Studying in Baden-Württemberg

A PARADISE FOR STUDYING.

Baden-Württemberg
The German Southwest.
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STUDYING IN BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Studying in Baden-Württemberg

Why should you come to Baden-Württemberg to study? The answer’s easy: Because you will hardly find any reasons not to. Baden-Württemberg has the greatest concentration of universities and the most diverse higher education landscape in Germany. The large number of subjects that you can study here will enable you to find exactly what you are looking for. You will experience the best possible academic and professional development, regardless of whether you prefer theory or would rather opt for a more practical side. You can be sure to find the offering that suits you best. By the way, we have created a special type of university especially for this purpose: The Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW).

Excellent teaching and research are reflected in numerous rankings, and not by coincidence. The highest quality standards in teaching are just as self-evident as are the excellent equipment, facilities, plus a comprehensive and individually tailored range of services, such as offered by our Welcome Centres or Career Services. Or are you thinking about embarking on a career in science and research? Not only in the Excellence Initiative did Baden-Württemberg’s universities prove that they hold top-level positions in scientific research. In fact, they also led the way in Germany regarding the amount of EU research funding they succeeded in raising.

When you arrive in Baden-Württemberg, you will soon notice that innovation enjoys a long tradition here. In a state without natural resources, people here have always been reliant on their ideas. Hence, numerous inventions from Baden-Württemberg have contributed to changing the world: For example, the automobile, invented around 1886, or numerous items of everyday use: Lever arch files, matches, photocopiers, dowels, the electric drill and even ski lifts – all of them were inventions Made-in-Baden-Württemberg.

Baden-Württemberg continues in this tradition today to be one of the most innovative regions in Europe. So, it can hardly come as a surprise to learn that more than 4% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is invested in research, a statistic surpassed nowhere else in the world. Come and let yourself to be inspired by this innovative atmosphere. And, you, too, might one day be able to win a Nobel Prize. After all, a number of distinguished names already come from our state, such as Nüsslein-Volhard, von Klitzing, zur Hausen and, Albert Einstein, of course.

Nobel Laureates like Prof. Dr. Harald zur Hausen and Prof. Dr. Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard live and work in Baden-Württemberg – thereby testifying to the lead role that the state plays in Germany. However, Baden-Württemberg is international as well: Baden-Württembergers are to be found at home in countries all around the world – from teddy bears which fascinate children and adults alike, through to researchers, such as Johannes Kepler or Albert Einstein, who made their discoveries far away from home.
Thanks to a strong economy, where world-famous companies like Daimler, Porsche, Bosch, Festo and SAP are just as much at home as are globally operating small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), you will find outstanding conditions for a perfect start to your professional career. An international focus is a matter-of-course for Baden-Württemberg's businesses and companies; after all, they are among the world’s biggest exporters of goods, making them the Champion Exporters of the World. By the way, people from more than 170 nations live together in unison in Baden-Württemberg, including just under 35,000 students from abroad and overseas. This cultural diversity will also help you to settle in and feel at home here.

Let’s turn to the quality of life for a moment. It’s excellent – as proven by statistics: Nowhere else in Germany are people more satisfied with life than here. Baden-Württemberg is, after all, a place for feeling good, with kind and friendly people and beautiful natural surroundings, plus a wealth of cultural and leisure offerings. How about mountain biking in the Black Forest, sailing on Lake Constance, or relaxing in one of the thermal baths, spending an evening at a concert, or simply going out for a nice meal? We have something to offer, whatever your taste or preference may be. We promise you: You won’t be bored! Typical student life in Germany is also something you will be able to experience first hand. Tübingen or Heidelberg, both of them well-known and recognised university towns, have a wealth of tradition and history to offer.

If you think we’re exaggerating, just come and try us out, come to Baden-Württemberg. We look forward to welcoming you here soon.
The ancient universities established in Heidelberg, Freiburg and Tübingen in the 14th and 15th centuries are among the oldest universities in Germany. They offer the full range of academic subjects, including medicine and theology. By contrast, the universities in Hohenheim, Karlsruhe, Mannheim and Stuttgart developed out of teaching establishments in the 19th century which had specialised to provide education and training in a specific range of subjects.

This is still partly reflected today. Stuttgart and Karlsruhe, for example, are known above all for their focus on technical and natural sciences. Mannheim, on the other hand, is regarded as one of Germany’s top universities in economics and business, while one of Hohenheim’s priorities is on the agricultural and life sciences. The universities in Konstanz and Ulm were founded in the 20th century. Ulm was primarily conceived as a university of medicine and natural sciences, while a focus on cross-disciplinary collaboration is already firmly anchored in the Charter of the University of Konstanz.

Teaching and research are closely dovetailed at the universities. By executing Humboldt’s idea of the unity of teaching and research, the professors and lecturers commit themselves to actively pursuing basic research. The results of this research work are “re-invested” into the teaching and so assure high levels of education and training. The students can then learn the principals of scientific work, which in turn enables them to acquire not only theoretical and methodological knowledge, but also core competences, such as analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

In 2010, the universities in Baden-Württemberg transformed all their Magister and Diplom courses into Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes.

