

Welcome checklist for degree students 2023



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Dear international students,

Your studies abroad are going to start soon – an exciting and challenging time! You surely have a thousand questions going through your mind ...

With this 'Welcome Checklist' you will be able to tackle one by one all the formalities in order to get enrolled at the University of Stuttgart for your studies as a degree seeking student.

Do you need further information? Please send an e-mail to the International Office at incoming@ia.uni-stuttgart.de or visit us during our open office hours. The International Office is more than happy to support you.

We wish you a great start at the University of Stuttgart!

Your International Office team at the IZ

1. Getting started Checklist

The following checklist makes your start in Stuttgart much easier. We recommend taking the following steps in the order given below.

1.1 Accommodation

Student housing

For students of the University of Stuttgart there are two dormitory providers on campus: the Studierendenwerk Stuttgart (SWS) and the VSSW. Booking rooms for couples or families in these dormitories is not possible.

Students who have received their moving-in letter with a room offer [Einzugsschreiben] from Studierendenwerk Stuttgart (SWS) or VSSW need to accomplish several steps upon arrival.

Generally, you can check in into the dormitory only from Monday to Friday and only during the office hours of the caretaker. Several dorms, but not all, offer the possibility to check in on the first day of the month from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Should the first day of your moving-in month be on a weekend or on a public holiday, you can only check in on the first following working day. For details please check the moving-in letter [Einzugsschreiben] you have received from the SWS or VSSW. As proof of your identity please present your passport and your moving-in letter at the caretaker's office [Hausmeisterbüro].

For students moving into a dormitory of SWS, it is possible to have someone collect their room keys before arrival. Therefore it is necessary to send this person an authorization. Please use the form sent along with the moving-in letter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In case you cannot collect the keys as stated in your moving-in letter [Einzugsschreiben], you will have to arrange an appointment with the respective caretaker [Hausmeister] about 14 days before your arrival. Students who move into a dormitory of VSSW should consider that they have to pick up their dorm key in person (it is not possible to have someone collect your room key before your arrival but with the caretaker of the VSSW you can arrange the deposit of your key in a safe in front of the dorm).

As soon as you have opened your bank account in Germany, please fill in your SEPA direct debit authorization [SEPA-Lastschrift] and hand it in to the caretaker's office in person (or send it by e-mail to your person responsible at the SWS). You should have received the SEPA form together with your tenancy agreement. With the SEPA authorization your monthly rent can be debited automatically from your bank account.

PLEASE NOTE

All EU-students with a dorm room at the SWS (Studierendenwerk Stuttgart) or the VSSW must open a **German** bank account, too, for the SEPA direct debit authorization [SEPA-Lastschrift]!

New tenants of SWS or VSSW have the opportunity to purchase bed linen and coverlets from the caretaker [Hausmeister] of their student dorm for EUR 65 (availability not guaranteed). This payment is withdrawn automatically from your bank account along with the first payment of rent.

Internet access in the dormitories

For the following dormitories you should register with Selfnet e.V. in order to receive access to the internet: Allmandring, Bauhäusle, Pfaffenhof, Straußäcker, Filderbahnplatz, Alexanderstraße, Anna-Herrigel, Birkenwaldstraße, Brückenstraße, Heilmannstraße, In der Au, Kernerstraße, Landhausstraße, Max-Kade-Haus, Neckarstraße, Rieckestraße, Rosensteinstraße, Theodor-Heuss-Heim, Wiederholdstraße and Boardinghouse Stuttgart. For all other dormitories internet is already included in the rent and installed.

It is possible to apply for a Selfnet membership entirely online. The registration can be done at https://registrierung.selfnet.de/. To register you will need internet access, a rental contract from the Studierendenwerk Stuttgart (SWS) or the VSSW, a valid e-mail address and, if available, a European bank account.

With Selfnet, a EUR 8,50 membership fee for the current month is due after registration. Membership does not end automatically, cancellation is possible only at the end of each month.

Here you can find the current office hours of the support: https://www.selfnet.de/support/contact.html. Please find frequently asked questions here: Selfnet e.V. - Selfnet - Support - FAQ

Private accommodation

If you live in a private accommodation, you will also have to sign a tenancy agreement and pay a deposit. Please check with your landlord. In order to register with the residents' registration office, your landlord has to fill in an extra registration form for you [Wohnungsgeber-Bescheinigung].

