

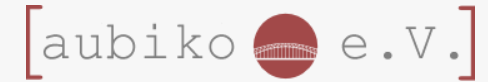
# Study in Germany





#02574491

## Why Germany?



**Excellence:** About 500 German universities offer excellent opportunities for studying and research.

**No/ Low Fees:** Unlike many other countries, no tuition fees are charged for undergraduate degrees at most of the public universities in Germany.

**Career:** Studying at a German university could be your first step towards a career in Germany. German companies are looking for university graduates in a variety of sectors – especially in the fields of engineering, medicine, sciences and information technology. A German degree is highly recognized all over the world.

**Quality of Life:** Germany is famous for its prosperity. If you study here, you will not only find Europe's most dynamic economy. Germany is also a very safe country, with a high standard of living, a rich cultural history and beautiful cities and countryside.

Germany has **public** and **private** universities. They are usually divided into universities, universities of applied sciences and colleges of art, film and music. **About 95 percent of the universities are financed by the government and are therefore state-funded.** Only 5 percent of the institutions of higher education are private universities.

After the US and Great Britain Germany is the most popular location for studying abroad. Every tenth student is an international. In total we have more than 300.000 internationals.

## Which University is the right one?

Anyone looking to study in Germany is spoiled for choice. There are many different types of universities, all of which provide outstanding quality.

**There is no answer you can find via internet- it depends on your profile, your talents and your intention. Which university is the right one for you, we will help you to find out - during your Foundation Year or Language Course.**

First of all you need to ask yourself, if you need a Foundation Year:

If you are **fluent in German** AND have the **entrance qualification** you can apply directly at a German University. Those students don't need a Foundation Year. Fluent in German means for example that you passed the TestDaF in Taiwan. The entrance qualification (called HZB=Hochschulzugangsberechtigung) you have if:



You have  
a Bachelor  
in Taiwan.



You have  
studied 2  
semesters in  
Taiwan.



You have a  
Senior High School Degree in Taiwan  
and you passed „Xueke Negli Ceyan“  
with min. 53 points.

Only very few students have the HZB (entrance qualification) AND are fluent in German. That's why almost everybody needs to pass the Foundation Year first. There are two ways for a Foundation Year:

1. a prep school connected to a university. Those schools prepare you for a qualification test for this university (sometimes they cooperate with 2-5 other small universities).
2. **A foundation year which gives you a entrance qualification for ALL universities.**

# Foundation Year and Feststellungsprüfung (FSP)

## What do I learn in the Foundation Year?

During the Foundation Year you get prepared for passing the **FSP**. FSP means Feststellungsprüfung. This test is your entrance qualification for all German universities and necessary for most non-European students. As better you pass the FSP as more universities you can choose from.

## Can I compare the Foundation Year with a Language Course?

The Foundation Year is more than a language course. You will have courses in maths, informatics or business. The course prepares you for passing the test as best as possible. If you ever had a summer course in Germany or a language course at the Goethe Institute, you will see that this is different. It's not so much about communication, but more about preparing you for the test.

## What is PSP?

In Germany there are several schools who prepare for the FSP. The biggest program is called PSP. The PSP is offered by the Fachhochschule des Mittelstands (FHM) – University of Applied Science and designed for qualified international students. Depending on your study course you will be placed in Schwerin, Bielefeld, Hannover, Berlin, Bamberg or Cologne/Puhlheim. They all prepare you best for passing the FSP, which gives you entrance to all universities.

## Do I have to pay for the PSP?

Most universities in Germany are free, also for internationals. The PSP/Foundation Year is not free. It's non-profit, but not fully financed by German tax. Students pay a semester fee per month and they need to pay for their accommodation. The fees need to be paid in advance for a year before the program starts so you can get all visa documents for this time.



## What is FSP?

All Germans who want to study need to have the German High School Diploma called „Abitur“. Most non-European High School diplomas are not accepted for entering a German University. In those cases a Foundation Year (Studienkolleg) is necessary. The test of the Foundation Year is called FSP=Feststellungsprüfung. The FSP is comparable to the Abitur.

## Do I get a German FSP or a FSP from a federal state in Germany?

Germany has 16 federal states. They are all quite independent and have their own parliament. Most things they can decide alone. **Also education is regulated by the federal states.** German students who get their Abitur get it from the federal state the school is located in. If they for example go to a school in Munich they get the Abitur of Bavaria. If they go to a school in Hamburg, they get an Abitur from Hamburg. Still this Abitur is accepted by all German Universities. The FSP is similar to the German Abitur. If you pass the FSP you will get the Abitur of Nordrhein Westfalen/Cologne, but it's accepted by all German Universities.