More than half the students in Baden-Württemberg are enrolled at one of the nine research universities, one in seven come from abroad. Heidelberg, Germany’s oldest university and one of Europe’s oldest, is also located in Baden-Württemberg. And even today, Baden-Württemberg’s pioneering role is still evident: Four of its nine research universities were successful in the Excellence Initiative by the German federal and state governments to promote top-level research at German universities – no other federal state performed so well.
which now award these international degrees. The standard time to degree for Bachelor’s programmes amounts to between six and eight semesters, and in the subsequent Master’s programme, between two and four semesters. Those aspiring to enter a career in science can do a doctorate at one of the universities. In Germany, most PhD degrees are earned by independent doctoral candidates who are members of a research group and employees at the university. In addition, structured PhD programmes are also being offered now in which the doctoral students are specifically supported, advised and fostered in their endeavour to gain a doctoral degree.

Internationality is writ large by all the universities. Partnership and exchange programmes ensure that the universities are networked worldwide and can offer their students and scientists plenty of options and opportunities for stays abroad. The cross-university State Exchange Programmes also create frameworks for intensive exchange. Each of these programmes is coordinated by a lead university on behalf of the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts. Such agreements have been concluded with the federal states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Carolina, Arizona, California and Oregon in the United States, with the provinces of Ontario in Canada, and with South Australia in Australia, with the Tec de Monterrey in Mexico, and Malaysia.

| Law, Economics and Social Sciences | * | * | * | * | * |
| Engineering | * | * | * | * | * |
| Computer Science, Mathematics, Natural Sciences | * | * | * | * | * |
| Medicine, Psychology, Health Sciences, Sports | * | * | * | * | * |
| Agricultural, Forestry and Nutritional Sciences | * | * | * | * |
| Languages and Cultural Studies | * | * | * | * | * |
| Art, Aesthetics and Design | * | * | * | * | * |
Students interested in studying at the University of Freiburg can choose from among 155 fields of study in the Faculties of Theology, Law, Economics and Behavioural Sciences, Medicine, Humanities, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Geosciences, Biology, Forest and Environmental Sciences, Computer Science and Microsystems Technology. These also include many English-instructed offerings, such as the Master’s Programme in Global Studies, jointly offered by universities in Bangkok, New Delhi, Buenos Aires and Durban, where students can gain academic achievements from three different universities.

Together with universities in Switzerland and France, the University of Freiburg is a member of the European Confederation of Universities on the Upper Rhine (EUCOR). EUCOR’s structure enables students in Freiburg to attend lectures and seminars at the universities in Basel or Strasbourg, where they can also have their academic achievements recognised. Hence, the confederation also promotes cooperation between scientists and researchers.

Research Centres play an important role at Freiburg, because this is where scientists and researchers collaborate across faculties. Centres like these exist, for example, in the neurosciences, materials sciences, in medicine or law. The Cluster of Excellence bioss – Centre for Biological Signalling Studies – aims to gain an understanding of the molecular fundamentals and principles of biological signalling processes. The Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies offers top-level researchers from all around the world attractive working conditions with plenty of freedom for their research. The University of Freiburg has been offering its International Summer Courses for German learners in July and August for over 100 years now.

Freiburg – Germany’s town with the most hours of sunshine – has a unique attraction: little brooks that wind their way through the town centre. If you unintentionally step into one of them, you have to marry a local – says the legend. Freiburg’s best known landmark is the Minster Church (Münster). Those who climb the 116 metres of the tower are rewarded with a great view across the town. Only the Schauinsland, Freiburg’s home mountain, can provide a better view.
Heidelberg University runs a total of 184 degree programmes covering practically all conceivable options in the Faculties of Theology, Law, Medicine, Humanities, Economics and Social Sciences, Cultural Studies, Mathematics and Computer Science, Chemistry, Geosciences, Physics, Astronomy and Biosciences. Besides German-instructed programmes, Heidelberg also offers various Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes taught in English.

Apart from international degree programmes, Heidelberg University is also represented abroad with its own branch offices. The Heidelberg Center for Latin America in Santiago de Chile offers degree programmes in law or medicine and psychology together with Chilean universities. The School of German Law at the Jagiellonian University of Krakow and the degree programme in Comparative Government and Law at the Andrassy University in Budapest provide further examples of the range of teaching offered abroad. The International Summer School of German Language and Culture attracts more than 600 interested visitors from over 70 countries each year. Heidelberg started promoting cross-disciplinary research at an early stage. Consequently, the South Asia Institute was already established in the 1960s, when the fields of cultural studies, social sciences and economics engaged in research together. The Centre for Molecular Biology (Biology/Chemistry) followed in the 1980s, as did the Interdisciplinary Centre for Scientific Computing, later the Biochemistry Centre, plus the Interdisciplinary Centre for Neurosciences. The latest formations are the Centre for Astrophysics, to which non-university institutions are also contributing, the Research Network Bioquant as well as the Collaborative Research Centre on Ritual Dynamics. The cooperation with industry is also exemplary: The Catalysis Research Laboratory (CaRLa) was established with BASF, and the Nikon Imaging Centre with Nikon and other partners.

