

How can you participate in the ESF-BAMF Programme?

- If you are registered as unemployed or seeking work, please contact your job counsellor at the Employment Office (Arbeitsagentur), Job Centre (Jobcenter) or other local authority responsible for long-term unemployment (Optionskommune). They will be able to submit the required (ESF-BAMF) form for you to participate in an occupational language training program and direct you to a language school where you can complete the course.
- As an asylum seeker or refugee with access to the employment market, please register for the ESF-BAMF Programme via the Federal “ESF Integration Directive Association” Programme.

What happens next?

- At the language school, your learning requirements, your qualifications and your linguistic ability will be determined first of all. The results show which course is best suited for you and how long it should last.
- As the course advances, your learning progress will be checked. At the end, the language school assesses how well you have achieved your goals.
- Your teacher will document your learning progress regularly and evaluate it with you at the end of the course.
- At the end, you receive a certificate of attendance, in which the learning aims, content and your learning progress are all set out in detail. Thus, your certificate of attendance will be very useful to you in your future career path.

How much does it cost to participate in a German for Professional Purposes course?

Participation in a German for Professional Purposes course is free of charge to you.

Travel expenses will be reimbursed if you live more than three kilometres (shortest route by foot) from the site where the courses are being given.

Where can you find further information?

If you require further details or information, please address your enquiry to:

Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge
(The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees)
Referat ESF-berufsbezogene Sprachförderung,
ESF-Verwaltungsstelle
Poller Kirchweg 101
51105 Köln

ESF-BAMF hotline:

Telephone: +49 (0)221 92426-400
E-mail: esf-verwaltung@bamf.bund.de

You will also find further information on the Internet at:
www.bamf.de/esf

Imprint

Editor:
Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge
Referat Steuerung der Projektarbeit, Integration durch Sport,
Informationsmanagement
Frankenstraße 210
90461 Nürnberg

Reference source:
Publikationsstelle des
Bundesamtes für Migration und Flüchtlinge
www.bamf.de/publikationen

Valid as of: 07/2015

Printed by: Bonifatius GmbH, Druck-Buch-Verlag, Paderborn

Design: KonzeptQuartier® GmbH, Fürth

Photograph/photo credits: Andres Rodriguez, Marion Vogel

Editorial office:
Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge
Referat Fragen der beruflichen Integration,
berufsbezogene Sprachförderung, ESF-Verwaltungsstelle



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Federal Office
for Migration
and Refugees

German for Professional Purposes

(ESF-BAMF Programme)



ENGLISCH 07/2015 Berufsbezogene Deutschförderung



Federal Ministry
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What is German for Professional Purposes?

The ‘German for Professional Purposes’ Programme is a range of courses available to anyone with a migration background who wants to look for work.

The “German for Professional Purposes for People with a Migrant Background (ESF-BAMF Programme)” Programme is sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the European Social Fund (ESF). The courses are organised by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

There are ESF-BAMF courses throughout Germany now. These consist mainly of:

- business-related German lessons
- specialist teaching
- internships and work placements
- company visits

A course has a maximum of 730 class hours and lasts for six months full time or up to twelve months part time.

What is the aim of German for Professional Purposes?

Upon completing the course, you should possess the language skills and professional knowledge needed to make finding a job easier.

Who can take part?

The ESF-BAMF Programme is aimed at people who have a migrant background, are available for work and are receiving unemployment benefit or unemployment benefit II.

In certain circumstances, asylum seekers and refugees may also participate in the ESF-BAMF Programme.

What other requirements must you meet?

- **Migration background**
You have a migration background if you yourself, at least one of your parents, or your grandparents immigrated to Germany. Your nationality plays no part in this.
- **German as a second language**
German must not be your first language.
- **Completed integration course**
Basically, you must have completed an integration course run by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees and have achieved at least a Level A1 language qualification.

In the following exceptional circumstances, you do not have to attend an integration course before you can participate in the ESF-BAMF Programme:

- Your knowledge of German is already adequate (Level B1)
- You are a participant of the Federal “ESF Integration Directive Association” Programme and already hold a Level A1 German language qualification.

What do you learn in the course?

German for Professional Purposes classes

In German for Professional Purposes you learn precisely the vocabulary, grammar and idioms that you need to be able to communicate effectively with colleagues, customers and managers.

The courses also place emphasis on the written language: you find out, for example, how to quickly extract the correct information from texts or what you need to consider when writing e-mails and letters. The German classes support and are directed towards the specialist component of the course, but also impart a knowledge of German for your professional life in general. Many of these new skills will also be useful to you outside of a work setting.

Specialist component

In the specialist component, you will learn and develop your specialised professional knowledge, in the commercial sector, for example. You will also receive maths tuition, training in assembling job applications and acquire IT skills.

Through company visits, you will get to know the working world and may even get an idea of what your future place of work will look like.

Work placement

During a work placement, you will work in a company for a certain period of time, giving you the opportunity to put your knowledge and skills into practice. The work placement will also give you a better idea of the daily routine in your profession.