

The Integration Course

The objective of the course

is to promote immigrants' integration and social participation. This is achieved by

- a **language course** with a total of 600 LU*, and
- the **orientation course** with 100 LU*.

Language course attendees learn German up to level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This enables them to find their way in everyday life and to communicate without assistance. Attendees at the orientation course acquire knowledge of the legal system, history and culture of Germany. The orientation course also teaches them which values are particularly important in Germany.

Special integration courses

Special integration courses with up to 1,000 LU* are tailored to the needs of specific target groups:

- youth integration courses,
- integration courses for students learning an additional alphabet,
- integration courses for parents and women,
- integration courses with a literacy element,
- catch-up courses (for persons who have been living in Germany for a relatively long period but have only learned limited German),
- integration courses for people with disabilities.

Intensive courses with a total of 430 LU* are also offered for rapid learners.

The target group

The following groups are entitled to attend:

- all ethnic German resettlers and recently-immigrated individuals with potentially permanent residence status,
- foreigners who have been living in Germany for a prolonged period, EU citizens, as well as Germans with special integration-related needs (on application and as available course places permit),
- asylum seekers with good prospects to remain, persons with temporary suspension of deportation status (*Geduldete*) who hold a residence permit in accordance with section 60a subsection (2), third sentence, of the Residence Act (*AufenthG*), as well as persons with a residence permit in accordance with section 25 subsection (5) of the Residence Act,
- since 1 August 2019: asylum seekers who entered Germany prior to 1 August 2019 and are considered immediately available to take up work.

Attendance is mandatory for the following groups:

- recent immigrants who cannot make themselves understood orally in German at a simple level, or who do not yet have sufficient knowledge of German,
- foreigners in particular need of integration who are requested to attend by the foreigners authority,
- foreigners receiving benefits under Book II of the German Social Code (SGB II) who are requested to attend by the basic social security institutions.
- The authorities providing benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (*Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz*) may oblige asylum seekers who have good prospects to remain in Germany, persons with temporary suspension of deportation status (*Geduldete*) in accordance with section 60a subsection (2), third sentence, of the Residence Act, as well as persons with a residence permit in accordance with section 25 subsection (5) of the Residence Act, to attend an integration course,

- since 1 August 2019: asylum seekers who entered Germany prior to 1 August 2019 and are considered immediately available to take up work (can be obliged by the providers of benefits in accordance with the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act to attend an integration course).

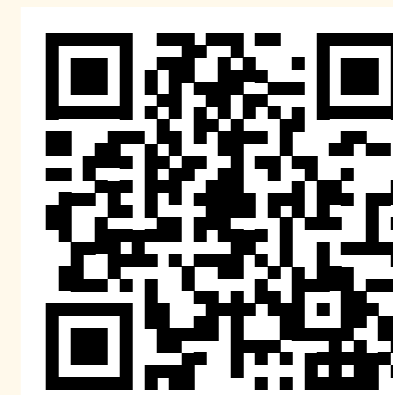
The assessment test

All attendees must take an assessment test before the start of the course. Based on the test results, they are assigned to a specific course module. Attendance at a special integration course is recommended where appropriate.

The final tests

The language course concludes with the "German Test for Immigrants" (DTZ), and the orientation course culminates in the "Life in Germany" (LiD) test. Attendees who have passed both tests receive the "Integration Course Certificate".

Anyone not passing the language test at level B1 according to the CEFR but who has always attended regularly can repeat a maximum of 300 lesson units of the language course and take the final test again free of charge.



Further information at
www.bamf.de/integrationskurs

* One lesson unit (LU) lasts 45 minutes.

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