Not only Elvis Presley lost his heart in Heidelberg: With its baroque old town and fantastic view of the Palace, millions of tourists are attracted each year. The town can best be viewed from the Philosophenweg (literally the Philosopher’s Path), named in memory of the universities’ students – past and present. Then, the Neckarwiese (Neckar Meadows) provides an ideal spot to soak up some sun or you can choose to visit one of the many theatres: Heidelberg has something to offer, whatever your taste might be.
Hohenheim is a university with a long and illustrious tradition in agriculture and natural sciences. The three faculties – Business, Economics and Social Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, and Natural Sciences – offer a total of 33 degree programmes. Many of the Master’s programmes also address foreign students. These programmes are not consecutive and are taught in English. The Master’s Programme in Agricultural Sciences in the Tropics and Subtropics, which the German Academic Exchange Service distinguished as one of the ten best international Master’s programmes in Germany, exemplifies this.

The Summer Intensive Language Course “Deutsch im Ländle von Porsche und Schiller” (German in the Land of Porsche and Schiller) is held in August and September each year and offers an attractive range of courses for all German learners.

The priority research fields are health, nutrition, agriculture, consumer and environmental protection, as well as economics and communication. Representatives of various faculties work together on projects at the research centres. These above all examine questions from the thematic fields of agricultural and nutritional sciences relating to the food chain, energy and resource provision through to agriculture, biological signals plus innovation and services.
The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) was created through a merger between the Universität Karlsruhe (TH), founded in 1825, and the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, one of Germany’s largest research centres. KIT’s foundation formed the centerpiece in the university’s Institutional Strategy for the Excellence Initiative. When it was able to assert itself in the first round in 2006 and was selected as an Excellence University, preparations for the merger between the two institutions also began. KIT was officially founded in July 2009; since then, it is a research university of the state of Baden-Württemberg and a large-scale research institution of the Helmholtz Association.

In its capacity as Germany’s oldest technical university, KIT’s distinctive profile is shaped above all by technology, natural sciences and engineering, complemented by the humanities, cultural studies and economics, plus architecture. KIT stands out through its high research intensity. Even prior to the merger, the university had cooperated closely with the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe for more than 50 years, proven through numerous jointly-appointed professors.

More than 40 degree programmes enable students to acquire the very latest scientific insights and learn about future-orientated applications. They can also already contribute to research projects at an early stage. The research activities are divided into KIT Centres and KIT Focuses, where many projects have an interdisciplinary approach. KIT’s areas of competence are matter and materials, applied life sciences, earth and environment, technology, culture and society, information, communication and organisation, as well as systems and processes.

Karlsruhe is architecturally unique: Seen from above, its town centre is shaped like a fan, with the palace tower right at the centre. That the bicycle’s inventor – Karl Freiherr von Drais – was born in Karlsruhe is still evident today in the town’s urban vista. Many use the bike for transport. No wonder, since Karlsruhe is, after all, one of Germany’s warmest towns. For some cooling relaxation, the nearby Black Forest has plenty of attractions and opportunities for hiking, bathing and cycling.
Students interested in studying at the University of Konstanz can choose from more than 60 degree programmes in mathematics and natural sciences, humanities and economics, politics and management, as well as law. These include numerous cross-disciplinary offerings, such as the degree programme in Literature-Art-Media, the Master’s programme in Eastern European Studies, or degree programmes in Life Sciences and Mathematical Finance.

As a partner in the International Lake Constance University, the University of Konstanz collaborates closely with other universities from the region. Together with the Swiss University of Education in Thurgau, the University of Konstanz offers a binational teaching degree programme.

The University’s cross-disciplinary focus is also reflected in research. Flagships include the Cluster of Excellence Cultural Foundations of Integration, where scientists and scholars from the humanities, social sciences and law work together. The Graduate School Chemical Biology is a project jointly run by two departments.

The “Zukunftskolleg” plays a crucial role in promoting young scientists in research. Outstanding national and international young scientists can follow up their doctorate with an opportunity to spend up to five years doing independent and autonomous research within the scope of a concrete project in order to develop a distinctive profile with their own research findings. The simultaneous integration into the corresponding departments means they are closely networked with the university’s research landscape.

Lunch with a view of the Bodensee – Lake Constance – the flowering Blumeninsel Mainau and the Alps – that’s the bestseller in Konstanz’s university refectory. The town itself welcomes visitors with a beautiful old town, the Rhine Promenade, and the harbour, where Imperia has stood in all her glory for just under two decades: This work of art marks a satirical reference to the Council of Constance held here from 1414 to 1418. Art is also found along the border to Switzerland: Rather than a fence, 22 sculptures mark the national boundary.
Mannheim’s trademark is its clear profile and the focus on economics, business and social sciences. These remain closely interlinked with the humanities, mathematics, computer science and law. Several degree programmes build bridges between these disciplines, for example, Bachelor’s programmes leading to degrees as a corporate lawyer, in culture and business, or in business computing. Programmes from Mannheim have ranked in the lead group for many years.

The Mannheim Business School provides the organisational umbrella for business management continuing training and professional development at the University of Mannheim, thereby offering two international, entirely English-taught MBA programmes in full-time and part-time format. The international summer or winter academy is more than just a language course. Besides intensive language lessons, it also offers seminars on culture and philosophy in Germany.

The Mannheim Centre for European Social Research is the largest research institute at the university. The Mannheim Research Institute for Economics and Demographic Change examines the economic impact of changing population structures. The university additionally maintains close ties with three other renowned research institutions: the Centre for European Economic Research, the Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences GESIS, and the Institute for German Language.

Mannheim is the only university in Germany to have brought its semester dates into line with the usual international dates: its spring semester begins in February and its autumn semester in September.

