

Together towards a successful future

Information for international students



TH Aschaffenburg
university of applied sciences



Why Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences?

Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences (Aschaffenburg UAS) is one of Germany's leading young universities. Since becoming a teaching institution in 1995, Aschaffenburg UAS has offered forward-looking programmes geared towards putting the latest research into practice. Today, more than 180 professors and lecturers teach approximately 3,400 students.

Top-ranked programmes

Due to its achievements in teaching and research as well as the international outlook of its programmes of study, Aschaffenburg UAS has been rated among Germany's leading institutions in various rankings.

Meaningful interdisciplinary collaboration

Due to its focused yet interconnected three-faculty organisational structure, students have easy access to opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. Business and law students have a chance to gain technology expertise, for instance, while engineers can brush up on their management skills.



© Foto: Bernd Ottow

Informal and welcoming atmosphere

The compact campus is easily walkable, and the small size creates a strong community feeling. On a typical day on campus, you might bump into friends on your way to class, eat lunch with a professor in the dining hall, and carry out research with classmates in a high-tech laboratory – all within a five- or ten-minute walk.

Excellence in teaching and personal support

World-class teaching is one of Aschaffenburg UAS's most important goals, and its teachers have extensive resources to ensure that you maximise your learning. Small class sizes mean that your professors and lecturers are available to you for extra guidance or support, both during and outside of seminars.

Modern infrastructure, high-tech facilities

Classrooms, lecture halls, offices, and laboratories are housed in historical buildings that have been completely renovated in order to provide a modern, high-tech study environment. Laboratory and workshop facilities are cutting-edge, offering you access to the latest equipment in your chosen field, and classrooms and study spaces are equipped with modern computing technology.

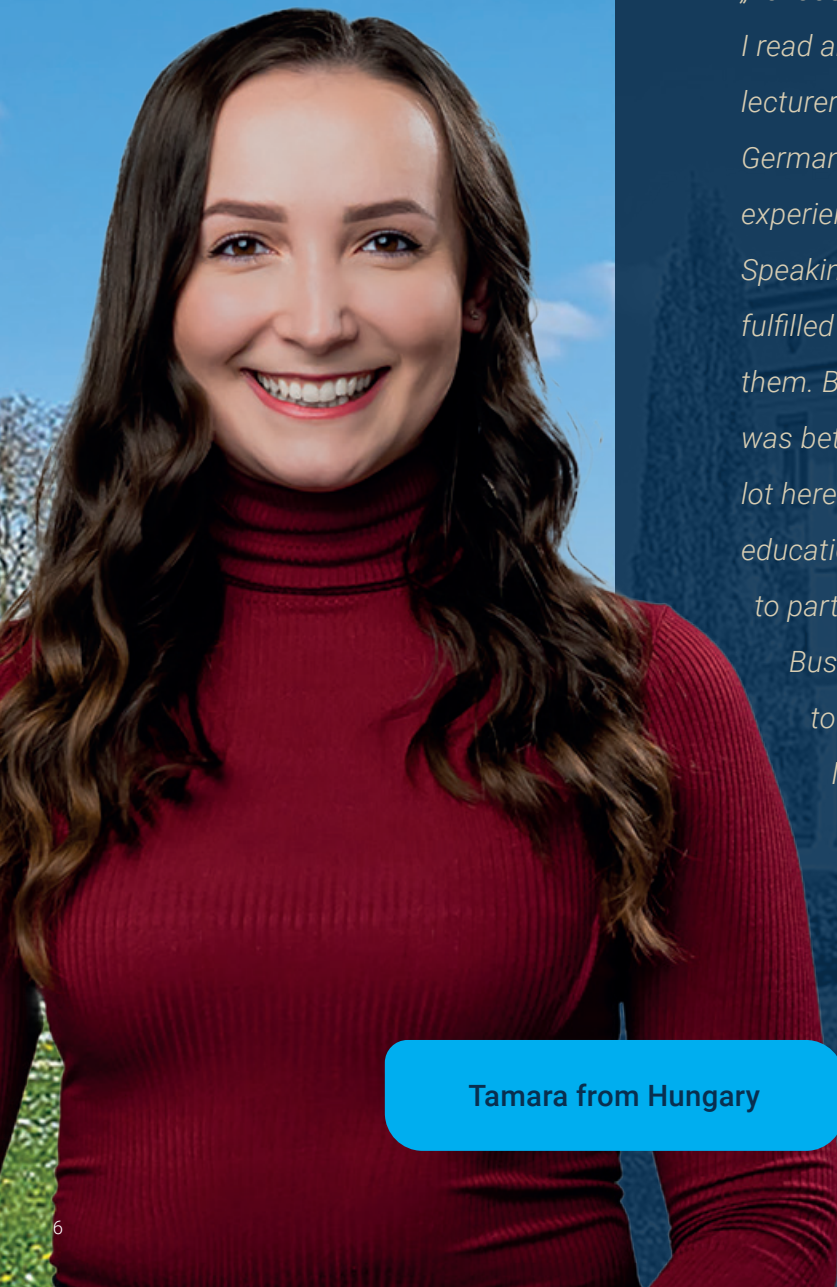
Friendly town in a booming business region

