

# Guidelines for International Degree Students



# University of Bayreuth

A warm welcome to the University of Bayreuth! In order to ensure a successful start in a new city, and probably a new country, as well as the start of your studies, these guidelines provide some initial information on studying and living in Bayreuth and Kulmbach.

### Overview

The University of Bayreuth hosts around 13,500 students and 240 professors in <u>seven faculties</u>. The University offers a range of interdisciplinary study programmes, student associations, services, and events.

There is a reason the campus in Bayreuth is considered one of the most charming in Germany. Whether it's the artificial beach set up in the middle of campus during the summer months or the regular movie screenings on campus, there is always something to do!

To help you find your way around campus, a <u>map</u> of the campus in Bayreuth can be downloaded and is also printed on the back of your student ID. Signs on all buildings as well as important places help you find your way once you reach the University of Bayreuth.

# **International Office**

The International Office is typically the first point of contact for all international students, to get more information and support.

Contact for questions regarding the application and admission: **Incoming Team** 

Contact for general questions during the stay at the University of Bayreuth: Welcome Services

Starting at the enrolment and orientation week, up to many events and workshops during the semester and of course the alumni network – the International Office accompanies international students before, during and after their time at the University. Of course, students can always get in touch with the Welcome Services. They help with all questions and problems and always have an open ear for international students and researchers, in order to ensure a pleasant stay in Bayreuth, Kulmbach and on campus.

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# Study at the University of Bayreuth

# **Application**

The <u>programme finder</u> provides an overview of all degree programmes offered at the University of Bayreuth. The relevant programme pages not only provide a rough overview of the contents of your desired programme, but also offer detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures.

International applicants with EU citizenship can enrol directly for degree programmes with no aptitude assessment process, study orientation procedure, or admission restrictions. Information on whether such procedures or restrictions apply to the desired degree programme is provided in the programme finder.

International applicants from non-EU countries must also apply in due form and time for programmes without admissions restrictions. In the case of bachelor's programmes with no special admission requirements, admission will be granted to those who have a suitable direct <a href="https://discrete.org/higher-education">https://discrete.org/higher-education</a> entrance qualification and who meet the relevant language requirements.

The individual degree programmes may not only have different admission requirements, but also an individual application procedure. All information on this can be found on the above-mentioned programme pages linked to the programme finder.

The general application deadlines for international applicants are

- 15 January for Summer Semester
- 15 July for Winter Semester.

There are different deadlines for some master's programmes, details of which can be found on the relevant programme page.

All application documents must be submitted in full by the application deadline stated in each case, otherwise the application cannot be reviewed. We recommend starting the application process as soon as possible, as this will allow you to submit any missing documents without missing the deadline.

The review of the application documents can take several weeks. Unfortunately, no information can be given on the current status of the application, as this would slow down the process with many requests. All applications will be processed and checked as soon as possible!

Detailed information and answers to the most frequently asked questions relating to applications can be found on our <u>website</u> "Applying as a Degree Student".

#### Admission

Successful applicants will generally receive a letter of admission e-mail. For applications submitted via CampusOnline, the letter of admission is available for download. Students from non-EU countries can use this notification of admission to apply for a visa for study purposes at the German embassy in their home country.

Some degree programmes have their own admission procedures and send their own admission letters. Unfortunately, the International Office cannot provide any information on these procedures. Students should contact the department or the <u>Student Administration Office</u> directly if they have any questions.

If, for any reason, international students are unable to begin their studies at the University of Bayreuth in the semester selected at the time of application, they will have to apply for a new place. Unfortunately, admissions cannot be transferred to other semesters. In order to speed up the process of checking the application, the letter of admission already received can be uploaded to the new application.

#### **Enrolment and student ID**

Enrolment for international students is normally only possible through the Student Administration Office. All documents necessary for enrolment can be found in the application for enrolment or the letter of admission. You must always hand in the following documents:

- your application for enrolment/letter of admission
- proof/confirmation of health insurance by a statutory German health insurance provider
- proof of having paid the semester fee
- a passport photo

If certificates are required for registration, these must always be originals or certified copies in German or English.

After successful enrolment, each student will receive an e-mail from the Student Administration Office. This e-mail will contain the personal user ID (also known as the bt-ID) and the initial password for logging in to CampusOnline. After the first registration on CampusOnline, the password must be changed in order to use all other online systems. Registration must be completed within one week seven days!