## Which courses will I have?

If you choose **T-course for Technical Studies** you will have German, Mathematics, Physics & Chemistry. If you have **W-course for Business Studies** you will have courses in German, Mathematics, Economics, Business Studies & English. If you choose **M-course for Medical Studies** you will have courses in German, Physics, Biology & Chemistry.

Study plan - Overview																									
subjects		1st trimester				2nd trimester				theme weeks									3rd trimester						
		module code	units T	units W	units M	module code	units T	units W	units M	1st week			2nd week			3rd week			module code	units T	units W	units M			
major	German	1.1	20	20	20	2.1	14	14	14	30	30	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.1	14	14	14			
minor	Mathematics (T)	1.2	6	-	-	2.2	8	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	3.2	8	-	-			
minor	Mathematics (W)	1.3	-	6	-	2.3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	3.3	-	6	-			
minor	English	1.4	-	2	-	2.4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.4	-	6	-			
minor	Physics (T)	1.5	4	-	-	2.5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	3.5	8	-	-			
minor	Physics (M)	1.6	-	-	4	2.6	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	3.6	-	-	6			
minor	Chemistry	1.7	2	-	4	2.7	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	10	3.7	4	-	6			
minor	Economics	1.8	-	2	-	2.8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	3.8	-	4	-			
minor	Business Studies	1.9	-	2	-	2.9	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	3.9	-	4	-			
minor	Biology	1.10	-	-	4	2.10	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	3.10	-	-	8			
units per week			32	32	32		34	34	34	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30		34	34	34			
weeks per trimester			12	12	12		12	12	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		12	12	12			
units per trimester			384	384	384		408	408	408	←-----										408	408	408			
including theme weeks			336	336	336		522	522	522	←-----										456	456	456			
units total																							1200		
including theme weeks																							1314		

## Did you live in Germany before? Have you been a German high school exchange student?

If so, this is just great and the best preparation for studying in Germany!

BUT: Not all of your class mates had this very special chance. Most students learned German in their home country and haven't been to Germany before. They learned grammar and are good in writing. That's why the first weeks are a lot about language and how to „survive“ in Germany. How to go to a doctor? How to go shopping? How to make friends? How to do small talk? For students who lived in Germany before, the first weeks can be a repetition. For all others this is very important and new.

Please have in mind that:

1. It will be difficult **also for you** after the first weeks! Also former high school students need to study hard for the FSP. In the first weeks please focus on your grammar and writing! Most high school students are not as good in writing than in having a conversation. It's not enough to be able to speak! If necessary ask you teacher for extra work.
2. Be patient and show that you are a good team player. After the first weeks it's probably you who needs help! Help the others now! Share your knowledge!

Everything what you learned as an high school exchange students will be a BIG profit for your while being a university student!

## Were do I live during the PSP?

We arrange accommodation for all PSP students. All apartments are fully furnished with beds, wardrobes, desks, chairs and WiFi. Each apartment comprises a communal bathroom and a shared kitchen. Laundry facilities are also available. Normally our students live in shared apartments. If you wish we will arrange a single room for you.



## What do I do in the afternoon? How do I meet Germans?

Lessons take place from morning to afternoon. Late afternoons and evenings are dedicated to sporting activities such as table tennis, badminton, basketball or soccer. We highly recommend to join a “Verein” or Club. Since the PSP is only for Internationals, this is the way to practice your German and make German friends.



**Which dates do you need to know?**

**Deadline for PSP application:** 15th June

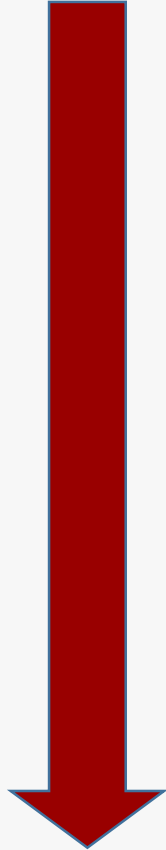
**Arrival in Germany:** 1st October

**Start of semester:** 15th October.

**Date for FSP Feststellungsprüfung:** The dates are given by the German State and are different each year. Mostly they are between 1st June-31th August.

**Deadline for Application at German Universities:** Mostly the deadline is the 15th July. If your FSP is later, you can mostly hand in your FSP certificate later. Please ask for a pre-certification in time! Such a pre-certification you can already get in May.

# PSP and Process



Until June 15th: complete your PSP application form

6 weeks later: get your PSP admission

Apply for your visa

July –September: Learn as much German as you can, we will help you to find a suitable German course for the summer.

