

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Destination Germany

POCKET GUIDE

Your compass to studying
in Germany



[daad.de/
deutschland](https://daad.de/deutschland)

Studying

You want to study in Germany? Congratulations!

Germany is the perfect place to study. Why? For one thing, because of the **excellent reputation** of the country's universities and the **high quality** of the degree courses on offer. You will no doubt also be glad to hear that Germany's degree qualifications are **internationally recognised**. And most public universities **do not charge tuition fees**.



How to study

As Germany is one of the signatories to the Bologna Declaration, it operates a three-stage higher education system consisting of **bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes**. You will also find many **degree courses taught in English**.

Where to study

Many different options are available, depending on what and how you want to study. Germany has more than **420 higher education institutions** with various profiles – some offer a broad range of courses or the chance to pursue a PhD, others focus on specific subject areas, while some are more application- or research-oriented and may be run by the state, the private sector or the church.



▶ [Link to video featuring Jonas Sidabras](#)

And there is yet more to discover ...

Read “[Destination Germany – Your compass to studying in Germany](#)” to learn what distinguishes conventional **universities** from **universities of applied sciences**, where you can find which universities, and everything else you need to know about studying in Germany.

Funding

You want to study in Germany? Let's talk about money.

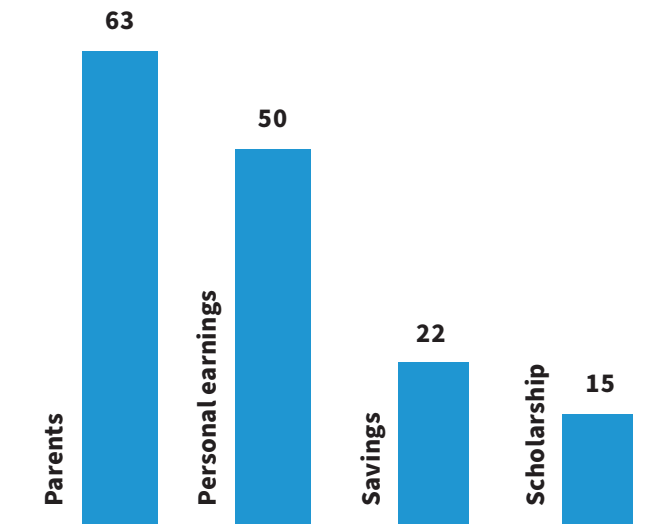
How expensive is it to study in Germany and how can you fund your studies? As you will normally **not need to pay any tuition fees**, the lion's share of your budget will go on living expenses, and especially on **rent**. Unfortunately, as in many other countries, the cost of living has risen sharply in recent times. The fact that you are currently



required to prove that you have **around 11,200 euros in funding** if you are not from the EU gives you an initial idea of the sort of amount you will need. You should add inflation to this (which was running at 10 percent in November 2022) and check how high rents are at present in the town where your university of choice is situated.

HOW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FUND THEMSELVES

Sources of funding %



2016; single, international degree-seeking students;
selected answers; multiple responses possible;
Source: DSW/DZHW 21st Social Survey

How do international students fund themselves?

Most international students are supported by their **parents**, yet in many cases that is not enough. Half of all international students have a **part-time job** to earn at least a little extra money to cover the cost of living in Germany. **Scholarships** likewise play an important role.

And there is yet more to discover ...

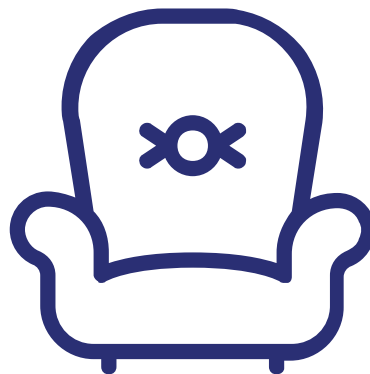
Read “[Destination Germany – Your compass to studying in Germany](#)” to learn about the rules that apply to (international) students who are **looking for a job**, and how you might obtain a **scholarship**.

