

## Undergraduate Education in Germany

1. Undergraduate courses at German universities take normally three to four years and lead to a Bachelor's degree. Exceptions apply, for example, to Medical Education and Law.
2. Most undergraduate courses at German universities are taught in German language. However, applicants can also select from a growing number of undergraduate courses with English as medium of instruction.
3. HSSC (FSc) is not accepted as an entrance qualification to German universities.
4. Undergraduate courses at public universities are free of tuition fees.
5. Neither DAAD nor any other German organization provide scholarships for foreign students enrolled in undergraduate courses!
6. Living expenses cannot be financed by part-time jobs only.

### Some important information:

Studying in Germany requires personal and intellectual independence, discipline and the ability to adapt. You will be responsible for creating your own time-table every term and professors will expect from you to independently organize your learning process and your learning outcomes. Examine yourself honestly if you can meet these challenges and prepare everything carefully.

### General admission requirements:

1. A levels certificate comprising at least four academic subjects including one language and one subject from Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry or Physics. One subject may have been completed at AS level. (Depending on the selected degree course, more requirements may apply.) Language Certificate German (Level C1 or C2) or English (TOEFL/IELTS) according to the entrance requirements of the selected degree course. **OR**
2. FSc + one year *Studienkolleg* + university entrance exam (*Feststellungsprüfung*). To apply for admission to *Studienkolleg*, knowledge of German language level B1 is required. The *Feststellungsprüfung* later also will prove your proficiency in German. **OR**

3. FSc + one successfully completed year in the same or a similar subject at a Pakistani university + proof of language proficiency as under 1.

## Language requirements

For undergraduate courses with German as language of instruction, you will have to pass a language test (TestDaF or Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang - DSH). To pass this language test, you have to prove German language knowledge of level C1 or C2 of the "Common European framework of references for languages". Count on 8 to 10 months of intensive language learning under professional guidance to reach that level. At the time being, you can take TestDaF at Goethe Institute in Karachi. Usually 4x4 score, equaling C1 level, is required for studying in Germany. If you take a Goethe Institute exam, C2 level is required. Make sure to take this exam before leaving to Germany.

For undergraduate courses with English as language of instruction, in most cases an official IELTS or TOEFL report is required (see information at the university's website).

## How to find the right degree course:

**All subjects:** To search for an undergraduate course, use the database at [www.study-in-germany.de](http://www.study-in-germany.de). To select the most suitable university for you, you may use the rankings offered at <http://ranking.zeit.de/che2016/en/>. In some subjects, like for example engineering or business studies, you may find undergraduate courses at **universities** as well as at **universities of applied sciences** (*Fachhochschulen*). Universities of applied sciences offer excellent training for leading positions in the corporate sector. Traditional (research) universities have a stronger emphasis on theory. If you have serious plans to go for your PhD later, a university or technical university may be the better option. Universities of applied sciences usually do not award PhD degrees but you may continue at a university after graduation.

**Medical education:** Degree course of 6 years and 3 months leading to the German state exam, language of instruction exclusively German, no scholarships, very competitive admission and demanding training. For more information, see our special information sheet (Study in Germany – Medical Education). **Only recommendable for outstanding A-level-holders with sufficient financial resources.**

**Law:** Courses leading to the German state exam train future lawyers, judges and prosecutors according to the German law. Education is in German language only. Courses are extremely tough with high failure rates. **Not recommendable for foreign students.**

**Journalism / Mass Communication:** These courses, when run in English language, are mostly focused on the role of the media in a given society. Journalist's training in Germany is done in German language and comprises a lot of practical training (writing articles and documentaries, investigating a topic etc.). Excellent command of the German language is a must. German top journalists have a first degree in a relevant academic subject (law, economics, political sciences) before they join one of the journalist schools, which are all run in German language and have very competitive admission criteria. **Unrealistic for foreign students who do not master the German language perfectly.**

**Education / Social Work:** These subjects are closely linked to German society, culture and law and require practical work with German speaking clients / children who expect a very good command of the German language. **Mostly not realistic for foreign students.**

## What will it cost?

Though most public universities in Germany do not charge tuition fees, count on a minimum of 700 – 800 Euros to cover the typical monthly living costs of a student.

## Will I be allowed to work?

Students from non-EU countries (like Pakistan) are allowed to work 120 full days or 240 half days per year. But keep in mind that your degree course will be time and energy consuming and students are expected to focus on their studies all day. **Do not plan to finance yourself completely through a job.** A good command of the German language will often be necessary when looking for a student job.

## Will I have a chance to stay and work in Germany after my graduation?

After graduation, you are welcome to look for an employment in your field of qualification. If you get a job offer within 18 months after your graduation, you may apply for a residents/work permit. Keep in mind that a good command of the German language will be essential when job hunting.