If you need to look for private accommodation you can check the information on our homepage.

1.2 Health insurance

All students are required to show proof of health insurance by the time of enrollment at the latest. Please consider the different requirements for EU and non-EU citizens.

You can register for your health insurance online before arrival or in person upon arrival. Please check the different state health insurance providers below and inform yourself about their offers and services.

For the request of a health insurance you need:

- Your letter of admission [Zulassungsbescheid]
- A passport sized photo (for your health insurance card)
- Your IBAN of your German bank account (can be provided later)

Health insurance for citizens from non-EU countries

Non-EU students under the age of 30 have to purchase a mandatory student health insurance at a state health insurance provider in order to be able to enroll at the University of Stuttgart. This insurance costs about EUR 120 per month and covers most medical and dental costs including hospital treatment. An advantage of this insurance is that the cost of treatment is carried out directly between the doctor and the

insurance company. For prescriptions you will have to pay a fee between EUR 5 and EUR 10 at the pharmacy.

After you have taken out a health insurance, the insurance provider will inform the university electronically about your health insurance status before enrollment. This can take some days. If the student portal C@MPUS shows any error message, please contact your German health insurance provider.

Please consider that there are special rules and exceptions for students from countries with a social security agreement like **Bosnia**-

Herzegovina, Serbia and Turkey. Please see Special rules and exceptions.

All students under the age of 30 who have already obtained private health insurance through their scholarship program (e.g. DAAD scholarship holders) need to contact any state health insurance provider and present a proof of their scholarship award including health insurance. Before they can enroll, a health insurance provider must confirm their exemption from the state health insurance electronically to the university.

PLEASE NOTE

The student health insurance only comes into effect with the enrollment (at the earliest from October 1 or April 1, when the semester starts). If you arrive earlier, please make sure to be insured temporarily (e. g. travel health insurance).

All non-EU students over the age of 30 must take out a private health insurance. Please consult the IO if you need further information. You need to contact any state health insurance provider and present a proof of your private health insurance. Before you can be enrolled, the health insurance provider must confirm with the university electronically that you are exempt from a state health insurance.

Delayed entry to Germany

In case of delayed entry (e.g. due to visa delays), the insurance fees are due retroactively to the beginning of the semester.

Health insurance for EU citizens

As an EU citizen you are required to bring a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC or GHIC) from your insurance provider in your home

country. In order to enroll, you will have to get in touch with any state health insurance provider (contact details see below) and notify them about your EHIC or GHIC. As the next step, the German provider needs to transmit this information electronically to the University of Stuttgart. Only then you can be enrolled. Please make sure to always carry your original health

PLEASE NOTE

For EU nationals who take on a minijob, a working student job or a paid internship during their studies, a German health insurance is mandatory. insurance card with you. You will receive necessary medical treatment at a doctor, dentist or in a hospital with your EHIC or GHIC. For prescriptions, you will have to pay a fee between EUR 5 and EUR 10 at the pharmacy. If you do not have the EHIC or GHIC, you are required to take out a student health insurance.

Special rules and exceptions

All those students from countries that have a social security agreement [Sozialversicherungsabkommen] with the EU (Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Switzerland, Serbia, Turkey, Tunisia, UK) need to get in touch with any German state health insurance provider (contact details see below) and notify them that they are covered by a social security agreement with their home country. As the next step the German provider needs to transmit this information electronically to the University of Stuttgart. Only then those students will be enrolled.

The social security agreement applies to both exchange and degreeseeking students. Please contact your health insurance provider in your home country to obtain the required proof. It is important that the document is valid for the entire duration of your stay at the University of Stuttgart.

Travelling outside of Germany

If you plan to travel outside Germany we recommend that you take out a travel health insurance for a fee of about EUR 15 - 20 per year (available at most banks or health insurance companies).

PLEASE NOTE

Regardless of how you are insured: electronic transmission to the University is always conducted via a statutory health insurance company. The transmission process takes up to 5 working days. More information can be found here: https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/organizing-studies/formalities/health-insurance/.

