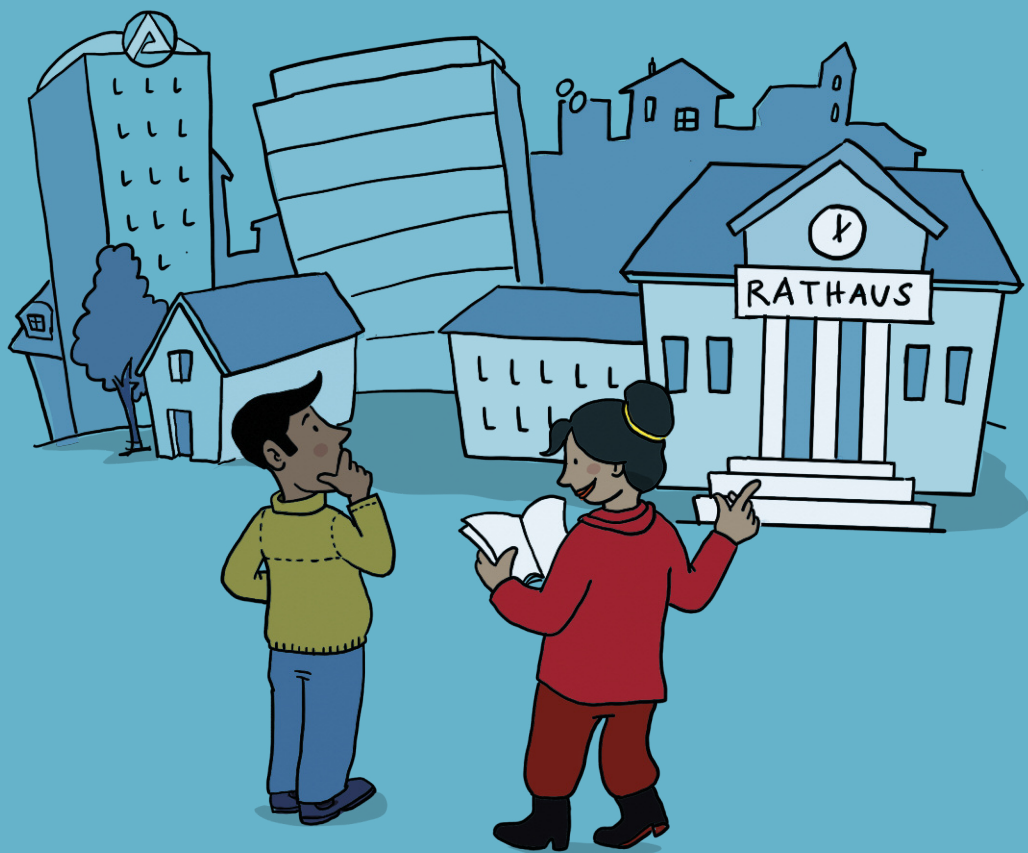


# ARRIVING WELL ON-SITE



Info guide  
for refugees in Saxony-Anhalt



### Dear reader,

after an often dangerous and exhaustive escape from your home, you have come to Saxony-Anhalt, have filed your asylum application in the initial reception center and have now arrived in a city or a village where you hopefully will find a first home in our country.

Especially, if your protection claim has already been recognized, you are now asking yourself many new questions: How do I receive benefits for livelihood? Where can I live? How do I furnish an apartment? Where can I study German? How are my certificates being recognized and how do I access training and work as quickly as possible? Where can my children go to school? How does coexistence work here and who can help me regarding orientation? Where can I find people who speak my language and where can I get to know people from Saxony-Anhalt?

The faster you get answers to these and many other questions, the faster you can arrive well in Saxony-Anhalt. The info guide present will help you.

Saxony-Anhalt is a historic, culturally and scenically diverse state. It offers attractive educational and training opportunities, high-quality universities, charming towns and villages, numerous sports clubs, cultural activities. Here, you can find committed people who feel sympathetic to your situation and want you to get settled and feel well permanently.

Many people in Saxony-Anhalt want to support your start in Saxony-Anhalt and will be glad to help you with words and deeds. Do not get discouraged by possible negative experiences. In this guide, you will find many references to where you can get to know open-minded and committed people.

Feel cordially welcomed in Saxony-Anhalt and arrive well!



**Susi Möbbeck**

State Secretary at the Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs  
and Integration of the State of Saxony-Anhalt  
Integration Commissioner of the State Government

## About this info guide

The guideline present would like to assist you orienting yourself, if you have filed an asylum application and are living in a municipality of Saxony-Anhalt.