Aschaffenburg lies in the heart of the Frankfurt-Rhine-Main business region – Germany's industrial and business core. We cultivate extensive partnerships with regional and global companies, offering students ample opportunities to put theory into practice, find part-time jobs, internships, and post-graduation employment. At the same time, Aschaffenburg is small and friendly, with lovely architecture and historical charm. Extensive public transportation provides easy access to the rest of the region and Germany, giving students the best of both worlds.



"My semester at Aschaffenburg UAS was for sure the best time in my whole student life. Living on the campus was such a convenient and amazing experience not only because of having a university close to where I lived but also because of being part of a place where all of the students are concentrated in one place and the possibility to meet new people easily was fantastic! Despite an amazing social life, the university is very helpful and extremely organized which helps in the adaptation process. The atmosphere there is cozy and I felt very warmly welcomed and treated for the whole time. This place is my second home, my place on earth and although I left, I am sure that I will be coming back very often."

Melania from Poland



„I choose to come to the Aschaffenburg, because I read about its high quality of education. The lecturers at a university of applied sciences in Germany are required to have several years of experience, which is not common in Hungary. Speaking from my experience, this university fulfilled my expectations and even outperformed them. Both the education level and the social life was better than I could ever imagine. I learned a lot here and broadened my views about higher education, not to mention that I was lucky enough to participate in several exceptional trips with Business Seminar Germany and Introduction to the EU courses. Concerning my social life, these two semesters were truly the best days of my life. I have collected a lot of new friends and unforgettable memories in Aschaffenburg, so if you are hesitating, I can just say GO FOR IT!“

Tamara from Hungary

Academic information and application

In general, German higher education institutions are classified as either universities or universities of applied sciences. As a university of applied sciences, Aschaffenburg UAS focuses more on gaining skills and knowledge which can be directly applied in professional life. Universities of applied sciences are more industry-oriented than their counterparts and professors must have practical work experience outside of the higher education sector. Both types of institutions can issue bachelor's and master's degrees.

Course offer

The English-taught courses cover a wide range of subjects. Depending on your German language proficiency, you may also choose from a wide variety of courses taught in German. At Aschaffenburg UAS you can study business administration, real estate management, computing, renewable energies, mechatronics, sales, and material sciences, to name a few.



➤ www.th-ab.de/course-offer





German as a Foreign Language

Learning German can be very useful to connect with the locals. Aschaffenburg UAS offers German language courses for all skill levels – whether you are starting out as a beginner or at a more advanced level. In addition to the courses offered during the semester, Aschaffenburg UAS offers four-week intensive German courses in August.



