

Information for people in initial reception facilities

1. Who is allowed to work?

Why do you need a work permit?

- for a job
- for a training in a company
- for most internships

a. If you have a residence permit:

When and how can you obtain a work permit?

If

- you have submitted your asylum application **at least 9 months ago** and
- you do **not come** from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Senegal and Serbia

you can be **entitled** to a work permit.

Your residence permit should state:

„Beschäftigung mit Genehmigung der Ausländerbehörde gestattet“.

[“Employment permitted with the approval of the foreigners authority”.]

What needs to be done?

First you have to find an employer who wants to employ you. Then you have to **apply** for a work permit **for this position** at the **foreigners authority** [Ausländerbehörde].

The employer must fill in a job description form for this purpose. You have to submit this form to the foreigners authority if you apply for a work permit there.

The foreigners authority **must** issue the work permit if the employment contract that the employer wants to conclude with you complies with all laws, e.g., regarding the salary you are to receive. That means the working conditions are checked.

If the foreigners authority does not want to issue a work permit, it **must write** to you and explain why you should not be granted a work permit.

You can take legal action against this within a certain period of time. Get support for this!

If you want to start an apprenticeship in a company or certain internships, the working conditions are not checked.

b. If you have a tolerance permit ("Duldung"):

When and how can you obtain a work permit?

If

- you have had a **tolerance permit ("Duldung")** according to § 60a of the Residence Act (AufenthG) **for 6 months** and
- you are **not** from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Senegal and Serbia

you **can** obtain a work permit.

Your residence permit should state:

„Beschäftigung mit Genehmigung der Ausländerbehörde gestattet“.

[“Employment permitted with the approval of the foreigners authority”.]

Otherwise, the same regulations apply as for applicants for asylum (see 1a).

2. Who can attend an integration course?

a. If you have a residence permit:

You can attend an integration course (including a **German course** with 600 hours) if there are free places available, in case you are from Eritrea, Somalia or Syria.

b. If you have a tolerance permit ("Duldung"):

You can attend an integration course if there are free places available and if you have a tolerance for the purpose of training or employment or any other **discretionary tolerances ("Ermessensduldung")**

3. How else can you learn German?

- Language courses supported by the federal state of Lower Saxony or any other language courses at educational institutions
- Online offers
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Information on this can be obtained from the Projekt Netzwerk Integration.

4. Who can register as unemployed?

You can register as unemployed with the **employment agency ("Agentur für Arbeit")** if

- you are not yet working and
- are looking for a job subject to social security contributions (i.e. more than a mini-job), and
- could be placed by the employment agency. This is usually only the case if you are allowed to work (cf. 1).

5. What kind of support can you get from the employment agency?

If you are allowed to work (cf. 1), you can receive certain benefits from the employment agency which should help you to start working life in Germany easier.

These include

- the **consultancy services**
- the **placement** of vacant posts
- funding from the **placement budget**: This can be used to finance application costs, work clothing, costs for health certificates and for the recognition of foreign qualifications etc.
- **continuing vocational education and training**
- **activation and occupational integration measures**
They are carried out with training providers and/or employers
- promoting the participation of disabled people in working life.

Employers can receive allowances for remuneration if they employ asylum applicants and tolerated persons or offer entry qualifications.

Asylum seekers from **Eritrea, Somalia or Syria** can receive some benefits even if they are not yet allowed to work.

Even if asylum seekers and tolerated people start **vocational in-company training**, they can still receive support from the Employment Agency, such as assistance during training.

6. Who can have foreign qualifications officially recognised?

If you have acquired a professional qualification (such as a vocational training or university degree) abroad, you can always try to have this degree recognised in Germany. This will make it much easier for you to enter the job market.

You can obtain information on this from a recognition advice centre.

If you like to

- work
- start an apprenticeship
- do an internship
- learn German
- go to school
- participate in qualification measures

and **need support** for this purpose

Please contact the

Projekt Netzwerk Integration

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www.esf-netwin.de



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for all,
who like to work,
to learn German or
to continue their education**

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