Within **nine chapters** you will find:

- important information about life and daily routine in Saxony-Anhalt and the federal territory
- references to initiatives, projects and offers which will support you in different life situations
- links to contact points and networks which will assist you orienting yourself in Saxony-Anhalt – on the internet and on-site

The **service section** offers selected materials and addresses for first orientation in the state of Saxony-Anhalt.

The current legal situation (as of 11/2016) is taken into account for all information. Due to lack of space, they cannot be complete in every aspect. Especially if you have questions concerning the right to asylum, we recommend to inquire the current status at the relevant counseling offices or the foreigners' registration offices.

The **print edition** of the info guide is available free of charge in many places in Saxony-Anhalt<sup>1</sup> in the following languages: Afghan (Pashto), Arabic, German, English, French, Persian (Farsi), Russian, Serbian and Tigrinya.

The **online editions** are available on the [integration portal Saxony-Anhalt](#) as [mobile website](#) as well as [web app](#) and are updated regularly.

**By the way:** You will find a guide for the time in the federal state reception center (LAE / ZAST Halberstadt) in the [info guide for refugees "Arriving and more"](#).

<sup>1</sup> For example at migration counseling offices, foreigners' registration offices, social welfare offices, job centers, employment agencies or housing associations.

## Saxony-Anhalt introduces itself

*The longer you have settled in your municipality, the more you will have time to discover things. For example, that there are many reasons to build up a life perspective in Saxony-Anhalt. Because the federal state has a lot to offer:*

**Saxony-Anhalt is located in Central Germany.** Its larger cities Dessau-Roßlau, Magdeburg and Halle (Saale) are well connected to neighboring metropolises such as Leipzig (to the south), Berlin (to the north) and Hannover (to the west).

**The number of foreign fellow citizens in Saxony-Anhalt has doubled between 2010 and 2016.** Approximately 100.000 people with foreign nationality are now living in cities, counties and municipalities. These traditionally include EU citizens, for example from Poland, Romania and the Russian Federation. In addition to many refugees, people with migration background are living in Saxony-Anhalt. They have become German citizens by naturalization or have received German citizenship as children born here.

**Saxony-Anhalt commits itself to the integration of refugees.** The commitment of the municipalities in receiving, accommodating and supplying refugees is promoted by the state as well as language acquisition or entry into employment and training. Projects such as Welcome Service (Willkommensbegleitung), integration officers or the Federal Voluntary Service (BFD) help to support the often lengthy process of integration.

**A large number of people in Saxony-Anhalt are open-minded and helpful to refugees.** They support professionally or in their spare time that refugees can lead their lives as independently as possible and feel comfortable here.

### **supported language courses and integration courses**

- support in school and education, especially for young refugees
- promoted employment opportunities and a wide range of education and training, especially for refugees under the age of 25 years
- support and advice, e.g. with visits to the authorities, educational and training decisions
- join-in possibilities in sports, cultural and leisure activities
- participation in associations, initiatives and migrant organizations
- encounter and exchange with committed citizens.

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After your allocation to a municipality in Saxony-Anhalt, you will have many opportunities to lead your life more independently. Being informed about benefits of supply and integrations is important for your regulated everyday life. In this chapter you will find out which consultation centers will assist you.

Once having left the initial reception center, local authorities will be responsible for the delivery of social welfare benefits. Social welfare benefits are composed of benefits to ensure your livelihood as well as your social integration.

Depending on your status, different authorities are responsible for you. Please refer to the following overview:

### asylum seekers, tolerated refugees

social welfare office  
(social welfare benefits)

### recognized refugees (residence permit - Aufenthaltslaubnis)

jobcenter

### persons over the age of 65 or unemployable persons

social welfare office  
(basic security benefits)

**!** If you have not received a decision from the Federal Office (BAMF) yet and would like to know more about the possible consequences of the BAMF decision, please refer to **chapter 9**.

## Social welfare benefits for recognized refugees

As a recognized person entitled to protection (whether asylum seeker, refugee according to the Geneva Refugee Convention or a person entitled to subsidiary protection) and as a so-called contingent refugee, the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (AsylbLG) does not apply to you, but the Second Social Act (Sozialgesetzbuch SGB II - basic security benefits for job seekers, also known as 'Hartz IV'), provided that you are employable yourself or live together with an employable person.

Please contact the **local job** center regarding all questions concerning the basic security benefits for job seekers.

