Study and Research in Germany
Facts about Germany

Geography

- **Population**: 81.8 million, about 9.1 million foreign citizens
- **Geographic location**: in the heart of Europe, diverse landscapes, mountains, coastal regions, North and Baltic Seas
- **Climate**: temperate
Facts about Germany

Foreign students in Germany

- About **2.7 million students in Germany**, among them more than **320,000 (12%) international students**.
- Most foreign students come from **China, India and Russia**.
Facts about Germany

Cultural diversity in Germany

- Multicultural society

- Largest immigrant groups from Turkey, Poland, Italy, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Romania, Syria

- Individual nationalities cultivate their own language and culture at nationally-specific cultural institutions.
What is the DAAD?

- Independent organisation of German institutions of higher education
- Members: 239 universities and research institutes, 121 student bodies
- Headquarters in Bonn
- 15 foreign-based branch offices and 56 information centres
- More than 100,000 scholarship holders each year
Goals and tasks of the DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Scholarships for the Best

Structures for Internationalisation

Expertise for Academic Collaborations
Study and Research in Germany

Network
The German university system
University tradition

- Humboldt’s vision of education: “Unity and freedom of research and instruction”
- Diversity of institutions and programmes at a high academic level
- About 430 HEI
- More than 18.500 study courses at German universities
The German university system

Degree programmes

- Bachelor‘s, master‘s, doctoral degrees
- State examination (certain subjects only)
- Traditional German degrees: Diplom, Magister (sporadic)
Tuition fees

- **no general tuition fees** are incurred at state universities (exception Baden Württemberg / Nordrhein-Westfalen)
- **Semester contribution** of up to € 250 - 300 per semester
- Inquire about the exact cost of tuition fees at the university in question
Many organisations in Germany offer scholarships.

- Politically-affiliated foundations
- Business-affiliated foundations
- German federal states
- Social institutions and churches
- Research institutes
- Student organisations

Look for a scholarship: [www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de)
Study scholarships
Graduates of all disciplines

In Brief
full Master's degree programme completed at a state or state-recognised university in Germany

Who?
Excellently-qualified graduates with a completed first degree (BA, MA or comparable academic degree).

Duration?
up to 24 months depending on the length of the chosen study programme

Value?
750 euros per month and additional allowances (health insurance, …).

http://www.daad.de
Students from non-EU countries are allowed to remain in Germany for the purpose of looking for employment for a maximum of **18 months** after graduating.

While looking for permanent full-time employment, you are allowed to work as much as you like.

**Blue Card Germany** makes the German job market especially appealing to international graduates.

Research in Germany
Almost 1,000 publicly funded research institutions

Research expenditures: 84 bn euros = 2.89% GDP

604,000 people in the R&D sector

Bilateral, European and multilateral cooperation with more than 155 countries
Pillars of the German research sector

Universities (HEIs)  Non-university research institutes  Industrial research

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Universities

- Approx. 400 HEIs – 148 authorised to confer doctorates
- Almost 29,000 international doctoral candidates
- Principle of uniting learning, instruction and research
- Excellence Initiative = 4.6 bn euros for cutting-edge research
Max Planck Society

83 institutes
€ 2.2 bn euros
13,300 researchers
47% of the researchers are of international origin
89 institutes
1.73 bn euros
9,300 researchers
20% of the researchers are of international origin
18 research centres
€ 4.24 bn euros
38,200 staff in total
7,500 of the researchers are of international origin (2014)
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

- 67 institutes
- € 2.1 bn euros
- 24,000 staff (in total)
Non-university research (II)

- Federal research institutions / departmental research (46)
- “Länder” research institutions (40)
- Academies of Sciences and Humanities
Industrial research

- 68% of all research funding in Germany comes from business and industry
- Innovation-driving sectors: pharmaceuticals, electronics, automotive engineering, mechanical engineering
- Technology transfer – Cluster formation, networks
## Funding for international researchers

### Different programmes for different purposes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Short-term research stay (up to 1 year)</th>
<th>Long-term research stay (more than 1 year)</th>
<th>Complete doctorate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of funding</strong></td>
<td>Grant / scholarship fellowship / award</td>
<td>Work contract</td>
<td>Funding*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of doctorate/position</strong></td>
<td>Individual doctoral project / structured doctoral programme</td>
<td>Postdoctoral researcher / junior research group leader / junior professorship</td>
<td>Senior researcher / research group leader / professorship</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*generally includes own salary and expenses for staff and consumables*
Funding for PhD Students
## Paths to a PhD

### Individual vs. structured PhD

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<tr>
<th>Individual PhD</th>
<th>Structured PhD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual research under supervision of supervisor</td>
<td>Guidance by a team of supervisors / supervising committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional courses or other forms of teaching / learning</td>
<td>Mandatory, fixed supporting curriculum (interdisciplinary)</td>
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<td>Mostly informal admission and marginal formalisation</td>
<td>Defined application process</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Offered by research training groups / graduate schools</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Financing your PhD

- No tuition fees
- Living costs: approx. 800 € (1200 AUD) per month
- Can be self- or parent-financed (external funding)
- Financed by the German supervisor or host institution
- Individual funding: research associate contracts (part-time)
- Apply for a scholarship
**Funding for PhD students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Programme</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Type of Funding</th>
<th>Type of Doctorate</th>
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<tr>
<td>DLR-DAAD Research Fellowships</td>
<td>Research stay (up to 2 years)</td>
<td>Work contract*</td>
<td>Individual doctoral project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Schools (DFG)</td>
<td>Complete doctorate</td>
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<td>Structured doctoral programme</td>
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<td>Green Talents (BMBF)</td>
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<td>Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Fraunhofer Institutes</td>
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<td>Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Helmholtz Centres</td>
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<td>Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Leibniz Institutes</td>
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<td>Indiv. Doctoral Projects at Max Planck Institutes</td>
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<td>Internat. Helmholtz Res. Schools &amp; Grad. Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Max Planck Research Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internat. Visiting Researchers at Max Planck Inst.</td>
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<td>Leibniz Graduate Schools and ScienceCampi</td>
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<td>MSC Innovative Training Networks</td>
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<td>Re-Invitation Programme (DAAD)</td>
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<td>Res. Grants – Bi-nationally Superv. Doct. Degrees (DAAD)</td>
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<td>Res. Grants – Doctoral Programmes (DAAD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Res. Grants – One-Year and Short-Term (DAAD)</td>
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<td>Research Training Groups (DFG)</td>
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<td>Support Early Career Res. in Clusters of Exc. (DFG)</td>
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<td>Support Early Career Res. in Collab. Res. Centres (DFG)</td>
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Funding for PhD students

Graduate and research schools

- DFG Research Training Groups at universities
- Excellence Initiative Graduate Schools at universities
- DAAD-funded doctoral programmes at universities or non-university research institutes
- International Max Planck Research Schools (IMPRS)
- International Helmholtz Research Schools and Graduate Schools
- Leibniz Graduate Schools and ScienceCampi
- European programme: MSC Innovative Training Networks
Research grants –
One-year and short-term grants

In Brief
Research project at a state-run or state-recognised university or non-university research institute in Germany

Who?
PhD students
Postdocs / Junior researchers

Duration?
One-year grants: 7–10 months
Short-term grants: 1–6 months

Value?
750–1,000 €/month + additional allowances

www.funding-guide.de
Sources of information
Need more information?
www.research-in-germany.org
Need more information?
www.study-in.de
Need more information?

www.funding-guide.de
Thank you!

Stefan Bienefeld