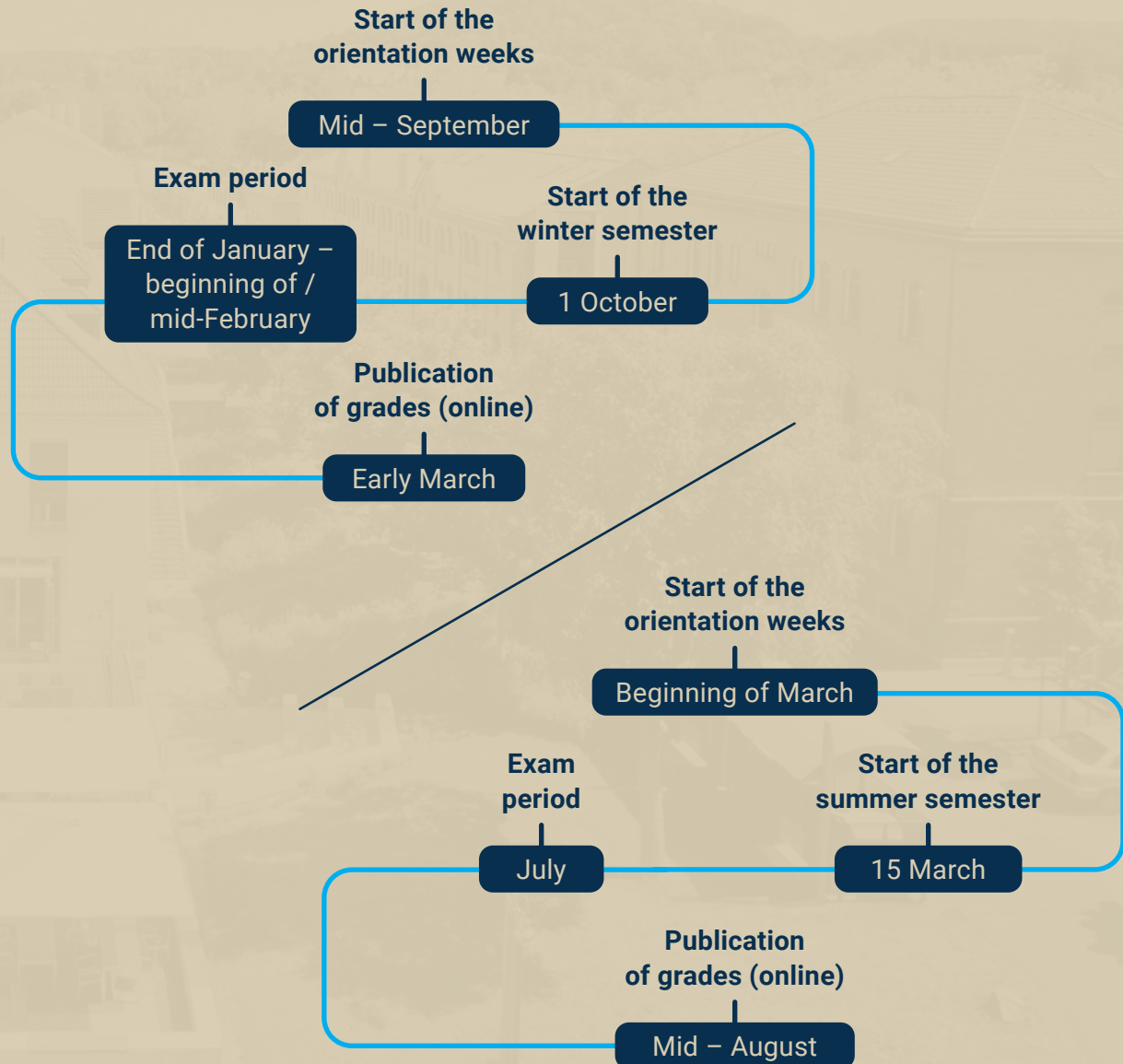
➤ www.th-ab.de/learngerman

Credit system and grading

A full-time workload is 30 ECTS credits per semester. Grades are awarded from 1,0 (highest) to 5,0 (lowest) with 4,0 as the minimum passing grade. Some courses are evaluated on a pass / fail grading system.

Erasmus+ and exchange students will receive credits for all successfully completed courses and all obtained credits will be listed on a transcript of records. Students can download the transcript of records themselves, and it will also be sent directly to the home institution.

Academic calendar



Classes

Students are encouraged to organise their learning in a responsible and self-regulated way. Attendance is not compulsory for most classes. At the same time, active participation is expected. Please:

- do ask if you have questions,
- contribute whenever there is an opportunity,
- get in contact with your German classmates and do not be afraid of taking the initiative.

