



Study Abroad in Germany



Higher Education in Germany

With over 380 officially recognised universities in 175 towns and cities, Germany has 3 distinct types of universities:

1. Research universities, known as Universitäts, for research-oriented study
2. Universities of Applied Sciences for practical/vocational/professional courses
3. Colleges of Art, Film and Music for artistic and creative courses

Most universities and colleges in Germany are publicly funded; some are financed by the Protestant or Catholic Churches. University education in Germany is not centrally coordinated; each of the 16 federal states has its own higher education laws and guidelines.

Entry Requirements & Application Process

The application process varies depending on a few factors. If you have a European qualification, such as a Baccalaureate or A-levels, then you will only need to prove you can speak German (unless you're enrolling on a course taught in English) and you can then apply directly for a university-level course.

Students with qualifications from outside Europe may have to sit the Feststellungsprüfung entrance examination after attending a preparatory Studienkolleg. High-achieving students may be able to bypass this. For most subjects, you can apply directly to the international office of the university. Alternatively, you can use uniassist, a centralized admissions portal for international students; do check the university you are interested in is covered by uniassist.

For some subjects, there is a nationwide cap on the number of students who can enroll. For these subjects (mostly life sciences), students from the EU (plus Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein) need to apply through the Foundation of Higher Education Admission. Students from outside of the EU should apply as normal. Do check the mathematics requirement for the programme of interest. For students applying with A Levels many degrees programmes require A Level or AS Mathematics.

Highest World Rankings

- Technische Universität München (50)
- Ruprecht-Karls- Universität (63)
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (64)

<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2022>

Fees

Tuition costs are free (apart from in the state of Baden-Württemberg) however, students are required to pay a nominal fee per semester. This fee covers administration, student support and other costs, and is usually no more than €250. In Baden-Württemberg fees are currently about €3000 per annum. Private universities can charge €20,000 per annum.

Visa

Students from outside the EU may need to apply for a visa; there are different requirements depending on what country you come from, check with the German Embassy.

Citizens of EU and EEA member states (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) do not require a visa, however, there are some conditions you must satisfy.

Working

It is quite normal to work part-time while studying and European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) nationals have the same status on the job market as Germans.

Other students will need to investigate their working status with the Embassy

Further Information

A comprehensive guide <https://www.daad.de/en/>

Degree courses taught in English <https://www.daad.de/deutschland/studienangebote/studiengang/en/?a=result&q=°ree=24&courselanguage=2&locations=&admissionsemester=&sort=name&page=4>

Online applications system for international students <https://www.uni-assist.de/en/>

QS Study guide for Germany <https://www.topuniversities.com/where-to-study/europe/germany/guide>

Study in Germany <https://www.study-in-germany.de/en/>