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Welcome to Memmingen

Greeting of the Lord Mayor

Welcome to Memmingen!

As Lord Mayor of the City of Memmingen, I am very pleased to welcome you here.

Memmingen is located in Bavarian Swabia and offers a wonderful home to over 44,000 residents. The committed citizens, the lively retail trade and a solid medium-sized economy contribute to Memmingen being an attractive regional centre.

As a city of gates and towers, gables and facades, Memmingen's townscape is shaped by its medieval character. But the modern zeitgeist has also found its way into the city. The numerous art, cultural, sporting and educational opportunities in and around Memmingen round off the feel-good character of the city and offer a wide range of leisure activities.

As a former free imperial city, outstanding events in the city's history still have an impact today. In March 1525, the demand for basic human rights such as freedom, justice, choice, self-determination and co-determination was put down in writing for the first time in Europe in the Twelve Peasants' Articles. In Memmingen, as a "city of freedoms", these are not only on paper, but are also lived here.

With our Integreat app, we want to support you in arriving in our city and finding your way around. You will find a lot of information, signposts and addresses of authorities and contact persons who will be happy to help you in word and deed and answer your questions.

Memmingen lives from the togetherness of its people. As Lord Mayor, it is a particular concern of mine to promote this togetherness. All Memmingen residents should be able to participate in the various social offerings and cultural events. When we make our city a place of participation, we see integration realised.

My thanks go to the many citizens who are actively working towards this goal. In order to respond to the needs of Ukrainian refugees, this online service was made available for Memmingen within a very short time. But the work is not yet done. You are welcome to help shape the content, publicise events through Integreat and share information. In keeping with our motto: "Memmingen with each other".

I wish you all the best and much success for your future in Memmingen.
Your

Manfred Schilder
Lord Mayor City of Memmingen

Things to know about Memmingen

Memmingen - City of Freedom

Memmingen, with a population of around 44,000, is one of the best-preserved historic towns in southern Germany and lies on the edge of the Bavarian Allgäu. Every year, many thousands of visitors flock to Memmingen and discover the flair of the city with its old guild and patrician

houses, city stream and convivial hustle and bustle.

Circular routes

You can discover the numerous sights on two very well signposted circular routes.

The green path leads along the city wall, including the green fortifications. The kilometre-long well-preserved city wall with its gates and towers is the city's largest monument. It has always been a place around which many stories and myths revolve. And even today, the city wall is of the utmost importance in terms of architectural history. At the latest since Germany's oldest covered battlement was discovered there - the battlement at the Kohlschanze. The Kohlschanze fortifications and the city wall at the Kempter Tor can be visited as part of guided tours of the city.

The "red trail" circular route will also be available as an audio guide from summer 2022, guiding you along the historical sights. St. Martin's Church with its magnificent Gothic choir stalls, the Frauenkirche with paintings by the Strigel family from the 15th century and the Siebendächerhaus will delight any culture lover. The Kreuzherrensaal with its valuable Wessobrunn stucco ceiling is known as a jewel on the Upper Swabian Baroque Road. For a breathtaking view over the roofs of the city, take a guided tour up the St. Martin's Tower. Another special feature is the Kramer Guild, where the agreement on the "Twelve Articles" took place in 1525 - these are considered the first symbol of German freedom and constitutional history. Due to this historical event, the city of Memmingen bears the title "City of Freedom" and regularly holds the Freedom Award ceremony every four years.

Culture

A total of four museums can be visited in Memmingen. The museum offer is diverse and admission to all museums is free. The two museums in the Antonierhaus, the Strigel Museum and the Antonite Museum, tell of life in the Antonite Order of the time and display works by the Memminger painter and sculptor Strigel. In the town museum you can learn a lot of interesting facts about Memmingen's history. Contemporary art can be found in the MEWO Kunsthalle, which is known throughout the Allgäu. The Landestheater Schwaben, which has won several awards, is based in Memmingen and presents up to 15 of its own productions in a season.

Events

The cultural events on offer in Memmingen are many and varied. Concerts, theatre performances, cabaret shows, fairs or exhibitions take place regularly. The municipal cultural summer "Memminger Meile" provides a festival atmosphere. There is pure summer fun with street theatre, concerts, open-air cinema, exhibitions and much more. The traditional local festivals, Children's Festival and Fishermen's Day, are celebrated in July.

Kinderfest (children's festival)

The children's festival, with its tradition dating back to the Middle Ages, goes back to the custom of the school walk in spring. The three best students were crowned queens and kings. Today, all participating children from Memmingen's primary schools will receive "pretzels and Schüblinge" as well as many gifts. For the successful end of the school year, there are joint church services, followed by singing and dancing in the market square. In the afternoon, the children march in an imaginative procession to the playground on the stadium grounds. The "Stängele" carried in the procession was created from the originally decorated rods and the royal insignia sceptre and crown. It is still considered the symbol of the Memminger children's festival.

Fishermen's Day



A custom from the Middle Ages gives rise to the original local festival. At that time, the stream, which served as a sewer, was fished out, drained and cleaned by the craft guilds every year. Today, the male citizens "clean" the city stream. On 20 July 2019, around 1.200 fishermen of all ages will jump into the cold water fully clothed. The fisherman with the heaviest trout is crowned Fisher King.

Wallenstein Memmingen

A very significant journey back in time takes place every 4 years with the Wallenstein Week. Memmingen celebrates the entry of General Wallenstein with exuberant camp life, parades, historical theatre and breathtaking equestrian performances.

Cycling and hiking

For cyclists and hikers, Memmingen and the Unterallgäu offer the best conditions for discovery tours in the surrounding area with a 1.100 kilometre long network of cycle paths and hiking trails. Memmingen is connected to the meadow walker route of the Allgäu hiking trilogy and to the Allgäu cycling circuit.

For further information, please visit our  [homepage](#) () or contact our  [Tourist Information](#).

First steps in Memmingen

Extensive information on living and working in Germany can be found here in several languages:

-  [Make it in Germany](#)
-  [EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)
-  [Handbook Germany](#)

Flat hunting in Memmingen

It is difficult to find a flat in Memmingen. There are too few flats and most of them are expensive. For this reason, recognised asylum seekers are permitted to stay in the accommodation until they have found an apartment. However, you should still register as looking for a flat.

You can find more information [here](#).

Telephone and Internet

Information on telephone and internet can be found [here](#).

An overview of free WLAN hotspots can be found  [here](#).

Registration in Memmingen

After moving into a flat, you must register at within two weeks at the Citizens' Registration Office. Families with minor children with the same previous and future residences should use a joint registration form; it is sufficient if one of the persons required to register signs the registration form. The obligation to register for persons under 16 years of age is incumbent on those into whose dwelling the person under 16 years of age moves.

Prerequisites

Actual occupation of the new flat. This flat is used permanently or at least with some regularity for living and sleeping.

Deadlines

Registration or re-registration within two weeks of moving into the flat

Required documents

- Passport and/or identity card to establish identity and change of address
- When registering foreigners from third countries (non-EU countries), the valid electronic residence title must be presented with the passport, unless the residence title is attached to the passport.
- Accommodation provider confirmation with the following details:
 - Name and address of the housing provider (landlord)
 - Type of reportable transaction with move-in or move-out date
 - Address of the flat
 - Names of all persons/family members subject to registration.

🌐 [Further information on Registration in Memmingen.](#)

Opening a bank account

You need a bank account to **receive and transfer money**. You cannot sign contracts (e.g. a mobile phone contract) without a bank account. You must open a bank account. This type of account is called a checking account (Girokonto). You have to go to a bank and tell the advisor there: "I want to open a bank account." you must bring an identity card or other identification document.

With a bank account/current account you can

- Transfer money
- Receive money
- Use direct debiting (Lastschriftverfahren) (money is automatically debited)
- Cash cheques
- Pay for purchases using a card instead of cash (bills and coins)
- Withdraw money at an ATM
- Print bank statements

Every citizen can open an account. Asylum seekers and people living with toleration also have this right.

🌐 [Further information on opening an account](#)

Health insurance

In Germany, everyone must have health insurance.

You must take out insurance if you

- have been living in Germany as an asylum seeker for more than 15 months,

- or: have a residence permit,
- or: have a job (subject to social security contributions).

As an asylum seeker (you have been in Germany for less than 15 months) you will receive a health treatment voucher, which you will get from the social welfare office for each quarter. You need a dental treatment certificate (Zahnarztbehandlungsschein) for dental treatment.

🌐 [Further information on health insurance](#) and in the [Health](#) section

Driving licences

After entry, your foreign driving licence is **still valid for six months**. After that, you have to get a German driving licence. It may be necessary to visit a driving school with a subsequent theoretical and practical test to obtain a driving licence. You will have to prove your identity for the test. Please therefore ask whether you will be permitted to take the test before registering at a driving school. There will be costs for the driving school. Ask in advance about how much they will cost. You must always have your driving licence with you when you are driving a vehicle.

For **EU citizens**, the driving licence is still valid after the six months ([please note exceptions](#)).

Attention, participation in road traffic with a driving licence whose Duration of validity according to the law of the issuing state or the German The driving licence has expired and is punishable as driving without a licence.

🌐 [Further information on driving licences in Memmingen](#)

City map of Memmingen

You can find a classic city map of Memmingen on the Internet at:

■ [City map Memmingen](#).

About Integreat

The ■ [app Integreat](#) should serve as a guide and support you in your everyday life in Memmingen. Here you will find important addresses, contact persons and tips and tricks that can help you find your way around in Memmingen.

This everyday guide has several chapters. Each section deals with a different subject. For example, you will find information on doctors, schools, German courses and other institutions. There is also a chapter with ideas of what you can do in your free time. The information and leisure options change often, so we update them regularly. Therefore, it is a good idea to check your mobile app and keep up to date about current campaigns and events.

You can also use this app offline if you do not have Internet access. When you are back online, the app updates itself. We very much hope that we can simplify your stay here in Memmingen with this app.

Each page has a feedback function. If you enter your email address in addition to your feedback, we will be happy to exchange ideas on your suggestion.

We look forward to welcoming you here in Memmingen.

Lukas Krupinski
Integration Coordination Office

Authorities and Counselling

Public authorities

Asylum Application and BAMF

Are you registered in Germany and living in a reception centre? What happens next? The next steps are explained here:

1.1. Personal application for asylum

- You apply for asylum at ■ [BAMF Asylum and Refugee Protection](#).
- **Important:** You must submit your application in person, you cannot send this application by post.
- You will receive the appointment and the responsible BAMF office with your proof of arrival. If you did not get an appointment, ask your accommodation manager.

1.2. First interview appointment (asylum application)

- When your interview date is fixed, go to the [Social Welfare Office](#) with your documents a few days before your appointment because of the travel costs.

1.3. Personal hearing

The 2. interview date is the actual hearing. The BAMF decides on your application for asylum. After that, it will send you a decision.

a) The decision is **negative**

- If the decision is negative and you want to challenge it (i.e. you do not agree), go to your [refugee and integration counselling service](#) immediately .
- If you decide to leave voluntarily, you can receive financial support for your new start in your home country. ■ [Central Return Counselling in Southern Bavaria \(ZRB\)](#).

b) The decision is **positive**, i.e. you are recognised. What are the next steps?

- Electronic residence permit (eAT): Immediately after the BAMF notification has been delivered, it is necessary to take care of an identity document or equivalent: [Foreigners' Office](#)
- Job centre: You no longer get your money from the social welfare office, but have to apply to the job centre: [jobcenter](#)
- Housing: You can find helpful tips on finding accommodation under [Everyday life and housing](#)

All the information on this and much more is also available in the ■ [app Ankommen](#).

Foreigners' Office (Ausländeramt)

Foreigners' Office

The Foreigners' Registration Office is responsible for all measures relating to residence law and, in some cases, passport law for foreign citizens.