Often, so called *Tutorien* are offered – additional classes where students help you grasp the material. *Tutorien* are announced by your professors and on campus.

Fee

No fees will be charged by Aschaffenburg UAS, but all students have to pay the semester fee. In Germany, the *Studentenwerk* maintains a range of services such as the campus dining hall, the halls of residence, or counselling services. According to the Bavarian Higher Education Act, all students are to pay a small service fee for the administration of these services – currently 70 EUR (as of June 2023).

Nomination and application

Exchange students are nominated by their home university before they apply at Aschaffenburg UAS using an online application form.



➦ www.th-ab.de/apply-online

Nomination / application deadlines

Winter semester:	15 May / 1 June
Summer semester:	15 November / 1 December

Main campus in Aschaffenburg

Aschaffenburg is a medium-sized city with a population of around 70,000 and lies on the River Main. The city is famous for its municipal museums, its interesting and varied cultural programme and a wide variety of cafés, bars and clubs. Annual festivals such as the Afro-Caribbean Festival, the Volksfest and the big Stadtfest attract visitors from all over the country. They are permanent highlights in the city's event calendar and popular among young and old alike.

Situated between large conurbations and areas of unspoilt nature, Aschaffenburg is often described as a city where people can enjoy life to the fullest.



➤ www.tourist-aschaffenburg.de/en/home.html



Campus services and facilities

Aschaffenburg UAS is heavily invested in ensuring that students and staff have access to everything they need to succeed in their studies and work. Learning resources and personal support have placed Aschaffenburg on the map as one of Germany's top universities for overall student satisfaction.

The International Office is located in building 1, rooms E11 – E13, and is the first point of contact for incoming students and staff from abroad. If you have any questions of a personal, administrative or social nature, please contact us. Similarly, if you have a disability or chronic illness and need special support, please let us know – we can help you apply for disadvantage compensation.

Opening hours:

Monday	1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Thursday	1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



🔗 incoming@th-ab.de



🔗 www.th-ab.de/incoming



🔗 biblio@th-ab.de



🔗 www.th-ab.de/library



The Library provides:

- a large selection of up-to-date publications in the students' respective fields of study,
- access to all international academic literature via interlibrary loan,
- access to many online databases, e-books and e-journals,
- workspaces for students, including quiet spaces for individual study and spaces for group work.

Some students look for internships or part-time jobs in Germany for the time during or after their studies at Aschaffenburg UAS. The Career Service offers:

- regular training courses and workshops,
- advice and support regarding internships and career prospects.



➤ career-service@th-ab.de



➤ www.th-ab.de/cs

Multiple job boards are available to look for suitable positions. The university job board and the job board of the Bavarian Lower Main region are among them.



➤ jobboerse.th-ab.de



➤ www.wo-wenn-nicht-hier.com/jobs

The Data Centre:

- sets up each student with a university email account,
- maintains printers that can be used with our Campus Cards,
- is available for questions Monday – Friday, 1 – 2 p.m. in building 20, room 204.



➤ helpdesk@th-ab.de



➤ www.th-ab.de/rz

The campus dining hall and cafeteria supplies:

- good food at reasonable prices,
- sandwiches, snacks, and various lunch options, including drinks, side dishes and desserts,
- a daily vegetarian option.



Housing

The Studentenwerk runs two halls of residence on and near the campus, renting out furnished single rooms in shared apartments as well as furnished single apartments. Wheelchair accessible apartments are available. Please apply by 15 June (winter semester) / 15 January (summer semester). For a small fee and upon request, the Studentenwerk also rents household packages that include bedding.



➤ www.studentenwerk-wuerzburg.de/en/

A room in the halls of residence is not guaranteed. This is why we recommend that you look for private accommodation as well. In Germany, many students live in flat shares (*Wohngemeinschaft / WG*). Each tenant has their own room but the kitchen and bathroom are shared. The cost of electricity, water, internet and telephone is also shared. For a furnished room in a flat share, you can expect to pay EUR 300–500. Please check the following websites for rooms to let:



➤ www.wg-gesucht.de/en/



➤ www.studenten-wg.de

In addition, there are some private providers of halls of residence in Aschaffenburg. They offer furnished rooms as well as rooms without furniture.