The student ID card is ready a few days after registration and will be sent by post to the address given in the application for registration. If you have not received any e-mail with user data within one week, the Student Administration Office should be contacted.

The student ID card has to be validated (the machines can be found in the buildings of the Central Library and the University Administration on the campus in Bayreuth). With the card you can take advantage of affordable meals in the cafeteria, check out books from the university libraries, and make copies. You can also use the bus and train free of charge in and around of Bayreuth and of course up to Kulmbach.

# Module Handbooks and Degree Programme Structure

It is helpful to learn about the structure of your degree programme at the start of your studies. In many degree programmes there are certain requirements (number of credits, attendance of special courses) that must be achieved by a certain term, as well as required internships that must be completed before the end of your studies. Since the individual degree programmes vary greatly with regard to structure, students should address their questions either directly to the programme coordinators (i.e. the professors who coordinate their course of studies) or to the <a href="EduCare advisors">EduCare advisors</a> of their faculty. For the students of the Faculty of Life Sciences the <a href="Study coordinators">study coordinators</a> can also help with all question regarding studying and staying in Kulmbach.

Alongside the orientation and preliminary courses, the module handbook represents an important element in preparing for a degree programme. Here students will find a list and description of all modules relevant to their studies. As a rule, a suggested study plan is also included in order to facilitate the scheduling of modules and courses during the programme.

# **Orientation and Preliminary Courses**

At the beginning of the term, each study programme organizes an orientation session for all new students. This provides an overview of the course of studies, gives important information and tips and thus also offers a platform to get to know fellow students and get to know other people. You should definitely attend this event!

An overview of the orientation sessions offered by the individual degree programmes can be found on the website of the <u>Student Administration Office</u>.

Some programmes of study offer orientation before the start of the term. These dates can be found either on the website of the degree programme or <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Course Catalogue and Selection of Courses**

A complete list of courses can be found in <u>cmlife</u> for each semester. It is possible to sort courses by faculty/study programme or the language of instruction.

Courses have different forms of teaching: lectures, practical training, tutorials, placements and seminars. It is possible that two or more of these together make up a single course, for example a lecture and tutorial on the same topic. During the course selection process, this should be kept in mind, as students are expected to attend all forms of teaching for each course. As the distinction between forms of teaching can vary from faculty to faculty, the Mobility Tutors, EduCare advisors and for the students of the Faculty of Life Sciences the study coordinators are able to help with this during the orientation week.

Registration for some courses (especially seminars) can take place before the start of the semester. We recommend getting in touch with the lecturers of such courses to discuss possibilities of attending as soon as possible.

The course catalogue for the winter semester is available from end of August/beginning of September, the course catalogue for the summer semester from end of January/beginning of February.

In most cases, registration for a course does not automatically include registration for the exam at the end of the semester (an exemption are i.e. language courses offered by the language centre). Therefore, it is necessary to register for each exam in cmlife. We recommend getting all information on the registration and possible prerequisites of the exams as early in the semester as possible to avoid unnecessary stress during the time of exams. Typically, the exams take place at the end of the lecture period and the following weeks – in some cases, tests, reports or mid-terms which are necessary for successful completion of the course take place during the semester. The lecturer normally provides information on this during the first weeks as well as in the E-Learning group of the specific course.

#### Libraries

The University of Bayreuth has one main library with the sublibrary for humanities and five additional sublibraries of which four sublibraries are located on the main campus in Bayreuth. Another sublibrary is currently build on the new site campus in Kulmbach. The libraries offer not only academic literature of the different departments but have quiet spaces to study and work. Computers, which can be found in the libraries, can be accessed with the bt-identification and the respective password.

We recommend taking a tour of the library at the beginning of the semester to learn about everything it has to offer.

With computer workplaces, group study rooms and so-called "quiet study-spaces", each library has different zones, which require a certain conduct from students. Typically, signs in that area show if this is an area suitable for working in a group and talking or if students should study quietly. In all libraries there is a ban on backpacks/bags and coats (these items can be stored in lockers close to each library) as well as food and drinks (except for water in clear plastic bottles). If questions regarding rules for specific areas come up, the members of staff are always more than happy to help. They also offer assistance with the search for specific literature and all other questions concerning the libraries.