What you can do in the field:

- Residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel) and settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis)
- Extension of the proof of arrival
- Issuing and extending a residence permit (asylum)
- Relocation permit for tolerated persons and those obliged to reside in Germany
- EU Blue Card / Highly Qualified
- Applying for a work permit
- Residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis)
- Issues regarding travelling to Germany (e.g. family reunification)
- Integration courses
- Offering advice on a person's voluntary departure

Note: Our official language is German. Foreigners who do not know German are obliged to bring an interpreter to appointments with the Foreigners' Registration Office.

If you have submitted your asylum application to the Federal Office for Migration (BAMF) (1. Interview), you will receive an identity card (Aufenthaltsgestattung) from the Foreigners' Registration Office. Please always keep your identity card with you.

City of Memmingen

[Foreigners' Office](#)

[@Contact foreigners office](#)

[☎+49 8331/850-329](#)

Address:

 [Großzunft](#)

Marktplatz 4

87700 Memmingen

Social Welfare Office (Sozialamt)

Social welfare office

The Social Welfare Office is responsible for social security in the city of Memmingen. A broad and multi-layered range of counselling, support and assistance is available to citizens.

The services can be provided through preventive assistance planning, integration services or, if priority social security systems such as family, labour market, public and private insurances are not effective, through adequate financial assistance. The primary goal of the Department of Labour and Social Affairs is always to quickly provide the citizens of our city who are in need - for whatever reason - with the help they need to overcome or alleviate their difficult

situation.

The Labour and Social Affairs Department is responsible for the following tasks:

- Asylum seeker benefits act
- Funeral expenses
- Basic income support in old age and in the event of reduced earning capacity
- Assistance in other situations (SGB XII)
- War victims' welfare
- People Living with Disabilities

City of Memmingen

Social welfare office

■ [Ulmer Str. 2, 87700 Memmingen](#)

☎ [+ 49 8331/850-409](#)

@[Contact social welfare office](#)

Opening hours:

Monday-Friday

09.00 h - 12.00 h

Thursday

14.00 h - 17.00 h

Agentur für Arbeit (Employment Agency)

If your asylum procedure is still ongoing (Aufenthaltsgestattung) or if you are tolerated (Duldung), then the Employment Agency is your contact for questions about the transition from school to work (career counselling), job placement and counselling for further vocational training and for employer counselling (Arbeitgeber-Service).

You are recognised? Then the [Jobcenter](#) is your contact person for advice and placement in the job market.

Memmingen Employment Agency

■ [Wielandstraße 1-3, 87700 Memmingen](#)

🌐 www.arbeitsagentur.de/

☎ [+49 0800 4 5555 00](#)

📅 Monday 08.00 - 12.00

Tuesday 08.00 - 12.00

Wednesday 08.00 - 12.00

Thursday 08.00 - 12.00

Friday 08.00 - 12.00

Topics of the Employment Agency:

- Refugees with a high probability of staying: basic offer of placement and counselling
- For example: Counselling and application training, placement of suitable jobs and training positions, training subsidies up to internships with employers
- Vocational guidance for pupils in the vocational integration classes

- Unemployment benefit I
 - Learning German
 - Recognition of qualifications
- See also www.arbeitsagentur.de/fuer-menschen-aus-dem-ausla...

Jobcenter

Job Centre Memmingen

The Job Centre is your contact in case of unemployment and need for assistance: It supports you in finding work and training and, in addition to comprehensive counselling for this, can - depending on individual needs and necessity - facilitate qualifications, language courses or many other support and assistance offers.

For more information job advice, support and placements, look here: [Access to the Job Market](#)

If you have a residence permit, which means that your asylum procedure is still ongoing or your asylum application has been rejected (Duldung), then the Federal Employment Agency is responsible for questions of employment promotion.

Steps after a positive decision

You have received a positive decision from the [BAMF](#), i.e. the asylum procedure has been positively concluded, i.e. you are recognised.

Then these steps are next:

1. Personal visit

- You have to go to the Jobcenter during opening hours.
- There you will be registered as a customer.
- Two counselling appointments are made. One in the benefits department, another in the job centre, which means you also have two counsellors in the job centre.
- You will be registered as a jobseeker.

2. Management Department

- **Important:** Counselling is always by appointment only.
- You will have an appointment in which you apply for benefits from the benefits case worker who is responsible for you.

3. Employment agency

Important: Counselling is always by appointment only.

If you are obliged to attend an integration course or if you have a confirmation of participation in an integration course, please bring it with you.

If you have documents about school attendance, training, references, recognition of qualifications obtained abroad etc., please bring them with you.

Report on special skills (craftsmanship, language skills, etc.).

Consider in advance which work activities are possible.

Note: Job centre staff are not allowed to pass on information about job centre clients. As a voluntary accompanying person, a power of attorney is required, which must be completed in full and signed by both parties.

Job Centre Memmingen

■ [Lindentorstraße 22, 87700 Memmingen](#)

☎ [+49 8331 / 971 - 752](#)

@ [Contact Jobcenter Memmingen](#)

■ [Job Centre Memmingen](#)

📅 Mon - Wed 8:00 am - 12:00 p.m

Thu 8:00 - 12:00 / 14:00 - 17:00

Fri 8:00 - 12:00

Youth Welfare Office

What does the Youth Welfare Office do?

The Youth Welfare Office (Jugendamt) supports parents and guardians in the raising, care and education of children and young people. For this, it provides preventative, family-friendly services that help to create positive living conditions for families.

The Youth Welfare Office offers advice on parenting:

- Family
- Youths and teenagers
- Children
- Or when youth welfare services are needed.

When it comes to migration, the Youth Welfare Office is responsible for [unaccompanied non-German nationals aged under 18](#).

Jugendamt Memmingen (Youth Welfare Office)

■ [Mewo-Gebäude](#), Ulmer Strasse 2, 87700 Memmingen

■ [+49 8331/850-411](#)

■ [Kontakt Jugendamt](#)

■ [Jugendamt Memmingen](#)

Counselling

Advice will provide you with orientation and support in the event of any uncertainties or problems in a large number of different areas of life. A number of institutions will provide advice free of charge by professional and socially competent people. Information from the counselling interview will only be passed on if it is necessary for clarification, supports your integration process and you give your consent.

Confidentiality will be protected.

Migration counselling from the age of 27

In migration counselling, people with a migration background from the age of 27 are counseled.

The offer is

- voluntary
- free of charge
- multilingual
- and is subject to professional secrecy

common themes are:

- General questions about living and working in Germany
- Language and integration courses
- Residence (right to stay, freedom of movement, family reunification, etc.)
- Work, profession and professional recognition
- Social structures (job centre, housing benefit, etc.)
- Offers and help with personal and family problems
- Education, school and family

Migration-Integration-Community (MIG) Memmingen
Caritas Association for the Diocese of Augsburg e. V.

■ [Münchener-Straße 38 + 40, 87700 Memmingen](#)

☎ [+49 8331 4985711](#)

@ [Contact MBE](#)

■ [Caritas Migration Counselling](#)

SOS Emergency

Emergency numbers - SOS

Only in an emergency are you allowed to go to hospital without a treatment certificate. An emergency is an acute threat to health. Don't forget your proof of arrival / your ID card ! At the hospital, you have to prove that you are an asylum seeker with your proof of arrival / your identity card and the costs will be settled via the social welfare office. If you are already registered with a health insurance company, bring your insurance card with you.

Emergency contacts

Police ☎ [110](#)

Fire brigade, rescue service ☎ [112](#)

Ambulance, emergency doctor ☎ [112](#)

Emergency numbers always work on mobile phones, even with pre-paid cards without credit/money!

Important information for an emergency call 112

- **Who** is calling (your name)?
- **Where** did it happen (address)?
- **What** happened?
- **How** many injured or sick are there?
- **What kind** of diseases or injuries are present?
- **Wait** for questions!

Stay calm. Speak slowly and clearly so that people understand you better. Do not end the conversation. The emergency call centre / the police will end the call when all important information has been transmitted.

Medical on-call service 116117

If you need help outside the doctors' opening hours, the freephone number [116117](tel:116117) will give you the name of the nearest doctor.

■ [Medical on-call service](#)

Protection from violence

Women and girls in need

Refuge and protection for women and their children who experience partner violence.

Women's shelter

☎ [08331 / 4644](tel:083314644)

@ info@frauenhaus-memmingen.de

🕒 Around the clock.

Free and anonymous counselling service for women who have experienced or are still experiencing violence.

The helpline "Violence against women"

☎ [0800 116016](tel:0800116016)


🕒 Around the clock

Children and adolescents in need

Available around the clock and every day of the year, the child protection hotline offers help to children and teenagers in need. Hotline for children, teenagers, parents, professionals, neighbours, etc.

Child protection hotline

☎ [0800 19 210 00](tel:08001921000)

 Around the clock

Other emergency contacts

You can find more emergency contacts and counselling centres here : [Counselling centres and support services](#).

The spelling alphabet

The spelling alphabet or spelling board is an aid to spelling. Sometimes the German language is not so easy to understand.

This can help to spell names or difficult words in such a way that another person understands them better. In German, a fixed word is used for each letter.

■ [The German spelling alphabet](#)

German language

General information about the language

The official language in Germany is German.

German includes the standard language High German ("Hochdeutsch") and various regional spoken dialects. In Memmingen, the dialects ■ [Swabian](#) and ■ [Allgäu](#) are spoken.

The "Overall Language Programme" of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) is responsible for the ■ [offer of language courses for migrants](#).

A1, B1, C2 - What does the language level mean?

In Europe there is a 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. This consists of 6 different levels, from A1 (beginners) to C2 (experts). It includes different types of language skills: Listening, reading, writing and speaking.

"A" as in "beginner": **A1** and **A2** mean a person is a beginner in a language. They have basic knowledge and can understand/form simple sentences.

"B" as in "Better": **B1** and **B2** mean a person has advanced language skills. Anyone who wants to start training or work should have at least B1 (even better: B2).

"C" for "Champion": **C1** and **C2** mean a person has "business-fluent" language skills. C2 is almost native-speaker level.

How good is your German?

Test your German to have an orientation. The tests are free of charge. (You will not receive a certificate. It does not replace the placement by a language school!)

Click here for the tests:

■ <https://www.goethe.de/de/spr/kup/tsd.html>

■ [Test in cooperation with vhs Memmingen](#)

The [vhs Memmingen](#) offers tests to determine your language level for a fee.

"Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer" (DTZ): external examination

You need a certificate for your German language skills? You can take an exam as an "external participant". Ask a language school about the "Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer". Ask for an appointment and the costs. The test and the objectives are described here: ■ [Information BAMF](#)

The "German Test for Immigrants" is an examination. (All people who finish an integration course also take the exam) You register for the exam. You take the test. You will receive a certificate (B1). The test costs about 160 €. The exam lasts 1 day (with breaks).

You can prepare and practise the test. Materials are available here:

■ [Worksheets and audio examples](#)

■ [Word list](#)

■ [Example test](#)

Integration Courses

What is the integration course?

Migrants learn German in an ■ [integration course](#).

The course lasts several months. It usually takes place Monday to Friday, either in the morning or in the afternoon. It will last 4 to 5 hours per day.

An integration course has two parts: German course (language, 600 teaching units) and orientation course (How does Germany work? Scope: 100 UE).

At the end there will be exams for both parts. If you pass the exams you will receive an "integration course" certificate. As a rule, this also means that you have reached language level B1.

There are special integration courses, e.g. with **literacy** or for **second language learners** (people who first have to learn the Latin alphabet).

It is also important for parents with young children to attend a course. Your child can, for example, be looked after at a ■ [Kita](#) at this time. In addition there is the possibility of offering special courses just for women or young people.

Can I take part in the integration course?

There are different rules that are governed by the Residence Act. The integration course is open to **migrants** who are permitted to reside **permanently** in Germany.

Asylum seekers must wait for the decision of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees on their asylum application. You will receive a letter when the BAMF has decided on your application

and wants you to participate in a course ("obligation").