F 6, 8. What would seem to be a coordinate in a game of battleships is actually an address in Mannheim. The town centre bears the epithet of “Quadrate”, referring to the honeycombed structure of the roads. In terms of urban planning, Mannheim served as a model for New York’s district of Manhattan. The palace also impresses as one of Europe’s largest Baroque Gardens and nowadays houses a large part of the university.
Engineering and natural sciences are the traditional core areas of teaching and research at the University of Stuttgart. The Faculty of Aerospace Engineering is one of the largest and best known in Germany. Around 60% of the graduates in this field gained their degree in Stuttgart. The study of architecture also enjoys a good reputation. Furthermore, Stuttgart offers degree programmes in mathematics, economics, social sciences and humanities.

The numerous English-taught degree programmes reflect Stuttgart's international focus. The degree programme in Air Quality Control, Solid Waste and Waste Water Process Engineering is just one example of a programme taught entirely in English and specifically designed to prepare graduates to meet the requirements of companies and institutions operating worldwide. The University of Stuttgart is also one of the German patron universities for the German University in Cairo, a private Egyptian university modelled on Germany and offering technical and natural sciences degree programmes.

Stuttgart's research activities concentrate on interdisciplinary priorities covering all stages of product development and the product life cycle. This includes the engineering technology needed to realise and assess the sustainability of technical innovations. Research centres, such as the High Performance Computing Centre (HLRS), the Visualisation Institute (VISUS), the Center Systems Biology (CSB) or the Space Centre Baden-Württemberg (RZBW) are milestones in the development of future technologies.

The capital of Baden-Württemberg – Stuttgart – provides wonderful panoramic views of the city from various vantage points thanks to its basin-like shape: the most impressive of these “viewpoints” is probably the Television Tower, the first of its kind worldwide and a real pioneer. From here, you can also see the Green U, a chain of parks encompassing the town centre. After a lengthy walk, a session in one of the numerous mineral baths is just the ticket for relaxing or perhaps visiting the often celebrated state theatre.
The best means of transport for a tour around and through Tübingen is to take the Stocherkähne – punts – so typical along the River Neckar, floating past the Hölderlin Tower, where the famous poet once lived. The old town also invites visitors to explore on foot, walking past half-timbered houses and through narrow streets. That the people of Tübingen are themselves good on foot also comes from the fact that it is the town with the lowest average age in Germany. No wonder, after all, one in four “Tübinger” are enrolled as students at the local university.

“Fringe Subjects” with a long tradition, such as general rhetoric, ancient oriental studies or indology are among the programmes offered at Tübingen, as are modern and cross-disciplinary programmes in bio-computing, neurosciences or computer linguistics. All in all, students interested in studying at Tübingen can choose between more than 150 different programmes in medicine, natural sciences, economics and social sciences, philology and cultural studies.

These include many international degree programmes taught in English. Take the Master’s programmes in Applied Environmental Geosciences or International Economics and Finance, for example. Besides these, Tübingen also runs double degree programmes, such as the integrated German-French Master’s programme in history, jointly offered by the University of Tübingen and the Aix-Marseille Universities. The summer courses in German as a Foreign Language not only provide language lessons from beginner’s to advanced levels, but also courses in regional studies, plus outings and excursions.

The broad range of subjects at the university encourages intensive collaboration between the various fields of research. Particular priorities lie in the neurosciences, plant molecular biology, cellular biochemistry, infection research, geo and environmental research, astroparticle and elementary particle physics, quantum physics and nanotechnology, drug research, overcoming therapy resistance, archaeology and prehistory plus Asian-Orient Research.
Ulm's profile is one of medicine and natural sciences. Teaching and research cover the natural sciences, engineering and computer science, mathematics and economics, and medicine. The range of studies offered includes typical degree programmes in this field as well as many cross-disciplinary programmes, such as mathematical biometrics, business mathematics, physics and economics, or biochemistry. Besides these, the university also offers English-instructed Master’s programmes which deal with new materials, for example, or technologies, such as degree programmes in advanced materials or energy science and technology.

Alongside Stuttgart, Ulm is the second German patron university of the German University in Cairo. This enables the best Egyptian students to write their Bachelor’s thesis at the University of Ulm. Besides this, students and staff engage in a lively exchange in the German and summer courses, on internships and in research collaborations. Doctoral student exchange with partner universities in China is very intensive and has led to several successful collaborative research projects.

Ulm’s research profile is shaped by priorities in information and communications technology (ICT), financial services, and their mathematical methodology, life sciences and medicine, nanomaterials and biomaterials, as well as quantum engineering. The university’s strength also lies in the high degree of interdisciplinary collaboration which it maintains, as highlighted by numerous research prizes and contracts.

The world’s most famous tongue comes from Ulm – and belonged to Albert Einstein. Besides the town’s best known son, a building is also world famous: more than 163 metres high, the Ulm Minster (Münster) has the world’s highest church steeple. On one special day each year, however, the Minster becomes irrelevant. In late July on the so-called Schwörmontag (Oath Monday), thousands travel down the River Danube on home-made boats. The whole event is called Nabada and provides a grand spectacle.
The Excellence Initiative is a competition in which the federal and state governments invited research universities to submit proposals for the first time in 2006. The goal is to promote top-level research at universities and so strengthen their future viability. To achieve this standard, universities have to stand out distinctly in three fields: Graduate Schools, Clusters of Excellence and Institutional Strategy.

