



Beginning my Journey in Karlsruhe, Germany: A Newcomer's Guide

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Agenda - Topics addressed during the presentation



Welcome 😊

We cordially welcome you all and would love to help/guide all the students and new-commers here at Karlsruhe who are going to start anew chapter of their life.

Please join following forums for seeking advise and guidance from Seniors.

- Facebook Page:
 - [PSA Karlsruhe | Facebook](#)
- WhatsApp:
 - <https://chat.whatsapp.com/ENMO8tiRtx9D9jThWsymay>
- Related Information (PSA-wiki):
 - <https://github.com/enggsajjad/psa/wiki>

Note:

- ❑ “We are happy to always help you rather work for you!” Dr. G.A.
- ❑ We kindly request that you show consideration and refrain from inundating us with excessive messages and calls. Always drop a text first.

Before Arriving to Germany – To Do list

- Ensure your University Admission is secure and adhere to the instructions outlined in the Admission letter.
- Apply for Visa promptly after securing admission
- Connect with fellow students at the University, especially those in the same course.
 - Ideally, you should have made mind about your specialization before reaching in Germany
- Search for the accommodation (links provided in the slides)

After Receiving Your German Study Visa: To Do List

- Ideally, You should finalize your accommodation before booking your flight ticket.
- On the day of arrival in Germany, book your transfer train from the Airport to your accommodation (You can do it while in Pakistan also)
 - It is recommended that you print travel plan as you shall have no Internet access on Pakistani Phone number and here free internet access is available at limited places only.
 - Request your Seniors to receive you at the Karlsruhe Hauptbahnhof.
- Depending on where you land, there are various ways to reach Karlsruhe from the Airport (please Check [First Time to Karlsruhe](#)).
- **What you may bring with you:**
 - Making sure you bring all you need; will help you settle in quicker. Ultimately you decide what you will need to bring and what you can find here once you arrive, but we have made the following suggestions.
 - Clothes, Jackets, Shoes
 - Pot, Pan, Plates, Cups
 - Spices, Medicine
- **Sufficient financial means for two-three months**

First Time to Karlsruhe

■ Notify in time

- The most important thing is to contact Senior Pakistani students at your future City by Facebook or WhatsApp groups.

■ Arrival to Airport (Frankfurt/Stuttgart)

- The nearest airports are Frankfurt/Stuttgart/Baden-Baden, takes 1-2hrs to reach Karlsruhe.

■ From Airport to Karlsruhe

- You can take fast train (ICE) from Frankfurt or Stuttgart to reach to Karlsruhe Hauptbahnhof (Main Railway Stations).
- Use Deutsche Bahn website, <https://www.bahn.com/en> for tickets, which are also available from the Electronic ticket machines at airports or railway stations.

■ Karlsruhe Hauptbahnhof (Hbf) to Room

- From Karlsruhe Hauptbahnhof (hbf) you can take a tram to reach within the Karlsruhe region/city. The connection can be checked at <https://www.kvv.de/>

University – First Week

■ University

■ How to choose Subjects?

- Ask seniors....
- [Campus Management for Students](#): Used to register the subjects
- [ILIAS-Lernplattform des KIT](#): Use to look around different course materials

■ Important links for KIT

- [Welcome to the International Students Office of KIT!](#)
- [Applying for a place in a bachelor's program](#)
- [Application for a Master's degree course](#)
- [Welcome to the International Students Office of KIT!](#)

➤ Disclaimer: The links provided are for the KIT only !

Accommodation

- It's best to register at the Studentenwerk and apply for the room as soon as you acquire the admission/visa:
 - <https://www.sw-ka.de/en/>
- Other than Studentenwerk, one can look for a room in a shared apartment (called Wohngemeinschaft or WG) or a single room private apartment. These are generally more expensive and difficult to get for international students.
- There are also some private room offers at Studentenwerk website.
- Use the following links to search:
 - <http://www.wg-gesucht.de/>
 - <http://www.immobilienscout24.de>
- For further details, have a look at [Accommodation](#).
 - [HaDiKo](#): Self-administered student dormitory, offers short- and long-term rooms with variety of options
 - [Familienheim](#): A private student dormitory

Accommodation - Vocabulary To Remember

- Here are some useful abbreviations you will often find in apartment advertisements:
 - AB Altbau (Old building)
 - B Bad (Bathroom)
 - BLK Balkon (Balcony)
 - HT Haustier (Pet)
 - KM Kaltmiete (Basic rent)
 - Kt. Kaution (Deposit)
 - mbl. möbliert (Furnished)
 - mtl. monatlich (Monthly)
 - NB Neubau (New building)
 - NK Nebenkosten (Utility charges)
 - NR Nichtraucher (Non-smoker)
 - P/PP Parkplatz (Parking space)
 - Whg. Wohnung (Apartment)
 - WM Warmmiete (Rent incl. utility charges)
 - Zi. Zimmer (Rooms)
 - ZKB Zimmer Küche Bad (Room + kitchen + bathroom)
 - ZKD Zimmer Küche Dusche (Room + kitchen + shower)
- Have a closer look at **Kaltmiete** and **Warmmiete** while selecting the room rent.

