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## Public authorities

### Immigration office

**Please make sure that your residence permit or passport is still valid. Renew it in good time - preferably 2 to 3 months before it expires. After that, you must make an appointment with the responsible immigration office. From now on, you will no longer receive reminders from the Rastatt District Office or the City of Rastatt.**

### Information for refugees from Ukraine

If you have fled from Ukraine, there is a new regulation:

- Your residence permit will be automatically extended until 4 March 2026.
- You do not need to submit an application or go to the Foreigners' Registration Office.

### What does the Immigration Office do?

The Foreigners' Registration Office is responsible for many issues relating to residence law. For example, it deals with

- [Residence permit](#), [settlement permit](#), [toleration](#): Issuance and extension
- [Residence permit](#): Issuance and extension in the [asylum procedure](#)
- [Work permit](#): Issuance upon application
- [Residence requirement](#): Change or cancellation

### Your visit to the immigration office


Please note these important rules:

- Only contact the foreigners authority responsible for you.
- Always make an appointment before your visit. You cannot visit without an appointment.
- If you do not yet speak German well, bring someone with you to the appointment who can translate your request (the reason for the visit).

### Contact

Depending on where you live in the district, a specific immigration office is responsible for you.

#### Rastatt District Office

 [Am Schlossplatz 5, 76437 Rastatt](#)

 [@auslaenderwesen@landkreis-rastatt.de](mailto:auslaenderwesen@landkreis-rastatt.de)


 [Contact form](#)

 [www.landkreis-rastatt.de](http://www.landkreis-rastatt.de)

Responsible for municipalities: Au am Rhein, Bietigheim, Bischweier, Bühlertal, Durmersheim, Elchesheim-Illingen, Forbach, Gernsbach, Hügelsheim, Iffezheim, Kuppenheim, Lichtenau, Loffenau, Muggensturm, Ötigheim, Rheinmünster, Sinzheim, Steinmauern, Weisenbach


**Town of Bühl** (also for the municipality of Ottersweier)

 [Hauptstraße 41, 77815 Bühl](https://www.buehl.de)


 [07223935361](tel:07223935361)

 [www.buehl.de](http://www.buehl.de)

**City of Gaggenau**

 [Hauptstraße 71, 76571 Gaggenau](https://www.gaggenau.de)

 [@auslaenderwesen@gaggenau.de](mailto:auslaenderwesen@gaggenau.de)


 [07225962333](tel:07225962333)

 [www.gaggenau.de](http://www.gaggenau.de)

**City of Rastatt**

 [Kaiserstraße 48a, 76437 Rastatt](https://www.rastatt.de)

 [@auslaenderwesen@rastatt.de](mailto:auslaenderwesen@rastatt.de)

 [072229727420](tel:072229727420)

 [www.rastatt.de](http://www.rastatt.de)

## Integration Officer

Did you know that people from 143 countries live in the district of Rastatt? This means that many languages are spoken here and different cultures come together. This diversity makes the district exciting, but also brings challenges with it.

To ensure that living together works well, there is the integration officer and her team. Their task is to support integration. This means that they help people to find their feet in their new home. Their aim is to ensure that everyone treats each other fairly and respectfully and feels at home here.

## What do the Integration Officer and her team do?

- **Integration concept:** To ensure that integration works well, there is a plan in which all important topics and goals are summarised. This plan is called the "integration concept". It sets out what is being done to ensure that everyone can settle in well in the district. The measures are implemented step by step.
- **Networks:** Integration plays a role in all areas of life. This is why many different organisations are involved in the topic of integration. It is important that they know each other and work well together. This enables them to share information and find solutions to challenges together.
- **Projects and events:** The integration officer and her team plan and organise projects and events to strengthen social cohesion.
- **Public relations:** They ensure that important information reaches people quickly, e.g. via the INTEGREAT app, on the Integration homepage or via the press.
- **Referral counselling:** Anyone who has questions or needs support can contact the Integration Officer and her team. They can provide information on various questions or refer you to the relevant office.
- **Intercultural openness:** This means that institutions, organisations and companies are geared towards the requirements of a culturally diverse society. The basis for this is the appreciation of diversity as a resource and potential. This includes, for example, further training for employees of organisations and raising awareness of how to deal with diversity.

## Contact

### Tamina Hommer | Integrationsbeauftragte

 [Am Schlossplatz 5, 76437 Rastatt](#)

 [@integration@landkreis-rastatt.de](mailto:integration@landkreis-rastatt.de)

 <https://www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de/star...>

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There are also integration officers in some towns and municipalities in the district of Rastatt (Rastatt, Gaggenau, Bühl, Kuppenheim/Bischweier, Gernsbach, Bühlertal, Sinzheim, Hügelsheim). There are contact persons for the area of integration in the other municipalities. You can find the contact details [here](#).

## Naturalisation authority

### Naturalisation

If you have been living legally in Germany for at least 5 years, you can apply for naturalisation. Naturalisation gives you German citizenship and allows you to obtain a German passport. You then have the same rights and obligations as all other Germans. Spouses and children can also be naturalised.

### What are the advantages of naturalisation?

With German citizenship you can:

- vote in Germany
- run for political office yourself
- live and work in any country of the European Union
- travel to many countries without a visa.

You also no longer have to go to the immigration office.

