



Baden-Württemberg

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND THE ARTS

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
الهيئة الألمانية للتبادل العلمي

Baden-Württemberg Scholarship Programme for Refugees from Syria II

Teaser

Scholarships for refugees from Syria who wish to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree programme in Baden-Württemberg

Programme goal

The Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts Baden-Württemberg has allocated additional funding to provide academically qualified refugees from Syria a new perspective and ensure that their potential does not go untapped. This funding programme offers refugees from Syria, currently residing in Baden-Württemberg, financial aid to enrol in or continue a degree programme at a university in the state of Baden-Württemberg. Especially talented and academically motivated students, who finance their living expenses through BAföG or other sources, are eligible to receive a **merit-based partial scholarship** of 300 euros per month.

The scholarships are intended to help the recipients actively shape their future in Baden-Württemberg, and should they decide to return home to Syria, enable them to play an integral role in rebuilding their country.

This funding programme is managed by the DAAD on behalf of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

Who can apply?

Applicants must be Syrian nationals or individuals who continuously resided in Syria prior to 2011 and were forced to flee from Syria due to the civil war and are now residents of Baden-Württemberg.

This programme is targeted at those who are eligible to receive BAföG in accordance with §8, especially those with a valid residence permit (*Aufenthaltserlaubnis*) in accordance with §23 par. 1, par. 2 or par. 4, and §25 par. 1 and 2 of the German Residence Act. Other individuals may also receive funding, albeit not on a preferential basis.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements for the respective bachelor's or master's degree programme at Baden-Württemberg's institutions of higher education.

As a rule, the applicants' higher education entrance qualification, or their most recent academic degree, must have been obtained within the past six years.

Female applicants are especially encouraged to apply.

What is funded?

This programme awards scholarships to students who wish to enrol in a bachelor's or master's degree programme in Baden-Württemberg in any discipline. Applicants interested in studying Art, Music or Sport may apply for funding if they have already gained admission to the respective subject at a university in Baden-Württemberg or are currently enrolled in the respective programme in Baden-Württemberg.

The state of Baden-Württemberg has the most and largest variety of

universities in all of Germany. Applicants, who meet the respective prerequisites for study, can choose from some 2,700 degree programmes at 80 institutions of higher education in Baden-Württemberg.

- Teaching and research are closely intertwined at the major **universities** in Baden-Württemberg. Students learn the principles of scientific work which allows them to acquire theoretical and methodical knowledge along with key areas of competence, such as analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Baden-Württemberg also operates teacher training colleges (**Pädagogische Hochschulen**) where students can gain qualification to become teachers themselves. In contrast to other states in Germany, these colleges have a distinctive character all their own. The academic programmes intensively prepare future teachers for assignments in primary, vocational, general, comprehensive secondary (*Realschule*) and special education schools at the highest academic level.
- The **Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University** (DHBW) combines the advantages of an academic programme with those of practical vocational training. Theory and practice are closely interwoven in joint coordination with the state and industry. In cooperation with some 9,000 partnered firms and social organisations, the Cooperative State University offers a broad spectrum of bachelor's and master's degree programmes in the areas of business administration, technology and social services.
- **Universities of applied sciences** (HAW) in Baden-Württemberg are unique in that they combine academics and practical experience in their programmes. These universities offer demanding, future-oriented degree programmes and produce qualified professionals in cooperation with business partners.
- In **colleges of art and music**, talented young adults are trained to become musicians, actors, dancers, designers, filmmakers, music journalists and fine artists. With their various training and subject profiles, these institutions comprehensively cover the entire spectrum of academic opportunities in artistic education.

For detailed descriptions of the diverse range of degree programmes and institutions of higher education, visit:

- www.studieninfo-bw.de
- www.studyguide-bw.de

The MWK website offers a special online guide for prospective students with a refugee background. To gain an overview of the diverse study opportunities available to you at universities in Baden-Württemberg, visit:

<http://mwk.baden-wuerttemberg.de/de/hochschulen-studium/studieninformationen-fuer-fluechtlinge/>.

Duration of funding

Selected candidates will begin their German language course in July 2016 and – provided they meet the programme’s language requirements – will commence their studies at a university in Baden-Württemberg in the winter semester 2016/2017. The duration of funding is based on the standard period of study of the chosen degree programme and the DAAD funding regulations. The regular funding period is three years for bachelor’s students and two years for master’s students (if applicable, an additional year for a language course).

Scholarship benefits

The scholarship covers the following expenses:

- German language course prior to enrolment in the degree programme
- University preparatory measures (if necessary) such as subject-related courses at a *Studienkolleg*, or English language courses
- Monthly scholarship instalments of 300 euros to cover the cost of:
 - Learning materials, such as books etc.
 - Administrative expenses or other fees and charges related to university enrolment
 - Participation in excursions, field trips and academic conferences
 - Travel expenses

The scholarship does not include a subsistence allowance, i.e. funding for living expenses.

Selection process

All candidates, who do not have a German university transcript or a TestAS certificate, are required to take the Test for Academic Studies (TestAS). The TestAS results, or any completed university coursework, will be considered in the selection process.