Asylum seekers from states with "good prospects of staying" are an exception. Currently these are: Eritrea and Syria. If there are sufficient places available, persons from these countries may already participate in the course during the asylum procedure. You will receive a letter if you are allowed to participate in an integration course ("eligibility").

Late repatriates, EU immigrants or immigrants from other countries may also be entitled or obliged to attend the integration course. Ask the course provider whether you can participate.

How do I find a course?

If you are a recognised asylum seeker and need help finding a course, please ask your personal contact person at the Job Centre.

Then register for a course near you. The course provider will help you with registration.

You can find an overview of all current integration courses here:

■ [Link to integration courses](#) (quick search: postcode: 87700, integration course: integration course, select planned or current courses, search)

It is also possible to attend an integration course as a self-payer (you have to pay the course fee yourself).

Placement test for integration courses

Potential participants of integration courses are tested before the course starts to ensure participation in a suitable course. If you would like to take a placement test, please contact the respective educational institution. Testing is also possible without registration.

Job-related language courses (DeuFöV) according to § 45a AufenthG

Job-related German courses help to further improve one's German language skills. You can attend the so-called DeuFöV courses while you are working, undergoing training or a vocational qualification measure, or as preparation for starting a career in Germany.

The basic modules of the DeuFöV courses aim to lead to the language level B2 in three modules of 400 teaching units each. Each of these modules includes a certification exam. A language level of at least B1 is a prerequisite for participation. As a rule, you must therefore have successfully completed an integration course.


It is possible to attend the courses as a self-payer.

However, there are also special modules that only require speaking level A2 or B1. Additional special modules are specifically adapted to specific occupational groups.

The offer is open, among others, to:

- Persons with a migration background in measures under SGB III, including: German nationals with a migration background, EU citizens, other immigrants including persons in asylum proceedings with good prospects of staying (i.e. from Eritrea and Syria) and tolerated persons in accordance with section 60a (2) sentence 3 of the Residence Act. If you belong to one of these groups of people, you need an entitlement to participate from the employment agency.

Refugees from so-called safe countries of origin in the asylum procedure are excluded.

- Persons with a migration background in receipt of SGB II, including: German citizens with an immigration background, EU citizens, other immigrants and recognised protection seekers. If you belong to this group of people, you need an entitlement to participate from the Job Centre.
- People in an  [introductory qualification](#), in vocational training or in a recognition procedure or people who need a certain language level for admission to their profession in Germany. If you belong to these groups of persons, you must have received the right to participate from the BAMF (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees).

Contact [Refugee and Integration Counselling](#). They will help you to find a suitable course.

Tip:

 [Learning job-related German in care with the help of an app](#)

German Courses for Initial Language Orientation

The German courses for initial language orientation (also **initial orientation courses**) teach both elementary German skills and information about life in Germany. The content constitutes a practical first experience for participants in a new social environment and helps with their orientation in everyday life. A course consists of 300 teaching units of 45 minutes each. The modules of the course cover topics such as "Health / Medical Care", "Work", "Kindergarten / School", "Housing", "Local Orientation / Transport / Mobility". Spoken communication is the main focus: Participants should learn as quickly as possible how to find their way around in everyday life. In the case of initial orientation courses, it is also a question of teaching values.

Initial orientation courses are primarily intended for asylum seekers with an unclear prospect of permanent residence. Provided that there are free places on the course, recognised asylum seekers, legally tolerated foreigners and asylum seekers with good prospects of permanent residence may also participate. On the other hand, the initial orientation courses are not intended for persons who are subject to compulsory schooling (6 to 15 years) or compulsory vocational schooling (16 to 21 years). If you gain access to an integration course while participating in the initial orientation course, you can switch to it. The people in the courses have very different backgrounds. Illiterate people can attend the courses as well as graduates. Initial orientation courses are free of charge.

The course language is German - interpreters are not present in the course.

Contact [Refugee and Integration Counselling](#). They will help you to find a suitable course.

Voluntary and free language learning opportunities

Volunteers

There are many volunteers to help you learn German. These offers are voluntary. Volunteers do not get paid and work in their free time. The [volunteer agency Schaffenslust](#) has an overview of the offers in Memmingen.

Learn German on your own

free online services

There are many language learning programmes on the internet and in the app stores. Many are free to use:

Online:

- [German Wave](#)
- [German Adult Education Association](#)
- [Goethe-Institut](#)
- [vhs](#)
- [TandemPartners](#)
- [lernox](#)
- [DuoLingo](#)
- [Learn German online](#)
- [German at the workplace](#)

Apps:

- [Serlo ABC](#)
- [Entry German](#)
- [Arrive](#)
- [FunEasyLearn](#)
- [50 Languages](#)
- [Navi-D](#)
- [German Trainer A1](#)

Translation programmes:

- [deepl.com](#)
- [Google Translator](#)
- [Microsoft translator](#)
- [babelfish.de](#)

School, education and work

Information on school and work

The conditions with which you may work in Germany depend on your residence status. You can find basic information and the relevant contact persons for job-seeking at [Labour Market Access](#).

If you have already acquired school or vocational qualifications abroad, you should make efforts to have these qualifications recognised. You can find more details at [Recognition of foreign qualifications](#).

There are around 400 apprenticeship occupations in Germany. If you are interested in vocational training, you can find more information and contact persons at [Vocational training](#) (dual and full-school).

If you are between 16 and 21 years old and not in employment, you must go to [school](#). This is true if you are undergoing vocational training, but also in other cases. The vocational schools in Memmingen also offer various educational programmes that prepare you for vocational training


or for starting a career.

Children and young people must go to school in Bavaria from the age of six years old. You go to a general education school before you start [training](#) or studying. For more information, see [School \(6 to 15 years\)](#).

If you would like to study, you can find suitable information and contact persons at [Study](#).

Important information on schools

Registration at the school

They must register their child at the relevant school. After your registration at  [Einwohnermeldeamt](#), the relevant school will be informed automatically. You will then receive an invitation to register from the relevant school. Your child can then go to school.


Important: Be sure to bring your child! Please also bring an interpreter and the following documents:

- Your identity card, birth certificate or proof of arrival
- Registration certificate of the Foreigners' Office (Ausländeramt)
- all documents concerning your child (identity card, birth certificate, school reports, medical certificates, etc.)



Informing the school that your child is ill

Please call the school before school starts if your child is ill or cannot go to school for important reasons. Otherwise the school will have to look for your child, if necessary with the police.

School travel costs

The city of Memmingen is responsible for the travel costs for pupils of primary and secondary schools. Pupils of secondary schools up to and including the 10th grade. Grade 1 pupils, special needs pupils and full-time vocational pupils should contact  [schooladministration](#).

Education and participation package (BuT)

With the Education and Participation Package, it is possible to receive financial support for your child for school lunches, membership fees for cultural or sports clubs or the money for participating in school trips. You have to apply at  [Sozialamt](#) or  [Jobcenter](#).

You must always submit the application before you pay for something yourself. If you have already paid something, you will not get the money back.

After-school and (after-) lunch care

For school children, there are day care centres which will look after your child after school. Whether and by whom the costs are paid depends on your residence permit. Please contact your child's school.

Information

In principle, it is also possible to choose a Hauptschule or a Realschule general qualification certificate for two years by attending a Fachoberschule – FOS (specialised secondary school). Students completing studies at the Gymnasium can also pursue a professional apprenticeship. Much is possible, but everything depends on your child's performance and willingness to perform.

An overview in 3 languages of the **school system in Bavaria** can be found here:

- [The school system in Bavaria in German](#)
- [The school system in Bavaria in English](#)
- [The school system in Bavaria in Arabic](#)

Schools in Memmingen

In Germany, there are many different kinds of schools. The school system in Germany is very complex and differs in the various federal states.



Each school offers information sessions. The new school year starts for all schools in September. The most important schools are briefly presented here:

- ■ [Primary schools in Memmingen](#)
First, all children from the age of 6 attend primary school. In Years 1-4, they learn reading, writing and basic mathematics. Depending on their grades and the recommendation made by the teachers in the fourth-grade intermediate certificate, the children then go to a secondary school.
- ■ [Secondary schools in Memmingen](#)
The middle school is for students who want to do an apprenticeship after finishing school. This school prepares pupils for their working life. Besides theoretical knowledge, the emphasis is on practical knowledge and skills. The secondary school lasts 5 years. After passing the final examination, one has achieved the qualifying lower secondary school leaving certificate (also called Quali).
- ■ [Secondary schools in Memmingen](#)
The second type of school for this age group is the Realschule. Pupils at this kind of school will learn foreign languages, for example. More independent learning is expected than in secondary school and one receives an extended general education. Compared to the higher-level grammar school (Gymnasium), students in a standard secondary school have a more work-related education. The leaving certificate of the Realschule (referred to as the "Realschulabschluss") generally provides the basis for more advancement in professions of all kinds.
- ■ [Grammar schools in Memmingen](#)
Grammar school, known as "Gymnasium", lasts 9 years and finishes with a final exam, the university entrance certificate (also called the "Abitur"). Compared to a Realschule and Mittelschule, the students are expected to take more responsibility for themselves and are not mainly prepared for professional life but above all for university studies.
- [German classes](#)
The German class is a class for children and young people who are new to Germany and do not speak enough German to be able to follow the lessons in a regular class. The classes are designed to enable the transition to a regular class after a phase of intensive language acquisition. Foreign pupils of different nationalities are grouped together in German classes. Learning the German language is the main priority. All school-age children who are eligible to attend a German class must be registered with the Sprengelschule .
- ■ [Vocational schools in Memmingen](#)
If you are between 16 and 21 years old, you must go to vocational school (■ [Compulsory vocational school](#)). This applies to refugees and new immigrants from EU countries as well as to Germans.

At vocational school, you will begin by learning German. Then you will get career counselling/advice and information about other educational options.

If you are doing dual training, you will also attend vocational school as part of this.

Please register in person at the State Vocational School if you or your children live in Memmingen and are between 16 and 21 years old.

-  [FOS/BOS - Technical Secondary School/Vocational Secondary School Memmingen](#)
Students who already have a recognised school-leaving certificate can also repeat their school-leaving certificate in the [preliminary class](#) in order to improve their average. This is because a grade point average of 3.5 is a prerequisite for admission to the regular class of the FOS/BOS.
-  [Special schools in Memmingen](#)
Children who cannot be adequately supported in lessons at general schools can be individually supported and cared for at special schools. Class sizes in special schools are smaller.

Recognition of foreign educational qualifications

In Germany, certificates play an important role for school, university or a career. Certificates are used to demonstrate what people have learned and accomplished. Certificates are the main prerequisite for getting a job or for being admitted to a school or university. So if you have already acquired certificates at school, in training or in a course of study abroad, you should make an effort to have these certificates recognised in Germany. This means that your credentials will be used to check what you are qualified for in Germany. Your skills are “translated”, so to speak. It may be that you no longer have your certificates with you. In this case, you can try to have your professional experience and professional abilities recognised by passing some tests.

Offer of support in the recognition process (vocational and school):

[Migration counselling](#) (for persons over 27 years)

[Youth Migration Service](#) (for people up to 27 years)

[IHK Foreign Skills Approval \(IHK FOSA\)](#)

More information under chapter ["Authorities and counselling"](#)

Studies

General information:

In Germany, there are many different courses of study. There are also different types of universities:

Universitäten = universities (more academically focused)





(Fach-)Hochschulen = universities of applied sciences; polytechnics (more practically focused)

Duale Hochschulen = “dual universities” (very practically focused)



Kunst- Film und Musikhochschulen = universities for art, film and music (for the arts and performing arts)

There are public and private universities. Private universities are not necessarily better than public ones – however, students usually have to pay high tuition fees at private universities.