In addition to the physical books, magazines and journals provided, the University of Bayreuth provides its students with online access to a range of different platforms. Typically, access is possible as long as the laptop (or another electronic device used) is using the Eduroam network.

Besides the tours of the libraries, courses and workshops on different topics, for example the best way to search for literature or working with systems that manage references. All information and dates for these courses can be found here.

# Online Systems at the University of Bayreuth

The University of Bayreuth uses different online-systems and applications to help students to organize their studies. The following list explains the most important systems and their areas of application.

Registration on most systems is done using the bt-indicator and the password – an exception is the student email whereas the username is the student email address.

# CampusOnline

<u>CampusOnline</u> is the main system at the University of Bayreuth, which interested students use to apply for admission

#### **Features of CampusOnline:**

 Apply for admission (except for exchange programmes, freemover and some double degree programmes)

#### cmlife

<u>cmlife</u> is an advanced website which enables students to plan their studies in the best way possible. cmlife offers a user-friendly platform starting at the selection of courses to the creation of the Transcript of Records

#### Features of cmlife:

- Search for courses
- Registration for courses and exams
- Creation of the timetable
- Insight into the optimal course of study
- Download of documents (confirmation of enrolment, confirmation of study progress, confirmation of payment)
- Access to exam results
- Download of the Transcript of Records
- Access to status of semester fee

#### **E-Learning**

<u>E-Learning</u> represents a virtual classroom, which can be used by lecturers to distribute course materials, answer questions and carry out tests. In general, each course has its own E-Learning classroom, which students should join in the beginning of the semester. The extent to which this platform is used is up to the lecturer and thus can vary between different courses. Nonetheless, this platform is an important medium to access information and get in touch with other students in the same course.

The access to some courses requires a password, which is typically provided by the lecturer during the first weeks of classes.

#### **Student E-Mail Account**

Upon enrolment and included in the email sent out by the Student Administration Office (*Studierendenkanzlei*), every student gets access to their personal email account at the University of Bayreuth. This account can be accessed using the <u>Outlook Web Access</u>. Of course, it is possible to integrate the email account into a mail programme on a phone or laptop. It is not possible to forward the emails to another email address!

We recommend using this email account when sending emails to lecturers and staff at the University as it is more reliable and emails can get answered quicker.

Important information, such as the exam results and comments on courses will be sent to this email address. Therefore, it is important to check this email account on a regular basis. Furthermore, it is possible to subscribe to newsletters from the university to keep up to date and get all important announcements and information.

# Campus App UniNow

The app <u>UniNow</u> (available for download in the AppStore and PlayStore) combines many important details in one place: from academic information to life on campus. It is possible to get notifications from the student representatives of each faculty and offices and services (for example the libraries), have a look at the canteen menu, access your student email account and check out the sports programme. Thus, this is an ideal app to help organize everyday life on campus and support students with the organization of their studies...

# **Renewing Enrolment**

Renewing enrolment for the following semester is straightforward. Circa two months prior to the semester ending, the Student Administration Office (*Studierendenkanzlei*) sends out an email with the request to pay the semester fee for the upcoming semester. After the transfer of the semester fee, students are enrolled for the upcoming semester assumed there is no lock on the re-enrolment. Information on this can also always be found in the personal <u>cmlife</u> account. Around one week after the transfer of the money, the student ID needs to be validated at the machines (either in the central administration building or the main library on the Bayreuth campus).

# Life on Campus

# German Courses prior to the Semester

In cooperation with the <u>Institute for International Communication and Foreign Cultural Exchange</u> (<u>IIK</u>), the International Office offers a fee-based German course with two levels prior to the semester start. The first course is suitable for students with little or no knowledge of German (A1/A2) to familiarize themselves with the language for the first time and learn the most important phrases to make living in Bayreuth easier from the start. The second course is targeted towards students who already have a good command of the German language and want to refresh and deepen their knowledge (B1/B2).

These German courses are an additional offer for international students and cannot be used to earn certain German certificates, which qualify for starting to study in Germany.

Details on the registration and dates will be send out by the Welcome Services.

#### **Orientation Week**

Orientation week prepares new international students for their studies at the University of Bayreuth, explains structures and processes at the university and life in Germany. Therefore, this is a central element of the first weeks in Bayreuth, and international students are required to take part! If other orientation or preliminary courses are taking place at the same time, students should notify the Welcome Services in order to find a solution for the overlapping.

