

Proof of German language proficiency

1. Applicants seeking admission to higher education at any university in Germany must hold a higher education entrance qualification. The recognition of foreign entrance qualifications is based on the regulations issued by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (**KMK**; dating from 02.06.1995 and 31.05.2001).
2. In order to be enrolled for any course of study, the following admission requirements have to be met:
 - Proof of higher education entrance qualification due to chosen course of study
 - Foreign applicants also have to provide proof of participation in or completion of German language courses.
3. Foreign applicants are advised to make use of the opportunities available for learning German in their home country.
4. Admission to any higher education institution in Germany requires a language proficiency certificate. The following certificates will be accepted for admission:
 - the **Level II Language Certificate** issued by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (*Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz - Zweite Stufe -*);
 - the **German language proficiency test for admission to higher education** (*Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang ausländischer Studienbewerber - DSH*);
 - the **German as a foreign language proficiency test for admission to higher education** (*TestDaF*), a pass on level 5 in all 4 test components is required (at the Ansbach University of Applied Sciences a pass on level 3 in all 4 test components);

- the **assessment test** (*Feststellungsprüfung* or in full: *Prüfung zur Feststellung der Eignung ausländischer Studienbewerber für die Aufnahme eines Studiums an Hochschulen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*);
- the **Major or Minor Language Certificate** (*Großes oder Kleines Sprachdiplom*) as well as **Upper Secondary Level Test Certificate** (*Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung - ZOB*) issued by the Goethe Institute;
- the **Language Certificate, Level II** (*Deutsche Sprachprüfung II*) issued by the Language and Interpreting Institute Munich.

Further information to the language tests listed above:

Level II Language Certificate issued by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs

This certificate can be obtained at German schools abroad or alike. The test is held in the final year at school in which the secondary school leaving certificate is taken. The standard is equivalent to the first foreign language proficiency required for the appropriate German higher education entrance qualification.

German language proficiency test (*DSH*)

This language proficiency test has to be taken prior to commencing the studies if the secondary school leaving certificate entitles the holder to be admitted directly to the studies but the applicant comes from a non-German speaking country.

The *DSH* is held by the Fachhochschule itself in accordance with standardised regulations valid throughout Germany. You may be exempted from this test if you can present certain language certificates.

With the *DSH* the holder gives proof of a good command of German which enables the student to follow the lectures and work independently.

German as a foreign language proficiency test (*TestDaF*)

TestDaF mainly applies to applicants who intend to obtain the required German language proficiency certificate in their home country.

A pass in the *TestDaF* on the required level 5 in all 4 test components is recognised as equivalent to the Level II Language Certificate issued by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs.

TestDaF is recognised as sufficient proof of language proficiency at any institution of higher education.

Assessment test (*Feststellungsprüfung*)

If the academic background and the German language proficiency of the applicant do not meet the admission requirements, the assessment test will be required before you can be admitted. Applicants who must take the assessment test are urgently advised to take a preparatory course, the *Studienkolleg*. For students who intend to be registered at a Bavarian university of applied

sciences the responsible *Studienkolleg* is located in Coburg. Acceptance to the *Studienkolleg* means that you are on your way to studying your chosen subject. A pass in the assessment test is equivalent to qualification for admission to higher education at a German university of applied sciences.

Acceptance to the *Studienkolleg* requires a Level I Language Certificate issued by the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs or alike.

Major or Minor Language Certificate and Upper Secondary Level Test Certificate issued by the Goethe Institute

The tests to obtain the certificates issued by the Goethe Institute are generally held abroad. The target group are foreign applicants who hold their higher education entrance qualification but have to provide proof of their German language proficiency.

Language Certificate, Level II issued by the Language and Interpreting Institute Munich

The test applies to applicants whose mother tongue is not German. The certificate can be obtained after a two-year preparatory course at the German as a foreign language department of the Institute.

5. The following certificates are recognised as equivalent to the appropriate German language proficiency certificates:
 - a) the French Diplome du Baccalauréat with the proof of German being part of the bilingual German-French upper secondary level;
 - b) the US-Advanced Placement-Test (AP-Prüfung) taken in German.