You can find many helpful sites online:

-  [Higher Education Compass](#) (All degree programmes and universities in Germany)
-  [Study in Germany](#) (information for refugees)
-  [Employment Agency Study orientation](#)
-  [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst \(German Academic Exchange Service\)](#)

Requirements:

If you want to [study](#) in  [Germany](#), you need a  [university entrance qualification](#). If you do not have an Abitur degree from a German school, you need to check whether the secondary school degree you obtained in your home country is sufficient for you to enter a German university. For further information, please visit the [website](#)



[Anabin, the](#)



[information portal "Anerkennung in Deutschland" and the](#)



[German Academic Exchange Service DAAD.](#)

[You must also bring proof that you have a good knowledge of German](#)



[\(language level C1\) .](#)

[There is also the possibility of funding through the](#)



[Educational Guidance Guarantee Fund University. For further information, please contact the](#)



[German Academic Exchange Service DAAD.](#)

[Some universities also offer preparatory courses in which you also learn German. For example, the](#)



[University of Applied Sciences Kempten.](#)

[You should get information directly from the university at which you would like to study. Most universities have counselling services available. Also make note of the deadlines by which you need to apply for a course of study!](#)

The  [Employment Agency](#) will also help you choose a course of study.

Training

Dual apprenticeship

A special feature in Germany is the dual training system. Dual training takes place at a vocational school and in a training company. In this way, you learn theory and practice at the same time and already earn money in a company during your training.

In this video, dual education is explained in detail:

■ [Dual training](#), ■ [Dual training in Arabic](#).

Depending on the type of profession you would like to study in a dual training, you should turn to the appropriate body:

- **Chamber of Crafts (HWK; Handwerkskammer) Swabia**

The Chamber of Crafts (HWK) is responsible for craft trades. In this case, professions like baker, brick mason or painter. The Chamber of Crafts (Handwerkskammer) for Swabia has a special contact person for refugees who want to start training in this field. It provides support in finding an apprenticeship or an introductory qualification that can precede an apprenticeship.

Chamber of Crafts (HWK; Handwerkskammer) Swabia

■ [Siebentischstraße 52 - 58, 86161 Augsburg](#)

Martina Wirth

☎ [+49 821 3259 1263](#)

@ martina.wirth@hwk-schwaben.de

🌐 [hwk Swabia](#)

An overview of vacant apprenticeship positions in Memmingen is available here:

■ [Apprenticeships](#)

- **Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK Industrie- und Handelskammer) Swabia**

The Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) is responsible for professions in industrial manufacturing, trade and services. Here, for example, it concerns plant mechanics or traders in wholesale and foreign trade. The IHK Swabia also has special contacts who provide advice on training, entry qualification and internships:

Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK Industrie- und Handelskammer) Swabia

📍 [Stettenstraße 1+3, 86150 Augsburg](#)

Ibrahim Rahimi

☎ [+49 821 316 214 11](#)

@ Ibrahim.Rahimi@schwaben.ihk.de

An overview of vacant apprenticeship positions in Memmingen can be found here:

■ [IHK Apprenticeship Exchange](#)

Full school education at the Berufsfachschule

In Germany, however, there is not only dual training, but also full-time school-based training at a **vocational school**.

The Berufsfachschule provides completed vocational training in theory and practice outside the dual training system (without an apprenticeship in the company). It usually lasts two to three and a half years. Classes are held full-time and include general education subjects as well as occupation-related subjects. Since the vocational schools differ greatly in terms of their training programmes, admission requirements, duration of training and further education options, it is advisable to enquire at the respective school in each individual case.

If you have any questions, please contact the [educational counselling office of](#) the city of Memmingen.

Problems in training? VerA can help

VerA means **preventing** dropouts from training.

In Germany, every fourth young person drops out of training prematurely, often in the first year of an apprenticeship. Only one in two continues training in another company or other occupation. Not good news for the labour market, but a good reason to act.

VerA is an offer to all those who encounter difficulties in their training and are thinking of dropping out of their apprenticeship. On request, SES provides these young people with professional and life-experienced senior experts - retired professionals who are specifically prepared for their task.

A VerA supervision is free of charge for the trainee and the training company. It initially runs for twelve months, but can be extended until the end of the apprenticeship. The senior experts and young people determine the goals of the training support on a case-by-case basis and together.

Further information is available on the VerA homepage and from the regional coordinator responsible for Memmingen, Mr Roland Müller

■ <https://vera.ses-bonn.de/>

Contact details Mr. Müller:

■ [+49 8349 676](tel:+498349676) or [+49 172 6069350](tel:+491726069350)

■ kempton@vera.ses-bonn.de

Training toleration from 01.01.2020 for tolerated foreigners

In future, the temporary suspension of training can also be granted for training in a state-recognised or comparably regulated assistant and helper occupation if qualified training in a shortage occupation is to be completed afterwards and a training commitment is available for this. A waiting period of three months after the rejection of the asylum application will be introduced for future training tolerations.

However, for foreigners who entered Germany before 1 January 2017, the three-month prior possession of a Duldung will be waived until October 2020 (i.e. for the next two training cohorts).

As with an employment toleration permit, the identity of the foreigner must also be clarified for the issuance of a training toleration permit. In addition to the grounds for refusal that already exist under current law, the training toleration will in future be refused to foreigners who have links to extremist or terrorist organisations.

■ [Federal Ministry of the Interior: Postponement of deportation due to vocational training \(Ausbildungsduldung\)](#)

Educational opportunities for everyone

Education advice

The city of Memmingen maintains a neutral counselling centre for all population and age groups where citizens can receive counselling. This centre is located in Memmingen at the adult education centre .

Counselling is free of charge and independent.

Adult Education Centre Memmingen

Education advice

Mrs Übele

■ [Donaustraße 1, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331 850 821](#)

■ [Educational guidance](#)

The **Adult Education Centre (vhs) Memmingen** offers courses in the following areas:

- Language
- Profession & Career
- Society & Life
- Health & Nutrition
- Culture & Creativity
- and many more...

The current programme:

■ [Programme vhs Memmingen](#)

To participate in a course, you must register in advance.

Adult Education Centre Memmingen

■ [Donaustraße 1, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331 850 187](#)

■ [vhs@memmingen.de](#)

Access to the Job Market

Regulations on access to the job market

If you are looking for work and are an **EU citizen**, you have unrestricted access to the labour market due to the free movement of workers: [here is a summary](#).

For **refugees**, access differs according to residence status. This is explained below. You can also get advice here: [Counselling centres](#).

Asylum seeker with proof of arrival or residence permit:

If you are still required live in the initial reception facility, you are not allowed to work. After that, the Foreigners' Office decides whether you are allowed to work. You must therefore always first apply for permission to work at the Foreigners' Registration Office.

The following conditions are important for deciding whether you are allowed to work:

- Three months after your registration as an asylum seeker in Germany (with proof of arrival or residence permit), you have "subordinate" access to the labour market. In addition, the working conditions are examined.
- The priority check by the Federal Employment Agency was abolished nationwide on 06.08.2019.
- After 48 months, you will have full access to the labour market. There are no more restrictions. However, you must apply for this at the Foreigners' Office and it must be stated in your residence permit.
- Only the Foreigners' Registration Office decides on the work permit for in-company training.
- The prerequisite for the aforementioned applications is always a concrete job offer.

Persons with exceptional leave to remain (Geduldete):

- In the case of a Duldung, the foreigners authority always decides on the work permit. The Foreigners' Office can impose a general ban on working against you under foreigners' law.
- If there is no such work ban against you, you have subordinate access to the labour market as a tolerated person from the first day of the toleration.
- Otherwise, the same job market conditions as above apply.
- The prerequisite for the above applications is always a concrete job offer

Refugees with residence permits (Aufenthaltserlaubnis):

- If you have been recognised by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) as a person entitled to asylum, a refugee or a person entitled to subsidiary protection, the Foreigners' Registration Office will grant you a residence permit. This entitles you to do any kind of job and therefore also gives you full access to the job market.
- Other rules apply to [self-employment](#)!

■ [BAMF: Working in Germany](#)

Postponement of deportation due to employment as of 01/01/2020

In future, foreigners who are obliged to leave the country and their spouses or life partners will regularly receive an employment toleration for 30 months and thus a secure residence status if, among other things, the following requirements are met:

- Entry into the Federal territory before the cut-off date of 1 August 2018
- Identity clarified
- Possession of a toleration permit for at least 12 months
- Employment subject to social insurance contributions of at least 35 hours per week (single parents: 20 hours per week) for at least 18 months
- Independent livelihood security
- Presence of sufficient oral knowledge of the German language
- No conviction for a criminal offence committed intentionally in the federal territory (with the exception of criminal offences that can only be committed by foreigners under the Residence Act or the Asylum Act)
- No links to extremist or terrorist organisations
- In principle, successful completion of an integration course if attendance is compulsory
- Actual school attendance of school-age children

The minor unmarried children living in a family partnership with the foreigner also receive a toleration for the same period of time. **The regulation is limited until 31 December 2023**, i.e. applications can be submitted until this date at the latest.

■ [Federal Ministry of the Interior: Postponement of Deportation Due to Employment \(Beschäftigungsduldung\)](#)

EU Blue Card

The EU Blue Card will make it much easier for highly qualified workers to migrate to Germany. With the Blue Card EU Third-country nationals who hold a university degree or comparable qualification can obtain a residence title for the purpose of employment appropriate to their qualification.

The Blue Card EU is a residence permit limited to a maximum of four years when first issued. The conditions for its issue are:

- German or recognised foreign or comparable foreign university degree
- Submission of an employment contract or a binding job offer
- In principle, proof of a minimum annual gross salary of 53,600 euros,

Exception: When issuing a Blue Card EU to natural scientists, mathematicians and engineers as well as to doctors and IT specialists, a lower salary limit of 41,808 euros is taken as a basis.

- Limitation to a maximum of four years for first-time issuance

Exception: If the employment contract is shorter than four years, the granting of the residence title is limited to the duration of the employment contract plus three months.

■ [BAMF: EU Blue Card](#)

Immigration of skilled workers

Qualified skilled workers in training occupations can easily obtain a residence and work permit in Germany if there is a shortage in the relevant sector or if the Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) has concluded a placement agreement with a country of origin.

In addition to an employment contract, it is only necessary that the equivalence with a domestic qualified training is established and that the salary corresponds to that of a German. There is no fixed salary limit. A priority check is not carried out.

The shortage occupations are published in a ["positive list"](#) . The list contains more than 110 professions, in particular, healthcare and nursing occupations and jobs relating to mechatronics and electronics. It is reviewed every six months.

■ [Make it in Germany](#)

■ [Quick Check Work in Germany](#)

Skilled Workers Immigration Act from 01.03.2020

On 01.03.2020 the new Skilled Workers Immigration Act will come into force in Germany. It is intended to facilitate the immigration of skilled workers from third countries.

The ■ [recognition of](#) your vocational training is mandatory!

■ [Information on the Skilled Workers Immigration Act](#)

■ [What refugees need to know about working in Germany](#)

Advice centres for the labour market

The following people are there specifically for providing refugees with advice and referrals within the job market. Here there are also differences depending on whether your asylum procedure is still ongoing, you have been recognised as a refugee, or you have a certificate granting temporary postponement of deportation (Duldung).

- [Job Centre Memmingen](#)

It is available as a contact person to refugees with a residence permit. The team supports you in finding work and places you in suitable further training measures. In addition to acquiring the German language, the team will work with you to find out what knowledge and skills you bring with you and what steps are necessary to pave your way to starting a career. Counselling is provided in German, the official language.

- [Memmingen Employment Agency](#)

It is the point of contact for people whose asylum procedure has not yet ended and for tolerated persons with access to the labour market. There you will receive advice on your options for working in Germany.

- **Fair integration - counselling on labour and social law issues**

The counselling centre Fair Integration informs and advises refugees on social and labour law issues. Our aim is to communicate knowledge about your rights on the German job market in order to ensure fair job market integration with fair working conditions. This is because only those who know their rights can demand them and defend themselves against exploitation and discrimination.