➤ www.primacasa.de



➤ www.citylgroup.de



➤ www.city4living.de

Student life

Joining university sports (*Hochschulsport*) is a great way to make friends and meet local students while studying with us. The programme usually includes a mix of exercise classes and current trend sports, all taught by experienced trainers. Everyone is welcome to participate, from beginners to advanced athletes. In general, participation is free of charge and possible without prior registration.

There are also various student organisations on campus. The *Studentenvertretung* is the student representation at Aschaffenburg UAS. They meet biweekly and discuss issues of student welfare as well as organise events and activities. As an exchange student you have the same opportunities as our degree-seeking students to join the *Studentenvertretung* or any of our other student organisations, such as Rolling Students, Economics, or Students meet Real Estate e. V.



➤ studentenvertretung.de



➤ www.rolling-students.com



➤ www.economics-thab.de



➤ www.smre-aschaffenburg.de



Living and studying in Germany

The Federal Republic of Germany is located directly in the heart of Europe and extends from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Alps in the south. It is not big in size but offers one of the highest standards of living in the world as well as diverse art and culture, and it is well-known for its high-quality products. With its 84 million inhabitants it has the largest population of all EU member states.

Germany is often seen as a byword for stability. It is a parliamentary democracy and its citizens trust in fair elections and the rule of law – it is a safe country where you can travel freely and feel secure. A German proverb claims that ‘five minutes ahead of time is the German punctuality’. Germans are undoubtedly dependent and reliable. At the same time, German society is diverse, colourful and cosmopolitan. To most Germans, equality is an important value – living free from worry and with equal opportunities regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, or religion.

The country is also considered an economic giant. Its machinery and electrical equipment are known for their high quality and durability and the country is one of the largest automobile producers in the world. While Germany can be proud of the richness of its economy, perhaps even more notable is its richness of human life – people have opportunities and choices. Germany has consistently been ranked among the best countries to live in by the Human Development Report.



➔ www.deutschland.de/en



Distances by Public Transport

→ Frankfurt	30 min
→ Würzburg	40 min
→ Munich	2 h 45 min
→ Freiburg (Black Forest)	3 h 15 min
→ Berlin	4 h 20 min
→ Hamburg	4 Std 50 min
→ Brussels	4 h
→ Paris	5 h
→ Amsterdam	5 h
→ Zurich	5 h 15 min



Other campuses and facilities

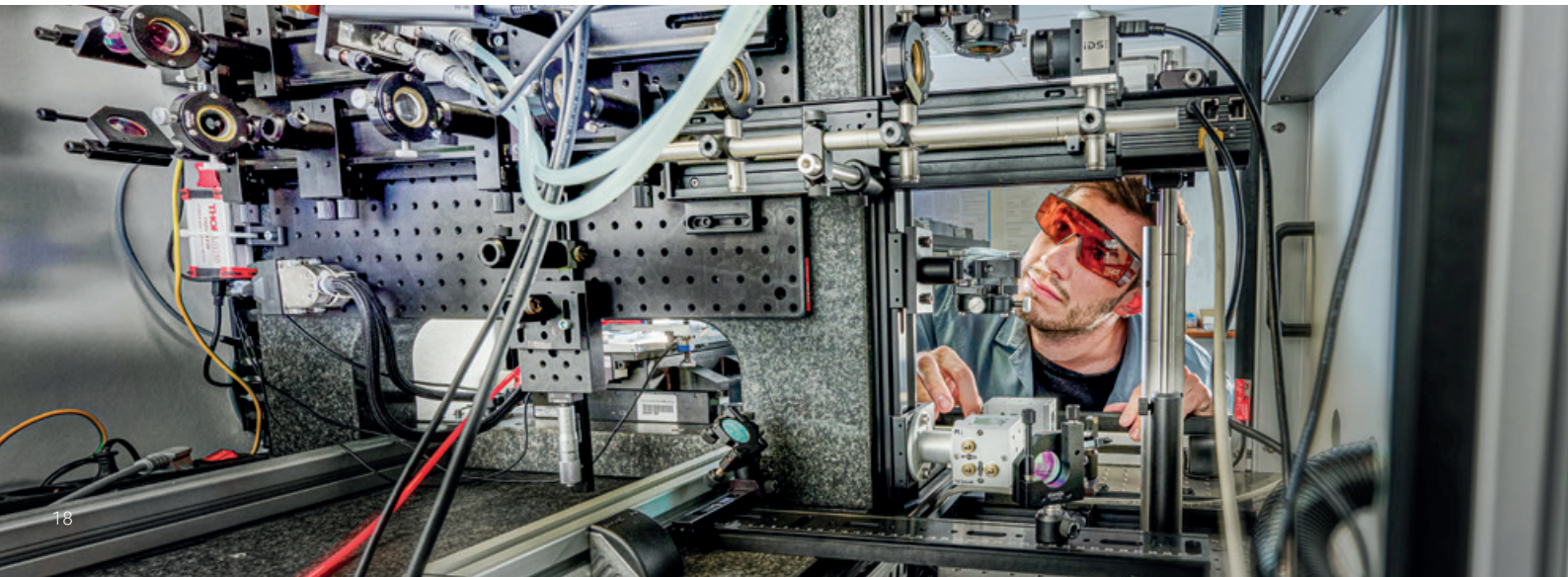
While English-taught modules take place almost exclusively on the main campus in Aschaffenburg, there are also two smaller locations in town and a campus in Miltenberg, which is located about 40 km from Aschaffenburg.

