



Fact Sheet 2023-24

Exchange Overseas | September 2022

1. Contact details

University Homepage www.tu-darmstadt.de
International Relations & Mobility www.tu-darmstadt.de/international/
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International Relations & Mobility (VIIIc)
Karolinenplatz 5
64289 Darmstadt
GERMANY

Contact persons Dr. Jana Freihöfer, Dean of International Affairs
Dr. Cyntia Sandes Oliveira, Head of International Relations Overseas

Incomings

Christian Tischer: (America, Asia-Pacific) overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Outgoings

Julia Fitzthum: (North- and South America) overseas-out@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Lars Bergmeyer: Outgoings (Asia-Pacific) overseas-out@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

2. The response to COVID-19 at TU Darmstadt

Teaching: We expect continued face-to-face teaching.

Travelling to Germany: Please check the website of the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](http://www.gov.uk) and the website of your local German embassy. Get vaccinated.

3. Eligibility

- Degree-seeking student status at the home university is to be maintained throughout the stay at TU Darmstadt
- Completion of 2 years in an undergraduate program before the start of the study program at TU Darmstadt
- Applicant must be of good academic standing

4. Nomination (by the international office of the home university)

TU Darmstadt requires an official nomination by the home university (by email to overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de).

	Nomination deadline
Winter semester	March 31
Summer semester	September 30

New: One month earlier due to long waiting times for visa application

5. Application

The application at TU Darmstadt is made through an online portal. Only complete applications are processed. Further information and online application form: www.tu-darmstadt.de/incoming

	Application deadline
Winter semester	April 30
Summer semester	October 31

New: One month earlier due to long waiting times for visa application

- Regular Exchange Students: Please choose “Exchange” as the type of framework in the section “Current studies and requested stay”.
- Double-Degree Students from Brazil/China/USA: Please choose “DD-XXX” as the type of framework.

After receiving the complete application and documents, we will issue a letter of admission (“Zulassung”) which will be sent via email to the incoming exchange student and the home university approx. 4 weeks after the application deadline. The admission letter is important for the visa application/residence permit, please bring it with you to Darmstadt.

6. Visa

All students with non-EU citizenship need to prove that they have sufficient financial means to live in Germany (Either for the visa application or the residence permit). You are required to have at least €5.604 for a semester or €11.208 for a year at TU. There are two ways to prove that:

1. **Scholarship:** proof of a (full-) scholarship, stating duration and amount of monthly allowances
2. **Self-financed stay:** limited-withdrawal bank account (also known as **blocked account**)

International students who do not come from a member state of the European Union (EU) usually need a visa before travelling to Germany:

- Make sure your passport is valid until at least 6 months after the end of your stay in Germany.
- Please contact the German embassy of your home country at least three months prior to your departure to Germany in order to obtain information on the specific visa regulations for your home country and make an appointment.
- Students from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Singapore, Taiwan, Uruguay and USA can enter Germany without a visa. Students who plan to reside within Germany and the European Schengen Area for MORE than 90 days are required to apply for a residence permit after arrival in Germany. You will need at least €5.604 for a semester or €11.208 for a year at TU on the blocked account in September (starting your stay in winter semester) or March (summer semester). IMPORTANT: We recommend you to do a visa application in your home country even though it is not mandatory. It will help you getting things done when in Germany much quicker and easier.

We expect major changes for the above mentioned group of countries whose citizens can enter Germany without a visa with the introduction of the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) in 2023.

- Students from PR China and India: you have to apply through the APS in your country ([PR-China: A-Verfahren](#)/[India: Process A](#)), we will get you an application number.

More up-to-date information about the necessary steps for visa application and the proof of financial means is on our [website](#). Please inform yourself before coming to Germany.

Recommendation: Some providers offer a very convenient online blocked account, e.g. [www.expatrio.com](#) or [www.coracle.de](#). Expatrio also offers a statutory health insurance from our partner health insurance TK (Techniker Krankenkasse). These providers have a good reputation and a good online service.