Target audience

We advise refugees who are in work (full-time, part-time, mini-job, temporary work, etc.), doing an apprenticeship or internship, or who will soon be starting their working life and would like to find out more.

Advisory principles

Our counselling services are free of charge, confidential, biased in the sense of the person seeking advice and not dependent on residence status.

Advisory focus


- Rights in the employment, training or internship relationship
- Standards on the German job market
- Questions about pay e.g. if no or too little pay was paid
- Minimum wage
- Working times
- Holiday
- Health insurance
- Incapacity for work and [occupational accident](#)
- Cancellation

Contact details

Fair Integration + Support Fair Integration

■ [Kornmarkt 5-7, 4. OG, Room 420-422, 90402 Nuremberg](#)

■ [Fair integration](#)

 Consultation hours (without appointment)

Tue 09:00 - 12:00

Wed 15:00 - 19:00

Thu 13:00 - 16:00

+ Appointments by arrangement

Fair Integration Fkreyesus Ghebreyesus

☎ [+49 151 18742185](tel:+4915118742185)

@fkreyesus@emwu.org

Languages: German, English, Tigrinya

Support Fair Integration Marie Bauer

☎ [+49 160 2923906](tel:+491602923906)

@Marie.Bauer@dgb-bildungswerk.de

Languages: German, English

■ [Basic words on the subject of labour law in 13 languages](#)

Information for employers

Are you an employer and still have questions about the training or employment of migrant workers?

Here you will find helpful summaries and information:

[BAMF](#)

[Recognition in Germany](#)

[Die bayerische Wirtschaft](#)

[Swabia Chamber of Industry and Commerce](#)

[HwK Schwaben](#)

[AOK](#)

Are you looking for specialists from abroad? Then you can get more information here:

[Federal Employment Agency](#)

[Portal of the Federal Government for experts from abroad](#)

[Project Triple Win of the BA](#)

[EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)

Children and family

Family planning and contraception

Information for personal counselling is available at the local [counselling centres](#).

- **Contraception**

There are different methods if you don't want to get pregnant or want to prevent infection with sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

More information in 13 languages at www.zanzu.de

- **Getting Pregnant**

How do you get pregnant? Difficulties getting pregnant? How can you tell if you're pregnant?

More information in 13 languages at www.zanzu.de

- **Being pregnant**

You can find all counselling centres on the topic of pregnancy in the chapter [Counselling centres and support services](#).

More information in 13 languages at www.zanzu.de

- **Unwanted pregnancy**

If you are pregnant and do not want to have the baby, under certain conditions you can end the pregnancy with an abortion. Before you terminate a pregnancy, you must have a consultation. Make an appointment by telephone for advice on pregnancy issues with a state-approved counselling centre. The counsellors will talk to you about the different options and answer any legal and medical questions. However, the decision whether to terminate your pregnancy is yours alone.

More information in 13 languages at www.zanzu.de

Family benefits at a glance

The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth provides information on state benefits for families.

The checkbook provides a quick overview of the state support families can rely on. Clearly and simply explained.

■ [Family benefits at a glance - Strong families checkbook](#)

Pregnancy and childbirth

Pregnant women are under special protection in Germany and are entitled to counselling, medical care and support with new acquisitions for the child. If you are pregnant, you must first see a gynaecologist. Have the preventive medical examinations carried out there. You will then receive a maternity card. The maternity card is a document with important information about

your pregnancy, your health, and your child's health. Always take your maternity passport with you in case of emergencies.

Advice centres

- Pregnancy counselling
City of Memmingen Health Department
■ [Buxacher Straße 16, 87700 Memmingen](#)
■ [+49 8331/850-940](#)
■ gesundheitsamt@memmingen.de
- DONUM VITAE
■ [Contact information](#)

Delivery and aftercare

Your gynaecologist will refer you to the clinic in Memmingen in the

■ [Gynaecology](#)

It makes sense to contact a midwife before the birth (e.g. at ■ www.babyclub.de) who will look after you after the birth.

Initial equipment

With your maternity passport, you can obtain a voucher for a pram on request at the [Social Welfare Office](#) or [Job Centre](#) six weeks before the birth. After the birth, you will receive support for buying initial baby supplies. To get this support, you need to present the birth confirmation letter. A baby cot will be given to you in your accommodation facility.

During the asylum procedure, contact:

[Social Welfare Office](#)

If you are a client of the Job Centre:

[Job Centre Memmingen](#)

Notification after birth

Newborn babies must be registered with accommodation management. The maternity clinic reports the birth to the Registry Office. There you will receive the (possibly provisional) birth certificate for your child together with your ID, the birth certificate from the clinic and, if available, your marriage certificate. Please give your accommodation manager a copy of the birth certificate so that your child can be registered.

Hint: Please submit only original documents. In the case of foreign language documents, an officially certified German translation is required.

City of Memmingen
Registry office
Registration of births, certificate requirements
■ [Marktplatz 4, 87700 Memmingen](#)
■ [+49 8331/850-338](#)
■ Standesamt@memmingen.de
■ [Memmingen registry office](#)

Paediatrician

There are ten ■ [screening examinations](#) (U1-U9 and J1). Until the age of 6, children are regularly examined and supported in their development. The U1 (examination after birth) and U2 examinations usually take place in the clinic. For further examinations, you must make an appointment with your paediatrician.

You can find paediatricians in the [telephone book](#)

Proof of complete screening examinations may be requested when registering for a day care centre or kindergarten.

Here you can find more information on the U examinations in [German](#), [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Russian](#) and [Turkish](#).

Children, young people and family

Children's rights (best interests of the child) must be observed when raising children and youth. Particularly important in education are: [Freedom from violence](#), health, education and [freedom of expression](#).

You can find more on this in the chapter on [children's rights](#).

In Germany, the [Youth Welfare Office](#) is responsible for educational and family counselling and the protection of the best interests of the child. In order to safeguard the welfare of children, the Youth Welfare Office also relies on information from the public.

- **Educational and family counselling:**

The Youth Welfare Office provides various forms of support and counselling to help families raise their children.

If you need support with parenting, contact:

City of Memmingen
Parenting counselling centre
■ [Kempter Straße 42b, 87700 Memmingen](#)
■ [+49 8331/850-422](#)
■ eb@memmingen.de
■ [Educational counselling centre](#)

- **KJF Counselling for Parents, Youth and Families**

Counselling and support for parents, children and young people on issues related to:

- Family, separation and divorce, school
- Child development
- Developmental diagnostics if required
- School readiness assessment in the small group
- Counselling for parents with babies and toddlers
- Online counselling for parents and young people at www.beratung-caritas.de

KJF Parental, Youth and Family Counselling (KJF Erziehungs-, Jugend- und Familienberatung)

■ [Herrenstrasse 15, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/944140](#)

■ [KJF Memmingen](#)

Childcare

Why is a day care centre good for my child?

Here your child can learn German and discover new things. They will also have contact with other children, make friends and learn about German culture. Take advantage of this opportunity; it is important for your child's future. Attending a children's daycare centre is also good preparation for school.

Unfortunately, there are not always enough places close to your home or accommodation. To find a place, ask the KiTa office of the city of Memmingen.

City of Memmingen

Office for Day Care Facilities

■ [Weinmarkt 10-12, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-462](#)

■ [Contact](#)

■ [Day nursery Memmingen](#)

Which day care centres are there?

- If your child is 1-3 years old, the day care centre is called "**Krippe**"
- If your child is 3-6 years old, the day care centre is called "**Kindergarten**" (abbreviation KiGa)
- If your child is 6-12 years old and still goes to the day care centre after school, it is called "**Hort**" (**afterschoolcare**)

For further information, please contact the day care centre office.


■ [Office for Day Care Facilities](#)

Financial Support

If the legal requirements are met, the City of Memmingen will pay some or all of the fees for the day care centres.

Service content:

- Attendance of day-care facilities by children aged one year to three years old
- Attendance of day-care facilities by children from the age of three until school entry
- Needs-based services for children of school age (after-school care)

You can obtain the  [applications](#) for this from the day care centre and the [Youth Welfare Office of](#) the City of Memmingen.

You can apply for benefits for education and participation for your child at the [Social Welfare Office](#) or [Job Centre](#). The services there include grants for lunch at school or at the day care centre.

How does a day care centre (Kita) work?

1. Settling in

After finding a place in a daycare centre, your child has a “settling in” period at the kita. It goes like this: for a time, the mother and father attend the Kita along with the child. Together they will get to know the teachers, the spaces, the other children and the daily routine. This is so that your child can get used to the new place – as can you as a parent. That's why it's called "settling in". This is very important in Germany and is something that all parents and children do. The settling in period can last two or more weeks.

2. Doorway discussions

Once the settling-in is complete, you bring your child to the kita in the mornings and pick them up in the afternoons or in the evenings, depending on how long you have booked. There are fixed times for this. Everyone must stick to these times. This is very important for the children, as it means that the childcare workers can “work” with the children without being disturbed. When you bring your child and when you pick them up, you can speak to the childcare workers and tell them what is important for you, or how your child is doing. When picking up your child, the childcare workers will briefly tell you what your child has done at the kita and how your child handled things. And when the kita needs something from you, or is planning a trip, you will be informed about this. This is what is called a 'doorway discussion' (Tür- und Angelgespräch).

3. Parent meetings

Normally, two parents' meetings are held over the course of a kindergarten year. This applies to all parents and all children. In these meetings, you will be told what your child has learned at the daycare centre, what is going particularly well and where there is room for more development. An interpreter can also come to these appointments so that can everyone understands each other well. Sometimes, there is also something important to discuss outside of these regular dates. You as a parent can also ask for a meeting if you are concerned about anything at the kita or if you want to let the carers know about something important related to your child. If this is the case, the day care-centre will arrange an appointment with you. An interpreter can also come to this appointment.

4. Parents' mail

In almost every kita, there is a postbox for each child. The kita leaves information for the parents in this postbox. These "letters to parents" contain a lot of information, for example, about joint celebrations or excursions that are planned or about new regulations in the day care centre that are important for parents, such as new drop-off times or rules for parking the pram, etc. It is important that you read this parent mail. If you can't read the parents' post, ask the kita to help you. The letter could be translated by an interpreter, or by other parents.

5. Parents' evenings

It is good if you take advantage of these meetings. The dates of the parents' evenings are posted on signs in the kita, written in the letters to parents, or you will be told about them in person.

6. Day-to-Day in the Kita

There is a specific daily routine at each kita. Most of the time it looks like this:

- The children are brought to the day care centre by their parents at a certain time in the morning. Each day care centre has drop-off and pick-up times that must be observed.
- In the course of the morning the children have the option
 - to have breakfast. Either the kita makes the breakfast, or the children bring something with them from home.
 - In their "free play time", the children can play together with each other, make and build things, or do gymnastics.
 - In the Morning Circle or Children's Circle groups, all the children get together to discuss important topics, sing songs or learn new games.
 - There are also targeted options and projects: The children can make or build things, get exercise, listen to stories or receive targeted support.
- At least once a day, the children can go into the garden and enjoy nature.
- At noon, everyone has lunch together:
Depending on the age, children can have a nap or have a quiet time to play.
- Then it's time to play again.
- The children receive drinks in the daycare centre. In addition, fruit and an afternoon snack are also often provided.
- Finally, the child is collected at the time that you have agreed with the daycare centre.

Minor refugees without parents

Refugees under the age of 18 who have entered Germany completely unaccompanied are called unaccompanied minors foreigners = umA. These young people are reported to the [Youth Welfare Office](#). The Youth Welfare Office talks to the young people and determines their age. The age determination decides whether the Youth Welfare Office takes care of the minor (under 18 years of age) and places him or her in special accommodation for youth ("Inobhutnahme"). If the Youth Welfare Office says that the person is "of age" (18 years and older), the person receives a rejection notice and is treated as an adult. The Youth Welfare Office brings an interpreter to the interview.