Contact details of selected state health insurance providers:

AOK Studienservice, Breitscheidstraße 18 Office hours: Mon 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Tue, Wed, Fri 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Fri 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tel. 0711 76161923

AOK Campus Vaihingen, Mensa II, Pfaffenwaldring 45 Office hours: Tue, Wed, Thu 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 0711 2069 69 10, e-mail: andreas.koehn@bw.aok.de

Barmer GEK Vaihingen, Liebknechtstr. 29 Office hours: Mon - Thu 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fri 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tel. 0800 333 10 10 Kontakt

DAK Stuttgart, Königstr. 21

Office hours: Mon - Wed 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thu 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri 8 a.m.

- 1 p.m., Tel. 0711 342 52 70, service745400@dak.de

TK (Techniker Krankenkasse), Lautenschlagerstr. 22 Office hours: Mon - Wed 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thu 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Tel. 0800 285 85 85

TK Campus Vaihingen, Mensa II, Pfaffenwaldring 45

Office hours: Tue - Thu 11:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Phone: 0800 285 85 85, e-mail: gonca.dogan@tk.de

1.3 Residence registration

Anyone staying in Germany for longer than 90 days is required to register with the residents' registration office [Bürgerbüro] in their place of residence within fourteen days upon arrival. There you will be provided with a confirmation of your registration, the so-called confirmation of registration [Meldebestätigung]. You need this document for opening a bank account and for obtaining a residence permit (if applicable). You can fill out the application form at home and take it to the residents' registration office.

The following documents are required:

- Your passport or ID card
- Registration form [Anmeldung], filled out and signed, available at the IZ, from the caretaker [Hausmeister], at any residents' registration office [Bürgerbüro] or online at www.stuttgart.de/medien/ibs/meldeschein.pdf (in German only). English instructions for completing the document are available at the International Office.
- Form [Wohnungsgeber-Bescheinigung] = a confirmation that you have moved in, signed by your landlady or landlord, alternatively your moving-in letter [Einzugsschreiben] from the SWS/VSSW.

You have to register in person at the residents' registration office in order to get your confirmation [Meldebescheinigung].



Meldeschein



Wohnungsgeber -Bescheinigung

In Stuttgart you can go to any residents' registration office. Please check the office hours and current regulations at the relevant [Bürgerbüro] online beforehand. Addresses of further [Bürgerbüros].

PLEASE NOTE

If you move, you need to communicate your new address. Should you move to another city, you need to register there with the city administration. They will automatically de-register your former address.

Non-EU students who need to apply for a residence permit can only do so at the city where they are currently registered. The responsibility of the foreigners' registration office changes with the registration at a new place of residence.

Some Addresses in Stuttgart:

- Office of public order main office [Amt für öffentliche Ordnung]
 Residents' registration office city center [Bürgerbüro Mitte], 2nd
 floor Eberhardstr. 39 (take U 1 or U 2 or U 4 and get off at Rathaus)
- Residents' registration office Vaihingen [Bürgerbüro Vaihingen]
 Rathausplatz 1 (take bus 82 and get off at Vaihinger Rathaus)

14 days trial ticket (public transport)

New citizens can travel free of charge in the VVS network for 14 days after their registration at the residents' registration office. This requires a stay of minimum six months and a minimum age of 18. The ticket can be downloaded and printed after registration at the residents' registration office via a coupon code. You may ask for the code at the residents' registration office. The starting date of the ticket can be chosen freely, you can get it at the SSB Ticket shop [SSB-Schnupperticket für Neubürger]

1.4 Opening a bank account

If you are a **non-EU** student, you **must** have a German bank account, a so-called personal current account [Girokonto], to pay bills and participate in the direct debit procedure, which means that the money will be taken out of your account automatically at the right time. The rent of the student dorm as well as your health insurance can only be paid by using the direct debit procedure.



Bürgerbüros

All **EU-students** must have a **German** bank account too in case they have a dorm room at the **SWS** (Studierendenwerk Stuttgart) or the **VSSW** for the SEPA direct debit authorization [SEPA-Lastschrift]!

Local bank versus online bank

You can open a personal current account in person at either a local bank or an online bank [Direktbank]. Usually, you can open a bank account at an online bank rather promptly. However, they offer online or hotline support only, whereas, at a local bank, you will have immediate support in person if you experience problems.

Please consider informing yourself about the process of opening an account with the local bank of your choice. Some banks might have the option of opening a bank account online instead of appointments in person.

