

# THE ESSLINGEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

## GRADUATE SCHOOL



## HINTS

## FOR PREPARING YOUR STUDIES

for the

**MBA in International Industrial Management**

**M.Eng. in Automotive Systems**

**M.Eng. in Design and Development in  
Automotive and Mechanical Engineering**

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## PREPARING FOR THE TRIP

### 1. NON-EU-STUDENTS

#### HOW TO GET A VISA

When we admit you, you receive an admission letter and an invitation letter for the German Embassy or Consulate informing them that you have been admitted to our course for the current academic year. You should **apply for a visa** at the embassy or consulate of your home country **immediately**. It can take months to receive a visa in some countries. Your study visa will normally be valid for 3-6 months so you will need to apply for a residence permit before expiry. The extension of your visa will cost approx. 100 Euros. This extension should last for the duration of your studies.

**If you need proof of health insurance for visa purposes please see the part below marked "Health Insurance – general information"**

<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/help-and-advice/publications/>

#### WHEN TO ARRIVE IN ESSLINGEN

If the 1 September is on Monday to Friday, you can check-in to the Student dormitory on that day. The dormitory office is closed at weekends which means if you arrive on Saturday or Sunday you will have to check-in the following Monday.

#### MONEY

The deadline for the payment of **study and registration fees for the M.Eng. Programme** is 15 July.

The deadline for the payment of **study and registration fees for the MBA Programme** is 15 July.

As most of you will not have a bank account in Germany, you will have to open one when you arrive.

Please note: If the fees are not paid by the above mentioned date, your registration at the University may be cancelled.

On arrival, you will have immediate "cash" expenditures for items such as: cultural excursions (approx. 150 Euros), student transport ticket (if required – approx. 200 Euros). There are also various social events connected to your studies, for which we collect a pre-payment of 50 Euros (subject to change) in advance. Please understand that as we are a public-run Hochschule there is no funding available for such things.

For your information, we do however receive contributions from some local companies and banks. These are used to pay some of the costs of some events and excursions.

#### TERM RELATED EXPENDITURES

**Health insurance**, which is obligatory in Germany, must be paid monthly via bank debit.

The **semester registration fee** includes, for example, cheap student cafeteria food and free public transport for the Esslingen region on evenings and weekends.

The **study and registration fees** for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester must be paid in July, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester in January and the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester in June. The payment can only be done via bank debit from your own account in Germany. Payments from abroad are not accepted.

## **BANK ACCOUNT**

When you arrive, you must open a bank account in order to pay fees, health insurance and rent etc. Credit cards are accepted in many places throughout Europe, but not everywhere. Some small shops will not accept credit cards so you will always need some cash.

## **BLOCKED ACCOUNT – SPERRKONTO (FOR VISA PURPOSES)**

On order to get a Visa some applicants have to open a so called „Sperrkonto“ before the visa can be issued. In this account, there must be a balance of 11,208 Euros. With this type of account, you will only be able to withdraw 934 Euros per month.

This means that if you have to withdraw a larger amount; for instance, to pay study fees the bank will not let you.

**This means we recommend that your account should have a balance of around 13,500 Euros at the beginning of your studies**

## **HEALTH INSURANCE – GENERAL INFORMATION**

Health insurance is **mandatory** in Germany. You must register with a statutory health insurance company immediately after arrival. For enrolment at the university you must provide an insurance certificate.

If you are from an EU country or over 30 you need an exemption certificate. These are issued by a statutory health insurance company.

**If you wish to get a membership certificate from a statutory health insurance company in advance (for visa purposes) please contact the following person for more information:**

Mr. Can Güler: [Can.gueler@bw.aok.de](mailto:Can.gueler@bw.aok.de) is our local contact at the AOK health insurance company. Please contact them directly to apply for health insurance or further information regarding this.

**For students up to 30 years of age**, statutory health insurance provides overall insurance coverage for approx. 110 Euros a month.

- **Students coming from an EU-country** - Your home country health insurance (EHIC) normally covers all medical costs in Germany. Please check this with your national health insurance.
- **Students over 30 coming from a non-EU-country** - The statutory health insurance scheme does not insure students over 30 years. You will have to take private student insurance coverage. There are special policies for older students available. See these links: <https://www.mawista.com/en/health-insurance-for-foreign-nationals-in-germany/health-insurance-for-students/> or <http://www.care-concept.de/sprachschueler.php>

## **PERSONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

The Hochschule Esslingen **highly recommends** its students to take out a personal liability insurance to cover any unforeseen risks. Such insurance covers risks where expensive damage may occur, e.g. in rented rooms or flats, involvement in accidental bodily injury, damage/loss of property etc. This insurance is very reasonable at approx. 30-50 Euros per year and is essential for your own financial safety while in Germany.