Important: If you are not yet 18 years old on your proof of arrival, but the Youth Welfare Office gives you a rejection notice, the Youth Welfare Office must enter a new date of birth on the decision. Only then can you have your documents changed at the [Foreigners' Office](#).

Some minors under the age of 18 enter without their parents but with relatives (e.g. uncle or aunt, cousins or older siblings). Your accommodation support will report this to the Youth Welfare Office after your arrival. The Youth Welfare Office talks to the minor and the adult relatives and checks whether the minors can stay there. In addition, the Youth Welfare Office decides whether to give the young person a guardian.

The adult relatives can also apply for guardianship themselves at the family court. The relative(s) with the guardianship take full responsibility for the minor(s) in place of the parents.

Offers for senior citizens in Memmingen

There are also numerous offers for older citizens of Memmingen.

You can find overviews here:

■ [Senior Citizens' Advisory Council of the City of Memmingen](#)

■ [Senior Citizens' Office of the City of Memmingen](#)

Everyday life and living

Living in Germany

Rule of law

Germany is a democratic constitutional state. The Basic Law guarantees human dignity, freedom and justice. There are laws to ensure that human rights are respected.

Political decisions are made by representatives of the people. The people's representatives are elected by the Germans in free elections.

The laws apply in the same way to everybody in Germany. The state has to abide by the law. Everyone living in Germany must also abide by German laws.

This means, for example:

- If someone believes that another person or the public administration has committed an injustice against them, they can take that person or institution to court. The courts are independent. This means: The government is not allowed to tell the courts what to decide.
- State courts decide whether or not someone will be punished for their actions. This punishment could take the form of a fine, community service or prison. There is no death penalty in Germany.
- The police has the role of ensuring that everyone is able to live in freedom and safety.
- Religion must not violate laws. Laws always take priority over religion.

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- Inciting people to hatred or to do violent actions.
- Fighting against the democratic system and its values.

These offences can lead to a prison sentence.

After serving their sentence, non-German nationals can lose their right to remain in Germany (under certain circumstances) and be deported.

Personal freedom

All adults are allowed to make their own decisions and determine their own lives. No matter whether man or woman, young or old, with or without disabilities, no matter what skin colour or religious affiliation.

All people are allowed to do what they want as long as they abide by the law and do not restrict others in their freedom.

This means, for example:

- All people get to decide what they want to wear.
- All people are allowed to eat what they want and what they like.
- The consumption of alcohol is allowed for adults. Children and adolescents are prohibited from drinking alcohol, unless over the age of 16 (wine and beer) or over the age of 18 (spirits).
- Every woman and man may decide for themselves whether and whom they wish to marry.
- Every woman and every man is allowed to get a divorce
- Unmarried couples may live together and have children
- Members of different religions and faiths may marry and have children.
- Contraception is allowed for both sexes. A person's decision to use contraception must be respected.
- Same-sex partnerships are accepted
- All (adults) decide for themselves how and where they want to live. For non-Germans, this right may be restricted until an asylum application is recognised
- Sexual acts between adults may only take place with mutual consent. Any sexual activity with children is forbidden.

Important:

One's own freedom ends where it infringes on the freedom or human dignity of others or violates laws.

Gender equality

Women and men have the same rights. This is reflected in the law and in daily life.

This means, for example:

- Girls and boys go to school together and receive the same lessons. They take part in sports lessons together
- Both women and men are allowed to study or learn a profession. All professions are generally open to women
- Women assume responsibility in society, e.g. as police officers, physicians, teachers or in offices and public authorities. Their instructions must be followed

- Women decide for themselves whether they go to work or not. They can dispose of the money they earn themselves
- Women do not need to ask their husband, parents or other family members for permission when they want to work, open an account or sign a contract.
- Women are allowed to dress as they like
- Women decide for themselves if, when and who they want to marry
- Mothers are given extra help and support. They do not have to (and are not permitted to) work for six weeks before the birth or eight weeks after the birth. They cannot be dismissed because of their motherhood.
- The tasks and roles in the family are not prescribed
- Women participate in public life. They attend cultural, political or sporting events, restaurants and bars
- Women can vote and be elected to political office
- Women and men are equal in inheritance law. Daughters as well as sons
- Sexual contact, comments or solicitations are only allowed if everyone involved consents. A "stop" or "no" must be absolutely respected.

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- Any form of violence against women, including in marriage
- No one is allowed to be sexually harassed.
- Rape, even within the marriage, will be punished.
- No one should be forced to marry. Coercion to marry by force or threat is punished

Freedom of opinion

All people are allowed to form their own opinions, to express and disseminate them freely. People are also allowed to express those opinions in public. All media are also free, and everyone can obtain information from them. Anyone who expresses their opinion openly must be aware of respecting the personal honour and dignity of other people.

This means, for example:

- Religion may be criticised
- Artistic works are allowed to be provocative. No one shall dictate to writers, musicians or visual artists how they should work
- The government and religions may also be the subject of satire and critical art.
- Anyone who feels slandered, insulted, defamed or violated in their personal honour or dignity can turn to the police or to a court.

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- The use of anti-constitutional symbols and calls for the overthrow of democracy
- Insulting expressions of opinion that disparage others
- Slander or defamation against other people
- To incite hatred and violence.

Children's rights

Children and young people have rights. These rights are enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This applies to all children and young people under the age of 18 in Germany. In addition, there are many other laws in Germany that specifically protect the lives, health and rights of children. Safeguarding children is always the main priority.

This means, for example:

- All children have the same rights. No matter where they live, where they come from, what skin colour they have, what their parents do, what language they speak, what religion they have, whether they are boys or girls, in what culture they live, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor
- Children have the right to a name, a birth certificate, a nationality and a family. The state generally helps when children are lacking something
- Children should be able to live with their parents, unless this places them at risk. Parents may and must care for their children, protect and promote their health and well-being.
- Children who have fled have the right to special protection and assistance.
- Children must be protected so that they can grow up well.
- Children can and must go to school. Education is compulsory. Parents must support their children in their schooling. School education in Germany is free
- Children are allowed to form their own opinion
- Children are allowed to decide on their own, no later than the age of 14, whether they belong to a religion and which religion they belong to
- Children should be able to develop well. Parents are responsible for this. If they need help, the state must help, for example by providing food, clothing and housing
- Children whose parents are not married have the same rights as children living with married parents

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- Children must not be neglected or abused
- Children must not be beaten or subjected to any physical or mental abuse in any way.
- Children are allowed to stay in school until the age of 13. The following table shows the number of workers who can be employed in the labour force. If they are older, they are only allowed to work in a very limited capacity. This must not adversely affect health and their development.
- Children may not be abducted or used as commercial objects.
- It is forbidden to perform sexual acts on children.

Nonviolence

Everyone has the right to a life without violence. This means that everyone has the right to life and physical integrity. This is understood to mean both the physical and mental health of a person. It also applies to people's private lives.

This means, for example:

- Conflicts should be solved without violence
- If you need help with danger or conflicts, you can call the police
- All police instructions must be followed
- Taking the law into your own hands (vigilante justice) is not allowed. If your own rights have been violated, a state court will decide
- The state must act in a non-violent manner. It is only permitted to use violence in exceptional cases when all other methods have failed. There's no death penalty, no corporal punishment, no torture

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- Abusing, injuring or killing another person. This also applies within the family, at school and on the street
- Participation in a brawl that results in people being killed or seriously physically injured
- Blood vengeance and murder in the name of honour
- Violence against women and children anywhere and in all cases
- Trafficking in human beings, slavery and the coercion to prostitution
- Sewing, cutting or mutilating the female genitals

Holidays and Opening Hours

In Germany, the normal business hours and public holidays in each federal state are regulated by law. Most major shops in Bavaria are open from Monday to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The smaller shops in Memmingen usually close earlier in the evening. Sunday is a day of rest on which all shops are closed. However, restaurants, cafés and some bakeries are open for a short period of time.

You can find a list of public holidays and school holidays in Bavaria [here](#).

Religious practice in Memmingen

Religious freedom

Religion and faith are a private matter in Germany. The state does not prescribe to anyone whether they should have religious beliefs or which god they should believe in. The state and religion are separate.

This means, for example:

- All people may freely practice their religion and beliefs and choose for themselves
- All people have the freedom to not follow a religion and to state that fact openly. Anyone who does not believe in God may also say this publicly
- Members of different religions and faiths may marry among themselves
- Marriage only counts as legally binding if it is entered into at the Register Office (Standesamt). Marriages entered into exclusively within the framework of a religion are not legally binding in Germany.

The following are not allowed in Germany:

- To place religious regulations or traditions above applicable laws. For example, to be married to several women at the same time. Or to slaughter an animal without special permission
- Boys may only be circumcised if this does not endanger their welfare

Many people in Germany now work to ensure that there is dialogue between religions. The aim is the peaceful co-existence of people who are religious, those who are devout and those who do not belong to any religion. The state is committed to ideological neutrality. Provided that practising a religion does not endanger democracy or the separation of state and religion, it will be protected.

Religion

Church, mosques and religious communities can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Smoking ban in public buildings, restaurants and at the workplace

Since 01.08.2010, smoking has been prohibited in public buildings and restaurants in Bavaria.

■ [Information on the smoking ban](#)

Smoking is not always allowed in workplaces either.

■ [Protection of non-smokers in the workplace](#)

Living

Looking for Somewhere to Live

Subsidised housing and housing benefit

If you and your household (this means family, partner or children – not roommates/housemates) earn a lower amount of money, you can apply for a subsidised flat or house. You need a Public Housing Certificate to be eligible for this. Under certain conditions, you are also entitled to housing benefit. If you receive money from the state for you and your family, you do not usually need to apply for housing benefit.

You can obtain an application for a housing entitlement certificate here:

City of Memmingen

Real Estate Office

■ [Schlossergasse 1, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-233](#)

■ [Contact housing entitlement](#)

■ [Application for residential entitlement](#)

Flat offers

You can find rental flats on the usual websites, e.g. at

■ [Immobilienscout24](#)

■ [My City Real Estate](#)

■ [ebay classifieds](#)

as well as in the local newspapers.

- **Real estate of the city of Memmingen**

The city of Memmingen rents out its own flats.

The application for a flat is available here:

Real Estate Office of the City of Memmingen

■ [Schlossergasse 1, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-232](#)

■ [Contact real estate office](#)

■ [Real Estate Office](#)

- **Landlord in Memmingen:**

■ [Memminger Wohnungsbau eG](#)

■ [Ulmerstraße 9, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/85670](#)

■ [Siebendächer Building Cooperative](#)

■ [Gerberplatz 7, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/95070](#)

- **WG- Zimmer (room in a shared flat)**

Are you looking for a room in a shared flat or house?

At ■ www.wg-gesucht.de there is a wide range of different rooms on offer.

- **Important Abbreviations**

1. OG = "Erstes Obergeschoss". English: first floor.

App. = "Appartement". English: flat, apartment

DB/D'bath = shower bath

EG = "Erdgeschoss". English: ground floor

EBK = "Einbauküche". English: fitted kitchen

HK = "Heizkosten". English: heating costs.

inkl. = "inklusive". English: including

Kaut. = deposit

MM = "Miete pro Monat". English: monthly rent.

NK = "Nebenkosten". English: service and utility costs

sof. frei = free immediately

teilmb. = "teilmöbliert". English: partially furnished.

WG = "Wohngemeinschaft". English: a flat or house or apartment shared by several people who are not all part of the same family

Whg. = "Wohnung". English: flat, apartment, home, house

Wohnfl. = "Wohnfläche" English: living area.

Zi. = "Zimmer". English: room

ZKB = "Zimmer-Küche-Bad". English: room and kitchen and bathroom

House Rules

House rules list specific rules about living together with others. These apply to all persons living in a shared accommodation or flat. The main contents are:

- **Noise:** Everyone living in the building is responsible for keeping noise levels as low as possible. You need to be particularly attentive to this between 13:00 and 15:00 and between 22:00 and 6:00 – these are the “quiet hours” (Ruhezeit). On Sundays and public holidays there is a rest period all day.
- **Waste disposal:** Waste must be disposed of in the designated bin. There are different bins for plastic, paper and cardboard, fruit and vegetables (organic waste) and other waste. Please adhere to waste separation as much of the waste is reused and it is an important part of protecting the environment.

