

# Information for students from EU-/EEA countries and Switzerland

Do you intend to study in Hamburg? Start planning early! We have compiled some information to help you prepare.

## Accommodation

Due to the great demand for a room in our residential complexes, waiting times are to be expected. You do not need an admission for your application! If you intend to study in Hamburg, we therefore recommend that you apply as early as possible before starting your studies. You should also note that you will be asked regularly (every 14 days) via e-mail, whether you are still interested in one of our rooms. If yes, please confirm, otherwise you will no longer be on the list of applicants.

The team of the Counselling Centre Accommodation arranges rooms in our residential complexes and provides advice on all aspects of housing. We look forward to meeting you!

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## Finance

### BAföG

Under certain conditions, students from EU, EEA and Switzerland can also receive BAföG. The requirements for the support in these cases are listed in § 8 BAföG, see information sheet “BAföG for students with foreign nationality (§ 8 BAföG)” at [www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de) ↪ International affairs ↪ Students from abroad.

### State funding for international students

If you are **not entitled to BAföG**, you may be eligible for benefits from state funding: The **merit scholarship** is awarded by the universities. Please contact your International Office. Students from EU/ EEA countries or Switzerland, who are not entitled to BAföG can receive an **examination scholarship** for their graduation (usually in the last 12 months of their studies) from state funding. However, there is no legal entitlement to this funding. Further information can be found at [www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de) ↪ International affairs ↪ Students from abroad.

### Scholarships

Only a few students in Germany receive a scholarship. There is no central office, where you can apply for a scholarship or which forwards an application to the funding institutions. You must actively search for scholarship providers yourself and apply individually. You will find an overview of “scholarships for international students” at [www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de) ↪ International affairs ↪ Students from abroad.

The **German Academic Exchange Service** ([www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)) is responsible for the support of incoming international students. Since you have to apply for a DAAD scholarship approx. 1.5 years before you start your studies, you should apply in time by using the DAAD funding database. **Our Counselling Centre for Study Financing – BeSt will be happy to advise you!**

Further information on scholarships can be found at [www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de) ↪ International affairs ↪ Students from abroad.

### Student loans

Students from EU countries/the EEA or Switzerland may in exceptional cases take out a state student loan, e.g. if they fall under the requirements of § 8 BAföG or have been legally residing in the Federal Republic of Germany for at least three years etc. In the final phase of your studies, please check whether you are eligible for an interest-free loan.

Our Counselling Centre for Study Financing – BeSt will inform you on all components regarding study financing. We're looking forward to meeting you!

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# Good to know

## Working

More than 75% of the students in Hamburg work alongside their studies. The number of international students is even higher. This makes working one of the most common forms of financing for students from abroad. Students from the EU states, the EEA and Switzerland have unrestricted access to the labour market. Since different aspects have to be considered when working alongside your studies and especially when combining several jobs or taking up self-employment, **it is therefore advisable to seek advice from our Counselling Centre for Social & International Affairs – BeSI before starting to work.**

## Social benefits

Under certain conditions, citizens of EU countries, EEA countries or Switzerland may be eligible for social benefits (e.g. housing benefit, child allowance, basic needs, integration assistance), especially in the event of a change of status (part-time, semester off) or in special circumstances, pregnancy/childcare, sickness/disability, etc.

**Our Counselling Centre for Social & International Affairs – BeSI will be happy to advise you.**

## Help in financial emergencies

Students of the University of Hamburg, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg University of Technology, Hamburg HafenCity University, Hamburg University of Fine Arts, Hamburg University of Music and Drama and Bucerius Law School, who find themselves in an unforeseen, acute, and temporary financial emergency can apply for an emergency loan or an aid respectively food vouchers for the cafeteria (Mensa) from the emergency fund of Studierendenwerk Hamburg.

**Further information can be obtained from the Counselling Centre for Social & International Affairs – BeSI**

## Health insurance

As a rule, students from countries of the EU, the EEA and Switzerland can remain insured in their home country and apply for a European Health Insurance Card. This enables them to make use of medical services in Germany. However, when taking up a student job, a German health insurance may still have to be taken out. We have compiled detailed information in our information sheet „Health Insurance during studies“, to be found at

[www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de](http://www.studierendenwerk-hamburg.de) ↪ Our counselling service ↪ Counselling centre for social & international affairs.

**Please feel free to contact our Counselling Centre for Social & International Affairs – BeSI with all your questions about health insurance**

**The Team of Counselling Centre for Social & International Affairs – BeSI supports students with solving social, personal and economic problems. We're looking forward to meeting you!**

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**The website [www.study-in.de](http://www.study-in.de) also offers you a good overview.**