

The path to studying at a German college or university for non-EU applicants

Step 1: Check whether your school leaving certificate qualifies you for studies in Germany.

If you are qualified to study in your home country, you will be able to study in Germany.

Step 2: Check whether you can start studying in Germany directly, or whether you need to attend a Studienkolleg first.

The database at www.anabin.de will inform you about how your school leaving certificate is evaluated in Germany. Depending on this evaluation, you will either be able to directly start studying at a university, or you will need to first take a 1-year specialised course at a Studienkolleg.

Step 3: Inquire at the Studienkolleg of your choice about the necessary application documents.

Each Studienkolleg has different admission requirements and deadlines, so it is important to inquire at every Studienkolleg you are interested in, or to check their website.

Step 4: Check whether you can apply directly to the Studienkolleg of your choice, or whether you need to apply via uni-assist (www.uni-assist.de).

It is possible to apply directly to some Studienkollegs, while others require that you apply via uni-assist.

Step 5: Apply for a visa at the German embassy in your home country.

Step 6: Prepare for the entrance exam.

The individual Studienkollegs have different entrance exams, so it is important to look for information and mock exams on the Studienkollegs' websites. Some will have a mathematics exam and a German exam, while others will only have a German exam.

Step 7: Take the entrance exam.

In some countries, Studienkollegs have an outpost where you can sit the entrance exam. You will find information about this on the Studienkolleg's website. Usually, however, you will need to come to Germany to the Studienkolleg in order to write the entrance exam.