In addition to the in-person orientation week on campus, international students can get first information regarding the arrival and first steps in the E-Learning course offered by the Welcome Services. It is highly recommended to <u>register for this online course</u> and read the information carefully before travelling to Bayreuth or Kulmbach. The course password will be send out one month prior to the beginning of the semester (should students not receive this email in time, please get in touch with the <u>Welcome Services</u>). The registration for this online course does <u>not</u> replace the participation in the orientation week on campus!

To access the extern E-Learning platform of the University of Bayreuth, it is necessary to <u>set up an account</u>. This can also be done by students who are not enrolled yet. Should you already have a bt-indicator and password you can use this to log-in – a separate registration is not necessary.

# **Internet on Campus and IT Service Centre**

There are two WIFI networks available in almost all buildings of the University of Bayreuth: Eduroam and BayernWLAN. The latter can be activated very easily and only requires a short confirmation of the usage guidelines in a browser. The activation of Eduroam requires the personal bt-identification as well as the download of a certificate – detailed instructions can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Many students automatically have access to Eduroam as this is a widespread network of public institutions. In these cases it is not necessary to download the certificate again.

The IT Service Centre offers a wide range of support to solve technical problems during your studies on campus. An overview of all help services can be found here.

# **International Student Organisation**

ESN Bayreuth, a student organisation that attends to international students, offers – in cooperation with the International Office – not only the Buddy Programme but also many events and trips during the semester. An overview of upcoming events and more information can be found on their Facebook Page.

Each semester international students can use a Facebook group to connect and network even before the semester starts. This group not only provides information for various events but also provides the opportunity to talk to other students – international and German – and ask questions.

More information can also be found on the **ESN website** and their **Instagram page**.

# **Buddy Programme**

The Buddy Programme offers international students a great way to connect with students from the University of Bayreuth, ask questions and find new friends before even coming to the University of Bayreuth.

Further information as well as the registration form can be found here.

# Language Centre

The Language Centre offers language courses for over 20 languages. Further details can be found on this <u>page</u>.

Registration for language courses is in most cases accompanied by a placement test to determine the appropriate language level. Generally, registration via cmlife is required for these placement tests. If a student has a language certificate from an institution or another university, this certificate can be presented in an individual appointment to determine the correct course level.

After the successful placement test, registration for the actual course is necessary. This is also done via cmlife. We recommend registering for language courses as soon as possible, as places are limited. An overview of the <u>deadlines</u> for the upcoming semester can be found here.

In general, attendance is mandatory in all language courses offered by the Language Centre in order to guarantee progress in the acquisition of the language. Corresponding regulations will be communicated by the lecturers in the first lesson.

# **University Sports Programme**

The universities sports programme offers something for every student – from Aikido to Zumba. In general, all students have access to sports programmes after paying the contribution of €20. This fee has to be paid using the online system. After the registration, an email containing the SEPA-mandate will be send to the students, who then have to sign this document and send it back. After 14 days, the student ID card can be validated again (see Student ID).

Some specific courses require an additional online registration as the number of spots is limited. For some courses (for example tennis or golf), an extra fee has to be paid. The respective information can be found on the website of each course.

# Services Offered by the University

#### **General Information**

The University of Bayreuth offers a wide range of support services for its students: from <u>student</u> advising to <u>career services</u>. Most of these services are free of charge and thus provide an optimal platform to help with specific questions and problem areas concerning studying and living in Bayreuth and Kulmbach. An overview of services can be found <u>here</u>. The *Welcome and Alumni Services* are always the first point of contact for international students. In addition, <u>EduCare Coordinators</u>, <u>Mobility Tutors</u> and for the students of the Faculty of Life Sciences the <u>study coordinators</u> at the faculties are always ready to help with academic questions.

Selected services are explained in more detail below.

#### **Welcome Services**

The <u>Welcome Services</u> provide guidance and support for all international students, scholars, and their families before, during, and after their stay at the University of Bayreuth. Thus, they are the first point of contact with all questions and concerns to ensure a successful and memorable stay at the University of Bayreuth.

#### **Mobility Tutors**

The <u>Mobility Tutors</u> support international students with all academic questions during their time at the University of Bayreuth. As each faculty has their own Mobility Tutor, it is important to name the study programme in the initial email to get the correct contact person right away.

