

Types of jobs and other activities

Types of jobs

- **Full-time:** around 40 hours per week; most adults in Germany work full-time.
- **Part-time:** anything less than full-time hours; parents with small children often work part-time (e.g. 18 hours, 23 hours and so on per week).
- **Mini-job:** maximum earnings of 556 euros per month; you do not pay [tax](#); school pupils or students often work in a mini-job; some people work in a mini-job alongside their main job. With a mini-job, you only acquire very limited entitlements to a later old-age pension. You have to take care of your own [health insurance](#); it is best to seek advice from a statutory health insurance company.
- **Midi job:** Earnings between 556.01 euros and 2000 euros per month; you are subject to social security contributions, but you pay less tax than if you earn more than 2000 euros.
- **Work opportunities (AGH):** for people who are still in the [asylum process](#) or have a [tolerated](#) status, speak little German or have no certificates; you earn 80 cents per hour for a maximum of 30 hours per week. You can keep this money in addition to your social benefits.
- **Temporary work:** As a rule, you are employed by a specific company. If you are employed by a temporary employment agency, this is referred to as agency work. The employee of a temporary employment agency is loaned to other companies. In this way, the temporary employment agency employs its staff in the company where there is a shortage of personnel. This means that the place of work can change.

Self-employment

Who can become self-employed in Germany? If you are still in the asylum recognition process, your application has been rejected or you have a tolerated stay, self-employment is prohibited. All others are generally able to set up a business in Germany.

Further information:

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

 www.existenzgruender.de

Homepage of the IQ Centre for the Migrant Economy

 www.netzwerk-iq.de

Start-up counselling

 www.wir-gruenden-in-deutschland.de

Other activities

- **Voluntary Social Year (FSJ) / Federal Volunteer Service (Bufti):** The FSJ is a voluntary service in social areas. It is offered in Germany for young people and young adults who have already completed compulsory schooling and have not yet reached the age of 27. The FSJ is regulated at state level. In addition to the FSJ, there is also the Federal Volunteer Service (Bufti) at federal level. This is a substitute for civilian service and is also available to people over the age of 27.

People doing FSJ or BufDi receive a qualification and a certificate during this time. This helps them on their future career path and they learn German in the process. FSJ and Bufdi volunteers receive pocket money.

The [FSJ working group](#) in Baden-Württemberg provides a helpful overview of the areas of work.

You can find more information about the Federal Volunteer Service [here](#).

- **Internships for career orientation:** Internships provide practical experience in a profession. When it comes to career orientation, internships are intended to help you familiarise yourself with your career aspirations and check them out. During this time, interns also learn about the realities of professional activities and the conditions of the profession. The internship can be of different lengths, for example 1 week or 2 months. As a rule, you do not receive any money during the internship.

How do I find an internship?

- Ask a company
- Ask at the [employment agency](#)
- Search job exchanges on the Internet