The following documents are required:

- Proof of your residence registration (see chapter 1.3 above)
- Passport (Non-EU students) or identity card (EU-citizens)
- Letter of admission from the University of Stuttgart (in order to get a student bank account)
- University enrollment certificate (can be provided later)
- Non-EU citizens: Visa or residence permit (can be provided later)

Examples for internet banks (no recommendations)

- Comdirect, https://comdirect.de
- DKB, https://www.dkb.de
- ING, https://www.ing.de/
- Norisbank, https://www.norisbank.de
- N26, https://n26.com/de-de

Examples of local banks (no recommendations)

- BW-Bank (Sparkassen-Gruppe), www.bw-bank.de
- Commerzbank, <u>www.commerzbank.de</u>
- Deutsche Bank, <u>www.deutsche-bank.de/ms/pc/home.html</u>
- Postbank, <u>www.postbank.de</u>
- Volksbank-Raiffeisenbank, www.vr.de/privatkunden.html

Upon opening a current account, you will receive a bank card with which you can withdraw cash without charge 24/7 from any of your bank's ATMs.

PLEASE NOTE

When withdrawing cash from another bank, you may be charged extra fees! Please inform yourself when opening a bank account which cash machines you can use and how many times you can take out money for free.

Do you have a blocked account?

Please follow the instructions given by your bank. Additionally, we recommend that you open a regular personal current account that has no limitations. You may transfer the maximum monthly amount from your blocked account by standing order to your regular current account. Then you will be able to carry out transfers and authorize the SWS/VSSW to withdraw your monthly rent. Fill out the SEPA direct debit authorization form [SEPA-Lastschrift] obtained by the caretaker ([Hausmeister]) for the payment of your rent. Please hand it in to your [Hausmeister] as soon as possible (or send it by e-mail to your person responsible at the SWS/VSSW).

Do you already have a bank account within a European country?

We still recommend that you open a German bank account. Only if you definitely do not need to use the direct debit procedure (see above) and you are in Germany for only a short time, it might not be necessary to open a bank account.

IMPORTANT

All EU-students **must** have a German bank account too in case they have a dorm room at the SWS or VSSW for the SEPA direct debit authorization [SEPA-Lastschrift]!

1.5 Residence and work permit

As a rule, non-EU citizens have to apply for a residence permit at the latest one week before their **entrance visa** expires. You need to do so at the foreigners' registration office at the place of your registered residence. The residence permit is called eAT ([elektronischer Aufenthaltstitel] = electronic residence permit).

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the high workload of the foreigners' registration office, a fictitious certificate [Fiktionsbescheinigung] is often issued instead of an eAT when students send their complete application for a residence permit by e-mail. The document can confer the same rights as an eAT if no restrictions added. are The [Fiktionsbescheinigung] is usually issued without prior information by postal mail about one to three weeks prior to the expiration of the current visa or residence permit.

The production of your eAT takes about eight weeks. When applying for your eAT, the foreigners' registration office will let you know when you will receive it. Meanwhile the foreigners' registration office provides a preliminary confirmation of an authorized residence permit [Vorläufige Bescheinigung über einen bewilligten Aufenthaltstitel]. The eAT usually consists of a chip card and the supplementary sheet.

There are important data of your chip card on the supplementary sheet, e. g. the temporary residence permit. We recommend that you always carry this supplementary sheet with you. After the eAT has been issued, you will receive a PIN letter with information about your eAT and the online identification function. You can decide whether you want to use the online identification function. It is not mandatory to activate this feature.

In case of a move, the foreigners' registration office at the new residence becomes responsible on the day you register your new address with the residents' registration office. Unfortunately, it can take a few days to several weeks for the documents to be transmitted from one authority to the other. If the application for the residence permit coincides with the move, we recommend that you arrange the extension of the residence permit in good time at the last place of residence.

Non-EU citizens who require an entrance visa

Students from countries for which an entrance visa is required must have a student visa issued by the German embassy in their home country. If your visa does not cover the whole period of your stay, you need to apply for a residence permit/eAT with the foreigners' registration office [Ausländerbehörde] of your place of residence upon arrival. Required documents see below.

Non-EU students who do not require an entrance visa

Citizens from, for example, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, South Korea, UK and the USA may enter Germany without a visa. However, you have to apply for a residence permit/eAT at your place of residence upon arrival.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The foreigners' registration office is understaffed at the moment. It can take a long time to get an answer and an appointment to apply for a residence permit: We strongly suggest you to **send your documents via e-mail** to the foreigners' registration office [Ausländerbehörde] in order to apply for a residence permit. Add a note that you want to apply for a residence permit for the first time: The [Ausländerbehörde] will send you after several weeks a [Fiktionsbescheinigung] by letter post (or give you an appointment to apply for a residence permit).

