DAAD

Study Scholarships - Master Studies for All Academic Disciplines • **DAAD**

Overview

Objective

This scholarship programme offers you the opportunity to continue your academic education in Germany with a postgraduate course of study. The scholarships are funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

Who can apply?

You can apply if you have completed your first degree (e.g. Bachelor's or Diplom) at the latest by the time the funding period begins.

Please note: For applicants from artistic disciplines and the field of architecture (including Urban Design), the DAAD offers the following scholarship programmes:

- Architecture [https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-stipendiendatenbank/?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=architektur&page=1&detail=57135744]
- Fine Art/Design/Film [https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-stipendiendatenbank/?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=bildende%20kunst&page=1&detail=57135742]
- Performing Art [https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-stipendiendatenbank/?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=darstellende%20kunst&page=1&detail=50109971]
- Music [https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=musik&page=1&detail=57135743]

What can be funded?

The programme provides funding for

- **a whole postgraduate or Master's degree programme** completed at a state or state-recognised university in Germany
  or
- **one year of study** in Germany as part of a second or Master's degree completed at your home university. The general condition is that the academic credits you gain in Germany are recognised by your home university. Moreover, the standard period of study at your home university should not be exceeded as a result of the study year in Germany.

Funding is not possible for a Master's degree programme that has already begun in Germany. Funding is only available for degree programmes starting in the winter semester of the following year.

Duration of the funding

Depending on the length of your chosen programme, the scholarship is intended for visits of **between 10 and 24 months**.
The scholarships are awarded for the duration of the standard period of study for the chosen programme (up to a maximum of 24 months). Please state the entire period for which you wish to apply for a scholarship in your application. If you are planning a 2-year degree programme, you must indicate two years as the desired scholarship duration in your application. After the first year of study, your academic achievements will be assessed. If this shows that you will successfully complete your programme within a reasonable period of time, the scholarship will continue as planned.

Funding must begin in 2027. The scholarship usually begins on 1 October 2027, or earlier if you take a German language course prior to the study programme.

Value

- Scholarship payments of 992 euros a month
- Payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover (see also our → important information for scholarship applicants [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] / section F, point 4)
- Travel allowance [https://static.daad.de/media/daad_de/pdfs_nicht_barrierefrei/im-ausland-studieren-forschen-lehren/daad_reisekostenzuschuesse_stipendiaten.pdf] (upon application only)
- Annually study allowance of € 460

Under certain circumstances, you can apply for the following additional benefits after start of funding:

- Monthly rent subsidy (please read the → important scholarship information [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] / section F, point 9)
- Monthly allowance for accompanying members of family. Please also read our → important information for scholarship applicants [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] / section F, point 3
- In case of a disability or chronic illness: on application, a subsidy may be provided for justified additional costs incurred abroad that are necessary to realise the project in Germany and that are not covered by a third party; whether and to what extent a subsidy will be paid will be reviewed and determined on an individual basis (see → important information for scholarship applicants [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] , section F, point 8)
- Green Mobility Top Up (Support for climate-friendly travel) or reimbursement of carbon offset payments for air travel

To allow you to improve your language skills in preparation for your stay in Germany, the DAAD offers the following benefits:

- Payment of course fees for an online language course after receipt of the Scholarship Award Letter
- if necessary: German language course (2, 4 or 6 months) before the start of the study visit in Germany; the DAAD decides whether to fund participation and for how long depending on German language skills and project. Participation in a language course is compulsory if the study programme is taught in German.
- Allowance for a personally chosen German language course during the scholarship period
- Reimbursement of the fee for a TestDaF or DSH test, which you can take either in your home country after you have received your Letter of Award or in Germany during your funding period.

Please note that the DAAD does **not cover tuition fees** (→ important information for scholarship applicants [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/] / section F, point 7).]

Selection

An independent selection committee consisting of specialist scientists reviews applications.

The Selection criteria are:

Academic qualification

- Academic achievements
- School leaving certificate, if applicable
- Course of studies
- Knowledge of the language(s) of instruction or working language(s)
- If applicable, relevant internships, work experience

Quality of the study project

- Quality of the study project and of the preparation (preliminary information, choice of degree programme, host university and establishment of contacts)
- Integration of the project into the academic career path

Potential of the applicant

- Motivation: academic and personal reasons for the stay in Germany, German language skills (if different from the working language);
- Prospects: Significance of the stay in Germany for further academic, professional and personal development.
- Extracurricular commitment: extracurricular knowledge and skills, social commitment.