October 15<sup>th</sup>: PSP (3 trimester)

April: application training and individual support for getting your seat at German university

July 15<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for sending your application to German Universities

July/August: Take the entrance exam (Feststellungsprüfung)

July-September: Don't fly home. Stay in Germany and prepare everything for your university start. You need to be in Germany. Most university expect that they meet you several times before the semester starts. Also for finding a flat you need to be in Germany.

October: semester start at German universities

## Can I start the PSP with a low level of German?

Normally prior knowledge of German is a requirement for joining the Foundation Year Studienkolleg (B2). The PSP is the only Foundation Year who accepts students with a very low level and even A1. The classes are small and the courses very intense. Still it's very important that you start learning German before PSP starts.

## Visa and German:

Normally you don't get a visa before don't showing a level of B1. The PSP is an exception and a big chance for everyone who just started learning German.

## How to apply for PSP?

For the PSP you need to take an PSP entrance examination (oral and written) and to fill out the application form.

The test can only be held by a German certified examiner. Please ask your organisation when the next test will take place. The test will be hold in your home country. The examination fee of 30 Euros will be paid back after you took the seat at PSP.

How does the test look like:

1. Written test for T-, W- or M-courses
2. Interview in English about your motivation
3. German: Students with German knowledge will be tested in German and be told which language level they have got.

After the test you get your individual study plan for preparing you best for your PSP.



## Which documents do I need for applying at PSP?

- Certificate of the PSP entrance test
- Copy of your secondary-school certificate and, if applicable, a university entrance exam certificate from your home country
- University transcript of records from your home country, if applicable
- Officially certified translation of your original certificates (if the originals are not in German or English)
- Proof of sufficient German language proficiency
- Résumé in tabular form
- Motivation letter
- Two passport-size photos
- Passport copy

## Service list:

### Included:

- Registration fee
- Exam fee “Feststellungsprüfung”
- Excursions
- Tuition fees
- Accommodation in a double room (or 100,- Euro p.c.m. single room supplement)
- Individual mentoring
- Fees for cultural events
- Householder’s comprehensive insurance
- Liability insurance
- Airport pickup

### Not included:

- Health insurance
- Public transport ticket
- Deposit for the apartment of 450,- Euros
- Blocked account
- Application Service

**Price: 18.000 Euros**

## After PSP – your application at a German State University

### **Do Internationals have the same chances as Germans for getting a seat at a State University?**

Germany is interested in Internationals. This is why State Universities are also free for Internationals. BUT: A German university expects that you are independent and able to apply. That is especially difficult for Internationals. To understand the system is quite difficult and very often confusing. Without help it can be frustrating. One question can give you several answers and sometimes you get none. We highly recommend to book the application service, so we can help you through the German “application jungle”. Please book the application service at your organisation in your home country. This service doesn't mean that you buy a seat. It's means that you get individual service and coaching.

## After PSP – your application at a German State University

### Can you get a seat at one of the best German universities?

THERE IS NO BEST UNIVERSITY!! ALL German universities have a very high quality!! Most rankings you know from your home country are made by non-Germans. They say almost nothing about a good German university. The most important question is: Which university is good for YOU? Do you prefer a big university or a more familiar one? Do you prefer a big city? Are you interested in a special field? You choose the university BUT the university also chooses you. Do you have good grades? Do you have the right motivation? Do you fit into the spirit of the study course? A FSP is NOT a guarantee for the seat you (or your parents) wish. Also Germans students apply at several universities and take the seat they get. To pass the Abitur or FSP does not mean that all universities give you a seat, it means that you have the entrance qualification and are able to apply at all German universities.

## After PSP – your application at a German State University

### **Can I be sure, that I get a seat at a State University?**

The PSP prepares you best for the FSP. There is no foundation year better than the PSP. Of course you need to follow classes and to study hard for the test. If you do so, you will be one of the 98 percent who pass the test. With the FSP you have the entrance qualification and that means you will for sure get at seat. In Germany we have more seats than students. BUT: You need to be open-minded to apply at several university.

**To pay the fee for the PSP doesn't mean that you “buy” the seat you wish to study at. It just prepares you for the entrance qualification!**

- Study how the Germans do!
- Integrate in German everyday life!
- „Think the whole puzzle and not only a piece of it“!
- Discuss and think!
- Believe in your ideas!
- Create and explain!
- Communicate!
- Enjoy being serious!

Our team will help you to become a part of our educational system - We look very much forward welcoming you in Germany!