Aschaffenburg UAS is a research-intensive university of applied sciences with special focus on intelligent systems, materials, information management and structural transformation. Within international research consortia as well as in intensive cooperation with local partners, our scientists strive to foster innovation in business and society.

In the Centre for Scientific Services and Transfer (ZeWiS) Aschaffenburg UAS strengthens its cooperation with the regional industry. Located in Obernburg – halfway between our main campus in Aschaffenburg and our campus in Miltenberg – ZeWiS maintains more than 1,000 square meters of laboratory space for application-oriented research and transfer.



➤ www.th-ab.de/en/research/collaborate/students



Practicalities

Arrival

Aschaffenburg is located around 40 km from Frankfurt, where a major international airport is located, making it easy to reach the area by plane. From "FRA Frankfurt Airport" you can take a train to "Aschaffenburg Hbf". There are also two smaller train stations in town: *Aschaffenburg Süd* and *Aschaffenburg Hochschule*, which is located next to Aschaffenburg UAS.



🔗 www.bahn.com/en

Visa

EU and EFTA nationals do not require a visa to enter Germany. If you are not an EU national, please contact the German Embassy or German Consulate in your country of residence to check visa regulations as well as residence permit regulations prior to travelling to Germany. Do not enter with a tourist visa.



🔗 www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en



Registration in town

All students have to register their place of residence within two weeks of their arrival at the town hall's Residents' Registration Office (*Einwohnermeldeamt*). After the registration you will receive a confirmation called *Meldebescheinigung* that is often required to open a German bank account.

Please bring:

- your passport / ID card,
- your certificate of enrolment,
- your rental contract and documents (*Wohnungsgeberbescheinigung*).

Insurance

It is mandatory as a student to have health insurance cover for your entire stay in Germany. EU and EFTA nationals are entitled to medical treatment with their European Health Insurance Card. Students from outside EU/EFTA countries should sign up for statutory or private health insurance. We recommend taking out a policy with a German statutory health insurance company. These institutions offer special prices for students – approx. 120 EUR / month for health and long-term care insurance.

In addition, we recommend taking out personal liability insurance (*Haftpflichtversicherung*). Although it is not compulsory, it covers unintentional damage to a third party or a third party's property.

Cost of living

Prices in Germany are in line with the EU average. The German government estimates the average expenditure for students to be approx. EUR 934 a month, which includes accommodation, food, study materials, leisure, and transport. There are many generous grant and scholarship schemes that can help to cover your cost of living during your stay.



