



Entry and Residence Regulations

1. Health Insurance

If you wish to study in Germany you need health insurance. Without it, you cannot be enrolled. You are obliged to insure yourself until you are 30 years old, or until your 14th study term. Worst case, if you do not have insurance you could be barred from studying.

Choosing health insurance

In Germany there are two kinds of health insurance, compulsory/public and private. Basically, up until you are 30 years old or until your 14th term of study you must have compulsory health insurance. Private health insurance is only allowed in exceptional cases. Please note: once you take a private health insurance you cannot revert back to public health insurance!

In most cases the public health insurance is the more reasonably priced version anyway – unless you are covered by your parents' private health insurance.

Recognition of foreign health insurance

With some countries, such as members of the European Union and the European Economic Area, Germany has a social security agreement. As long as you have public health insurance at home you can get this insurance coverage approved by a public health insurance company in Germany. But make sure you clarify at home which documents you will need to take with you! For students this is usually a European health insurance card (EHIC). Your insurance company will usually issue the EHIC free of charge.

It is possible that your insurance will not cover all costs in Germany. Before you enter the country make sure you know exactly what services you are entitled to in Germany. If you do not have health insurance at home, you still have to insure yourself in Germany – just like all other students.

Private health insurers from other countries are sometimes also recognized in Germany. Your local insurer will be able to provide more information. In this case, you will need a confirmation certificate in German and English to enroll in the university. Anyone commencing their studies in Germany with private insurance is then not allowed to switch to a statutory health insurer for the entire duration of their program.

Here you can find more information about health insurance for international students:

> <https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/health-insurance/>

2. Bank Account

We recommend that all students open a bank account in Germany, simply because if you have a non-German bank account it can be problematic, or carry fees and charges for every transaction and cash withdrawal.

Furthermore, if you want to work alongside your studies then employers will require that you have a German bank account.

Most German banks have student accounts in which you do not need to pay a fee to open and can easily close once your studies are over, it is just important that you do not forget to close it before you leave.

> <https://www.studying-in-germany.org/how-to-open-a-german-bank-account/>

3. City Registration

International students, like all German students, must register their place of residence at the "Bürgerbüro" within 14 days after moving in. You will be required to present a "Wohnungsgeberbestätigung" signed by your landlord and a form called "Anmeldung bei der Meldebehörde", both can be found online.

> https://www.karlsruhe.de/int/i4/buergerbueros_int.en

> <https://web1.karlsruhe.de/service/Buergerdienste/leistung.php?id=6002495>

In order to register the place of residence you can make an appointment online or via phone with the citizens' center "Bürgerbüro". Make sure to do that about four weeks in advance, as appointments book out fast. When going to your appointment, make sure to bring the two forms mentioned above, your passport, a copy of your rental agreement and the certificate of enrolment from the university.

Contact:

Service center for the city and county of Karlsruhe

Phone: +49 721 133-0

E-Mail: buergerdienste@oa.karlsruhe.de

> <https://www.karlsruhe.de/b4/buergerdienste/tel-bd.de>

After the registration you will receive a student welcome package that includes many things like shopping vouchers and a voucher for a student ticket for local trains and busses.

4. Visa

In order to study in Germany, most non-EU-students need to apply for a student visa at the German Embassy or Consulate in their home country. Please note: visa requirements differ from country to country. Details about the process and the documents required can be found

on the internet pages of the respective German Embassy or directly at the German Embassy in your home country.

Start your visa process as soon as possible

Please submit the requested documents once you arrive in Germany. We can only make your certificate of enrollment available after having received them. You will receive your student card in the introductory week before classes begin. If the photo that you submitted to us with your application should not be used for your student ID card, please send us another one with your study contract.

> <https://visa.diplo.de/en/>

> <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/visabestimmungen-node>

We are happy to support you personally

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