Only those universities which succeed in all three funding lines are regarded as Excellence Universities in Germany. All in all, a total of nine research universities were successful, four of them coming from Baden-Württemberg. Besides the Universities of Heidelberg, Freiburg and Konstanz, the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), created when the Universität Karlsruhe (TH) and the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe merged, competed successfully. However, the universities distinguished in the Excellence Initiative are not the only institutions to deserve the grade of “very good” – the other research universities in Baden-Württemberg also deliver excellent teaching and research.

The Excellence Initiative generally intensified the competition between universities in Germany and so led to many new and innovative projects developing. With an emphasis on international networking, many international degree programmes were created which are run together with foreign partners and are taught in English (or other foreign languages).

Germany’s federal and state governments have committed themselves to making a total of 1.9 billion euros available for the winning projects up to 2011. The Excellence Initiative is to be continued and expanded from 2012 to 2017. An additional 2.7 billion euros have been allowed for this.

The Excellence Initiative by the German federal and state governments consists of three funding lines:

- **Graduate Schools**: These offer structured programmes to train doctoral students, i.e. young scientists and researchers.
- **Clusters of Excellence**: They are cross-disciplinary groups created to research a specific topic. Non-university research institutions or companies can be integrated into these clusters.
- **Institutional Strategy**: Institutional Strategies give universities opportunities to develop strategies on how they can specifically strengthen their research, and so position themselves better in the international market.
Regionally integrated and internationally networked, aware of tradition and innovative in nature, practice focused and research orientated: these qualities make the more than 20 public Universities of Applied Sciences in Baden-Württemberg stand out. They form the second major pillar of academic education and training in the state: Around one quarter of all the students are enrolled in these institutions.

Aware of tradition and innovative in nature – both features are reflected in the range of studies offered by Baden-Württemberg’s Universities of Applied Sciences. Its predecessors were the schools of engineering and technical colleges for training technicians. These subject areas can still be found today at the Universities of Applied Sciences, but meanwhile cover a much greater area. Subjects extend from engineering via mathematics, computer science and natural sciences, agricultural, forest and nutritional sciences, law, economics and business, through to public health, sociology and social sciences, linguistics and cultural studies, as well as design, media and information studies.

A Bachelor’s programme lasts between six and seven semesters at a University of Applied Sciences, while a Master’s programme takes between two and four semesters. With the range of studies they offer, the Universities of Applied Sciences in Baden-Württemberg can respond to the latest scientific findings and the requirements communicated by business and industry. This results in degree programmes developing with particular priorities, some of which are unique in Germany, such as the Bachelor’s programmes in optoelectronics and laser engineering, plus optometry and audiology, which are offered by Aalen University. Specialists on topics of the future, such as the use of renewable energies or energy efficient building, are trained at the University of Applied Forest Sciences in Rottenburg as well as the University of Applied Sciences in Offenburg and Biberach University of Applied Sciences. Conversely, the Heilbronn University of Applied Sciences offers a special degree programme in wine marketing plus various programmes in the tourism sector.

Practice focused and research orientated – these are the two characteristics which the Universities of Applied Sciences perfectly embody. The professors at the Universities of Applied Sciences are proven experts, both in science and practice. Many had worked in industry, business or social sectors before moving to Universities of Applied Sciences. The students receive an academic training, while simultaneously engaging in project-orientated learning, such as game...
plans, corporate practice, or by contributing to research projects with companies or other partners, thereby creating links with and between vocational and professional practice. A key component in the degree programme lies in the practical semester, which, depending on the field of study, can be completed in a company or a social institution. Furthermore, students often write their theses with external partners and work at the same time in a field relevant to their topic.

Research at the Universities of Applied Sciences focuses on application – and sees itself as a bridge between basic research and technology transfer. Universities of Applied Sciences cooperate with companies, businesses and enterprises in many of the research projects in the region. For example, the Esslingen University of Applied Sciences contributes to various research projects in the field of automotive technology, cooperating with well-known car and truck manufacturers such as Daimler, Porsche or their suppliers.
Regionally embedded and internationally networked – the Universities of Applied Sciences also offer their students attractive opportunities all about studying. Business and industry, local authorities and social institutions are strong partners for the Universities of Applied Sciences when engaging in collaborative research projects. For the students, this opens up a wide range of opportunities and options for internships and external theses. The world is also open to students enrolled at Baden-Württemberg’s Universities of Applied Sciences. The many academic and industrial partnerships have led to higher education institutions being networked worldwide. This enables them to offer their students opportunities for completing study, internship and work placement stays in many other countries. Hence, students can acquire crucial international experience, can get to know other cultures, and can expand their language skills.

To keep up with the competition for the very best minds, the Universities of Applied Sciences already focused the range of studies they offer accordingly at an early stage. English-instructed Master’s programmes attract many students from all around the world to Baden-Württemberg. Moreover, ever more double degrees are being offered, such as in the German-Chinese degree programmes in print and media technology or packaging technology at the Stuttgart Media University, where students can attend courses in both countries and also gain a German and a Chinese Master’s degree.

