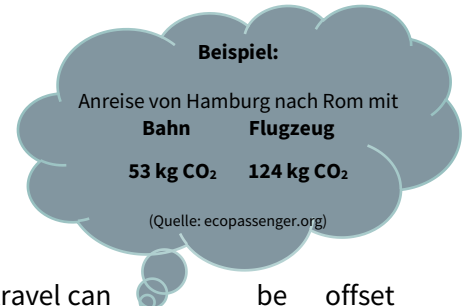


Reimbursement of carbon offset payments (exclusive to air travel)

Air travel releases emissions that are harmful to the environment. Not only the **distance**, but also the **means of transport** plays a crucial role. While travelling by bus and train produces low CO₂ emissions, air travel leads to significantly higher CO₂ emissions.



By purchasing so-called CO₂ certificates, the emissions caused by air travel can be offset (compensated”) in climate protection projects.

The DAAD is offering scholarship holders under selected funding programmes the option of receiving a **reimbursement of the carbon offset payments they have paid individually** once for the outward and once for the return journey to the scholarship destination:

Incoming programmes	Outgoing programmes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Scholarships – Master Studies for All Academic Disciplines Study Scholarships – Postgraduate Studies in the Field of Architecture Study Scholarships – Postgraduate Studies in the Fields of Fine Art, Design, Visual Communication and Film Study Scholarships – Postgraduate Studies in the Field of Music Study Scholarships – Postgraduate Studies in the Field of the Performing Arts Research Grants in Germany (from 2025) Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists ERA Fellowships – Green Hydrogen (not available for the funding category ‘Congress funding’) Study Scholarships for STEM Disciplines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERA Fellowships – Green Hydrogen (not available for the funding category ‘Congress funding’)

What does "offsetting" mean?

Offsetting refers to payments to third-party providers to finance greenhouse gas-reducing investments (e.g. construction of wind turbines). In this way, unavoidable emissions can at least be

offset. The basic assumption is that it is not decisive for the climate where in the world greenhouse gases are emitted or avoided.

It is possible to offset flight emissions **directly via an airline**. It is not always clear which projects are being subsidised. **It is therefore better to calculate the CO₂ emissions of your own journey using a CO₂ calculator and offset them yourself with a third-party provider.**

The **quality of the offers** is important: There are criteria for assessing the quality of offsetting providers and offers. The greenhouse gas emissions should be calculated realistically, and the climate protection projects should be of high quality.

Most providers finance climate protection investments, especially in developing countries (e.g. atmosfair or myClimate). The "[Gold Standard](#)" for example is an important guideline for them.

Further information (in German):

umweltbundesamt.de/umwelttipps-fuer-den-alltag/garten-freizeit/urlaubsreisen#gewusst-wie

Avoiding or reducing is better than offsetting! For climate protection reasons, the use of environmentally friendly means of transport is always preferable to a CO₂ offset payment!

The DAAD therefore pays a **Green Mobility Top Up** in certain programmes for travel using climate-friendly means of transport.