



# Information for International Students

## Summer School Disaster Risk Reduction 2023

### (1) Period of Study

The period of study of the summer school in 2023 is from the **09<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2023**. The day before and the day after this period will be reserved for travel.

### (2) Application

Applications for places in the summer school Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 have to be submitted by **1<sup>st</sup> of April 2023**. Application forms can be downloaded at <https://www.umwelt-campus.de/iss/projekte/laufende-projekte/summer-school-disaster-risk-reduction-2023>. Forms can be filled out on the PC. Please note that the application forms have to be signed personally by applicants and by the responsible university referees. They can be sent back via e-mail to [summerschool@umwelt-campus.de](mailto:summerschool@umwelt-campus.de) and by regular mail to the following address:

Umwelt-Campus Birkenfeld  
Katharina Haupenthal  
SummerSchool Disaster Risk Reduction 2023  
PO Box 1380  
55761 Birkenfeld  
Germany

In addition to the application form, the following documents must be included with each application:

- Statement of motivation
- Most recent grade transcript

**Please note that intermediate English skills are a prerequisite for this programme.**

The applications will be screened by a selection committee. All applicants will subsequently be notified in writing of the decision of the selection committee. Every appli-



cant will receive a notification either of admission to the course, a position on the waiting list, or of non-acceptance.

The notification of admission entitles the applicant to study at Trier University of Applied Sciences, Environmental Campus Birkenfeld for the duration of the programme stated in the notification.

The notification of admission also includes a document for submission to the relevant German Consulate.

### **(3) Waiting List Procedure**

Students whose applications cannot be considered in the first round will be awarded a position on the waiting list, which will give them the chance to be accepted in the event of additional places becoming available.

Every student on the waiting list will receive a written notification either of admission or of non-acceptance.

### **(4) Terms of Payment**

The host institution does not charge a tuition fee for participation in the summer school. Students will be charged a €250,- administration fee that also covers excursion costs.

### **(5) Legal Requirements pertaining to Foreign Nationals (Residence Permit/Visa)**

It is recommended that students inquire at German diplomatic missions (embassies or consulates) abroad about the conditions for entering the country for educational purposes. A list of diplomatic missions is available at the German Foreign Ministry's website [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Startseite\\_node.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Startseite_node.html).

In order to enter the Federal Republic of Germany as a foreign student or study applicant, foreign applicants require a **residence permit visa for study purposes** issued by the diplomatic or consular representative of the Federal Republic of Germany in their country of origin and entered into their passport, and a letter of admission from the university they will be attending. This regulation does not apply to students and study applicants from EU countries or from countries with which different regula-



tions have been agreed: The Dominican Republic, Honduras, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Switzerland, and the USA. If students have not been able to contact the German university from their home country, the study applicant visa provides them with an initial opportunity to enter the country without formal application to or admission from an institution of higher education. Application documents are available at the respective German mission or directly from the institution of higher education of their choice.

It is not possible to enter the Federal Republic of Germany on a tourist visa or without a visa and then apply for a residence permit. This can only be done at the respective German mission in the home country or the country of residence of the applicant. It is illegal to enter the Federal Republic of Germany for the purpose of study without a visa. Any violation of this regulation will lead to expulsion.

The entry visa will be issued for three months. After these initial three months, the Aliens Registration Authority will usually extend the visa on a yearly basis. A fee will be charged for both the entry visa and the visa extensions. **Before expiry, an extension of the residence permit must be submitted to the Aliens Registration Office.** As a matter of principle, an extension past the standard period of study (period of time within which a student must complete his studies) is not possible. The residence permit will be withdrawn if the student is in possession of an invalid passport, changes his/her citizenship or permanently leaves the Federal Territory. It is not possible to register at any institute of higher education without a Residence Permit for educational purposes.

## **(6) Health Insurance**

The German healthcare system with its dense network of highly qualified doctors is considered one of the best in the world. As a student in Germany, you benefit from optimum medical care and affordable insurance coverage. Either with an inexpensive compulsory student insurance policy with a German health insurance fund. Or with existing health insurance coverage policy from your home country which is recognized in Germany. Whatever the case: **You cannot register at a German university without health insurance.**

If you wish to study in Germany, you always need health insurance. All statutory health insurance funds in the country are obliged to insure students up to the age of 30 (or to the end of the 14th full study semester) at a favorable student rate. If you turn 30 (or study for longer than 14 semesters) in Germany, you can continue to be



insured through a statutory health insurance fund by paying a higher premium. If you are already older than 29 when you start studying, you can only take out private health insurance.

**Important:** Find out before your departure whether your health insurance from your home country is also recognized in Germany. This is the case:

- if a social security agreement exists between your country and Germany. This applies, among others, to members of the European Union as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Macedonia. An updated list of countries to which this applies is available on the website of the German Liaison Office for Health Insurance Abroad.
- with certain German or foreign health insurance companies.

*You come from a country which has a social security agreement with Germany?*

Find out from your university's International Office in good time which papers you need to present as proof of your health insurance coverage. EU nationals usually require a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or an E 128/E 111 form.

