WELCOME TO TU DARMSTADT
IMPORTANT STEPS BEFORE ARRIVING IN GERMANY

Overview:
Pre-Arrival
Contact

We look forward to meeting you!
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO BEFORE COMING TO TU DARMSTADT?

- visa requirements
- health insurance
- semester fees
- planning your stay in Darmstadt
- accommodation
- How to get to Darmstadt?
CHECK YOUR PASSPORT
- Make sure you have a valid passport or EU-ID card (citizens of EU countries). It should be valid until at least 12 months after your arrival in Germany.
- You CANNOT use your driver’s license or an international student ID to enter Germany.

INFORM YOURSELF ABOUT VISA REQUIREMENTS
- **EU students**: You do not need a visa to study in Germany. Make sure to bring a valid passport or EU-ID card.

- **Non-EU students studying at an EU University**: If you already have a residence permit from the country you are studying in, please make sure that this residence permit is valid for the entire time you intend to study in Germany. Please make sure to inform us of this as soon as it becomes known that you intend to study in Germany by sending us an email with a copy of your current residence permit. We will then get in touch with you directly regarding the next steps. You can find more information on this subject here: EU mobility arrangement

- **Non-EU students**: If you are a non-EU citizen, please check whether you need to apply for a visa before entering Germany or if you can apply for a Residence Permit when you arrive. Contact the German Embassy in your current place of residence and check the visa regulations that apply to your nationality at least 3 months before your departure to Germany. Please note: We have no authority in getting you earlier appointments at the German Embassy for your visa applications.
  - If you are applying for a Visa or a Residence Permit, you will need to show you can support yourself financially. For further information please visit our website. For proof of financial means, you will need to either:
    - show a declaration of commitment (Verpflichtungserklärung)
    - scholarship confirmation
    - job contract
    - or open a blocked bank account.
  - If you are receiving a scholarship, please make sure it is in English or German, signed, and stamped by the institution.

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1 Please consult the German Embassy where you are applying for more information on what paperwork you would need to obtain this document.
HEALTH INSURANCE

To enrol at TU Darmstadt international students must have health insurance. This applies also if you participate in a preparatory course or the Studienkolleg.

- **Exchange Students Only:**
  - Students from EU, EWR or Switzerland with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), do not need to purchase a separate German health insurance as your home-country insurance is sufficient. Please make sure that it is valid during your entire stay or for at least one semester.
  
  For further information, please contact your coordinator from the International Relations & Mobility Office: europe-incomings@zv.tu-darmstadt.de.

  If you start working (i.e. working student) while studying, then you will have to obtain coverage with a German provider. Your home-country insurance is not sufficient.

- **All Other International Students:**
  - You need to purchase a German health insurance. There are two types of health insurance: statutory and private. Please check their insurance plans in advance to choose the one that suits your needs. Students older than 30 need to purchase a private health insurance.

Please see our website on Health Insurance for International Students for more information.

- In case of pre-existing medical conditions and if you are taking prescription medicine, make sure you bring enough with you for the time you will be staying abroad or make sure to have a copy of the prescription from your doctor (German or English only) in case you must refill your prescription here in Germany.

ENROLLING & SEMESTER FEES

- **Exchange Students Only:**
  - Before your exchange semester begins, the International Relations and Mobility Office will inform you per e-mail about your application number/BW-number and how you can transfer the fees. Make sure the BW-number (e.g., BW123456) is clearly stated in the reference section of your transaction.

- **All Other International Students:**
  - Once you have been accepted to TU Darmstadt, you will receive an admission letter from the International Admissions Office with more information on how to complete the enrolment process.

  - Please refer to this letter for further instructions. For further questions related to this process, please contact the International Admissions department directly (international.admission@zv.tu-darmstadt.de).

  - Once you enroll at the University and pay the semester fees, you will be able to receive your student ID-card via post. This card also includes a ticket for Darmstadt and the
surrounding area. Please make sure to confirm your address via your TUCaN account to receive this card upon arrival in Germany. Please see the FAQ by International Admission for more information regarding these processes.

- How to pay the semester fees (all students):
  o Bank transfer: Keep currency exchange rates in mind and transfer the EXACT amount of money. For international transactions potential charges may apply.

- Further Information:
  o Don’t forget to activate your Deutschland Semesterticket. Please note that you are not entitled to travel outside of the RMV area if you don’t activate the ticket on your mobile phone.

PLANNING YOUR STAY IN DARMSTADT
- Money is an important topic when you are planning to study abroad. On our website you will find information to estimate the costs you might face: Costs and Budget
- Please take into consideration the maximum amount of cash that can carry when entering Germany. If you exceed this limit, i.e., bring more cash, you must declare your amount to the competent German customs office!

ORGANISING ACCOMMODATION FOR YOUR STAY
- Searching for accommodations in Darmstadt can be time-consuming. While you can apply for the dormitories, don’t rely on them as your only option. Be prepared to find a place on your own, as the number of applicants far exceeds the number of available rooms.
  o Housing Assistance for Exchange Students
  o Housing Assistance for International Students

HOW TO GET TO DARMSTADT
- You can easily reach Darmstadt from different cities nearby either by train, tram or by bus.
- From Frankfurt am Main International Airport (FRA): one of the most convenient ways to reach Darmstadt is with the direct bus line: Airliner. It runs every 30 minutes and takes you from the airport to Darmstadt city centre, through the main station.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
The International Student Services (ISS) support international students, exchange students and prospective students with a refugee background in all non-academic areas. All our offers, more information, opening hours and access details can be found on our homepage.

- Webseite: www.tu-darmstadt.de/iss
- E-mail: iss@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

INTERNATIONAL COUNTER & HOTLINE
The International Counter and the hotline for international students is the first contact point for general questions. Visit us online via Zoom or on campus Stadtmitte in the kar05 building.

Familiarize yourself with the Campus Stadtmitte and the counter in advance and view the counter in 360°.

Karo 5 Lobby, S1|01, Karolinenplatz 5, 64289 Darmstadt

Hotline for International Students: +49 6151 16 21675

ISS CONSULTATION HOURS
In the ISS consultation hours (digital or in our office), you can receive individual advice on non-academic topics.

Visitors address: 3. OG., Room 309, Bleichstrasse 2, 64283 Darmstadt
CONTACT
[EXCHANGE STUDENTS ONLY]

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & MOBILITY
The International Relations & Mobility office coordinators are responsible for organising your semester tickets as well as coordinating your exchange programme together with TU Darmstadt’s partner universities.

Europe: europe-incomings@zv.tu-darmstadt.de
Tanja Torres: tanja.torres@tu-darmstadt.de; Tel.: +49 6151 16-240561

Overseas: overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de
Christian Tischer christian.tischer@tu-darmstadt.de; Tel.: +49 6151 16-21676

CONTACT
[ALL OTHER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS]

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS
International Admissions is here to support you with any questions or concerns you have regarding your application or enrolment procedures. Please contact them via email for further inquiries: international.admission@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

You can find their contact information on their website: International Admission

For all other academic enquiries, please contact the Office for Student Affairs (Studienbüro) of your department directly. Here you can find a list of the departments and their contact information.