The job center assists you with

- integration into labor market (placement in job or training)
- securing livelihood
- child care, debt counseling, addiction counseling and psychosocial care
- placement in BAMF integration courses

Find your **local job centers** in Sachsen-Anhalt here.



**Tip:** The Magdeburg social welfare and housing office, for example, offer assistance and advice concerning how to complete the initial application for SGB II-benefits. Ask for assistance in your municipality.

If you are not employable and do not live together with any employable person, you may be entitled to benefits under SGB XII. If necessary, contact the local social welfare office.

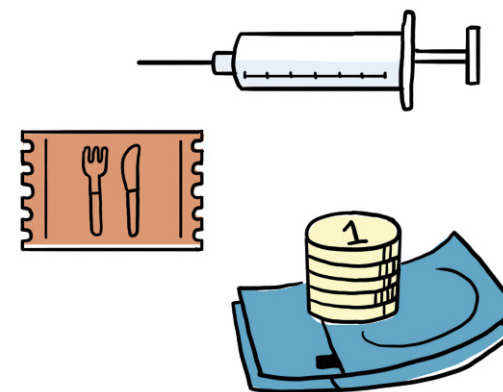
## Social welfare benefits for asylum seekers, tolerated refugees and persons obliged to leave the country

In Saxony-Anhalt and in the federal territory, social welfare benefits for asylum seekers, tolerated refugees and persons obliged to leave the country are regulated by the **Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz - AsylbLG)**. According to this act, you will receive a basic pension **for the first 15 months**, if you are staying in the federal territory and have a **permit to reside (Aufenthaltsgestattung) or national ban of deportation (Duldung)**.

**!** These benefits are subject to the benefit-in-kind principle: this means that primarily cash benefits are paid. However, these can also be provided as vouchers at any time.

In addition to accommodation in an asylum applicant accommodation or apartment, you will receive basic benefits for nutrition, clothing and personal care. Benefits under the AsylbLG include:

- benefits in kind (accommodation, heating, household goods)
- cash benefits (for food, clothing, mobility, health and body care)
- health care (for the treatment of diseases, pregnancy and childbirth)



The amount of the allowances according to AsylbLG depends on your age, your family status after allocation to the municipality (e.g. single-parent or married) and the type of accommodation (apartment or community accommodation).

Please contact the local **social welfare office** (Sozialamt) concerning all questions regarding social welfare benefits.

Seek the social welfare office if you are, for example, in need of

- benefits for livelihood or accommodation or
- social support, assistance and counseling.



► You will find an overview of the local social welfare offices in Saxony-Anhalt [here](#).

**Tip:** You can consult the local counseling offices ([Migrationsberatungsstellen](#)) and receive help with completing application forms for social welfare benefits.

## Local counseling offers

There are specialized counseling and care services in many places in Saxony-Anhalt for refugees and people with migration background.

All important contact points and counseling centers in Saxony-Anhalt and the entire federal territory can be found via the [Federal Office's information system](#) (BAMF). A map of your region will provide guidance. Enter your location using the search mask (by postal code) and you will receive a list of all important integration facilities nearby.

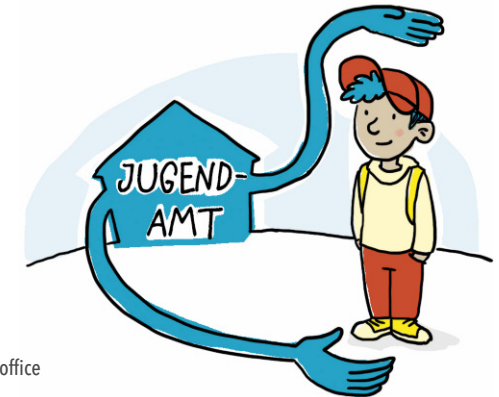
## Support for unaccompanied minor refugees (UMA)

Children who come to Saxony-Anhalt without being accompanied by their parents or their family and who are not yet of legal age, are provided with youth welfare services. Provided that family reunification is not possible, the unaccompanied minors will be cared for in an institution of child and youth services or a foster family. The costs are funded by the municipality or by the state. The youth welfare office is the first point of contact concerning the support of unaccompanied minors.

The guardianship association [refugium e. V.](#) takes over guardianships for unaccompanied minors and is available as contact point.