**Important:** Foreign insurance companies do not always pay for all the costs of medical treatment in Germany. In such cases, you will be obliged to pay for additional expenses yourself.

*Are you insured in your home country?*

Find out from your health insurance company whether it is also recognized in Germany. If it is, you will require confirmation that you are exempt from statutory health insurance when you register at your German university. Such confirmation can be obtained from any of the many German health insurance funds.

**Please note:** If you have private health insurance, you may not switch to the statutory health insurance scheme during the course of your studies. **Also: Those with private insurance must pay for all medical treatment and medication in Germany in advance and then claim for reimbursement from their health insurance company.**



*You do not have health insurance that is valid in Germany?*

If the insurance coverage you have in your home country is not recognized in Germany, you must take out a health insurance policy in this country. Most students in Germany are insured with a statutory health insurance fund. In some cases, however, it is also possible to take out private insurance.

Insurance premium rates for students with statutory insurance funds are currently around €80 a month. This amount applies until the 14th semester and up to the age of 30. After this, rates increase to at least €160 a month.

Alternatively, Care Concept provides special tariffs for students. Students can take out an international policy directly online and, after the application has been checked and approved, will receive the insurance documents by e-mail within a few minutes.

<http://www.care-concept.de>

Proof of health insurance coverage needs to be submitted to the institution of higher education together with the registration documents. **There will be no registration or registration renewal without submission of a certificate of insurance.**

If you decide to take out a health insurance in your home country for the period of your stay in Germany, please consider the following requirements of the Aliens Registration Office in Birkenfeld:

- Please bring a proof of health insurance (e.g. certificate) in **English**
- The certificate must prove a coverage for the entire duration of your stay (i.e. explicit time specification)
- We recommend an **insured sum** of approx. **€70,000**

**Important: Physicians and hospitals invoice medical consultations and require advance payment.** Only students from countries in the EU are exempt from advance payments if they are issued with a certificate after their arrival. Therefore, please consider the different policies between a private and a statutory health insurance.



### **(7) Private Liability Insurance**

According to general liability principles, you can be held liable for any damage to other people or property you have caused yourself. Expensive accidents can happen very quickly, for example breaking a pane of glass, knocking a vase over in a shop or causing a traffic accident as a pedestrian or cyclist. If you cause injury to another individual you will not only have to pay for any material damage but also compensation for pain and suffering, hospital fees, rehabilitation costs and the salary of the injured person. To reduce the risk of such events, it is possible to take out a liability insurance, which may cover costs incurred by accidental damage.

It is recommended that you check the internet for the services offered by different insurance companies for liability insurance.

### **(8) Proof of financial resources**

Applicants are strongly advised to assess their financial resources before entering the Federal Republic of Germany. They should enter the country with sufficient funds and should not plan to support themselves through employment. **A residence permit is issued after proofs of financial resources (e.g. account statement) have been provided to the Aliens Registration Office.** The authorities must be convinced that students have sufficient financial funds at their disposal to cover costs of living for the entire study duration.

Trier University of Applied Sciences, Environmental Campus Birkenfeld does not offer scholarships or grants. Students are advised to contact the appropriate local agencies regarding this matter. Exceptions are scholarships under the LLP/ERASMUS cooperation programme which can only be granted in accordance with the regulations of the home university.

In addition, there are several scholarship awarding institutions in Germany. The most extensive scholarship programme for foreign students is offered by the DAAD:



German Academic Exchange Service/  
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)  
Kennedyallee 50,  
D-53175 Bonn  
<http://www.daad.de/en/index.html>

Students must apply from their home country. The foreign diplomatic missions, the DAAD in Bonn/Germany and DAAD offices abroad will provide information on the possibilities of receiving a scholarship. Foreign students should not plan on financing their studies by working in Germany during the semester. The residence permit only allows students to study in Germany. It is not a work permit. During the semester breaks, it is possible to work a total of three months per year without a work permit.

*The blocked account for foreign students:*

All foreign students from non-EU countries (e.g. China, Cameroon, etc.) are required to meet their own living costs when studying in Germany. In order to enter Germany, non-EU students also need a valid visa. In some countries, this can only be issued once the student has deposited a specified amount of money in a German bank account (e.g. with Deutsche Bank) and blocked this sum with the Federal Republic of Germany as beneficiary. Please have a look at the bank websites for more information.

## **(9) Student Accommodation**

**The summer school coordination does not provide accommodation.** Every participant is in charge to book an own accommodation. On campus, there is a hotel, where the participant can request a room to stay: <https://www.hotel-vicinity.de/en/>



## (10) Further information

For further information and individual questions on the summer school, please contact our coordinator at [summerschool@umwelt-campus.de](mailto:summerschool@umwelt-campus.de).

Useful online information sources about living and studying in Germany are:

- The official Germany website at <http://www.deutschland.de/> (in German, English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic)
- A website by the DAAD that provides information to help you on your way to studying in Germany at <https://www.daad.de/en/>

14.12.2022