The degree programme in International Business offered at Reutlingen University is unique in Germany and gives students the opportunity to gain a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Business Administra-
UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES: TEACHING AND RESEARCH BY SUBJECT GROUPS

| Law, Economics and Social Sciences | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Engineering | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Computer Science, Mathematics, Natural Sciences | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Medicine, Psychology, Health Sciences, Sports | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Agricultural, Forestry and Nutritional Sciences | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Languages and Cultural Studies | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
| Art, Aesthetics and Design | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ | ✔️ |
The Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW), founded in 2009, is unique in Germany. It combines the advantages of academic study with those of practical vocational training. The DHBW’s roots lie in the University of Cooperative Education – Berufsakademie (BA), a form of education and training “invented” in Baden-Württemberg in the 1970s. The Cooperative State University has its registered office in Stuttgart, but students can study at eight main locations and four branch campuses located throughout Baden-Württemberg.

Together with 8,000 and more partner companies, the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University offers degree programmes in the subject areas of business and economics, technology and social studies, which all lead to a Bachelor’s degree. The system provides various choices, allowing students to deepen and expand their knowledge to varying degrees within the three given subject areas. Career-integrated Master’s programmes will also be offered in the future.

To qualify for place at the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University, students must conclude an employment contract with a company willing to offer the required vocational training. For applications, interviews and possibly work placements or internships, students interested in studying must allow themselves plenty of preparation time. The employment contracts make students financially

What makes studying at the Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University unique is that the students are integrated directly into the businesses and companies which provide the apprenticeships and traineeships. This gives students the opportunity to immediately apply their theoretical knowledge in practice and so enables them to extend their skills and abilities. Throughout their studies, the students receive a training allowance from their company. Hence, the DHBW does not have traditional semester vacations. Instead, trainees receive the normal annual leave entitlement. However, they are under no obligation to remain with the training company after they graduate from their studies. Yet, the retention rates are impressive indeed at over 80% – a good sign that both the students and the training providers benefit from the cooperative education and training.
independent – they receive a monthly wage throughout the programme. During their studies, theoretical phases and practical phases will interchange on a three-monthly basis. Consequently, the theoretical phases are very intensive and require students to be good performers and to have good time management skills. Small course groups ensure that the DHBW can deliver intensive support and advice through the professors, plus good studying conditions. The practical phase enables students to apply what they have learnt in practice, because they have already gained first-hand insights into how their training or apprenticeship provider operates, and so are familiar with the company procedures, processes and requirements.

International experience and language skills are just as important for a successful career start. Hence, the DHBW maintains numerous contacts with higher education institutions and companies abroad. Many degree programmes offer opportunities to spend one or two semesters abroad, enabling students to get to know everyday working and academic life in other countries, to improve their language skills and to gain intercultural competences.

Studying at the DHBW opens up good career opportunities for graduates. A careers study published by IBM Germany shows that around three quarters of the graduates, now holding positions of responsibility, were offered professional or management positions before turning 35 years of age. In the age group of 31 to 40-year-olds, the salaries for graduates holding a DHBW degree were the highest, followed by university graduates. The proportion of women is much higher than in other types of higher education institutions.
The Universities of Education in Baden-Württemberg are specialists in the field of teacher training. You can study at these universities if you would like to become a teacher at a primary school, a lower secondary school, a middle school, a special needs school, or, if you would like to complete an education-related postgraduate course. This type of university is unique in Germany.

On account of the high-quality, science based and practice focused teacher training that they offer, the universities of education in Baden-Württemberg enjoy an excellent reputation. Their strength builds on a clear educational training profile: Education sciences, special education and specialist disciplines, didactic analysis of scientific content, plus school practice are as tightly interlinked as at no other type of higher education institution.

Degree programmes leading to a teaching degree for primary, lower secondary, middle or special needs schools end with a Staatsexamen degree. Besides these, universities of education even offer other education-related Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes. These prepare students for professional challenges arising from factors outside the education and training sector. For all those working in the education sector, the universities of education offer career-integrated postgraduate continuing education and training programmes plus professional development programmes leading to a certificate awarded by a higher education institution.

How to learn in the modern world? How does the information society influence teaching and learning processes? Which is the right education and for which recipients? Scientists and researchers working at the universities of education are looking for answers to these and other questions of education research and specialist didactics. Promoting young scientists and researchers has an important role to play. It gives them the opportunity to contribute actively to longer-term research.
projects and to gain a doctorate, or even a Habilitation (venia legendi). That education research and specialist didactics are some of the key tasks for the future is proven by the ever growing number of projects, third-party fundraising and successful PhDs and habilitations.

Experience with other cultures and languages is important, not to say crucial, especially in the various areas of the education system. All six universities of education in Baden-Württemberg are networked worldwide via university partnerships, exchange programmes and collaborative research projects, thereby facilitating study and internship stays in other countries. Conversely, students and researchers from around the world contribute to enriching academic life at the universities of education and so add to the growing internationality of this type of higher education institution.

Besides teacher training, offerings are available in the following areas:
- Early child education
- Health promotion
- Intercultural education
- German as a foreign language
- Islamic religious education
- Consulting, school development and school social work
- Street child education
- Adult education, media and culture management
- Bilingual learning and multilingualism
- Vocational education (in cooperation with the Universities of Applied Sciences)
- Continuing professional development in education science
Universities of Arts and Music

Thinking about studying music, acting, dancing, design, film, music journalism or art?

No problem: Baden-Württemberg is home to eleven universities of arts and music with various training and subject profiles covering the whole range of education and training options in the arts. Depending on your aspired educational goal, subjects will be taught in classes, small groups or even on a one-to-one basis.