## Consultation for young refugees and their parents

The **youth welfare office** (Jugendamt) supports refugee children, young people and their families comprehensively. Here, you, as parents, will receive advice and information on topics such as child care, parental contributions, support claims or intervention. There are youth welfare offices in the urban districts and counties of Saxony-Anhalt. Find out the contact addresses of your local youth welfare office [here](#).



Jugendamt = authorized youth welfare office

**Youth migration services** (Jugendmigrationsdienste) are consultation offers for people with migration and fleeing background. These services provide advice and support for newly immigrated adolescents and young adults at the age of 12 to 27 years. They aim at promoting the individual integration process of these young people.

Youth migration services are represented in many cities in Saxony-Anhalt. There are several providers.

They offer

- support during the integration process and referral to other services
- personal counseling in educational, professional and other matters and critical situations
- consultation of parents who have children and adolescents with migration background
- group offers together with local adolescents

► You will find the addresses of local youth migration services [here](#). ►



## Consultation for adult immigrants

**Migration counseling offices for adults** support full-aged refugees and immigrants with their first steps in Germany. Here, they are provided with for example

- information on completing forms for authorities and offices
- company during the visits to the authorities
- consultation on career prospects and qualification steps
- information on integration courses
- placement of translation services
- assistance in house hunting

Migration counseling offices for adults are disposable regionwide in Saxony-Anhalt. Find the address of your local migration counseling center [here](#).



As refugees, you can take advantage of the special offers of **extra counseling and support** in all counties and urban districts. In these counseling centers, you will receive comprehensive personal support in matters of asylum, residence and benefits.

Check here for the list of contact persons and addresses for the **extra counseling and support in Saxony-Anhalt**.



The **foreigners' registration office** (Ausländerbehörde) is one of your first contact points for questions about your asylum procedure, your legal status or your further stay in the federal territory and in Saxony-Anhalt. In this office, you will receive information on:

- the legal status
- passport substitute papers in case of departure obligation
- the organization and completion of departures and returns

The contact point for the respective foreigners' registration office is determined by your current main residence. In Saxony-Anhalt, there are foreigners' registration offices in **Dessau-Roßlau**, in **Magdeburg** and **Halle** as well as in the **counties**.



Please be aware that for data protection reasons comprehensive asylum advice is not provided on the phone.

► Find an overview of the foreigners' registration offices in Saxony-Anhalt [here](#). ►



## Assistance in communication

If you do not have any or hardly any knowledge of the German language, but want an important request to be translated, you can use the **telephonic language translation service** (Sprachmittlung in Sachsen-Anhalt - SiSA), across Saxony-Anhalt, which is organized by the regional network of migrant organizations (**LAMSA**).

The volunteer language service SiSA assists you in communicating various concerns independent of your legal status, e.g. communicating with the foreigners' registration office or the social welfare office. SiSA also organizes translators or interpreters who accompany you.

You can take advantage of the telephonic language service from Monday to Friday via the hotline **+49 345 21389399**.



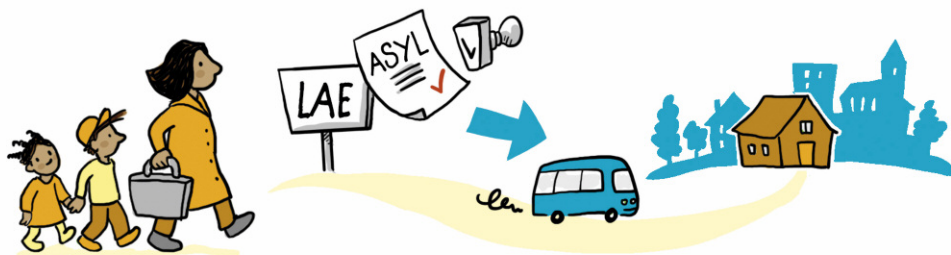
You can find out about everything you need to know about the time of arriving in the federal territory and in the municipality via the **BAMF app "Arriving" (Ankommen)**. The app informs about life in Germany and explains everything important for the first steps in everyday life.





### Shaping life situation and organizing everyday life

Having arrived in a municipality, you suddenly might have to face a lot of challenges at the same time. It is good if you face them step by step and inform yourself well of how to proceed preferably. In this chapter, important things that you need to do in your new living environment are summarized as 'checklists'. If difficulties arise, initiatives and people will assist you. You will also find out in this chapter who can help you where and how.



### Opening a basic bank account (Basiskonto)

You can make cash transfers, withdrawals or card payments nationwide with your own payment account at a bank. Since 2016, asylum seekers and tolerated refugees are legally entitled to a so-called **basic bank account** (Basiskonto) in the entire federal territory.