You need to send the following documents to the foreigners' registration office via e-mail:

- Completed and signed application form for a residence permit
- Your passport
- Your visa (if applicable)
- A biometrical photo (see below)
- Letter of admission [Zulassungsbescheid] from the University of Stuttgart
- Proof of sufficient funds (minimum EUR 934 per month) e. g. a bank statement from a German account or a scholarship letter
- Health insurance confirmation [Versicherungsbescheinigung] from a German health insurance provider
- Confirmation of registration [Meldebestätigung] (see residence registration)
- EUR 100 handling charge (DAAD-scholarship holders need their scholarship confirmation for a waiver)

Biometrical photos are special photos required by the foreigners' registration office <u>Further information</u>.

You can find a guideline on the application for a residence permit as well as all required forms <u>online</u>. (Go to: Formulare > Application for a residence permit).

Depending on your **family name** send the documents requested to the following e-mail:

Letter A - E: <u>auslaenderrecht.ae@stuttgart.de</u>
Letter F - M: <u>auslaenderrecht.fm@stuttgart.de</u>
Letter N - Z: auslaenderrecht.nz@stuttgart.de

Due to the current high workload, it can take up to several weeks to get an answer, please do **not** resend your request several times.



Application for a residence permit

Work permit

Students who are EU citizens can work a maximum of 20 hours per week in accordance with the applicable laws for German students. Students of other nationality may only work under certain conditions in accordance to their visa or residence permit (normally 120 full days or 240 half days maximum per calendar year and in addition as a Hiwi at the University).

Important note for Non-EU citizens

If you wish to leave Germany temporarily, make sure that your passport and residence permit are still valid for the duration of your stay abroad and allow you to re-enter the country. Re-entry is not possible upon stays abroad lasting longer than six months. You need to apply for a certificate of non-expiration [Bescheinigung über das Nichterlöschen eines Aufenthaltstitels] when leaving Germany for more than 6 months.

1.6 Registration at the university

First enrollment steps for all students

Please log into your account at campus.uni-stuttgart.de/ and open your application:

- Please submit all the data requested in your C@MPUS account, add your health insurance data (you can skip the field asking for your insurance number!). For further information on health insurance, please see chapter 1.2. (Health insurance).
- Upload your passport photo and the other specified documents.
 (New: Non-EU students do not need to submit a visa or residence permit anymore for the enrollment).
- Transfer your semester contribution (for details please check your C@MPUS account) and – if required – your tuition fee of EUR 1.500 per semester.
- Make sure your health insurance status is listed correct (white hook on green dot). If not, please contact your state health insurance

provider! If you have no health insurance policy, please contact any health insurance provider (e.g. see addresses under chapter 1.2). For further information on health insurance please see chapter 1.2. (Health insurance).

PLEASE NOTE

On C@MPUS you will find payment details for transferring money. Please enter these details onto your transfer slip or online banking form precisely as indicated. Mind the blank spaces!

General information on enrollment process and student ID

Please note that you have to expect a processing time of up to three weeks from uploading all your documents to your C@MPUS account to your actual enrollment. Therefore we recommend you to start the enrollment process while you are still abroad, if you are planning to arrive in Stuttgart later than September 15. While the Office for Application, Admission, Enrollment is checking your application for enrollment, you are able to check its status in C@MPUS.

After you have successfully enrolled and if you are in Germany, the Office for Application, Admission, Enrollment will provide you with your student ID card ECUS (Electronic Card University of Stuttgart)

After your arrival in Stuttgart make sure to update your address in your

C@MPUS account to your address in Germany. It is important that your name is written on your letter box, otherwise postal mail will not be delivered.

Once your enrollment becomes effective, you will be able to download the certificate of enrollment from the C@MPUS system. From the second semester onwards, you can

the second semester onwards, you can download the semester badge from C@MPUS. You also will be able to download your enrollment certificates and your semester grades from C@MPUS.

In case you have technical questions concerning C@MPUS, please contact: support@campus.uni-stuttgart.de.