➤ www.daad.de/en

Licence fee

Every household in Germany is required to pay a licence fee (*Rundfunkbeitrag*) of 18.36 EUR / month for public service broadcasting. The fee is subject to the principle of solidarity. It is relatively small because everyone pays regardless of actual media use.



➤ www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/welcome

Buddy programme

As an international student, you will be matched with a local “buddy” who will help you get settled in Aschaffenburg. Your buddy is a full-time student at Aschaffenburg UAS and will meet you upon arrival, show you around and help you with practical matters, such as registration or opening a bank account. During the semester, the buddies will organise social events and trips, and answer social questions throughout your stay.

Orientation weeks

Prior to the start of the semester, the International Office organises two (compulsory) orientation weeks. You will have the chance to learn some German, clear all administrative milestones, and participate in various events and activities. This is a great opportunity to settle in, meet new people and make some friends.



Emergency phone numbers

Police: 110

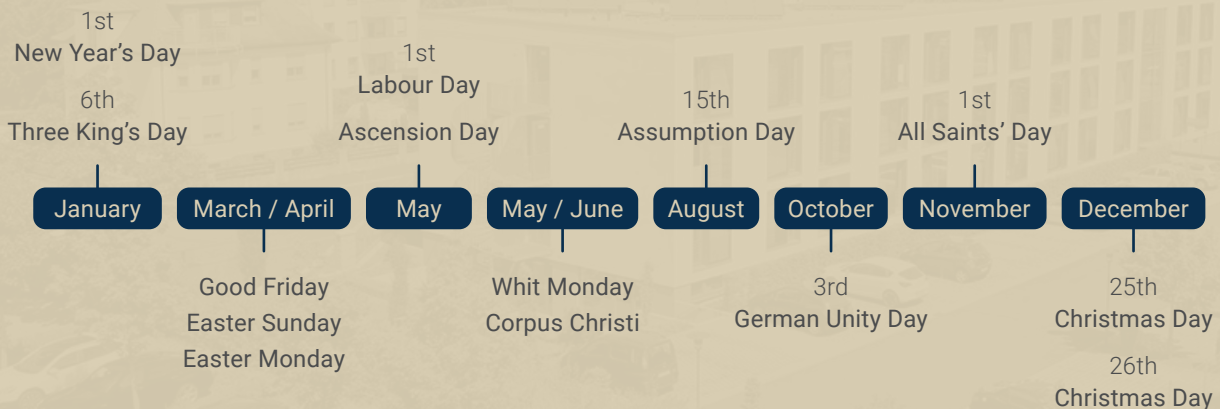
Emergency medical services / fire brigade: 112

If you do not have any life-threatening pains or illnesses, it is common to make an appointment to see a general practitioner (*Hausarzt*). They can assess whether an illness or injury ought to be treated by a specialist, in which case he or she writes a referral.

If you urgently need a doctor on weekends / holidays; not for life-threatening illnesses:
116 117

Public and regional holidays

In Germany, there are various public holidays. Some apply throughout Germany and some only in some federal states. Below you can find an overview of the public holidays in Germany and Bavaria. [Please be aware that shops are closed on public holidays.](#)



Preparing for your stay abroad

- ☐ Check the validity of your passport
- ☐ Fill in the online application form and wait for your letter of acceptance
- ☐ Apply for a visa and/or check residence permit regulations (if you are a citizen of a non-EU / non-EFTA country)
- ☐ Apply for the halls of residence or find other accommodation
- ☐ Make a travel plan and book tickets – make sure that you can participate in the orientation weeks
- ☐ Pay the semester fee
- ☐ Have a medical and dental check-up
- ☐ Make sure that you have valid insurance – for yourself, your property, and any damage you may cause to someone else or their property
- ☐ Pack for your departure – remember to bring your travel documents and tickets, passport / ID card, insurance papers, letter of acceptance, debit/credit card, and any prescriptive medicine.



Time to stay?

If you enjoyed your semester in Aschaffenburg, perhaps you would like to spend an additional semester here, or stay for a graduate programme. Please contact the International Office – we would be delighted to continue to have you at Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences.



➔ www.th-ab.de/incoming



TH Aschaffenburg
university of applied sciences

Technische Hochschule Aschaffenburg

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www.th-ab.de/incoming