[Information on the topic of disposal](#)

- **Wastewater disposal:** No food scraps or food should be disposed of in the toilet, as this is the food source for rats. The organic waste bin is available for the disposal of food scraps. The toilet is not a dustbin. Therefore, do not dispose of your hygiene products (sanitary towels, wet wipes) in the toilet, but in the waste bin.
- **Ventilation:** You should open the windows frequently to let in fresh air. This is how you prevent mould from developing, for example.

Telephone connection

Mobile phones

In Germany, there are two different types of mobile phone (“Handy”) contract: Prepaid contracts and fixed-term contracts. The prepaid contract does not have a fixed contract period. The fixed-term contract has a minimum contract period. This contract is automatically renewed and then often becomes more expensive. If you do not want the contract to be renewed automatically, you must cancel it in writing. Pay attention to the notice period, usually 3 months before the end of the contract (ATTENTION: the date of receipt by the telephone company applies).

Ask your circle of helpers for help in choosing and concluding a good contract.

10 important questions for concluding a contract:

- What is the basic fee? Does the fee increase after a certain period?
- Is there a minimum monthly fee?
- How long is the contract period (e.g. 12 or 24 months)?
- If I don't terminate the contract, will it be renewed automatically? When do I have to cancel if I do not want to extend the contract?
- How much are the fees for setting up, changing or deactivating?
- According to which time cycle (60/1, 10/10) is the calculation made?
- How much does a minute cost (different/own network)?
- How much does a mobile phone with a contract cost and how much does a mobile phone without a contract cost?

- How much does internet cost?
- How much do phone calls abroad cost?

Key words: Mobile phone, mobile phone contract, prepaid, contract term, minimum contract term, notice period

Moving into your own flat (for refugees)

As soon as you have a residence permit, you are generally obliged to move out of the shared or decentralised accommodation. You will need to find your own place to live. As long as you do not have a job and therefore do not earn any money, the [Job Centre](#) pays your rent. But it will only do this if you need help paying your rent.

Important: Once you have found an apartment, you should not sign the lease immediately. It is essential that the Job Centre checks and approves the tenancy agreement before it is concluded. The following points must be included in the rental contract:

- Cold rent: The rental costs for the living space per month, excluding service and utility costs such as heating
- Additional costs: this includes operating costs like stairwell cleaning, waste collection charges, caretaker costs, cable connection etc.
- Heating costs: Costs for heating and hot water (Attention: You always have to pay electricity and heating costs yourself!)
- Size of apartment, number of rooms, address, landlord

The warm rent is made up of the above-mentioned components. It is thus significantly higher than the cold rent.

Deposit, initial furnishings, transfer and reregistration

The deposit is security for the landlord. The amount for the damage deposit is a maximum of 3 base rents. If you move out of the flat, you get your money back.

Important: You must not leave any damage behind when you move out of the flat.

You are not allowed to take the furniture from your asylum accommodation. That's why you need new furniture. You can apply for initial equipment at [jobcenter](#). You will then receive a flat-rate amount from the Job Centre. This amount can vary according to the number of people and the size of the property. If the person who was previously living in the home leaves fixtures and fittings there, you can buy those things. In German, this is called "Ablöse".

Caution: It can take a few weeks before the money is paid out by the Job Centre!

Please remember to re-register, i.e. you must report your new address (in person) to the Residents' Registration Office.

Broadcast Licence Fee

Broadcasting fees

In Germany, there are independent radio, television and online offerings from ARD, ZDF and

Deutschlandradio. They report in a way that is free from economic and political influences. For this, all people pay money together. This is called “broadcasting fees”.

According to the law: In Germany, a broadcast licence fee must be paid for each flat. However, only one person per flat has to pay the broadcasting fee. This currently costs €18.36 per month and must be paid to the contribution service of ARD, ZDF and Deutschlandradio. You can find more information on the website of the broadcasting contribution:

■ [Broadcasting fee](#)

Also in several languages:

■ [Information on the broadcasting fee in various languages](#)

Do I have to pay as well?

Some people can be exempted from this payment. For example, if you receive benefits under the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act or other social benefits. An application must be submitted for the ■ [exemption from the broadcasting fee](#). The graphic shows what you need to do in the following ■ [flyer](#) (here also in ■ [English](#), ■ [French](#), ■ [Arabic](#), ■ [Tigrinya](#), ■ [Somali](#) and ■ [Farsi](#)).

Internet

Internet / Wi-Fi

As an asylum seeker in Germany, you unfortunately have no legal right to internet access (Wi-Fi) in your accommodation. Therefore, there is usually no WIFI (Wi-Fi) in the accommodation.

If there is a telephone connection in the accommodation, it is possible that you can sign up for a Wi-Fi contract. Ask your support network to advise you in choosing a good contract. Speak with the other people living in the accommodation about the cost. Consider whether a contract that you can terminate at any time is better than a contract that is valid for a long time (for example 2 years) .

Important: Before signing the contract, ask your accommodation service whether WLAN is technically possible at all and how you can provide access for the technician.

You can find free hotspots for Memmingen and the surrounding area at:

■ [Bavaria WLAN](#)

■ www.europakarte.org

If you move into your own flat, you can rent internet access from the telephone companies in Germany.

Drinking water in Memmingen

Memmingen has an excellent water supply and quality.

In principle, water from the tap can be drunk in the home without hesitation.


If this is not the case, your landlord must make you aware of this.

■ [The Memminger drinking water](#)

Public Transport


Public Transportation

Bus

There is a well-developed bus network within Memmingen. Timetables and information can be found  [here](#).

Important: Without a ticket, so-called fare evasion, will be punished! A valid ticket is required for every trip. Otherwise you will pay a fine of €60.

Railway

From the train station in Memmingen, it takes just under 60 minutes to get to Augsburg and 60 minutes to Munich. Timetable information and prices can be found  [here](#).

Within Memmingen, however, most places can be easily reached on foot or by bicycle.

Bicycle

If you know that you will be living in Memmingen for a longer period of time, it is worth buying a bicycle. It's cheaper than taking the bus.

Important traffic rules for cyclists (selection)

- Always drive on the right-hand side of the road
- Do not drive side by side, but behind each other
- If there is a cycle path, you should ride on the cycle path
(always only on the right-hand side of the road in the direction of travel)
- If you see the following traffic signs, you must use the cycle path:



- Only children up to the age of 11 are allowed to use the footpaths by bicycle

Purchase and repairs

When buying, make sure that your bicycle is equipped as follows and is therefore roadworthy. Otherwise you will have to pay a fine (penalty) if you are stopped by the police:

- Light front and rear
- Front and rear reflectors
- Reflectors in the spokes (2 per wheel)

- Reflectors on the pedals
- Bell
- Two independent brakes

Addresses of used bicycle shops and repair workshops

Bicycle shops Memmingen

■ List of local bicycle shops

Health

General information

In Germany, you have the right to basic medical care in cases of acute illness and pain. You are also entitled to any officially recommended vaccination and preventive examination. In addition, you will receive free medical services which are essential to the safeguarding of health.

Consult a doctor if

- you are acutely ill or in pain.
- You are pregnant.
- You are chronically ill, for example if you have diabetes, epilepsy or mental illness. If you have any other medicines or the medicine leaflet, bring them to the doctor's appointment. If you have already been to the doctor or hospital because of the illness, please bring the results or findings with you.

As soon as you have a residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel), you must register with a regular health insurance company. From the health insurer, you will get a health insurance card. With this card, you have the right to the same health services as all residents in Germany.

An overview of the German health system can be found here in 14 languages:

■ [Guide to the German Health Care System](#)

■ [Here you can search for doctors in Memmingen](#)

e.g. enter as search term:

Paediatrician

General practitioner

Gynaecologists

Orthopaedic surgeon

Psychotherapy

Special feature in the event of an occupational accident

An occupational accident resulting in incapacity for work of more than three calendar days must be reported by the company to the competent ■ [Berufsgenossenschaft](#) or Unfallkasse.

The company reports the accident. Many employers' liability insurance associations and accident insurance funds already offer the possibility to report accidents online on their websites.

The doctor writes a report specifically for this purpose and forwards it to the accident insurance institution.

After an accident at work, consult a doctor!

Transit doctors are particularly qualified to treat accident victims. Presentation to a transit doctor is required if

- the accident injury leads to incapacity for work beyond the day of the accident,
or
- the necessary medical treatment is expected to last more than one week,
or
- Remedies and aids are to be prescribed,
or
- it is a case of re-illness due to the consequences of an accident.

In the case of minor injuries, accident victims are referred by the transit doctor to the family doctor for further treatment. In these cases, the accident insurance physician monitors the treatment process, e.g. through follow-up appointments.

Accident victims with eye or ear, nose and throat injuries alone can also present themselves directly to an appropriate specialist or be referred there.


[Search for transit doctors](#)

All employees are insured with the Employer's Liability Insurance Association for accidents at work and on the way to and from work as well as for occupational diseases. It assumes the costs and provides for the affected employees within the framework of the legally prescribed benefits (medical care, curative treatment, rehabilitation). In the case of temporary **employment**, the temporary employment agency's employers' liability insurance association - usually the Verwaltungs-Berufsgenossenschaft - is responsible for the employees.

[Behaviour in the event of occupational accidents](#)

Southeast Regional Association

 [Fockensteinstraße 1, 81539 Munich](#)

 [+49 30 13001 5800](#)

 lv-suedost@dguv.de

 [German Social Accident Insurance](#)

Visiting a doctor

Family doctors and specialist doctors

If you are sick, you should see your general practitioner. You can choose your own doctor. The opening hours are decided by the general practitioners themselves. So you need to make an

appointment if you need to see a family doctor.

GPs carry out important examinations and are your first point of contact in case of illness. Sie entscheiden auch über notwendige Medikamente und ob eine fachärztliche Untersuchung notwendig ist.

If necessary, your family doctor will refer you to a specialist who can carry out special examinations.

Paediatricians

Children are usually examined by paediatricians. Regular check-ups and vaccinations with the paediatrician are important for the health of every child. The prescribed preventive medical examinations are called ■ ["U-Untersuchungen"](#) and are always at a specific time and free of charge. Please inform yourself and your child about the regulated, mandatory U examinations at a paediatrician.

Dentists

If you have a toothache, see a dentist.

Gynaecologists (gynaecologists)

It is important that women are regularly examined by a gynaecologist. This helps detect illnesses early enough to treat them. This is called screening. You can also discuss contraception there.

If you need help finding a suitable doctor, ask your circle of helpers or your accommodation support.

If you are an **asylum seeker** and need to see a doctor, you will receive a treatment voucher from the [Social Welfare Office](#). This means your visit to the doctor will be free of charge.

If an operation is necessary and it is **not** an emergency, the [social welfare office](#) must approve the hospital stay in advance. Your doctor will issue you with a certificate to this effect. Only medically necessary interventions can be covered.

If you need help finding a suitable doctor, ask your accommodation service.

Medical on-call service

Doctors are normally open from Monday to Friday. Opening hours vary depending on the doctor. If you need a doctor at night or at the weekend, but it is not an emergency, you can call here :

■ [Medical standby service](#)

■ +49 [116 117](#) (free of charge)

Medication

If you need medication, you can get a prescription from your doctor. You can get your medication with this prescription at any pharmacy. Even with a prescription, not all medicines are free. Therefore, check with your doctor. If you do not have a prescription, you will always have to pay for the medication.

Some medicines, such as antibiotics, require a prescription. Which means you cannot buy them without a prescription.

Pharmacies are usually open from Monday to Saturday. The opening times vary according to the chemist's shop (often: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.). If you need medication urgently at night or at the weekend, you will find a sign at every pharmacy with the name and address of the pharmacy that is open for emergency service. You can also find this information on the Internet.

