaid.org


 [AbilityAid programme](#)

Conversation group "Dare to speak German"

People with German language skills at B1 level are very welcome.

We talk about many different topics and everyday situations, read and edit texts, talk about the meaning of words or expressions, do grammar exercises and much more.

The aim is for participants to gain more confidence in speaking.

 Mondays, 15:30 to 17:30

 [St Matthew's Church on Sendlinger Torplatz, Munich](#)

Participation only after confirmed registration at:

@christaliefscher@viertelpunkt.org or ☎ [+49 \(0\) 89536667](tel:+49089536667)