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Language - Learn German

General information & language course counselling

Language is the key to integration. Access to the labour market, doctors, public institutions and, last but not least, interaction with neighbours is much easier this way. Here you will find opportunities and contact points for [learning German in a language course](#).

There are various ways to learn German. The largest offer is **integration courses**. These courses are available throughout Germany and also in Mannheim. After the integration course, you can take a vocational language course. This will improve your chances on the labour market.

Do you need **counselling and support**? The Migration Counselling Service for Adults and Integration Management will help you find the right language course for you:

- [Migration counselling for adults](#)
- [Integration management](#)

Integration courses

Integration courses are the central programme for learning German. In the integration courses, you will learn German for everyday life and find out a lot about life in Germany, including its history, culture and political system. The course ends with a final test, which consists of a language test (level B1) and the "Life in Germany" test.

Various organisations offer integration courses in Mannheim. The course organisers can also help you with questions about the integration courses, registration and participation.

You can find a list of integration course providers and contact persons on the website of the City of Mannheim.

 www.mannheim.de/integrationskurse

Further information - also in different languages - can also be found on the BAMF website

 www.bamf.de/integrationskurse

Who can take part in an integration course?

People who come to Germany from abroad to live here permanently and do not yet have sufficient knowledge of German can take part in integration courses. Depending on your nationality and residence permit, you may be entitled to a language course. In some cases, an application must be submitted to the BAMF.

The foreigners authority will inform you whether you are allowed or required to attend a course when issuing your residence permit.

If your language skills are inadequate, people with foreign nationality may be obliged to attend an integration course. The Foreigners' Registration Office and the basic social security provider (e.g. job centre) will decide whether you are obliged to attend.

What courses are available?

The general integration course consists of a language course and an orientation course. The language course usually comprises 700 lessons, the orientation course usually comprises 100 lessons.

In addition to the general integration course, there are special types of courses for target groups with special needs. For example, there are literacy courses and courses for second-language learners, which are offered with an increased number of lessons. Parents also often have special needs, for example when it comes to childcare, and so here too the courses are usually only offered in the mornings and with an increased number of hours. For fast learners, on the other hand, there are intensive courses with fewer hours.

You can find more information about [special course types](#) on the BAMF website

What does an integration course cost?

The costs for a course are always the same - no matter where in Germany or with which organisation the course is held. At least half of the costs are always covered by the BAMF. There are different rules for participation and costs. Ask your course organiser.

A fee of €2.20 must be paid for each lesson. This means that a general integration course with 700 lessons costs €1,540. The fees can be paid in instalments.

Recipients of transfer benefits (Hartz IV, ALG II) and people on low incomes can be exempted from the costs.

How do I register for a course?

If the BAMF has authorised you to take part in an integration course, you will receive a certificate of eligibility. With the authorisation certificate, you can choose a course provider and register for the integration course there. The course organiser will help you to choose a suitable course.

If you are obliged to attend an integration course, the BAMF will assign you directly to a suitable course.

Language courses: German for the workplace

Job-oriented German courses (§ 45 AufenthG) are aimed specifically at migrants seeking work. The courses teach German skills for specific professions and industries. Participants learn to compose professional emails and letters, to understand written texts such as instruction manuals and gain knowledge about job interviews or employment contracts. In special modules, subject-specific knowledge for certain occupational fields is taught. The courses lead up to level B2, C1 or C2 and include subject-specific German.

Persons who are registered as jobseekers or unemployed and who are staying permanently in Germany, as well as asylum seekers with good prospects of staying, are primarily **eligible to participate**. In order to participate in a vocational language course, you should have already successfully attended an integration course or have at least language level B1.

The entitlement or obligation to participate in the vocational language courses takes place via the Job Centre or the BAMF. The courses are usually free of charge, only employees have to make their own contribution to the costs.

Further information on participation, registration, content and costs of a vocational language course can be found on the BAMF website:

 www.bamf.de/berufssprachkurse

You will find the most important information in **different languages** on this [flyer](#).


Course providers and contact persons in Mannheim

In Mannheim, several institutions offer vocational language courses in accordance with § 45a AufenthG. You can find an up-to-date list of providers with contact persons and the courses offered here.

 www.mannheim.de/berufssprachkurse

Further offers

In addition to the German courses, there are other opportunities in Mannheim to practise everyday German.


 If you know of any other regular offers (including voluntary ones) in Mannheim, please let us know

Café Colibri - the language café at Mannheim City Library

People can speak German with each other here in a relaxed atmosphere. Age and social background are irrelevant - everyone can join in. We talk about many different topics. For example, about the family, festivals or hobbies. Questions and suggestions are always welcome. There are no political or ideological discussions.

The café is not a substitute for a language course. Participation is **free of charge**.


The café takes place once a week. A meeting lasts approx. 60 minutes. **No registration is necessary**.

 Thursday at 5 pm

 [City library in town hall N1](#)

If you have any questions, please contact us here:

 @stadtbibliothek.zentralbibliothek@mannheim.de

 [0621 2938935](tel:0621_2938935)

 www.mannheim.de/de/bildung-staerken/stadtbiblioth...

Language café for migrants and refugees (Caritas Mannheim)

At the language café, you can get together to talk about various topics and thus make everyday conversation in the new language easier. It also promotes mutual understanding. Cultural exchange, practised solidarity and respectful interaction are particularly important to us.

During the language café, we offer, among other things, the opportunity to talk about everyday things, to go through the documents from the last German course again or to help prepare for a language test.

 [Café Noi in C2, 16-18](#)

 www.arbeitfueralle-ma.de/cafe-noi