A place to live

**You want to study in Germany?
You have a choice of accommodation
types.**

Renting a place to live has also become pretty expensive in Germany. Which makes it all the more important for you to get the information you need and sort out your accommodation in good time. There are a number of places where you can live fairly inexpensively.

Like in a **student hall of residence**, for example. This is a popular option, especially with international students, as halls are normally publicly funded and thus



cheaper than renting accommodation on the open market. Contact your student service organisation (Studierendenwerk) about a free room in halls.

Living in a **shared flat**, known in German as a Wohngemeinschaft (WG), is also a more affordable option. Moreover, in a shared flat you will not be alone and can quickly make new friends. If you want to

3ZKDB

Three rooms,
kitchen, hall,
bathroom

2-ZI.-WHG

Two-room flat

NR

Non-smoking

NK

Ancillary costs (hea-
ting, water and opera-
ting costs)

(N)KM

(Net) rent excl.
heating costs

KT

Deposit

WBS

Wohnberechtigungsschein
(entitlement to rent sub-
sidised housing)



live alone or find a **small flat** together with your partner, how much rent you will pay will depend on where your university is situated.

Rents in Germany's eastern states are significantly lower than in western Germany, and higher in big cities than in small towns. A glance at rental ads will reveal what a flat costs where.

And there is yet more to discover ...

Read "[Destination Germany – Your compass to studying in Germany](#)" to learn more about **looking for accommodation** and how to find your own place to live.

Tips

You want to study in Germany? Here's where to find support.

Not everything goes smoothly all the time when you are studying at university, and sometimes it's obvious from the outset that there will be challenges. Some people may have health problems, while others might have children who need to be looked after. Or problems arise that you hadn't anticipated. None of this should put you off studying in Germany, as it's easy to find support here.



For **students with a disability or chronic illness**, help is available such as the compensation for disadvantages in exams or the chance to submit a special application when applying for a place at university. Of course, life can still often prove difficult in practice. But you will find people at your new university or student service organisation who are ready to advise and support you.

There is good news if you are planning to bring small children with you: most student service organisations offer **childcare** for students at or near to their higher education institution. And opening hours are tailored to your study times. You may even be able to obtain financial support if you are eligible for **child or parental benefit**.



▶ [Link to video featuring
Giulia Pra Florian](#)

And there is yet more to discover ...

Even more tips and the most **important points of contact** when it comes to obtaining support can be found in “[Destination Germany – Your compass to studying in Germany](#)”.

Let's go!

You want to study in Germany? Welcome!

To ensure that you have all the key information at your fingertips and know what your options are, we have put together a digital brochure for you: “Destination Germany – Your compass to studying in Germany” is intended to support you in your decision to study in Germany and make sure you get off to a good start. Learn more about the following topics:

 **More information can be found here:**

www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/
www.study-in-germany.de | www.myguide.de



Studying



Preparations



A place to live



Everyday life



Funding



Recreation



Useful facts

and get all the top **Tips**.



**Enjoy browsing
the brochure and
see you soon!**



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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e. V.
German Academic Exchange Service
Kennedyallee 50, D – 53175 Bonn
Tel.: +49 228 882-0, Fax: +49 228 882-444
webmaster@daad.de
www.daad.de

Authorised representative of the Executive Board:

President Prof. Dr Joybrato Mukherjee
Registry court Bonn, registry no. VR 2107; VAT ID no.:
DE122276332
Umsatzsteuer-IdNr.: DE122276332
Responsible for matters pertaining to § 18 Abs. 2 MStV:
Dr Kai Sicks, Kennedyallee 50, D – 53175 Bonn

Department K23 - Information on Studying in Germany

Project coordination

Kerstin Nolden, Nadia Büttner, Svenja Wesemann, DAAD

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Fazit Communication GmbH, Frankfurt am Main
Janet Schayan, Dr Sabine Giehle (text)
Chris Cave (translation)
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