#### **EduCare**

<u>EduCare study support</u> provides a direct contact point within your faculty. They are happy to help with questions, problems and conflicts regarding your study situation. There is a <u>contact person</u> in each faculty whom you can turn to for confidential consultation. In addition, EduCare offers a large number of workshops and lectures each semester, which not only make studying easier, but can also complement your studies. Current dates and information can be found <u>here</u>.

# **Student Representatives of the Faculties**

Each of the faculties have its own student representative body. This is a representative body elected by the students, which not only supports the concerns of the students of the respective faculty, but also provides old exams, organises events and helps with questions about studying. The individual student representatives of the respective faculties are:

- Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science: <u>Fachschaft MPI</u>
- Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences: <u>Fachschaft BCG</u>
- Faculty of Business, Economis & Law: <u>Fachschaft RW</u>
- Faculty of Languages & Literatures: Fachschaft SpLit
- Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences: <u>Fachschaft KuWi</u>
- Faculty of Engineering Science: <u>Fachschaft ING</u>
- Faculty of Life Science: Food, Nutrition & Health (Campus Kulmbach): tba

### **Writing Centre**

The Writing Centre is the central contact point for all aspects of scientific writing. Individual advice as well as workshops on various topics related to the subject scientific writing help to ensure success in your degree programme. International students, in particular those, who are writing an academic paper in Germany for the first time, often face various questions that are clarified in special courses. Current offers can be found here.

# **Psychological Consultation**

Since unfortunately, study-related and personal problems can occur during your time in Bayreuth, the <u>Psychological Counselling Centre</u> offers students the opportunity to get support directly on

campus in Bayreuth. Individual counselling appointments can be booked easily via the <u>appointment</u> calendar.

# **Legal Advice**

In case of legal problems, for example help with a contract or rental agreement, <u>legal advice</u> is available for students free of charge. Once a week, a lawyer provides advice on campus in Bayreuth without an appointment. It is important to bring all relevant documents in paper form to a consultation!

Furthermore, the student initiative "<u>Law and Legal</u>" offers students the opportunity to get free advice on almost all legal questions.

#### Office of the Women's Representative

The <u>Women's Representative</u> and the <u>Equal Opportunities Department</u> advise students on various issues and problems related to bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment. The Women's Representative is responsible for such cases.

# Office of the Commissioner for Students with Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses

The Office of the Commissioner for Students with Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses (becks) is available for all students with questions and problems related to studying with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses. In addition to a consultation which is free of charge, independent, and confidential. Becks has the role of a mediator and advocates for students with disabilities and chronic illnesses.

#### **Alumni Services**

In addition to the faculty's own alumni platforms, there is a large network of international alumni of the University of Bayreuth. This network offers the opportunity to remain connected with the institution after their stay at the university. Regular events on campus and in various countries complement the electronic offer. Further information and tips on registration and benefits can be found on the website of the Alumni Services.

# Life in Bayreuth and Kulmbach

# Visa Application and Immigration

A first important step for many international students coming from so-called <u>third countries</u> is the application for a student visa at the German diplomatic mission of the home country. If and how the application for such a visa should be done is explained on <u>this website</u>.

We highly recommend researching the regulations and requirements as well as the appointment schedule regarding the visa as early as possible. The international Office of the University of Bayreuth is not able to schedule appointments or inquiry about the status of the visa at the diplomatic missions.

# Application for Student Dorms and Tips on Looking for Accommodation

#### Studentenwerk Oberfranken

The Studentenwerk Oberfranken (SWO) manages several student dorms on and off campus in Bayreuth. All students admitted to the University of Bayreuth can apply for a room in the student dorms. In order to do so, this <u>application form</u> needs to be filled in. Following this application form, an automatic email with a link to confirm the application will be generated and sent to the email address you submitted. This link has to be confirmed – otherwise the SWO is not able to allocate a room!

#### **Private Student Dorms**

In addition to the student dorms managed by the SWO, there are multiple other student dorms in Bayreuth. Quite often, they have additional conditions (for example a minimum rent of 12 months or an admittance charge) which should be read carefully before signing a rental contract.

A list of all private student dorms in Bayreuth can be found below (unfortunately, most websites are only in German):

- <u>Studentenwohnheime der Joseph-Sti</u>ftung
- Studentenwohnheime der GBW
- Studentenwohnheim Röhrensee
- Studentenwohnheim Storchennest
- Campus Jakobshöhe
- UniApart
- Youniq

#### Laineck Apart

There is currently one private student dorm in Kulmbach which can be found here.