Further information: <u>Enrolling at the University of Stuttgart | For students | University of Stuttgart (uni-stuttgart.de).</u>

For information about how to get an international student ID please see www.isic.org or www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/uni-a-to-z/Internationaler-Studierendenausweis/.

1.7 Semester and monthly tickets for public transportation

Stuttgart has a very good public transportation system. You can travel by regional trains [Regionalzüge], commuter trains [S-Bahn], subway [U-Bahn], or bus. There are several fare zones [Tarifzonen] and each zone travelled through requires a fee.



Your student ID will only be produced and sent to you via postal mail if you entered a German address in your C@MPUS account.



VVS

An <u>overview of the VVS zones</u> as well as further ticket information (prices, booking) and an overview of the rail and track network can be found online.

PLEASE NOTE

You can download the useful VVS app vvs.de/vvs-app which shows all train connections in and around Stuttgart as well as information on how to buy tickets (vvs.de).

Do you need personal help buying a ticket?

If you are already in Stuttgart, you may go to one of the following sales offices of the SSB [Stuttgarter Straßenbahnen] or VVS [Verkehrsverbund Stuttgart].

- SSB KundenCentrum Hauptbahnhof (Main train station): Arnulf-Klett-Platz 3, 70173 Stuttgart (Monday-Friday 7.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.)
- SSB KundenCentrum Rotebühlpassage: S-Bahn station [Stadtmitte], 70173 Stuttgart (Monday-Friday 7.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.)
- SSB KundenCentrum Charlottenplatz: Charlottenplatz 1 (U-Bahn station), 70173 Stuttgart (Monday-Friday 7.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.)
- VVS-Infothek Königstraße 1 A, i-Punkt, 70173 Stuttgart (Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

All important information about tickets online:

https://www.ssb-ag.de/Tickets/

Some examples of tickets

SSB/VVS 14 days trial ticket

New citizens can travel free of charge in the VVS network for 14 days after their registration at the residents' registration office – if they stay at least six months and are 18 years or older. The trial ticket [14-Tage-Schnupper-Ticket] can be downloaded and printed after registration at the residents' registration office via a **coupon code**.

Please note: You will have to ask for the code at the residents' registration office (see p. 7) and finally redeem the voucher online at the <u>SSB Ticket shop</u>. The starting date of the ticket can be chosen freely.



SSB

Deutschlandticket

This <u>ticket</u> for the **whole local** public transport in **Germany** is only available online and as an standing order [Abonnement] for EUR 49, per month. Please note it is not valid in long-distance trains. In comparison to the JugendTicketBW (see below) this ticket is a bit more expensive but there is no age limit and it can be cancelled monthly.

Please note: If you want to start the ticket on September or October first you need to purchase it online in the <u>SSB Move App</u> till the 15th of the previous month.

<u>JugendTicketBW</u>

Only as soon as you are **officially enrolled** at the University of Stuttgart it is possible to purchase the so called <u>JugendTicketBW</u> for students (without solos). This ticket only comes into effect on **October 1** at the earliest! Young people **under 27** can travel within the whole VVS network and use the local public transport in Baden-Württemberg for EUR 30,42 per month (**only** as a subscription for one year).

Please note: If you cancel the contract for this ticket within the first year, the price advantage will no longer apply (you would pay EUR 47,-per month instead of EUR 30,42).

Night buses

Night buses operate every night. Most depart from the station "Schlossplatz" between 1.20 a.m. and 3.40 a.m. in various directions. The [S-Bahn] operates once an hour on each line in the nights between Friday to Saturday and Saturday to Sunday and before holidays. Please refer to the time table of Nachtverkehr (vvs.de)

Summer 2023 [Stammstreckensperrung]

From July 28 till September 8, 2023, the S-Bahn does not operate between the stops Hauptbahnhof, Universität and Österfeld. As a replacement, buses operate between main station and Campus Vaihingen as well as between Vaihingen train station and Campus Vaihingen. In both cases, buses stop at "Haltestelle Universität (Schleife)" near Universitätsstr. 38 (Computer Science). Please find further information at https://www.vvs.de/stammstreckensperrung23.

