

What kind of budget should I have in my mind?

In Germany, education is subsidised by the state and therefore most universities charge no tuition fee. Thus, in Germany virtually every student gets a scholarship! You will need to pay semester contribution ranging from Euro 50 to 350, depending upon the university and the services or benefits provided. For certain special courses you may need to pay higher fees. Apart from these you will require about Euro 853 per month for housing, food, clothing, study material and other expenses such as health insurance and leisure activities. This amount can vary from city to city, and depends on your lifestyle!

Are there any scholarships available?

Funding in Germany is available mainly for research, and in some cases at the Master level. www.daad-sri-lanka.org/scholarship will provide you an overview of DAAD scholarship programmes. A database of scholarships offered by various German organisations can be found at www.funding-guide.de

Where can I learn more about students' experience in Germany?

To know more about student life or read what international students have to say about Germany, check out the DAAD Young Ambassadors page and video gallery on www.daad-sri-lanka.org and www.study-in-germany.de

My Guide

What are your interests? Which degree are you aiming for? What language you prefer to study in? Answer these three simple questions and our online counselling platform will guide you find the perfect course and German University!

www.myguide.de

Can I work in Germany?

As an international student, you are permitted to work for 120 full days or 240 half days in a year. This will help you in getting a bit of extra pocket-money!

Germany has always had a very strong industry-academia linkage. A lot of research is funded by the industry. During your studies you can get the opportunity to do internships with German companies, which can open new vistas for your career.

After completing your degree in Germany, you can stay on in the country for up to 18 months to look for a job that is in keeping with your qualification. Once you find a job, you will be issued a work permit that allows you to take up gainful employment.

Where can I find more information?

Study in Germany

www.daad-sri-lanka.org/master

www.myguide.de

www.study-in-germany.de

www.uni-assist.de/en/

Research in Germany

www.research-in-germany.org

www.gerit.org

Scholarships for Germany

www.daad-sri-lanka.org/scholarship

www.funding-guide.de

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DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Master Degree in Germany

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Every year, thousands of international students and scholars choose to study in Germany. There are very good reasons for this – International Programmes taught in English medium, excellent quality of education, low or no tuition fee, promising career opportunities and above all the vibrant social and cultural milieu to mention a few.

With over 400 universities offering a wide variety of courses in various disciplines to over 2.86 million students including close to 400,000 from abroad, Germany is all set to give a headstart to your career.

How do I choose a university in Germany?

There are various kinds of institutions of higher education in Germany. A majority of these belong to either of the following categories:

Universities (including Universities of Technology, abbr. TU) are research oriented and offer a wide variety of subjects. These can award doctoral degrees.

Universities of Applied Sciences (FH/HAW) are practice oriented and offer courses mainly in engineering, business administration, social sciences and design. These do not award doctoral degrees, however as a master degree holder from a Fachhochschule, one is in principle eligible to apply for PhD at a university.

Your interest and inclination should define which of the two kinds of institutions you choose!

Is there a ranking of universities in Germany?

Germany offers a multidimensional ranking, considering various criteria that are important from a student's perspective. For example, student and staff judgment on quality of teaching, atmosphere at the university, library and other equipment, student numbers, average study duration, number of graduations, third party funding etc. You can get a comprehensive overview of each university on www.daad.de.

Are Master programmes taught in English medium?

German universities offer numerous Master programmes in English medium.

The website www.daad.de/international-programmes gives information about study programmes offered with English as the sole or primary medium of instruction. A comprehensive database of all study programmes, in both German and English, is available on www.study-in-germany.de.

Do I need to know German?

Germany offers numerous Master programmes with English as the sole or primary medium of instruction and the language for your thesis. As a student in Germany however, your life will not be limited to the university campus. You will surely want to interact with people, do your internships, travel and make the most of your time there. This is where knowledge of German will present a great advantage!

Universities offer beginner and advanced level courses where you can learn German. You can also start learning the language while you are still in your home country at the Goethe-Institut.

Am I eligible to apply for a Master degree course?

In Germany, every university is autonomous. This means that every university / study programme has its own set of criteria for admitting students. So please check the university website, and specifically the programme you are interested in to find out the exact admission requirements.

As a three/four-year Bachelor degree holder from Sri Lanka, you are generally eligible to apply for a Master programme.

Most universities will ask for your scores in English language proficiency tests such as TOEFL or IELTS. Additionally, GRE/GATE/GMAT scores may be required depending upon the subject you choose to study. For example, GMAT may be asked for if you want to study management, economics or law. Universities will ask for very good German language skills in case you want to take up a programme in German medium. In such case, your knowledge of German needs to be certified through examinations like the TestDaF or DSH.

How do I go about applying?

It is advisable to start your preparations about a year in advance.

Step 1

Collect information from the DAAD, internet and brochures. Attend DAAD information sessions or webinars. Details about our information events are available on www.daad-sri-lanka.org.

Step 2

Contact the selected university. This will be your most important source of information as far as exact details about eligibility, course duration, fee, application procedure etc. are concerned. Study programmes may have winter semester (October – March) or summer semester (April – September) intakes. Check the application deadline.

Step 3

The website of the course / university you have chosen will carry details about application procedure to be followed. Accordingly, send your application either to the university or to uni-assist. Uni-assist is a body that accepts your application, screens it and forwards it to its member universities of your choice against payment. Member universities of uni-assist often do not entertain direct applications. Please check www.uni-assist.de/en/ for the list of member universities.

Step 4

Apply for a student visa as soon as you have the admission letter, as the procedure can take 8 to 12 weeks. To find out where you should apply for a visa, visit the website of the Germany Embassy. Proof of funding for the first year of studies is required.

Arrange for accommodation. The International Office of the university can be of help.

Step 5

Arrive in Germany at least a week before your course begins. Contact the International Office of your university for further guidance. Get your residence permit within the first three months of your stay in Germany from the Foreigners' Registration Office.