You can open a basic bank account at any bank in the entire federal territory. To do so, you must file a written application to the bank you are interested in. The basic bank account requires that you are full-aged, registered as asylum seeker or recognized refugee or that you prove your identity. The basic bank account for refugees requires credit at the bank. You can only use actual existing money. The basic account does not include any loan or overdraft facility.

 You can find out more about the basic bank account in this [fact sheet](#). Under certain conditions your application for a basic bank account may be rejected. Find out more about that on the portal of the [Bundesanstalt BaFin](#).

### Money transfer services

Money transfer services enable rapid transfers. However, they can be expensive. Always compare the transfer fees of **different providers**. In Saxony-Anhalt, money transfer services are often offered by Deutsche Postbank, Money Gram, Western Union or Reisebank AG at the train station.

► Find out about what refugees should also bear in mind concerning money transfer services [here](#).



### Cheap food

In Saxony-Anhalt, as in entire federal territory, food banks (Tafeln) distribute food to socially and economically disadvantaged people, including refugees. In order to receive food at a certain date free of charge or at a low price, you have to register yourself and submit an official certificate ('Hartz IV') as a proof of your need. This is usually possible at a two-week rhythm. The food banks have issuing offices in many places in Saxony-Anhalt. Some food banks also offer prepared meals.

► You can search for the nearest local food bank in Saxony-Anhalt [here](#).



### Cheap clothes

Under certain conditions, single benefits such as the initial furnishing of your apartment can be granted by the municipality. In cities and townships, there are cheap or free clothes offers in many places. Laundry or household goods can be purchased in this way, too. Ask where a **clothing store (Kleiderkammer)**, a **second-hand shop**, a **red cross shop (Rot-Kreuz-Laden)**, a **purchase and sale shop (An- und Verkauf)** or **free store (Umsonstladen)** is located.

### Cheap household goods

Refugees get clothes, furniture and furnishings for their apartment (household goods) either at very low cost or free of charge at the local **Red Cross clothing stores (Kleiderkammer des örtlichen Roten Kreuzes-DRK)**, in **second-hand shops**, in **social stores (Sozialkaufhaus)** or in **city missions (Stadtmission)**.



## Cell phone contracts

Cell phone contracts can quickly lead to high costs. Do not conclude a contract hastily as it will often link you to multi-annual run times.

Sign only what you understand well. Preferably, take along a person with good knowledge of the German language, if you want to conclude a contract.

► Find out about what you need to consider regarding a cell phone contract [here](#). ►



## Access to internet

In many cities and townships in Saxony-Anhalt, there are hotspots or other accesses to internet, e.g. in meeting places (Kennenlertreff), in internet cafés, in city libraries or at railway stations. In Saxony-Anhalt, there is a limited possibility to use the offer of the initiative "Freifunk" for local internet access. This service enables the rapid organization of a wireless network. Check the web-site of the provider [Freifunk](#) in order to find the nearest Freifunk community.

► For more information on the conclusion of internet and telephone contracts, read the information sheet of the Consumer Advice Center ([Verbraucherzentrale](#)) in English.

## Traveling by public transport - use of bus and train

The use of public transport such as bus or train is **fee-based**. For all travelers the following applies: Before starting a trip you have to buy a ticket. Anyone who does not have a valid ticket on a bus or train must pay an increased transport charge. This offense is registered as a crime by the authorities.

Under certain conditions, refugees have the possibility to apply for a reduced rate ticket (**Sozialticket**) at the social welfare office or at the job center. The need has to be ascertained by a corresponding official form (Bescheid).



Fahrscheine = tickets

## Road traffic behavior

You should get yourself acquainted with traffic rules and behavior as a road user in Germany before taking part on the road traffic for example as a cyclist. Road traffic in Germany works if caution and mutual respect are accepted and implemented by all parties involved.

A multi-lingual safety course for road traffic in Germany can be found [here](#). ►



The General German Automobile Association (ADAC) provides information on the most important rules and obligations in road traffic with a brochure specifically for refugees: Easily safer on the road ([Einfach sicherer unterwegs](#)).

## Visiting public swimming pools and bathing waters

Always bathe only where bathing is allowed. If you want to visit a public swimming pool or bathe in a lake, you should be able to swim. The German Life Rescue Society (DLRG) offers swimming classes. Find out here, where you can find the next DLRG local group ([Ortsgruppe der DLRG](#)) with a swimming class.