Following a preliminary review of the application documents, candidates will receive information regarding the testing centres and dates of the upcoming TestAS. You can find more information about the TestAS at: www.testas.de/

Submitted foreign transcripts and certificates will be evaluated by the Studienkolleg Konstanz, and the candidate’s marks will be converted to equivalent marks in the German grading system.

On the basis of the submitted documents and TestAS results, the review board will make a preliminary selection. Preselected candidates will be invited to a personal interview in Stuttgart around the end of June 2016.

Please note: Interviews will only be conducted in German or English!

The final selection is based on how well the candidate is suited to his/her desired degree programme in Baden-Württemberg. This evaluation is determined by the candidate’s prior academic achievement in secondary school or university, his/her language skills, TestAS results and general

motivation.

Preselected candidates must present the originals of all previously submitted documents at the interview!

The travel expenses for attending the interview in Stuttgart will be reimbursed for up to an amount equivalent to the price of a "Baden-Württemberg Ticket".

Application requirements

Those applying for a scholarship to enrol in a bachelor's degree programme require:

- "General Secondary Education Certificate" which entitles the candidate to apply for admission to an institution of higher education in Baden-Württemberg. As a rule, candidates holding a secondary school-leaving certificate from Syria with at least 70% of the maximum number of points may apply directly for university admission. Those who achieved between 60% and 69% of the maximum number of points must have already studied for at least one year at a university, which is officially recognised in Germany. Candidates who received a final examination grade below 60% in their Syrian secondary school-leaving certificate are not eligible to apply to this programme.

Those applying for a scholarship to enrol in a master's degree programme require:

- Bachelor's degree with at least 70% of the maximum number of points from an institution of higher education, which is officially recognised in Germany

The following applies to both groups:

- Good knowledge of German or English (see below)
- The candidate's most recent academic degree should be no older than six years at the time of application.

Please note!

Application to University

When applying to university, you alone are responsible for ensuring that your application is submitted on time. If notification of admission is not yet available at the time of application for this scholarship programme, you must submit it before commencing your studies.

Language requirements

Candidates must present proof that they meet the language requirements of their desired degree programme no later than the date of enrolment at a university in Baden-Württemberg.

Candidates planning to enrol in a **German-language degree programme:**

Candidates may apply before they have gained the necessary language proficiency in German. In this case, they will have to be able to converse in English during the selection interview. If the candidate is awarded a scholarship, he or she must achieve the German language proficiency required for study during a one-year language course (usually substantiated by a DSH or TestDaF certificate).

Candidates planning to enrol in an **English-language degree programme:**

Candidates are not required to have German language skills, but must be able to converse in English at the selection interview and provide proof of English language proficiency as required for their degree programme no later than the date of enrolment. As a rule, proficiency is substantiated with a TOEFL score of 550 paper-based, 213 computer-based, 80 internet-based or equivalently the IELTS band scale 6. The required level of proficiency varies, however, depending on the degree programme, and candidates are asked to find out the required level in advance from the website of their desired degree programme.

Application documents

Candidates are required to apply online via the DAAD application portal:

www.daad.de/bw-programme

Applications can be submitted in either German or English.

Please note that the tab function “Submitting an application” in the scholarship database is only shown for the duration of the application period. Following the submission deadline, the programme can no longer be accessed via the portal.

Please submit the following documents via the online portal:

- Application form (downloadable from the portal)
- Complete Curriculum vitae (CV; max. 3 pages)
- Letter of motivation (1-3 pages)
- Copy of passport (if available) including proof of current residence status (visa, residence permit etc.) and proof of residence in Baden-Württemberg (*Meldebescheinigung*)
- Financial self-disclosure stating how the candidate intends to finance his/her studies, and especially living expenses
- TestAS certificate, if available
- Scanned Internet printout about the desired degree programme (max. 4 pages)
- Copy of secondary school-leaving certificate (listing all individual grades)
- For those applying for admission to a master's degree programme: copy of bachelor's degree and certificates of completed courses listing all final examinations with individual final grade(s), including an

explanation of the grading system

- For those applying for a scholarship to study Art, Music and Sport: proof of admission / enrolment in the respective degree programme at an institution of higher education in Baden-Württemberg
- Proof of German and/or English language proficiency (preferably DSH or TestDaF certificate for German, and TOEFL or IELTS certificate for English; in some cases, other certificates may be recognised)
- If available: Letter of admission to the desired degree programme in Baden-Württemberg or confirmation that you have applied for admission at a university in Baden-Württemberg
- If available: Proof of previously completed courses (transcript of records) at a German university
- Other documents which could be important for your application (e.g. proof of completed internships, work certificates, references etc.)
- German or English translation of all foreign-language documents
- Declaration of consent to have one's personal data and application documents forwarded to third parties for the purpose of assessing one's certificates and administering the TestAS.

The selection committee will only consider applications which contain all of the required application documents.

Submission deadline

31 March 2016

Application address

Applications may only be submitted via the DAAD application portal:
www.daad.de/bw-programme
It is not possible to submit applications to any other address.

Contact/ Advising

If you have any questions, please contact us by e-mail at:
bw-programme@daad.de

<http://mwk.baden-wuerttemberg.de/stipendienprogramm-syrien>