Universities of the Arts

Universities of the arts cover the training of artists, i.e. painters and sculptors, plus degree programmes in applied art and design. While the two art academies in Karlsruhe and Stuttgart offer studies in the classical arts (fine art and applied art, art education), the University of Arts and Design Karlsruhe is a “media university”: Besides classical arts and design subjects, it focuses on the whole scope of media arts. Universities of the arts provide the technical aids and resources, such as studios, workshops, computers, libraries and models. Moreover, exhibitions are held regularly.

Universities of Music and Performing Arts

Classical music, church music, jazz, performing art, and much more – the five universities of music and performing arts in Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Trossingen and Freiburg offer a wide variety of degree programmes. The artistic training is complemented by scientific subjects, such as musicology and music education. The University of Music and Performing Arts Stuttgart also offers Bachelor’s programmes for drama and puppet theatre, while dance and dance education can be studied.
in Mannheim. The University of Music Karlsruhe offers a degree programme in radio and music journalism.

The range of courses offered at the Academy of Performing Arts Baden-Württemberg includes drama, theatre direction, dramaturgy plus costume and stage design.

Film Academy

The Baden-Württemberg Film Academy in Ludwigsburg is one of the world’s best known film academies. It trains experts in all areas related to film. Screenplay, direction, composition, montage and editing, film composition, animation, interactive media, production, film music and sound design are taught by 300 and more experts from the film and media industries. Teams made up of students and graduates produce more than 250 films of all genres each year, which are presented and regularly win prizes at festivals.

Pop Academy

The Pop Academy Baden-Württemberg in Mannheim is the only university in Germany to have been established specifically to train students for professions in the pop industry. The degree programme in music business prepares graduates for later careers as band and label managers or marketing experts. The degree programme in Pop Music Design addresses future singers, instrumentalists, song writers, producers and DJs. Students produce their own music from composition through to final CD, practise how best to perfect their stage performances and develop marketing strategies.
Private Universities

Besides the public universities presented here, Baden-Württemberg also offers more than 20 private universities. Most of these institutions specialise in a specific area, where they offer both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Many of the programmes can be studied by distance learning or in career-integrated formats.

The Zeppelin University in Friedrichshafen, founded in 2003, is a perfect example. It sees itself as an innovative university located between business and industry, culture and politics. This is also reflected in the teaching and research, which is divided into three subject groups: corporate management and economics, communication and cultural management, and public management and governance. Students also benefit from the close networking between the Zeppelin University, companies and from numerous other service offerings as well.

The Hochschule für Jüdische Studien is the only university in Europe to offer academic education in Jewish religion and culture. Its expertise makes it an ideal partner for policymakers, the media, churches and schools when questions arise today.

The other private universities offer a broad range of subjects extending from the natural sciences, economics and business, social education and social work through to art and art therapy. Since some of the private universities are completely financed solely from tuition fees, their fees are generally much higher than those at public institutions.

AKAD-Hochschule Stuttgart    .....www.akad.de
Evangelische Hochschule Freiburg    .....www.efh-freiburg.de
Evangelische Hochschule Ludwigsburg    .....www.efh-reutlingen-ludwigsburg.de
Fachhochschule Schwäbisch Hall    .....www.fh-schwaebischhall.de
Freie Hochschule Stuttgart – Seminar für Waldorfpädagogik    .....www.freie-hochschule-stuttgart.de
German Graduate School of Management and Law gGmbH, Heilbronn    .....www.ggs.de
Gustav-Siewerth-Akademie Weilheim-Bierbronn    .....www.siewerth-akademie.de
Hochschule der Bundesagentur für Arbeit Mannheim    .....www.fh-arbeit.de
Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg    .....www.hfjs.eu
Hochschule für Kunsttherapie Nürtingen    .....www.hkt-nuertingen.de
Internationale Hochschule Calw    .....www.internationale-hochschule-calw.de
Internationale Karlshochschule Karlsruhe    .....www.karlshochschule.de
Katholische Hochschule Freiburg    .....www.kfh-freiburg.de
Merz Akademie Stuttgart    .....www.merz-akademie.de
nta Hochschule Isny    .....www.na-isny.de
SRH Fernhochschule Riedlingen    .....www.srh-riedlingen.de
SRH Hochschule Calw    .....www.srh-hochschule-calw.de
SRH Hochschule Heidelberg    .....www.srh-heidelberg.de
Theologische Hochschule Reutlingen    .....www.th-reutlingen.de
Wissenschaftliche Hochschule Lahr    .....www.whl-lahr.de
Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen    .....www.zeppelin-university.de
The International Office – Akademisches Auslandsamt – at their chosen university is the key contact point for applicants from abroad. The International Office checks whether the papers and documents meet the requirements and whether all the necessary paperwork has been submitted. Some universities require foreign students to apply via uni-assist (a university admissions service). If you are interested in studying at a University of Applied Sciences in Baden-Württemberg, please contact the Institute for International Students – Ausländerstudienkolleg Konstanz – in Konstanz. Please ensure that you contact your chosen university in good time – well before application – to find out about the precise procedure, the requirements and the papers needed for admission.