#### Please note:

Students who are enrolled at the faculty for life sciences should look for an accommodation in Kulmbach. All courses of their programme will take place in Kulmbach, thus an apartment in Bayreuth is less suitable.

#### Accommodation Offers on the Private Market

There are many opportunities to secure accommodations in an apartment or a shared apartment outside of the student dorms. Important information regarding the <u>accommodation search in Germany</u> is provided by the DAAD. As landlords who offer apartments on the private market often prefer long-term tenants, international students should look for so called "Zwischenmiete" (short-term rental agreement). This way they can get an idea about different areas and also accommodation options before looking for a more permanent option. The most common platforms to look for such offers are the following:

- WG-Gesucht
- ImmobilienScout24
- <u>eBay-Kleinanzeigen</u>
- Wohnungsmarkt des SWO

#### Please note:

Private offers that can be found online should be read carefully and checked for their reliability. A viewing appointment and/or phone call can often clear up any doubts. You should never transfer money (deposit or rent) to the landlord without having a rental contract signed by both parties!

# **Temporary Accommodation**

If temporary accommodation is needed at the beginning of the semester, the following options are available in Bayreuth:

- Jugendherberge Bayreuth
- BRK Hostel
- AirBnB
- Buchungsportal für Hotels der Stadt Bayreuth

Temporary accommodation in Kulmbach can be booked through the <u>booking portal</u> of the city of Kulmbach.

In general, it is advisable to secure suitable accommodation before travelling to Germany!

# **Living Costs**

#### Overview

Students in Germany spend an average of 850€ per month on living. Of course, these costs can vary greatly depending on where you live and your lifestyle. The following information gives a first overview of costs, which have to be taken into account by students in Bayreuth or Kulmbach:

- Semester Fee: ca. 110€/semester
- Furnished Accommodation (rent including utilities):
  - o SWO student dorms: €200 €300/month (depending on dorm and the type of room)
  - o Private student dorms: €300 €550/month
  - o 1-room apartment: starting at €400/month
  - o Room in a shared apartment: starting at €280/month
- Health insurance (if you do not have a European health insurance policy): ca. €105/month
- licence fee (GEZ-Gebühr): €17.50/month
- Internet Access: ca. €20/month
- Groceries: starting at €150/month

This overview takes all necessary expenses into account– all other costs (for example for travelling, shopping, eating out and events) obviously vary from student to student.

#### **Semester Fee**

The University of Bayreuth does not charge tuition fees from there students. The only contribution that has to be made is the <u>semester fee</u>, which is composed of the contribution towards the student services and the <u>semester ticket</u> and has to be paid by every student!

The contribution has to be paid prior to the enrolment and before the start of each semester! The respective banking details are given on the admission letter. As it takes up to seven business days to process the payment, this should be done as early as possible to ensure a quick enrolment. The payment cannot be done in person at the university! Without the payment, the enrolment is not possible and the ID card cannot be handed out.

#### Licence Fee

The licence fee is a charge which has to be paid by every household. All information is given in these <u>guidelines for students</u>. Generally, each tenant is sent a letter to their address with details regarding the license fee a few weeks after registering at the city's registration office.

#### Please note:

If you are living in a shared apartment, only one person has to pay the license fee. This does also apply to apartments with the character of a shared apartment in student dorms!

# **Funding**

In particular, students from third countries who require a visa for study purposes should ensure that they have <u>sufficient funding</u> from the outset. It is often not enough to first apply for a scholarship or a part-time job in Germany.

One of the largest <u>scholarship databases</u> is provided by the DAAD. The International Office of the University also offers international students the opportunity to apply for a <u>study grant</u>. However, this is only possible for outstanding students in higher semesters and therefore no financing is available, which can be claimed at the beginning of the studies.

Of course, it is also possible to find a part-time job in Bayreuth or Kulmbach, either at the University as a student assistant or in a company in the city. It should be noted, however, that a good knowledge of the German language is often necessary for this. Furthermore, international students who have a visa for study purposes must note that the maximum working hours are usually set there. The DAAD has compiled a clear overview of all important information on the topic of <u>'Part-time jobs in Germany'</u>.