7. Health Insurance

Exchange students studying at TU Darmstadt for one or two semesters and double degree students **are required to purchase statutory German health insurance** (Gesetzliche Krankenversicherung) in order to be able to register as a student at TU Darmstadt.

Further information for [Degree-Seeking Students](#) as well as [Exchange students from Non-European Countries](#) can be found on our website.

- The insurance coverage is for one full semester (winter semester: October 1 – March 31; summer semester: April 1 – September 30) and will automatically continue if not cancelled.
 - Every German statutory health insurance charges the same rate for students. TU Darmstadt cooperates with the health insurance “Techniker Krankenkasse” or “TK”.
 - It is possible to sign up for health insurance in advance if you need confirmation for the visa application.
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September and March: Travel Insurance:

- Students have to purchase travel health insurance for the times and places that are not covered by the health insurance of your home country and the statutory German health insurance.
 - Students participating in the Intensive German Language Course in September (winter semester) and March (summer semester) are not covered by the statutory German health insurance and therefore must buy additional travel insurance before the departure to Germany.
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8. Academic Year

Overview of current and next semesters on our [website](#).

Winter semester: October to February (Orientation and language course in September, exams February and March)

Summer semester: April to July (Orientation and language course in March, exams July to September)

Exam periods: In case exchange students leave before the examination period, there are two options:

- The student arranges an earlier (oral) exam with the TU Darmstadt professor(s).
 - The student arranges a proctored exam at their home university with the TU Darmstadt professor(s).
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9. Arrival/Orientation/German language course

- The arrival day is the first working day in September or March.
 - The orientation program “The Experience Weeks” or “X-weeks” for incoming exchange students start on the second or third working day in September (for the winter semester) and in March (for the summer semester). More information here: [website](#).
 - Simultaneously with the X-Weeks, we offer a 4-week Intensive German language course for all international students. The courses are free of charge. Additionally, continuing German language courses are offered throughout the semester (also free of cost).
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10. Accommodation

Accommodation in student dormitories is available, but cannot be guaranteed due to limited capacities. The unit in charge of room allocation is the [“Welcome and Housing Department”](#) offering assistance to international exchange students in finding adequate accommodation.

11. Costs

Exchange students are exempt from paying tuition but required to pay a service contribution of approx. €245 per semester. This includes free public transport in the larger Rhine-Main Metropolitan area and access to the services of Studierendenswerk Darmstadt (cafeterias, dorms and more). Further information and a general/rough breakdown of costs can be found on our [website](#).

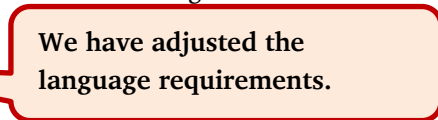
12. Course load, grading, course calendar

Required Course Load and recognition of academic achievements: A German semester runs 24 weeks – 16 weeks of classes, 4-6 weeks self-study and preparation for exams and 3-4 weeks exam period. We recommend exchange students (graduate & undergraduate) to take between 18 ECTS and 30 ECTS per semester. Further information on ECTS credits and the recognition of your academic achievements can be found on our [website](#). The calculation of ECTS credits is explained [here](#).

Course Catalogue: published in September for winter and March for summer semester: <https://www.tucan.tu-darmstadt.de> [Further information on the departments, their courses, contact persons.](#)

13. Language Requirements for incoming exchange students

- Students have the option to study in German or English. The main language at TU Darmstadt is German. A growing number of courses for advanced bachelor and master students is offered in English.
- English: B2 or better for students planning to studying in English
- German: B2 for students planning to study in German
- Further information can be found on our [website](#).



We have adjusted the language requirements.

14. Special Programmes

For the following programmes different application deadlines and regulations apply:

Double Degree:

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- [Double Degrees with Escola Politécnica of the University of São Paulo](#)
 - [Double Degree Mechanical Engineering \(FZD\) with Tongji University Shanghai](#)
 - [Double Degree Material Sciences with Tongji University Shanghai](#)

Short-Term:

- [International Summer University](#)
 - [International Research Experience Programme IREP](#) selected partners only
 - [Automotive Engineering Summer Germany AESG](#) selected partners only
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