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Language

General information

If you want to live in Germany, you should learn to speak German.

This is important when you are looking for a job, filling in applications, helping your children with school and trying to make new friends.

In Europe there is a general framework used to describe the achievements of learners of foreign languages, the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

It offers a universal assessment of language skills. It has 6 different levels.

It includes different types of language skills: Listening, reading, writing and speaking.

"A" - "Beginner": A1 and A2 mean that the person is just beginning to learn the language. They have basic knowledge and can understand/form simple sentences.

"B" - "Better": B1 and B2 mean that the person has more advanced language skills.

If you want to >>[work](#), you will need at least B1 level language skills. Level B2 is recommended for >>[vocational training](#).

"C" - "Champion": C1 and C2 mean that the person has "proficient" language skills.

C2 is almost native-speaker level.

All children and teenagers aged under 16 learn German at >>[kindergarten](#), >>[school](#) or at vocational college.

You can find more information on the various language courses on the following pages:

■ <http://www.bamf.de/DE/Willkommen/DeutschLernen/In...>

■ <https://kursnet-finden.arbeitsagentur.de/kurs/por...>

Language courses

In Schwäbisch Hall, there are lots of language courses for learning German.

The type of language course you can attend usually depends on your residence status and language skills.

Here is a list of all the language courses currently on offer in the district.

You can find more detailed information at

The ■ [Integration](#) website of the district of Schwäbisch Hall

You can find advice centres >>[here](#).

Intensive orientation course

Who is allowed to attend the course?

All asylum seekers in the district of Schwäbisch Hall may attend the course (once). You do not need to have any prior knowledge of German.

The course comprises 80 lesson hours and lasts for four weeks.

What does the course cost?

The course is free.

The district administration will cover travel costs if the accommodation facility or apartment is more than 3 km in distance from the language course.

The course is sponsored by the district of Schwäbisch Hall.

Registration

Register with your >>[social worker](#) in your initial accommodation facility.

Advice

Advice is provided by your >>[social worker](#) in your accommodation facility.

Integration courses

The integration course consists of two parts, the language course and the orientation course.

The language course leads to language level B1.

Participants learn the vocabulary they need to speak and write in everyday life.

The orientation course provides information about life in Germany and imparts knowledge about the legal system, culture and recent history of the country.

Both parts of the course end with a final exam, the "German Test for Immigrants" and the "Life in Germany" test, which are also valid as proof for naturalisation.

Who can attend the course?

Recognised refugees, asylum seekers with good prospects of staying*, late repatriates, tolerated persons according to § 60a para. 2 sentence 3 of the Residence Act (humanitarian or personal reasons), other foreigners with a residence permit and Germans with a migration background

***good prospects of staying: currently people who come from Syria and Eritrea**

There are also special courses:

Youth courses:

For young adults up to the age of 27

Parents/women courses:

For parents or women with children

Literacy courses:

For illiterate people

Second language courses:

For people who are literate in their native language but not in the Latin writing system

Intensive course:

For fast learners (only € 430)

Support course:


For migrants who have been living in Germany for some time:

Scope

The general integration course consists of a language course with 600 lessons and an orientation course with 100 lessons and lasts approximately 7 - 8 months.

The special courses can last up to 1000 lessons, such as the literacy course.

Costs

The integration course usually costs **€1.95** per lesson, the rest is paid by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees  ([BAMF](#)).


If you receive unemployment benefit II, social welfare or asylum seeker benefits, the BAMF can cover the costs. To do this, you must submit an application to the BAMF.

The language school, the responsible social workers or the migration advice centres will help you with this.

The travel costs can be covered by the BAMF if your accommodation or flat is more than 3 kilometres away from the language course.

The course is financed by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

Enrolment

If you want to take an integration course, you need a **certificate of eligibility** from  [BAMF](#)
or

a **commitment** from the [>>job](#) centre, [>>foreigners](#) authority or [>>employment](#) agency.

Counselling

Advice is provided by the responsible [>>social](#) workers* in the accommodation centres, the integration managers* and migration advice centres

Language courses: German for the workplace

Goal

These special language courses (German for the workplace) are designed for people who have immigrated to Germany who want to improve their chances on the job market.

There are basic and special modules.

The courses usually end with a test, and participants get a certificate.

The basic modules all prepare you for the next-highest language level.

from B1 to B2

from B2 to C1

from C1 to C2

The special modules go into more depth in specific subjects.

They are designed for people who are currently having their professional qualifications recognised or people who want to work in a specific professional field.

Some examples of this are nursing, teaching or technical or sales jobs.

There are also special modules for individuals who have attended an integration course but have not achieved B1 level in German.

These modules allow students to gain language skills up to level **A2** or **B1**.

Who is allowed to attend the course?

All three of these conditions must be met by the participants:

(1) They receive benefits from the Job Centre or Employment Agency.

They are looking for a vocational training placement, are currently in a vocational training programme or are having their foreign professional qualifications recognised.

(2) They belong to one of the following groups:

New immigrants, including asylum seekers who are currently in the qualification recognition process and have good prospects* of remaining in the country permanently. (This excludes people from safe countries of origin**.)