### Who can apply for naturalisation?

Foreigners who wish to acquire German citizenship must fulfil various requirements:

- You have been living permanently and legally in Germany for 5 years
- You have an unlimited or permanent right of residence at the time of naturalisation
- You are able to support yourself and your family. This includes your spouse and, for example, your children.
- You have at least B1 level German language skills.
- You have not been convicted of a criminal offence.
- You have sufficient knowledge of the legal and social order and life in Germany.
- You are committed to the free democratic basic order of the Basic Law

- You are committed to Germany's historical responsibility for National Socialism and its consequences, in particular for the protection of Jewish life, as well as to the peaceful coexistence of peoples and the prohibition of waging a war of aggression.
- There are no other reasons that speak against naturalisation (so-called "grounds for exclusion").

**💡 Children under the age of 16 can only be naturalised if one parent has German citizenship and (joint) custody and their livelihood is secured.**

## Is naturalisation possible for you?

You can use the link to the [Quick Check](#) website to check whether you can become a German citizen.

## How much does naturalisation cost?

Naturalisation costs 255 euros for adults. For underage children who are naturalised together with their parents, it costs 51 euros. Minor children who are naturalised without their parents also have to pay 255 euros.

## What do you have to do?

To be naturalised, you must submit an application. From your 16th birthday, you can submit this application yourself. For children and young people under 16, parents must submit the application.

You can find detailed information on how to apply here:

[🌐 www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de](http://www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de)

Overview of naturalisation options according to residence permit:

[Naturalisation information sheet](#) from the Baden-Württemberg Refugee Council.

## Refugee accommodation

If you live in shared accommodation, there is a home manager. You will receive your mail from them. The home manager is also your contact for questions about the house rules, administration and room occupancy.

## Locations and contacts

You can find an overview of the locations and contact details of the shared accommodation centres for asylum seekers here:

[🌐 www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de/kontakte/gem...](http://www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de/kontakte/gem...)

**💡 Important:** If you live in the municipal accommodation, you must contact the town hall of your [town / municipality](#).

## Assistance under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG)

Asylum seekers and persons with tolerated status receive benefits under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act (AsylbLG) from the Office for Social Affairs, Participation and Provision (Sozialamt) at the District Office.

You will receive the benefits under the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act if you:

- Foreigners without a residence permit are.
- Have a foreigner with a residence permit under the Asylum Act or a toleration permit.
- have no income and assets.
- earn too little in your job and need support to make a living.


You receive:

- a standard need (money for daily needs for food, clothing, hygiene, etc.)
- Accommodation costs (costs for rent or accommodation fees)
- Cover in the event of illness
- Initial equipment for home and newborn child
- Services for education and participation


If you need help or support, call and make an appointment for counselling.

Rastatt District Office, Office for Social Affairs, Participation and Supply

 [Am Schlossplatz 5, 76437 Rastatt](#)

 [+49 \(0\) 72223810](tel:+49(0)72223810)

 [@amt21@landkreis-rastatt.de](mailto:amt21@landkreis-rastatt.de)

 Office hours: Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 - 12:00, 14:00 to 15:00; Friday from 9:00 - 12:00 hrs

### **Integration management (social counselling for refugees in follow-up accommodation)**

If you are a refugee living in private accommodation or in municipal accommodation, you can contact Integration Management.

Here you can get support with many issues, for example

- when applying for [social benefits](#), [residence permits](#)
- with support in everyday life (for example, explaining letters)
- in personal and family matters
- with contacts to [authorities](#)
- with other questions

A personalised plan can be drawn up to support your integration in Germany.

### **Contact us**

Do you need help or support? Give us a call and make an appointment. You can find the contact details here:

 [www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de/kontakte/int...](http://www.integration-landkreis-rastatt.de/kontakte/int...)

## Important: Always make an appointment!

### Youth welfare office

The youth welfare office supports parents in bringing up children and young people. But it's not just parents who can turn to the youth welfare office - children and young people can also ask for help if they have problems. The help is free of charge.

### What help is available?

The Youth Welfare Office offers many different types of support, for example

- **Adoption:** When a child gets new parents.
- **Counselling for families:** When parents need help with parenting.
- **Support and counselling:** Social workers can support families.
- **Help for children with disabilities:** So that all children can learn and play together.
- **Youth counselling:** The youth welfare office supports children and young people in difficult times.
- **[Advance maintenance payments](#):** If one parent cannot pay enough money for the child.
- **Help in difficult situations:** When families are in conflict or don't know what to do.
- **Foster families or guardianships:** If children cannot live with their parents, the youth welfare office helps to find good solutions.
- **[Economic youth welfare](#)**

### Contact us

If you have any questions or need help, you can contact the Youth Welfare Office at Rastatt District Office directly. The staff there will listen to you and work with you to find solutions. The Youth Welfare Office can also help in emergencies.

### Jugendamt

 [Am Schlossplatz 5, 76437 Rastatt](#)

 [@amt22@landkreis-rastatt.de](mailto:amt22@landkreis-rastatt.de)

 [+49 \(0\) 72223812251](tel:+49(0)72223812251)

 <https://www.landkreis-rastatt.de/landratsamt/aemt...>

### Registry office

The registry office has several tasks. Have you had a child? Then you must report the birth to the registry office. The registry office will then notarise the birth for you. Would you like to get married? Then the registry office will register the marriage.

### The tasks at a glance

- Notarising births and deaths
- Conclude marriages and partnerships
- Receiving resignations from the church
- Changing names
- Issuing certificates (birth, death, marriage certificate)

💡 In the case of births, the birth certificate is applied for where the child was born. Not at the parents' place of residence.

You can usually find the registry office responsible for you in the town hall of your [municipality or town](#).