<https://privathaftpflicht.check24.de/privathaftpflicht/benutzereingaben/>

## **TELEPHONE / INTERNET**

Internet access is not available in all dormitories. You may need to make a contract yourself. There is wireless available on campus.

## GERMAN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

On arrival, you must prove that you have completed level A1 (at least). German language skills at minimum level A2 (according CEFR) must be proved **by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester**. If you do not meet with this admission requirement, you may be ex-matriculated.

Speaking German is very important for students not only to manage everyday life, but also to apply for a placement in industry for your Master's thesis/Corporate Project. Most companies require fluent or at least intermediate knowledge in German and finding a position in Germany after graduation is nearly impossible without a good command of the language.

## GERMAN LANGUAGE CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Our German courses (level A2 and B1) start in September on an intensive basis and continue until December once a week.

**As we do not offer beginners courses students must prove at least basic knowledge (level A1) in German when they arrive. If you have not already achieved this level, you will not be able to participate in our course.**

For Students who do not already hold a certificate in German at level A2 or above, an internal test must be taken at the end of the German course. If a student does not take, or fails this test, he/she must attend an external exam at a licensed language school, and produce a German certificate at level A2 or higher *before* the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. The cost and organisation of this test is the responsibility of the student.

## CULTURE PROGRAM

It is recommended to take part in the culture and language program in September. It contains information about German culture and interesting excursions.

This culture and language program gives you the opportunity to get to know your classmates, campus and the country before the actual study program begins.

## BROADCASTING LICENSE FEE

**In Germany, every "accommodation unit" must pay these fees.** When you register with the authorities, your data will be passed on to the licensing authority. The licensing fees are €55,08 per quarter year.

### **Do students living in dormitories have to pay license fees?**

Single rooms in student dormitories are classed as a single apartment. For each apartment the license fee must be paid. In a shared apartment-dormitories the fee only have to be paid by one person.

## Accommodation

**We strongly recommend that you register for a room in the university's student residence**, as it is very difficult to find private accommodation in Esslingen. In September, all universities start their new study programs, and there are many new students looking for rooms. It is also hard to find temporary accommodation, as most property owners prefer long-term contracts. Language problems may make it even more difficult because not all Germans understand English. Some senior students have spent up to 6 weeks unsuccessfully trying to find a room in Esslingen and give future students a firm **warning not to search for private accommodation in Esslingen!**

However, if you would like to have your own room / flat in spite of the above warnings, we suggest that you arrive a few weeks earlier and check into the youth hostel (address below) while you are looking.

Up-to-date details of private accommodation vacancies for students are available at the Office for Student Affairs. Please send an e-mail to [asta@hs-esslingen.de](mailto:asta@hs-esslingen.de)

To find private accommodation in Stuttgart see:

<https://www.studierendenwerk-stuttgart.de/en/accommodation/private-accommodation-service/>

and: <https://www.studierendenwerk-stuttgart.de/en/short-term-rent>

### RESIDENCE/DORMITORY

Students who wish to live in residence should read the “**Student Accommodation**”. The reservation is online. The **deadline for accommodation application is 1 July**. If you keep to the deadline, you are guaranteed a room. We cannot guarantee placements for late reservations.

*The contract for your room can be for 1 or 2 semesters but **no longer**. This is so that the new Graduate School students starting the following September can be guaranteed a room when they arrive.*

For more information regarding the dormitories and the procedure of allocation, please contact the housing department directly at [x.ladewig@studentenwerk-stuttgart.de](mailto:x.ladewig@studentenwerk-stuttgart.de)

Please note that further support from the Graduate School office concerning accommodation is not possible.

### EARLY ARRIVAL

You can move into the student residence only on weekdays. If you arrive in the evening /weekend, we recommend that you stay at a youth hostel or hotel. See the following links for temporary accommodation:

Temporary accommodation in Esslingen:

<http://www.urbanbnb.de/>

<https://www.hotel-ri.de/hotel-ri/>

<http://www.deutsche-pensionen.de/pension-esslingen/>

Temporary accommodation in Stuttgart:

<https://www.aohostels.com/en/stuttgart/>

<http://www.studierendenwerk-stuttgart.de/en/international-student-hotel>

<http://www.jugendherberge-stuttgart.de/>

<http://www.jugendherberge-stuttgart-neckarpark.de/>

<http://www.alex30-hostel.de/en/>

For general information about living in Germany see: <http://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/>

<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/help-and-advice/publications/>