

## Integration courses

### What is an integration course?

The general integration course consists of a language course with 600 teaching hours and an orientation course with 60 teaching hours. The language course consists of several levels with 100 teaching hours each. The first 300 teaching hours are known as the basic language course, the following 300 hours are a follow-on language course.

In the language course, you learn the vocabulary which you need to read and write in everyday situations. This includes contact to authorities, talking to neighbours and work colleagues, writing letters and filling in forms.

The orientation course teaches you about life in Germany and builds up your knowledge of German laws, culture and the modern history of the country.

There are also special forms of the integration course, for example for women, parents, young people, as well as for persons who cannot yet read and write well. This course lasts for 960 teaching hours. If you learn especially quickly, you can take an intensive course, which lasts for 430 teaching hours.

The course provider will set a test before the course starts, in order to assess which course is most suitable for you.

### Who can take part in an integration course?

A distinction is made between:

- Immigrants who received a residency title prior to 1st January 2005
- Immigrants who received a residency title after 1st January 2005
- EU citizens
- Late repatriates
- German citizens
- Long term tolerated persons
- Persons from third countries entitled to long term residency

Generally, late repatriates are entitled to take part in an integration course.

Immigrants who received a residency title prior to 1st January 2005, as well as EU citizens and German citizens are not entitled to participation in an integration course. However, under certain circumstances, they can be permitted to take part in an integration course. Long term tolerated persons can also take part in a course, provided that the requirements of Section 104 a of the German Residency Act (Aufenthaltsgesetz - AufenthG) are present.

Immigrants who received a residency title after 1st January 2005 are entitled to participate in an integration course if they do not have sufficient command of the German language. Persons from third countries entitled to long term residency are also entitled to participation in an integration course following the taking effect of the Directive Implementation Act (Richtlinienumsetzungsgesetz) if they can provide proof of more than five years residency in another EU Member State.

Differing regulations apply to the various immigrant groups.

### Who must take part in an integration course?

Foreigners who received a residency title prior to 1st January 2005 can be obliged to participate in an integration course if they have received unemployment benefit or if they are in particular need of integration (for example young children).

German citizens, late repatriates and EU citizens cannot be obliged to participate in an integration course.

Foreigners who received a residency title after 1st January 2005 can be obliged to participate in an integration course if they cannot make themselves understood in German in a simple or sufficient manner. This decision depends on your residency status in Germany.

### How much do integration courses cost?

You must pay a cost contribution of EUR 1.20 per hour of tuition to the course provider. This cost contribution must be paid before the start of each course component.

Should it be difficult for you to pay the cost contribution due to you being on a low income, you can apply in writing to the competent regional office of the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge) for exemption from costs.

### Registration for participation in an integration course

Should you be entitled or obliged to participate in an integration course, you will receive a written confirmation in this respect from the competent foreigners' authority or the competent body for unemployment benefit II. At the same time, you will also receive a list of course providers who run integration courses near to your place of residence.

Following receipt of the obligation documents, please register as soon as possible with a course provider of your choice and send the registration for participation in an integration course to the foreigners' authority immediately, at the latest within four weeks.

### Proper course participation

So that you can attain the objective of the integration course, you should participate properly. This means that you regularly attend classes and take part in the final test. The proper participation in the course is also important for you if you receive travel expenses or wish to subsequently repeat classes from the language course. Your course provider will confirm your proper participation in writing, should you so wish.

A change to another course provider is generally only permitted after completion of a course section.

### Participation in the final test

The final test consists of a language exam and a test concerning the orientation course. Should you demonstrate sufficient knowledge of German in the language test and pass the test concerning the orientation course, you have successfully passed the integration course and will receive an "integration course certificate".

This corresponds to language competence of level B1 of the Joint European Reference Framework for Languages.

Should you have been unsuccessful, you will receive a certificate for the results obtained.

Participation in the final test is free of charge.

#### Repeat of the follow-on course

Should you not have been able to demonstrate sufficient German language ability in the language test, you can repeat up to 300 hours of the language course once and take part in the language test for a second time free-of-charge. However, you are required to have regularly attended classes.

When participating in a literacy course, participation in a language test is not necessary.

You must apply to the competent regional body of the Federal Office in order to take part in a repeat course.

#### Information concerning obligatory participation in an integration course

Should you have been obliged to participate in an integration course by the Foreigners' Authority or the competent body for unemployment benefit II, you must register with a course provider as quickly as possible and participate in the course properly.

Should you fail to do so, these can lead to the following consequences amongst others:

- Can influence the decision concerning the extension of the residency title
- Should you receive benefits, these can be reduced
- If applicable, the Foreigner's Authority can demand that you pay the cost contribution to the amount of EUR 1.20 per class for the whole integration course in advance to the full amount
- You can be fined.

The course provider must inform the Foreigners' Authority or the competent body for unemployment benefit II if you do not properly participate in the integration course.

However, for as long as an integration course has not been successfully and properly completed, the residency permit can only be extended for one year.

#### Further information

You can obtain all of the application forms referred to in this information sheet from the course provider, from your Foreigners' Authority or from the competent regional office of the Federal Authority.

#### Your competent regional office:

Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge  
Boschetsrieder Strasse 41  
81379 München  
Telephone: 089 62029-0  
Fax: 089 62029-199

Further information, applications and leaflets can be obtained from:  
<http://www.bamf.de/DE/Willkommen/DeutschLernen/Integrationskurse>

Course providers in the district of Freising:

Description of the provider	Road	Postal code	Town	Telephone number
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VHS Freising e.V.	Kammergasse 12 from 1st July 2011	85354	Freising	08161-490744
CBZ Freising GmbH	Erdinger Strasse 84	85356	Freising	08161 84610

VHS Moosburg e.V.	Stadtplatz 2	85368	Moosburg	08761-7225-12
VHS Moosburg e.V.	Stadtplatz 2	85368	Moosburg	08761-7225-12
VHS Moosburg e.V.	Stadtplatz 2	85368	Moosburg	08761-7225-12
VHS Moosburg e.V.	Stadtplatz 2	85368	Moosburg	08761-7225-12
Deutsche Angestellten-Akademie GmbH DAA	Landwehrstrasse 73/75	80336	Munich	089-54430233

Sprachinstitut Alterlingua	Hunoldsgraben 35	86150	Augsburg	0821-3463422
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