EU citizens
German citizens with immigration backgrounds

(3) They have already completed an integration course and/or speak German at at least B1 level

***good prospects of staying in Germany: currently includes people from Syria and Eritrea.**

****safe countries of origin: You can find an up-to-date list of safe countries of origin [here](#)**

Scope

Each module consists of 300 lesson hours and lasts for around 4-5 months.

It can only be taken once.

Fees

It is free to participate in the modules of these special language courses for the workplace.

If you are working and do not receive any additional benefits from the Federal Employment Agency (Agentur für Arbeit) or the Job Centre, you have to pay to attend the course.

Half of the cost contribution is refunded if you pass the certificate examination within two years of receiving permission to attend the course.

BAMF will cover travel costs if the accommodation facility or apartment is more than 3 km in distance from the language course.

The course is sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany and the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and is organised by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

Registration

If you do not currently have a job or apprenticeship:

Your counsellor at the Job Centre or Employment Agency will give you a “certificate of eligibility” (Berechtigungsschein) for the course.

This person can also advise you on courses and language schools.

If you are already working, doing an apprenticeship or undergoing a professional recognition process:

the employer can handle registration for you.

The employer can find out about this from BAMF using the contact email address:

[@deufoe.stuttgart\(@\)bamf.bund.de](mailto:@deufoe.stuttgart(@)bamf.bund.de)

Advice

You can get advice on courses from the >> [integration managers](#) in your community,

from the >>[immigration counselling centres \(Migrationsberatungsstellen\)](#) or

(if you are younger than 27) from the >>[youth immigration counselling centres \(Jugendmigrationsberatung\)](#) of the district or

also from the >>[Job Centre or Employment Agency](#)

VwV courses

Aim

The courses build on the respective language level and lead to the next higher language level. (Alphabetisation/A1/A2/B1/B2/C1/C2)

A certificate of attendance is issued on completion of the course.

When level B1 is reached, a final test is carried out and the corresponding certificate is issued.

Who can attend the course

- People with a migration background (including EU citizens)
- Asylum seekers with unclear prospects of staying*
- People who do not have access to integration courses

It does not matter what language skills you have.

***Unclear prospects of staying: currently people who do not come from Syria, Somalia and Eritrea.**

Scope

Each course consists of 300 lessons (UE) and lasts approx. 4 - 5 months. The literacy courses consist of 600 lessons.

Costs

The course is free of charge for participants.

Travel costs can be covered by the district administration office if the accommodation or flat is more than 3 km away from the language course.

The course is funded by the state of Baden-Württemberg, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration.

Enrolment

Registration takes place via the responsible >>[social](#) workers* in the accommodation centres, the >>[integration](#) managers* in the municipalities or the >>[migration](#) advice centres of the district.

Counselling

If you have any questions about the individual courses, you can seek advice from >>integration [managers*](#) in the municipalities or in the >>migration advice [centres](#).

Immigrants up to the age of 27 are advised by the district's [youth migration counselling](#) service.

Modellprojekte

Deutsch@Beruf

[Here](#) you will find information about the language support programs of the state of Baden-Württemberg in the nursing sector.

BEF-Alpha

"The Ministry of Education has significantly increased the number of so-called 'BEF Alpha' courses for adult refugees with little or no reading and writing skills."

"The overall project is funded through the education chain agreement between the federal and state governments."

"A five-week internship in a company is also part of the program. Since last year, the courses have been increasingly aimed at women with children under the age of four. This has increased the proportion of female participants to almost two-thirds. A requirement for this is that childcare is provided locally. This is the case for 25 of the 41 courses."

More information can be found [here](#).

Learn German yourself

You can also learn German yourself online or with apps.

Even if you are already attending a language course, it can be useful to practise additionally.

There are many apps and online sites that you can use to learn German,

You can find a few here.

Serlo ABC

With the free app - Serlo ABC - you can easily learn the Latin alphabet. The BAMF recommends the app as a supplement to literacy lessons.

■ <https://de.serlo.org/abc>

Arrive App

This app has a self-learning course for the first few weeks in Germany, level A1 and above:

■ <http://ankommenapp.de/APP/DE/Startseite/startseit...>

German trainer A1 app

The Goethe-Institut offers an app for Android and iPhone with which you can learn German in the form of picture puzzles and matching tasks.

■ [Kostenlos Deutsch üben - Goethe-Institut](#)

German course Hanover

■ <https://www.deutsch-kurs-hannover.com/>

The site is in German and English.

There are lessons and exercises from A1 to C1

VHS Online Courses

The VHS online portal offers courses up to language level B2. You can register here free of charge.

🌐 <https://deutsch.vhs-lernportal.de>

Deutsche Welle

Deutsche Welle offers online courses up to language level C. There are also online learning videos and a suitable app.

🌐 <https://learngerman.dw.com/de/overview#>

🌐 <https://www.youtube.com/user/dwlearngerman>

🌐 <https://www.dw.com/de/download-der-dw-app/a-15675...>

German Info

The Deutsch Info platform offers the opportunity to learn German through many illustrations.

🌐 <https://deutsch.info/de/courses>



Learning German for children

Goethe Institute

With the free app from the Goethe Institute, children can learn German in a playful way.

🌐 <https://www.goethe.de/de/spr/ueb/led.html>

FunEasyLearn

With the free FunyEasyLearn app, children learn German through games. There is also the option of learning vocabulary.

 <https://de.fun easylearn.com/>