In addition, the selection committee will give due consideration to aspects of equal opportunities, on which you can provide information in the application form.

For further information on the selection procedure, please refer to the
→ Important Scholarship Information [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
/ Section E.

Application requirements

What requirements must be met?

Please check if the following criteria are fulfilled:

- As a rule, your most recent university degree should not date back more than 6 years at the time of the application deadline. Please read our
  → important information for scholarship applicants / Section A, point 2 [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
  .
- **You yourself are responsible** for ensuring your application for admission to the German university for your chosen study programme is submitted by the due date. It is therefore important that you find out about admission requirements, application and enrolment deadlines at your host university and regulations regarding entry into Germany in good time. If you have not yet received notification of admission at the time of application, you must submit this before the funding period begins. A Scholarship Award Letter from the DAAD is only valid if you have been admitted to study at the host university named in your application.
- If the degree programme includes a period of study or work placement outside Germany lasting several months, this period abroad is usually only funded under the following conditions:
  - The study visit is essential for achievement of the scholarship objective,

- the visit does not take place in the home country, and
- it is no longer than a quarter of the scholarship period (for joint and double-degree programmes up to 50%, if this is specified in the study regulations). Longer periods cannot be funded, not even partially.

- Your application **cannot** be considered, if you have been resident in Germany for longer than 15 months at the application deadline.
- The average grade of your Bachelor's degree must be at least 90 per cent (or equivalent).

Language skills

The language of instruction for study programmes in Germany is German. In international programmes, the language of instruction is English, or German **and** English.

When you **apply to the DAAD for a scholarship**, you must provide proof of your **level of proficiency in the language of instruction** (German, English, or German **and** English) in your chosen study programme.

- If the language of instruction is **German**, the following certificates are usually eligible: TestDaF, DSH, Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz (DSD), Goethe-Zertifikat, Österreichisches Sprachdiplom, telc Deutsch and onSET Deutsch.
- If the language of instruction is **English**, the following certificates can be submitted, for example: Cambridge English, Cambridge Business, IELTS, ISE, TOEFL iBT, TOEFL Essentials, TOEIC, PTE Academic, onSET English and Duolingo English Test.

Further information on this can be found in our
→ important information for scholarship applicants [https://www.daad.de/en/studying-in-germany/scholarships/information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
(A.9 and D.5 to D.8).
In the section 'Application procedure' under 'Application documents', find out whether specific certification is required for your country of origin.

When applying for admission to a German university, and thus for **taking up your scholarship**, you will usually also need to submit proof of language proficiency demonstrating your knowledge of the language of instruction. German universities often specify exactly which language certificates are accepted and what level of proficiency is required. These language certificates may incur a fee, and the costs are not reimbursed by DAAD. Please check the websites of the degree programmes for further information.

Application Procedure

Application deadline

Application deadlines are updated annually in the second quarter. In most cases, they are in the same period as the previous year. You can find the current dates here:

31.08.2026
Selection date in February 2027
Start of funding in Wintersemester 2027/28

Application documents

After registering on the DAAD portal, please complete the **online application** in full. Then upload the application documents listed below to the DAAD portal in the section ‘Attachments’.
Application documents may be scanned in non-certified form and uploaded to the DAAD portal. The DAAD reserves the right to request certified copies of the documents.

If you submit documents in your national language, please also include **German or English translations** (see also the
→ Important Scholarship Information [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
/ Section D, point 4).

Documents to be submitted to the DAAD portal:

- Full **curriculum vitae** in tabular form (max. 3 pages)
- Statement about academic and personal reasons for the planned study project in Germany (**letter of motivation**; 1 - 3 pages). Please also read our
  → important information for scholarship applicants / Section B, Point 1 [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
  . Please upload the letter of motivation under 'study project/motivation' in the DAAD portal.
- **Letter of admission** to the study programme at the host university in Germany. **If you have not yet received notification of admission at the time of application, you must submit this before the funding period begins.**
- **If you are planning to do a second degree or Master's programme in Germany,** you must submit the form 'Information about your preferred master programmes' [https://static.daad.de/media/daad_de/word-excel-nicht-barrierefrei/in-deutschland-studieren-forschen-lehren/a206b_studiengangsinfo-information_about_the_study_programme.docx]. Please upload the form duly completed under 'course profile' in the DAAD portal.
- **If you are planning to spend time studying in Germany as part of a second or Master's degree programme abroad**, you must submit proof that credits acquired in Germany will be recognised by your home university.
- **Current overview of grades/ transcript of records** with individual grades (to be uploaded under 'university degree certificates' in the DAAD portal)
- **University degree certificate** indicating final grade(s): the certificate must be subsequently submitted by the time funding starts if you have not yet completed your programme at the time of application. Please upload your certificate under 'university degree certificates' in the DAAD portal.
- **Proof of knowledge of language(s) of instruction** in the chosen study programme (should be no older than 3 years). Please refer to 'Application requirements' to find out which proofs can generally be submitted. Depending on the country, specific documents may be required, which are listed below, if applicable. Please submit certificates via the DAAD portal even if the university does not require proof of language skills.
- One recent, supporting **letter of recommendation** from a university teacher which provides information about your qualifications (please also read our
  → Important Scholarship Information [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
  / Section D, point 3). Please regard the instructions given on the tab **'Submitting an application'**.
- Important notice: Submitting forged official documents (e.g. transcripts, identification documents, etc.) is a criminal offense and will result in permanent exclusion from reapplying for a scholarship from the DAAD.
- Valid identification document (passport, ID card, driver licence or student identity card) including your photograph, full name, date of birth and country of origin. Please upload under "Miscellaneous" in the DAAD portal; please note that you would need an official travel document, i.e. passport, upon your visa application at the latest.
- School leaving certificate with all individual grades (to be uploaded in the portal under "University entrance qualification")
- Proof of English language abilities, if the degree programme is to be completed in English: Not older than 3 years at the time of the application deadline (TOEFL min. 550, TOEFL iBT min. 79 or IELTS min. 6,5). TOEFL home edition or IELTS indicator (online test) are also accepted.

Optional:

- Other documents you think might be of relevance to your application (e.g. certificates of employment, proof of extracurricular engagement)

The application procedure occurs online through the DAAD portal.

Applications for this scholarship programme are possible between **1 June** and the stated application deadline.

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Please note

- Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents to the DAAD portal by the application deadline.
- The DAAD portal closes at 24.00 hrs. (CET or CEST) on the last application day. **If possible, please do not send your application on the final date in case technical problems occur.**
- Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your applications are complete.
- The application documents remain with the DAAD. Your personal data is saved by the DAAD in accordance with the Federal Data Protection Act and with the EU Data Protection Regulation insofar as this data is needed to process the application.

Contact and Consulting

Information and advisory centres

Please read the description of your programme of interest in detail. If you still have any question about DAAD scholarships, you will find further information among
→ “Important information for scholarship applicants” [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
.
In case you cannot find the right answer, you can also get in touch with our digital colleague “Amiko” to receive an immediate response (bottom right, by clicking on the chat bubble). Alternatively, please use the → contact form [https://www.daad.de/en/the-daad/contact/contact-study-research-in-germany/] to get in touch with the DAAD Info-Center. They will answer your question as soon as possible. However, this can take up to three working days. Furthermore, the DAAD Info-Center can also be contacted by phone, to get a guidance in English and German. Here is their number: +49 228 882 180 and their contact hours:
Monday – Thursday: From 9am till 12pm & 2pm till 4pm (CET or CEST)
Friday: From 9am – 2pm (CET or CEST)

More detailed information

- DAAD website section
  → 'Important information for scholarship applicants' [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]
- DAAD website section → 'Study programmes and language courses' [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/courses-of-study-in-germany//]
- DAAD website section → 'Plan your studies' [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/] to help you prepare for your stay in Germany
- Campaign website https://www.study-in-germany.de/en/ [https://www.study-in-germany.de/en/]
- In many countries, there are DAAD-lecturers whom you can contact with questions you may have about studying or conducting research in Germany. Take a look at → our map [https://www.daad.de/de/im-ausland-studieren-forschen-lehren/lehren-im-ausland/daad-lektorenprogramm/karte/] to find out where they are.

Downloads

- Form 'Information about your preferred master programmes' [https://static.daad.de/media/daad_de/word-excel-nicht-barrierefrei/in-deutschland-studieren-forschen-lehren/a206b_studiengangsinfo-information_about_the_study_programme.docx]

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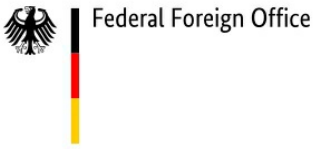

Please also take note of our [important scholarship information [https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/scholarships/important-information-for-scholarship-applicants/]].

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