

More Information for Living and Studying in Berlin

Please check the HU Guide for International Students for any further questions:

https://www.international.hu-berlin.de/en/studierende/aus-dem-ausland/wegweiser?set_language=en

USEFUL UNIVERSITY ADDRESSES AND WEBSITES

Humboldt University
Unter den Linden 6
10099 Berlin

☎ +49 (0) 30 2093-0 (main reception)

https://www.hu-berlin.de/en?set_language=en

Centre for British Studies
Mohrenstraße 60
10117 Berlin

☎ +49 (0) 30 2093-99040/99050

✉ gbz@gbz.hu-berlin.de

<http://www.gbz.hu-berlin.de/>

Abteilung Internationales, Humboldt University (International Office)
Unter den Linden 6
Main Building, second floor, room 2243b
10099 Berlin

☎ +49 (0)30 2093-2565

https://www.international.hu-berlin.de/en?set_language=en

Beratung für ausländische Studierende (Advisory Service for International Students)

Betreuung und Beratung internationaler Studierender, Promovierender und Wissenschaftler

Frau Ulrike Spangenberg

Unter den Linden 6, Room 2245a

10117 Berlin

☎ +49 (0) 30 2093-46712

✉ ulrike.spangenberg@uv.hu-berlin.de

This is an information and advisory service run by the student council of the Humboldt-Universität. If you have problems concerning language, finances, accommodation, visa, registration – the student advisor may be able to assist you.

International Club
"Orbis Humboldtianus"
University main building
Unter den Linden 6, Room 1068, ground floor
✉ orbis@uv.hu-berlin.de
https://www.international.hu-berlin.de/en/studierende/an-der-hu/orbis-infothek?set_language=en

This is where you can hang out and meet other international and local students. They run a programme introducing you to the cultural sites of Berlin and also offer a so-called 'visa service' which might be useful in obtaining your residence permit. But you'd have to leave your passport with them.

VISA APPLICATION

For the current necessary entry requirements please ask at the German embassy in your home country. If a visa is required **start the application process as early as possible** as it may take quite a lot of time. You need a visa for studying in Germany – a tourist visa will not do in this case. One of the main prerequisites for obtaining such a visa is the certificate of admission which we sent you and a financial proof of **10.332 Euro** according to the German Foreign Office. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/sperrkonto/388600>

This can be done by

1. a bank statement of a German bank showing that you have the amount of money needed; or
2. a so-called *Verpflichtungserklärung* (declaration of suretyship) by a person living in Germany; or
3. a *Verpflichtungserklärung* by a member of your family in your home country (ask at the embassy for the form) proving that they have got the money to support you. For this you will need written confirmation (their bank statements) for at least the previous six months.

From our experience we can tell you that the whole procedure may be quite tedious and that it often takes longer than expected. **So please apply for your visa without any delay!**

If any problems with the embassy arise please tell us so immediately. If you give us a direct telephone number of the person responsible we can try and talk to them directly about your case. That often helps.

A NOTE ON HEALTH INSURANCE

Allgemeine Ortskrankenkasse AOK
Hegelplatz 1
10117 Berlin
Tel.:0800 26508024640

www.aok.de

Our contact people and university advisors are or Christopher Manicke, Christopher.Manicke@NORDOST.AOK.DE, or Paula Scholz, Paula.Scholz@NORDOST.AOK.DE. They can arrange insurance for you even before you enter Germany – just send one of them an email as early as possible. Once you're here it's best if you go to the AOK student office (Hegelplatz 1, 10117 Berlin, Tel.: 0800 26508024632) which specializes on student services and helps you figure out the best course of action. (Because of the virus it is better to check first if they are actually in their office.) They will hand out the certificate you need for the Foreigners Registration Office to get your residence permit.

Deutsche Angestelltenkrankenkasse DAK	www.dak.de
Kaufmännische Krankenkasse	www.kkh.de
Techniker Krankenkasse TK	www.tk.de

ACCOMODATION

Student Hostel "Studentendorf Schlachtensee" (Berlin-Zehlendorf/Dahlem)
Selbstverwaltung des Studentendorfes Schlachtensee e.V.
Wasgenstraße 75
14129 Berlin
☎ +49 (0)30 939 5040
<http://www.studentendorf-berlin.com/schlachtensee>

This student hostel is run independently and is situated close to the lake "Schlachtensee" (swimming possible) and to several supermarkets. It is not far from the S-Bahn-line 1 which has a stop close to the Centre for British Studies (S Brandenburger Tor, c. 45 min travelling time door to door). It is a safe and good place to live for students.

The student hostel is famous for its international flair and is highly recommended to all students looking for affordable accommodation and who want to get in touch with other students from Germany and from other countries.

In order to apply for a room in Schlachtensee you will need to fill in the application form on their website. Please indicate under "Comments" that you are a student of the Grossbritannien-Zentrum (contact person: Corinna Radke) and therefore do not have to pay the reservation fee of 100 Euro! For further details, take a look at their website.