Search for pharmacy emergency services

 www.aponet.de

Counselling centres and assistance services

The Health Department


The public health department is part of the public health service in Bavaria and is responsible for the city of Memmingen.

The health department offers various counselling services, including on the following topics:

- HIV and AIDS prevention, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases
- Pregnancy counselling, general counselling after the birth of the child, questions on contraception and family planning
- Mental crises and mental illnesses, disabilities
- Addiction risk and addiction disease, counselling for eating disorders
- Addiction prevention / Prevention of eating disorders

Health Department for the City of Memmingen

 [Buxacher Street 16](#)

 [+49 8331/850-940](#)

 [Health Department](#)

Addiction – alcohol, medicines, gambling and drugs

People who have problems with alcohol, gambling, media or drugs can get help from addiction counselling. Their family members can also turn to addiction counselling for support.

[Here](#) you will find all the contact points and counselling services in Memmingen.

Otherwise, contact the [health office in Memmingen](#).

HIV/AIDS counselling

The public health department offers free advice on the topics of HIV infection and AIDS

[Memmingen Health Office](#)

■ [Buxacher Straße 16, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-940](#)

■ [Memmingen Health Office](#)

further information:

■ [Federal Centre for Health Education](#)

Memmingen Hospital

The clinic and the emergency outpatient department should only be visited if immediate treatment is necessary for medical reasons and a doctor in private practice cannot be summoned or visited in a timely manner.

Memmingen Hospital

■ [Bismarckstraße 23, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/700](#)

■ [Memmingen Hospital](#)

Mental health

Help with mental health problems, such as depression, addiction, Anxiety disorder, Obsessive-compulsive disorder, Eating disorder and reactive disorders after stressful situations (trauma) offer in Memmingen:

■ [Memmingen Hospital](#)

■ [Social Psychiatric Service Memmingen](#)

■ ["SeeleFon" multilingual telephone counselling](#) (German, English, Arabic, French)

■ ["SoulFon"](#)

■ Monday to Thursday: 10 - 12 h and 14 - 20 h

Friday: 10 - 12 h and 14 - 18 h

Before and After Pregnancy

Pregnancy counselling

Sex education counselling for parents and children, adolescents, women and / or men:

- Counselling on contraception and family planning
- General counselling for pregnant women on questions before and after birth
- Counselling on questions about prenatal diagnostics and possible disability of the child
- Social and sex education counselling for couples
- Current events and lectures
- Mediation of individual social and economic assistance and in the case of

- Need for further specialised counselling
- Pregnancy conflict counselling according to § 219 StGB (German Penal Code) (anonymous at your request)
- Counselling and aftercare following an abortion
- Talks after a miscarriage or the death of a child

Contact person:

[Gesundheitsamt \(Health Department\)](#)

Mrs Stiegeler

■ [+49 8331/850-946](#)

■ barbara.stiegeler@memmingen.de

■ [Pregnancy counselling](#)

Disabilities and care

Municipal Disability Officer

Anna Birk

■ [Schwester Straße 15a, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-740](#)

■ [Mrs Birk](#)

■ [Social services and facilities](#)

Senior Citizens' Centre

Wolfgang Prokesch

■ [Marktplatz 16, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-448](#)

■ [Senior Citizens' Centre](#)

■ [Senior Citizens' Centre](#)

Psychological marriage, family and life counselling

Psychological counselling centres for marriage, family and life issues

Individual couple, individual or family discussions on the topics (u.a.):

- Tensions in partnership and family
- Problems in sexuality
- Quarrels in the social environment
- Conflicts at work
- Separation and divorce
- Stress load
- Self-esteem problems
- Experiences of loss
- Strokes of fate

- Life crises

Psychological counselling centres for marriage, family and life issues

■ [Augsburger Straße 14, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/9843420](#)

■ [Memmingen Counselling Centre](#)

KJF Child and Youth Welfare

In addition to the services offered by KJF Kinder- und Jugendhilfe, the KJF portfolio includes a wide range of educational, health and social services that complement each other when needed.

KJF Child and Youth Welfare

■ [Herrenstrasse 15, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/944140](#)

■ [KJF Memmingen](#)

Women in need (violence, abuse)

Counselling for women in distress:

- persecution
- impending forced marriage
- forced prostitution
- female circumcision
- Domestic violence
- Emergencies and problems particular to women

Women's shelter

A women's shelter is a social institution that offers women and their children help, counselling and temporary shelter in case of domestic violence.

The exact address of the [women's shelter](#) is only given to women. Men are NOT allowed there.

Contact:

■ [by mail](#)

■ [+49 8331/4644](#) (emergency number)

Key words: Sexualised violence, women in distress, domestic violence , prostitution, female circumcision, violence, women's shelter, beatings

Health promotion and advice

Counselling under the Health Services Act

- for addicts and those at risk for addiction help
- for mentally ill people
- for disabled people and their relatives
- for communicable diseases
- for chronic diseases

The counselling is an initial orientation that can, on the one hand, fathom the illness-related requirements and impairments and attempts to provide assistance. However, it also wants to include the client's existing abilities and experience, so that the further support system is particularly oriented towards what a patient can do himself or really needs help with.

An outpatient or, if necessary, an inpatient path to recovery is worked out individually with each client according to his or her requirements.

The social services and aid organisations in Memmingen are approached and commissioned to provide assistance at your request.

When looking for a specialist or a suitable therapy facility, we can support you accordingly and arrange a first appointment.

The counselling is of course confidential and **free of charge**.

[Memmingen Health Office](#)

■ [Buxacher Street 16](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-940](#)

■ [Health Department](#)

Culture, leisure and clubs

Meeting places

Multi-generation house

It offers relieving services for families to make living together with children and the elderly easier. This creates concrete opportunities to combine family and work. One goal is also to network existing social institutions, associations and services in our city.

Multi-generation house Memmingen

■ [Zangmeisterstraße 30, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [Multi-generation house](#)

■ [+49 8331 984210](#)

■ [info@mgh-mm.de](#)

Culture

- **Calendar of events of the city of Memmingen**

[Here](#) you will find information about events in Memmingen and the region.

Theatres

State Theatre Swabia

■ [Theaterplatz 2, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [State Theatre Swabia](#)

Parterret Theatre in the Künerhaus

■ [Künnergasse 8, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [Parterret Theatre in the Künerhaus](#)

Museums

Memmingen City Museum

■ [Zangmeisterstraße 8, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-134](#)

■ [Memmingen City Museum](#)

Libraries

Memmingen City Library

■ [Martin Luther Platz 1](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-156](#)

■ [Memmingen City Library](#)

Cinema

Cineplex

■ [Frauenhoferstrasse 21, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [Cineplex Memmingen](#)

The [Cultural Office](#) is also available as a contact partner.

Contact cultural office

Cultural Office City of Memmingen

■ [Ulmer Straße 19](#)

■ [+49 8331/850-131](#)

Become active as a volunteer

In Germany many people work on a voluntary basis. That is, they work voluntarily in their spare time because they enjoy it. These people do not get any money for it.

For almost all voluntary activities, you must speak good German. For some activities speaking German is not so important.

There are many ways to work voluntarily. You can, for example:

- help the elderly
- help with childcare
- work as a sports trainer in a sports club
- support people with disabilities
- work as a paramedic
- help refugees
- help at the shelter
and many other things

If you would like to volunteer, but don't quite know where and how, then you have come to the right place:

Voluntary agency "Schaffenslust"

■ [Weinmarkt 14, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331/9613395](#)

■ info@fwa-schaffenslust.de

■ [Voluntary agency "Schaffenslust"](#)

Leisure pools and urban leisure facilities

Memmingen open-air swimming pool

■ [Stadtbadallee 1, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 176 70387409](#)

■ [Facebook](#)

Memmingen indoor swimming pool

■ [Dr.-Berndl-Platz 3, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331 64304](#)

Memmingen ice rink

■ [Hühnerbergstraße 19, 87700 Memmingen](#)

■ [+49 8331 62430](#)

■ [Ice rink](#)

Tourism

■ [Tourism in Memmingen](#)

Children, adolescents and young adults

Youth in Memmingen

[Here](#) you will find information about the city's services, leisure activities, contact persons for children, youths and young adults.

Main topics

[Have your say](#)

[Events](#)

[Youth centres](#)

[Honorary office & Associations](#)

[Help and advice](#)

[Other city offers](#)

Clubs in Memmingen

Clubs have a special social importance for many people in Germany; they offer people the chance to get together and turn goals into reality. These goals can be of different kinds, leisure activities, commitment to the needy and disadvantaged, protection of nature or contact with like-minded people.

Many Memmingen residents are members of an association. There are numerous associations here. People who have immigrated from a wide range of countries have also founded their own associations. This enables them to make contacts with people originally from the same country; but it also allows them to help with integration and social projects in their new homes.

■ [List of associations](#)

Information for EU and EEA citizens

Information for EU and EEA citizens

Extensive information on living and working in Germany can be found here in several languages:

■ [Make it in Germany](#)

■ [EURES European Job Mobility Portal](#)

"Knowledge is protection!" is a guide for people from other EU member states who want to live and work in Germany temporarily or permanently. It contains information that helps to find legal work under fair conditions in Germany and not to get into exploitative situations.

With special information for EU countries:

Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Spain

■ [Working fairly in Germany - Knowledge is protection](#)

(Note: The aforementioned ■ [minimum wage](#) is now higher)

Reunification of family members of EU citizens

You are an EU citizen, live and work in Germany and would like to bring your spouse to Germany? As an EU citizen with a right to free movement, your spouse and children can also live and work in Germany. Whether their family members need a special residence permit depends on their nationality.

Further information is available here:

■ [Spousal reunification with EU citizens](#)

Entry into Germany

EU and EEA citizens

EU and EEC citizens and their family members are permitted to travel freely. This means that they are entitled to move around and reside freely in the member states of the European Union. The Act on the General Freedom of Movement of EU Citizens (FreizügG / EU) allows entry and residence in Germany without a visa or residence permit.

The freedom of movement provisions apply for citizens of the following countries:

Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Great Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Croatia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, The Czech Republic, Hungary and Cyprus.

Who is entitled to freedom of movement?

- Union citizens wishing to reside as workers, for the purpose of seeking employment or vocational training
- Union citizens if they are entitled to exercise a self-employed activity (established self-employed workers)
- Union citizens who - without establishing themselves - wish to provide services as self-employed workers (service providers), if they are entitled to provide the service
- Union citizens as recipients of services, non-employed Union citizens who have sufficient health insurance cover and means of subsistence
- Family members, if they accompany or join the Union citizen and they have sufficient health insurance cover and sufficient means of subsistence
- European Union citizens and their family members who have obtained a permanent right of residence. A five year period of residence is required for this. A permanent residence certificate can be applied for at the [Foreigners' Registration Office](#). You and your family members are obliged to have a valid passport or passport substitute for the duration of your stay in the Federal territory. The taking up of residence in the federal territory as well as any change of residence must be reported to the [Citizen Service Centre](#) within 2 weeks. You do not need a separate work permit. If the conditions for freedom of movement are no longer met, this can be withdrawn and expulsion can take place!

🌐 [Further information on the subject of entry](#)

■ [Labour migration](#)

■ [EU equality body](#)

Driving licence

Your national driving licence continues to be valid for six months after arriving in Germany. An international driving licence alone is not enough.

A driving licence in categories **C1, C1E, C, CE, D, DE, D1 and D1E** is only valid in the Federal Republic of Germany until the expiry of five years after it was issued, even if it was issued for a longer period in the home country. If, as a result, your driving licence was no longer valid from the moment you relocated your permanent residence, you may continue to drive in the country for six months.

Participation in road traffic with a driving licence whose Licence has expired under the law of the issuing state or under the German law is punishable as driving without a licence.

🌐 [Further information on the subject of driving licences in the city of Memmingen](#)