City Registrations and Visa Extension

■ City Registration

- This step is called Anmeldung, and you will be issued a document called the Meldebescheinigung.

■ What document should I take with me when I register?

- Passport
- Confirmation from your landlord (e.g. Rental Contract)

- **Make an appointment:** It is often a good idea to make an appointment at your local citizens' office before going. You can do this either by telephone – dial 115 (telephone service centre for the city and district of Karlsruhe) – or online at <https://www.karlsruhe.de/stadt-rathaus/service-buergerinformation/terminvereinbarung> Further information at [Bürgerservice Karlsruhe](#).

■ Important documents you get after registration:

- **Registration Certificate, Tax-ID** i.e., Steueridentifikationsnummer (Steuer-ID) etc.

Health Insurance and Bank Account.

■ Health Insurances

- Health insurance is a basic requirement in Deutschland . For its activation , you would need City registration, University Enrolment letter and bank details. They will issue you a letter immediately which you can use for Medical treatment. If you don't provide Bank details, then you would have to pay your health insurance contribution for the whole semester at once. After Health Insurance Activation, the insurance card will follow within a couple of weeks via post. Few health insurance companies:
 - TK (Public)
 - AOK (Public)
 - Mawista (Private)

■ Bank Accounts

- You can open a bank account at the bank of your choice. You should ask to open a giro account that comes with an EC-card so that you can benefit from cashless payment. You need following documents:
 - Passport
 - Enrolment letter
 - Rental agreement/ City Registration
 - Tax ID

City Registrations and Visa Extension

■ Applying for a Residence Permit

- The student visa issued from Pakistan is for 90 days and it is recommended to apply for a residence permit (Aufenthaltstitel) as soon as you can.
- **Where do you have to register if you are not from an EU country?** If you are a citizen of a country outside the EU and are entering Germany to live here permanently, you must register with the local Ausländerbehörde (Foreign's Registration Office). They will issue you with an Aufenthaltstitel (residence permit).
- Please make an appointment in advance either by phone – Tel. 115 – or online at <https://tempus-termine.com/termine/index.php?anlagenr=29&anwendung=1&infotext=bb>
- Approval for Residence permit is generally issued at the time of your appointment after paying ~100 Euro fees. While for the Card, you shall have to take separate appointment usually after 4-6 weeks to receive it.
- Further details:
 - [Residency permit](#)
 - [Residence in Germany](#)

Travelling, Food, Mosques, Doctors etc.

■ Traveling Tickets

- There are various semester and monthly tickets for Karlsruhe region, Baden-Wurttemberg State or whole Germany, for details visit:

<https://github.com/enggsajjad/psa/wiki/Tickets>

■ Halal Food

- There are many Halal/Asian shop and restaurant, have a look at

<https://github.com/enggsajjad/psa/wiki/Food>

■ Mosques, Prayers

- There are many mosques, have a look at this:

<https://github.com/enggsajjad/psa/wiki/Mosques>

- There is a Friday prayer at AKK hall at KIT, and there is a regular place to offer namaz at KIT library.

■ Doctors

- Here are some recommended doctors:

<https://github.com/enggsajjad/psa/wiki/Doctors>

Student Jobs

■ Rules

- Students are allowed to work 80hr per month.
- By default the Tax Class is 1. (Tax-ID is a must).
- In vacations, students can also work beyond 80hr per month.
- There is no tax deduction if you are earning 520EUR per month. If you earn beyond this amount, the tax deductions will be accordingly

■ HiWi: "Hilfswissenschaftler" (student research assistant)

- The Most Recommended ([KIT Carrier Portal](#))
- These kind of jobs will enhance your expertise
- Will benefit you in getting thesis/job in future
- Less laborious, and can work from home

■ Odd Jobs

- beside HiWi these jobs are easy to get and it's very easy money for students, and a student can get around 500-1000 euros more or less per month. Best Common jobs Destination are:
 - Subway, McDonalds, Burger King etc.
 - Packaging companies etc.
 - Pakistani/Indian Restaurants
 - Food Delivery, e.g., Lieferando, Flink etc.

■ General Requirements: Tax ID, Bank Account, Health Insurance

Motivational Speech by an Alumni

- Motivational Speech by an Alumni
 - Career Counseling (Coming Soon....)
 - Future Perspectives