● 1.8 Broadcasting service fee (GEZ)

The so-called [Rundfunkbeitrag] (broadcasting service fee) is a mandatory fee for receiving the state-funded radio and TV programs. It has to be paid by every household even when you don't take advantage of those programs. The fee is approx. EUR 18,- per month. If you share an apartment, you can also share the broadcasting service fee. You or one of your flatmates must register with the so-called "ARD ZDF Deutschlandradio Beitragsservice". The non-paying members do not have to personally register but have to inform the agency that their fee has already been paid under the registered person's fee account number. More information and the registration/ deregistration forms which need to be sent online are available at Der Rundfunkbeitrag-English. Students living in the student dormitory, please also check the Broadcast Service Information.



Rundfunkbeitrag

1.9 Personal liability insurance

Unlike health insurance, personal liability insurance is not compulsory in Germany. However, we strongly recommend to get it. This insurance covers damage you cause to persons or objects (e. g. a rented apartment), sometimes including even the loss of keys. The price ranges from EUR 40 to EUR 90 per year, depending on your family status. You can take out the insurance with a bank, an insurance company or online. Up-to-date price comparisons can be found online with the search term [Versicherungsvergleich Haftpflichtversicherung].

2. Edit and print documents

Due to different procedures of authorities in Stuttgart, you may need to fill or hand in documents either online or by mail.

If possible, please fill in and sign documents online and save them as a pdf file. If you need to fill in a pdf which cannot be filled in online, the following tip might help:

- 1. Visit the website: https://www.pdfescape.com/open/
- 2. Click Free Online and then select "Load PDF from Internet".
- 3. Enter the URL of the form you need.
- 4. Select the Text Tool at the top left.
- 5. Click on the green double arrow on the far left to download the edited PDF.

Copy shops in Vaihingen and the city center

If you prefer or have to fill in and sign the original of a form, please find information about copy shops close to our campus in Vaihingen or the city center below:

Stuttgart-Vaihingen

's Kopierlädle - printshop on Campus Vaihingen next to the Mensa entrance

Address: Pfaffenwaldring 45, 70569 Stuttgart

Opening hours: Mon, Tue & Thu 11.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. (online shop is

open 24/7)

Website: https://kopierlaedle.de/en/

Phone: 0711/685-62942, e-mail: info@kopierlaedle.de

Kaufland - copying machine

Kaufland is a big supermarket inside of the shopping mall called Schwabengalerie. At the entrance, close to the service point, you can use a copying machine.

Address: Schwabenplatz 1, 70563 Stuttgart (bus stop: Vaihingen

Rathaus)

Opening hours: Mon - Sat: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. Website: https://www.schwabengalerie.com/

Phone: 0711 3586010

Schwäbisches Tintenlädle is a copy shop in the city center of Vaihingen: Approx.10 min by public transport from the campus Vaihingen of the University of Stuttgart.

Address: Robert-Koch-Str. 2, 70563 Stuttgart

Opening hours: Mon - Fri: 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Website: https://www.schwaebisches-tintenlaedle.de/unser-

angebot/copyshop/

Phone: 0176 70894733, e-mail: schwaebisches-tintenlaedle@web.de

Stuttgart city center

The **Kopierzentrum** is a copy shop in the city center: An approx. 8 min walk from the campus of the University of Stuttgart in the city center, as well as from the main station (Hauptbahnhof).

Address: Stephanstr. 33, 70173 Stuttgart Opening hours: Mon - Fri: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Website: www.kopierzentrum-stuttgart.de/

Phone: 0711 292535, e-mail: info@kopierzentrum-stuttgart.de

3. Academic calendar

Winter semester 2023/24	October 1 – March 31
Classes begin	Monday, October 16, 2023
Classes end	Saturday, February 10, 2024
Summer semester 2024	April 1 – September 30
Classes begin	Monday, April 08, 2024
Classes end	Saturday, July 20, 2024

Please take note of national and state holidays as well of the automatic summer/winter time changeover by the end of March and October.

See also our academic calendar online.

Please mind the **registration period** for **examinations**: Nov. 15 to Dec. 07, 2023 and the **re-registration period** for the following semester (January 15 - February 15 2024).

Semester break and holidays [Vorlesungsfreie Zeit]

The time between lecture periods is called [vorlesungsfreie Zeit], but it should not be considered as a holiday period since there are often exams, compact courses and excursions. Many offices of the university are closed or have shorter office hours. Between Christmas Eve (December 24) and Epiphany (January 6), there are no lectures. During the summer semester, there is usually a one week break after Whitsun (in May or June). If you want to travel or participate in an internship during the [vorlesungsfreie Zeit], you should check the dates of your exams or deadlines before planning your trips.