# Travelling to Bayreuth and Kulmbach

Both cities can be reached by train or bus from all major airports within Germany. This <u>website</u> gives an overview over all methods of transportation, times and prices from the different airports and train stations to Bayreuth or Kulmbach. Within Bayreuth, we recommend using the <u>app</u> of the local bus network (called VGN) as this generally shows the most reliable connections. An overview of the bus and train connections in the surroundings of Kulmbach can be found <u>here</u>.

# City Registration Office and Foreigners Authority

An important step after the arrival is the registration at the city registration office (*Einwohnermeldeamt*) of the city you live in. This registration has to be done within 14 days after moving into the apartment. For the registration, the passport as well as a document signed by the landlord (*Wohnungsgeberbestätigung*) is necessary.

In order to avoid long waiting times at the city hall in Bayreuth, we recommend making <u>an</u> <u>appointment</u> or arriving at the office early in the morning.

Students living in Kulmbach can simply go to the city hall during their <u>opening hours</u> – unfortunately, it is not possible to book an appointment online.

Students from third countries, which did not need a visa to enter Germany or got a visa for a limited time, have to make an appointment with the foreigners' authority to get a permanent residence permit. In order to make an appointment at the, <u>foreigners' authority in Bayreuth</u>, international students should send an <u>email</u> with the important information (name, country of origin, purpose of stay and if applicable a picture of the current visa). For students living in Kulmbach the district administration of Kulmbach is responsible. An appointment can be made via <u>email</u>. In general, they will send back a list of documents, which need to be brought to the appointment.

#### Please note:

As long as the Foreigners Office has been informed (in writing, i.e. with an email) that you want to extend your visa prior to the expiration of the 90 days or the end date of the initial visa, this counts as an application for a new residence title. It is not a problem if the student does not receive a new residence title within this period as long as the Foreigners Office has been informed of the wish to extend your visa.

#### **Basic Information on Insurances**

A suitable health insurance policy is required to enrol at a German university. International students can pick any health insurance company once they arrive and get insurance as a student. Students who own a European Health Insurance Card (or the corresponding document) have to get this insurance confirmed by a statutory health insurance company in Germany and do not need to get any additional health insurance. Detailed information on this matter can be found on the <u>DAAD</u> website.

People staying in Germany for an extended period or renting a furnished apartment should think about getting private liability insurance – some landlords even require this prior to signing a rental contract. More information can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

# **Banking and Paying**

# **Paying in Germany**

With Germany being part of the European Monetary Union, the EURO (€) is the official currency. Generally, most supermarkets and stores accept not only cash but also debit and credit cards (the most common ones are MasterCard and VISA). Nonetheless, it is advisable to always carry cash!

# Banks and Opening a Bank Account

There are many different bank branches, most of them offer special conditions for students. We recommend opening a bank account in Germany to take care of recurring charges, such as rent, electricity or the license fee. A bank account can only be opened after registering the apartment at city hall.

Therefore, enough cash should be exchanged in your home country and brought to Germany as it can take up to two weeks to open a bank account.

#### **Blocked Account**

Students who need to apply for a student visa, have to show proof of sufficient financing – often in the form of a blocked account. The exact details as well as the amount of money on that blocked account will be given by the diplomatic mission/Foreigners Office at the time of the application for the student visa. Further information can be found on the website of the <u>Federal Foreign Office</u> and the <u>DAAD</u>.

# **Additional Information**

- This <u>overview page</u> provides information from the city of Bayreuth for all new arrivals as well as important contact points and authorities. Information especially for new students can be found <u>here</u>.
- There were unknown words or terms on the previous pages? Our UBT glossary from A to Z is the right solution here!
- Die following telephone numbers should be use in an emergency:
  - o Police: 110
  - o Rescue service and fire brigade: 112
  - o Medical on-call service: 116117
  - o Telephone counselling: 08001110111
- If a doctor's visit is necessary during your time in Bayreuth, this <u>platform</u> informs you about different medical practices. Only use the telephone number 112 in case of emergency!
- The <u>StudyDrive</u> platform offers students the opportunity to exchange transcripts, old exams and solutions in order to prepare for the individual course.

# **Contact**

International Office ZUV Building Universitätsstraße 30 95447 Bayreuth Germany



Welcome Services: <u>international-students@uni-bayreuth.de</u>

Incoming Team: <a href="mailto:incoming-degree@uni-bayreuth.de">incoming-degree@uni-bayreuth.de</a>



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