## What are the next steps?

1. Start learning German early enough. If you cannot learn enough German at school, contact Goethe Institute Karachi, Annemarie Schimmel House Lahore or NUML Islamabad.
2. Select your degree course carefully and read all relevant information at the website of the course/university. Make sure you know the application requirements. Find out whether you have to apply to the university directly or via Uni-Assist. Uni-Assist facilitates the application process for a number of universities. If this is the case, the university will direct you to the website of Uni-Assist. (see: [www.uni-assist.de](http://www.uni-assist.de)) It is advisable to apply to at least three undergraduate courses.
3. If you have obtained or will obtain an FSc degree, make yourself familiar with the *Studienkollegs* and their requirements for admission [www.studienkollegs.de](http://www.studienkollegs.de). In most cases, you will have to apply for admission to the degree course first, indicating that you first have to attend the *Studienkolleg*.
4. Arrange for your financial resources. You will need a minimum of 8,640 Euro per year. Please see the website of the German Embassy in Islamabad (visa section) for further details.
5. Register for TOEFL/IELTS if you need to submit proof of your English language proficiency.
6. Make an appointment at the German Embassy or Consulate General for the certification of your documents.
7. Submit your application **early**.
8. Apply for a passport or check the expiry date of your passport. It should be valid for at least two more years.
9. **Book your appointment at the visa section of the German Embassy at least four months before you plan to leave for Germany!** Waiting time for an appointment may be up to three months, handling time is about four weeks, but sometimes more. **Don't book your appointment only after your admission letter has arrived. That would be too late!!!** People from Sindh and Balochistan can go to the Consulate General in Karachi without appointment.

10. Open a blocked account at a UBL branch in Pakistan and submit the minimum deposit of 8,640 Euro.  
(<https://pakistan.diplo.de/pk-en/service/-/1995528>)
11. If at the time of your appointment at the visa section, the letter of admission has not arrived, apply for a student applicant's visa. Bring proof of your application(s).
12. Arrange for your accommodation as early as possible. Contact the international office at your university or the *Studentenwerk* (check university website). **Undergraduate admission does not automatically come with a place in a student hall!**

### Shall I employ a consultant?

A number of consultants in Pakistan offer their assistance in finding a degree course for you and help you get a visa. Before employing a consultant, please consider the following:

1. **Nobody can "arrange" for your admission to a German university.** There is no other way than to fill the application form and submit the required documents. That's not too difficult.
2. **Submitting motivational letters (if requested) written by anybody else but the applying student is fraud.** And keep in mind that nobody but you can present your experience and motivation in a really convincing way. This requires some time and effort, but it is worth it.
3. **Nobody can speed up the visa process or "arrange" a visa for you.** Even though some people try to make you believe that they have "good connections" at the embassy. Do not believe them.
4. **DAAD is the only organization authorized by the German government to provide information on study in Germany.** DAAD does not charge any fees for its service, nor do we charge you for any printed material. You are welcome to visit our websites [www.study-in-germany.de](http://www.study-in-germany.de), [www.ic.daad.de/islamabad](http://www.ic.daad.de/islamabad) or contact us on Facebook (see below).

### Fees

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| 1) Application for university admission: |   |
| When applying via Uni-Assist:            | 75 Euro for first university,<br>30 Euro for every additional university. |
| When applying to the university:         | Only few universities charge application fees.                            |
| 2) Visa fees:                            | 60 Euro (in PKR), see embassy website                                     |

### More information:

[www.study-in-germany.de](http://www.study-in-germany.de) (All about study in Germany)

[www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de) (Website of DAAD)

[www.ic.daad.de/islamabad](http://www.ic.daad.de/islamabad) (Website of DAAD in Pakistan)

[www.pakistan.diplo.de](http://www.pakistan.diplo.de) (Website of the German Embassy and the Consulate General in Karachi)

[http://www.pakistan.diplo.de/contentblob/4854702/Daten/6790658/Merkblatt\\_Hinweise\\_Versand\\_fr\\_DB\\_Eng\\_dd.pdf](http://www.pakistan.diplo.de/contentblob/4854702/Daten/6790658/Merkblatt_Hinweise_Versand_fr_DB_Eng_dd.pdf) (Information on blocked accounts)

[www.studienkollegs.de](http://www.studienkollegs.de) (All about *studienkollegs*)

[www.goethe.de/pakistan](http://www.goethe.de/pakistan) (Goethe Institute Karachi - German language)

[www.schimmel.com.pk](http://www.schimmel.com.pk) (Annemarie Schimmel Haus Lahore – German language)

[www.numl.edu.pk](http://www.numl.edu.pk) (NUML Islamabad - German language)

[www.deutsch-uni.com](http://www.deutsch-uni.com) (Deutsch-Uni Online – German language courses online)

[www.dw.com/en/](http://www.dw.com/en/) (German/European news and FREE German language courses)

[www.facebook.com/daadicpakistan](https://www.facebook.com/daadicpakistan) (Facebook group DAAD Pakistan)

[www.facebook.com/Study.in.Germany](https://www.facebook.com/Study.in.Germany) (Facebook group run by the DAAD head office)

[www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en/](http://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en/) (Facts about Germany. A lot of useful information)