4. Dining halls and cafeterias

[Mensen und Cafeterien]

The Student Services [Studierendenwerk Stuttgart] operate several <u>cafés</u> at both university campuses. Cafeterias are usually open between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Dining halls [Mensen] are usually open only between 11.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m. The opening hours vary between semester times and the lecture-free period.

Every day there are different dishes to choose from which cost between EUR 3 to EUR 6. You can see the current menu <u>online</u>.

As well as providing lunch at a reasonable price, the dining halls are also meeting points and information centers. You can find almost anything on the bulletin boards [Schwarzes Brett]: events, sale and exchange offers, rooms for rent etc.

Mensa Central, Ossietzkystr. 3 (Campus City Center).

Mensa Stuttgart Vaihingen, Pfaffenwaldring 45 (Campus Vaihingen),

Food and coffee to go

You can take away all meals and coffee in the cafeterias and dining halls. Just ask the staff at the counter and you will receive the meal of your choice in a REBOWL (returnable tray EUR 5 deposit). After use, you can return the tray to the cafeterias of Studierendenwerk Stuttgart or to any other participating catering establishment. Beverages can be purchased in a returnable cup from RECUP (EUR 1 deposit).

5. Shopping

There are no standardized opening hours in Germany. Some food chains like REWE open their stores Mon-Sat from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. or until midnight. Usually, downtown shops open between 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. All regular businesses are closed on Sundays. Many petrol stations are open 24 hours and also offer food, snacks, drinks and toiletries. The shops around Rotebühlplatz and some shops in the Arnulf-Klett-Passage have longer opening hours and also open on weekends. Here are some tips for specific needs of international students:

Asian groceries

GoAsia Königstraße 1c

Arabic groceries

- Alsendiebad, Urbanstraße 61
- Pamir Markt, Hauptstraße 19

Kosher groceries

• Doronia

Halal quality food

- Höhenrainer
- Erciyes Süpermarket, Inselstr. 5

Reasonably priced furniture

• New: https://www.ikea.de

Used: https://www.ebay-kleinanzeigen.de/

Laundromats

wash&go

• City center: Wilhelmstr. 11

• S-West: Schwabstr. 73

Sustainable and regional groceries

- <u>Toogoodtogo</u>
- Stuttgart weekly markets
- Stuttgart flea markets
- Food sharing cafe, Johannesstr. 97
- Zero waste shops
 - Schüttgut, Vogelsangstr. 51
 - o <u>Wandel.Handel</u>, Wagenburgstr. 123

Items for free

- www.verschenkmarkt-stuttgart.de/
- <u>Ebay Kleinanzeigen</u>, category [zu verschenken]

6. Public internet terminals

If you need to e-mail or use the internet before you get your account at the university, here are some places that offer internet services:

- Treffpunkt Rotebühlplatz, Rotebühlplatz 28 (free WiFi), Mon Sat: 7.30 a.m. 11 p.m., Sun and holidays: 8.30 a.m. 6 p.m.
- Jugendagentur Stuttgart, Esslinger Str. 42 (free WiFi), Mon: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.
- Stadtbibliothek Stuttgart, Mailänder Platz 1 (and district libraries in many parts of Stuttgart), Mon - Sat: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wi-Fi can only be used with a library account and ID. Check this link for more information about internet, PC, and printer usage in the city library:
- Rathausbücherei, Marktplatz 1 (free WiFi), Mon-Wed 8 a.m. 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m., Thu 8 a.m. 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. 5 p.m., Fri 8 a.m. 12.30 p.m.
- Starbucks Coffee House, Königstr. 44 (bring your own notebook),
 Mon-Sat 7.30 a.m. 10 p.m., Sun 10 a.m. 10 p.m.
- Free WiFi at some places in Stuttgart: https://www.stuttgart-tourist.de/wlan-in-stuttgart

Opening hours might change.

Free WiFi on campus

- On campus and at other facilities of the University of Stuttgart students can connect to WiFi via eduroam. Eduroam is an international roaming service for users in research and higher education. Students from universities connected to eduroam are able to get access through their student account of their home university.
- Students without access to eduroam may select the network unistuttgart-open from the list of available WLANs. After connecting for the first time users are automatically redirected to a login portal where they must confirm the ICT terms and conditions. This confirmation activates internet access for the next eight hours. After that this must be repeated.