International first-year students must generally
• hold a recognised secondary school-leaving certificate which must be equivalent to the German Abitur qualification,
• have adequate German language skills,
• present proof of having passed a university entrance exam in their home country or of having already completed some academic years of study there,
• or possibly present proof of particular aptitude for the chosen subject.

After checking the paperwork, the Admissions Office – Zulassungsstelle – will inform you of the result: You will either receive a Letter of Admission (Zulassungsbescheid) or a Rejection Notice (Ablehnungsbescheid). The letter of admission also contains information on how to register at the university. Only by registering can you gain student status.

If you are a foreign student and your secondary school-leaving certificate is not equivalent to the German Abitur, you will have to take an Assessment Test: Feststellungsprüfung. This checks whether the knowledge you acquired in your home country is sufficient for studying in Germany. Preparatory courses – Studienkollegs – offer one-year courses to prepare students for the Feststellungsprüfung. Prospective applicants can also take Core Courses – Schwerpunktkurse – at the Studienkollegs to prepare for studying the subject in question. Applicants have to prove that their German language skills are good enough to study by taking the German language test for admission to higher education for foreign applicant students – “Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang ausländischer Studienbewerber” (DSH), or the Test “Deutsch als Fremdsprache” – German as a Foreign Language Test (TestDaF). The DSH can only be taken at universities in Germany, while TestDaF maintains examination centres worldwide. The language tests offered by the Goethe-Institut, “Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung (ZOP), “Großes Sprachdiplom (GSD)” or “Kleines Sprachdiplom (KSD)” or “Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz Stufe II” are all recognised as well. Many international programmes additionally require proof of adequate English language skills in the form of a TOEFL-Test Certificate or the Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency.

Please check the websites of the German Academic Exchange Service for detailed information on admissions, registration and on learning German at: www.daad.de
Living Conditions

**Accommodation – student residences, dormitories, a shared flat or a place of your own?**

Student residences are popular because the rooms are generally furnished and are close to the university, while monthly rents of around 200 euros are relatively favourable. Moreover, you can soon get into contact with your fellow flatmates. The rooms are usually allocated by the local Student Services organisation – Studentenwerke. You will also be able to make friends quickly in a shared flat, known as a Wohngemeinschaft (WG) in German. Rooms in shared flats can be found on the internet, in newspaper ads, or on the uni notice-boards. Costs differ from town to town – but you should reckon with between 200 and 350 euros. Alternatively, you can choose to look for a place of your own. Ads are also to be found in the daily papers under “Accommodation” or “To Rent” or on the internet. At 300 euros and more per month, rents are usually much higher than the other alternatives.

**Health Insurance**

All students under the age of 30 or who have not yet completed their 14th academic semester must have a health insurance policy – either with a statutory provider or a private one. The statutory health insurance providers offer special student tariffs amounting to between 50 and 70 euros per month. All students older than 30 or who have completed their 14th academic semester can only insure themselves with a private provider. The compulsory insurance requirement may be waived if the student is insured in his or her home country and this insurance covers the costs of medical treatment in Germany. This applies, for example, to EU countries or Switzerland.

**The Service Package for Foreign Students**

Some of the Student Services organisations at universities in Baden-Württemberg offer a Service Package for students from abroad. The package aims to help them settle into German everyday life. It covers practically all fields of student life at favourable costs – from accommodation to catering to insurance. It is conceived as start up assistance and so can only be booked for a maximum of two semesters (i.e. one year). Service Packages cost between 1,100 and 1,700 euros per semester plus special benefits, depending on the Student Services in question.
Finances

How can I get a scholarship for studying in Germany?
Numerous organisations, foundations and institutions in Germany offer scholarships for foreign students. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is the most well-known funding organisation and maintains a wide range of different funding programmes. The Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM, awarded by the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, specifically supports student exchange with Baden-Württemberg’s students and is unique in Germany.

May I work in Germany? How do I get a secondary job?
European students from the “old” EU member states as well as from Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Malta, Cyprus and Switzerland can work unlimited hours in Germany – within the general regulations applicable for students. For all other foreign students, the rule is: you can only take up paid employment if your residence permit so allows. However, these students must not work for more than 90 days per year. Student jobs at universities or scientific institutions are possible, however, and do not have any time restrictions.

Tuition Fees
Beginning in spring 2012, all public universities in Baden-Württemberg do not require students to pay tuition fees any more. This does not apply, though, to tuition fees being paid for non-consecutive, postgraduate Master’s programmes and for studying at private universities.

Other Costs
How much somebody spends each month depends on their personal habits and on the university town. On average, costs of around 600 to 800 euros have to be reckoned with. Furthermore, all students in Baden-Württemberg have to pay an administrative fee of 40 euros per semester plus a sum of approximately the same amount to Student Services. However, they also receive numerous benefits through Student Services. The student ID card acts like a kind of gateway to a wide range of benefits, including entry to museums, public baths, or even discounted newspaper subscriptions.

Positions for student assistants are generally issued directly by the higher education institution itself or via announcements on the noticeboard. The Student Services job agency offers student jobs both online as well as in personal interviews. The “situations vacant” section in the daily papers and internet-based job exchanges provide further options for finding temporary work.
You want to know more?

You can find further information about studying, living and working in Baden-Württemberg, plus subscribe to our newsletter on

✉️ www.study-guide-bw.de

Also, if you have any specific question, we are glad to help you – just send an e-mail to

✉️ info@study-guide-bw.com

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