Student Residence Halls

Studierendenwerk Berlin
Infopoint: Behrenstraße 40/41
10117 Berlin
☎ +49 (0) 30 93939 - 70
✉ info@stw.berlin.de

<https://www.stw.berlin/en/housing.html>

The student residence halls are run by the *Studierendenwerk* (Association for Student Affairs). Overall the *Studierendenwerk* offers rooms all over Berlin. Prices range from 200 to 450 Euros, depending on the location, and whether it is a single apartment or a shared flat. The standard of rooms may differ widely. When applying for a room there you may need to prove that you have paid your matriculation fees (bank statement). And you have to be quick as they have a lot of construction going on and rooms are scarce.

Apart from that, the website of the *Studierendenwerk* also runs a "Housing Forum" in Berlin, listing rooms in shared flats or apartments.

Flats/Shared Flats

- A good guide for general information on tenant's rights, landlord duties and tips for moving to Berlin in general can be found on <https://inberlinwohnen.de/junges-wohnen/> (unfortunately only in German).
- Furnished rooms and flats can be found under <https://www.crocodilian.de/>, www.easy-living4u.de/en, www.spotahome.com, <https://neonwood.com/> or <https://www.nestpick.com/>. This website is in English.
- For shared flats (Wohngemeinschaft = WG) also check www.wg-gesucht.de, www.die-wg-boerse.de, www.studenten-wg.de or www.wgcompany.de, www.uniplaces.com. However, don't be surprised by the small number of answers you'll receive on these pages (especially on [wg-gesucht.de](http://www.wg-gesucht.de)). Most students consider these their go-to sides for shared flats, hence advertisers are often flooded with applications from new students coming to Berlin. Be patient, the quicker you respond to the post the likelier you are to get an answer.
- As in most European capitals, social media groups are also a place to look for a flat. Compared to pages such as www.wg-gesucht.de the rate of answers you'll get is much higher. However, this is also a platform known for scams, so be cautious.
- For flats check www.immowelt.de or www.immobilienscout24.de
- Look for advertisements in the following newspapers and magazines (make use of the internet editions):
 - ✓ Berliner Morgenpost (Sundays)
 - ✓ Berliner Zeitung (Fridays)
 - ✓ Tagesspiegel (Saturdays)
 - ✓ Tip and Zitty (magazines published alternately every two weeks, info about what is going on in Berlin)
 - ✓ Zweite Hand (carries only advertisements, published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays: <http://www.zweitehand.de>)
- Information boards at the universities (HU, FU, TU)
- Another tip of a former student is: www.house-of-nations.de

Important tip: Do not pay any rental deposit (*Mietkaution*) to the landlord in cash. Alternatively, open a separate account for the deposit so that the interest accrued is paid out to your benefit when you give notice for the flat.

Student hotels

Reasonably priced accommodation for a few days is available in student hotels or backpackers' hostels, usually in shared rooms. For example:

www.hostelbookers.com

The Urban Club

Quite a few of our students from 2020 found places here: <https://www.the-urbanclub.com/the-clubs/theurbanclub-berlin-tegel/> This has a good not-too-central location for getting to the Centre everyday with the U-Bahn.

FURTHER INFORMATION

M.A.B.S. Course Teaching Period

First Semester: 18 October 2021 – 19 February 2022
(Christmas holidays: 20/12/2021 – 01/01/2022)

Second Semester: 19 April 2022 – 23 July 2022

Term breaks are not meant to be holidays. During the breaks students should finish their coursework and, in the summer break, prepare their work placement and their master thesis.

The Humboldt's Buddy Program

The *Buddy Program* aims to promote cultural exchange and international understanding. Local students are encouraged to help international students with questions before their arrival and during their stay in Berlin: <https://www.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/de/international/buddy>

Expenses

The minimum monthly living expenses in Berlin add up to approximately 850 Euro. If you want to look for financial help please check this website on the pages of Humboldt-Universität: <https://www.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/beratung/merk/finanz>

Semester ticket

After payment of all fees for the new semester, students will receive their Campus Card. It also functions as a semester ticket on public transport. We recommend that you have it issued with a passport photo so that you can use it on public transport without an additional photo ID. The semester ticket can be used in the ABC local transport zones operated by the Berlin-Brandenburg Transport Consortium (VBB). Students in need are entitled to apply for a

subsidy towards the cost of the semester ticket. Further information can be found at: <http://www.refrat.de/semix/wordpress/apply-now/>

General information about Berlin

<http://www.berlin.de>

<http://www.bvg.de/en> (public transport website)

FAQ on the immediate measures against coronavirus spread

<https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/press-portal/current-information-regarding-coronavirus/faq-for-students>

Support programmes and funds for (international) students in the Corona situation

<https://www.international.hu-berlin.de/en/studierende/welcomecentre/corona-assistance>