Watch out for the bathing principles in public swimming pools and in open-air swimming pools, which apply to all bathing persons in Saxony-Anhalt and nationwide. You can find the bathing principles (Baderegeln) of the German Society for Swimming Affairs (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Badewesen) [here](#). ►



## Meeting others and finding one's own community

When arriving in the new environment, encounters are the beginning of a good neighborhood. In Saxony-Anhalt, not only in larger cities, there are opportunities to meet people from one's own homeland or to come into contact with neighbors, for example via

- events in intercultural associations and migrant organizations
- activities with children and parents (playground meetings, homework, music school, swimming class, handicraft, choir, dance classes, etc.)
- hobby groups for cooking, learning, constructing bicycles etc.
- encounter clubs and language acquisition clubs (e.g. the welcome club (Welcome Treff) in Halle, the language café in the einewelt haus Magdeburg, the multicultural center (Multikulturelles Zentrum) in Dessau)
- neighborhood meetings and meeting places in social and church institutions or in multi-generational houses (**Mehrgenerationenhäusern**)
- sports and playing clubs (e.g. open **sports offers** of clubs (Verein), offers of the Kreissportbund).

**!** You can find out more about encounter possibilities in the cities **Magdeburg and Halle** and local offers on the local websites. You can get in touch with migrant organizations via the regional network of migrant organizations in Saxony-Anhalt (**LAMSA e. V.**).

- ▶ Please refer to **chapter 8** for more information on volunteering in the Federal Voluntary Service.



## Insurance coverage - liability for refugees

According to German laws, you have to make good any damage that you inflict on others. If, for example, you are responsible for the accident of another person in your leisure time or in sport, you are obliged to be liable for the damage of whatever amount with your assets.

This is why a private liability insurance is generally recommended in Germany. In the event of damage, this insurance protects you against major risks.

- ▶ You can find more information [here](#).



## Contracts and business at the front door

If any person wants to make business with you at the front door, please consider the following instructions or adhere to the following rules for your own safety:

- Ask unknown or unannounced persons to show their identity card (or the authorization to enter the apartment).
- Do not pay until the service has been performed.
- Do not sign anything you do not understand or what you are not sure about.

- ▶ Find more information on the legal situation [here](#).



## Action in emergency situations

If you or if other people are in need and danger, please immediately call the nationwide emergency services via the following free emergency numbers.

Call the **emergency number 110**, if you have become a victim or if you have witnessed

- an accident
- violent conflicts
- a theft and attack or
- sexual harassment.

Call the **emergency number 112**, if you have become a victim or if you have witnessed

- life-threatening dangerous situations (for example fire) and
- medical emergencies.

**!** The **emergency numbers 110 and 112** are only for life-threatening emergencies! Call these numbers only if it is really a life-threatening emergency. The emergency room in hospitals is also only established for medical emergencies.

Once you are a recognized refugee, the federal state is no longer responsible for your accommodation. You have to look for a flat in the municipalities or will be allocated to a communal accommodation (Gemeinschaftsunterkunft – GU). For all questions regarding living as a tenant, your legal status (residence status) matters.

Find out in this chapter what you need to pay attention to when **moving into an apartment** and as **tenant of an apartment**.

### Domicile requirement (Wohnsitzverpflichtung)

With the entry into force of the Integration Act 2016, persons with a residence permit (Aufenthaltslaubnis) according to section 25, subs. 3 Residence Act (AufenthG) can no longer freely decide where they wish to live in Germany (**Wohnsitzauflage**).

According to the new regulations, in the first three years after being granted residence permit you must remain in the federal state you were allocated to during the asylum procedure. If you have moved to another federal state before August 6, 2016, you can and must stay there.

Domicile requirement does not apply if you pursue an employment subject to social insurance contributions at a minimum of 15 hours per week and a salary of at least 710.00 € net, a vocational training or studies. Hardship cases such as particularly vulnerable groups (e.g. children and adolescents, persons with disabilities) are exempted from domicile requirement.

On top of that, a regulation regarding domicile allocation is planned in Saxony-Anhalt from 2017 onwards. According to this regulation, you must reside in certain counties or urban districts of Saxony-Anhalt.

### Accommodation

Saxony-Anhalt strives for the so-called **decentralized accommodation** (dezentrale Unterbringung) of refugees in apartments. However, the local housing situation does not allow accommodation in an apartment in any case or immediately after your arrival. Then **communal accommodations** (Gemeinschaftsunterkünfte – GU) are available. In the GUs, there is principally a social care and contact person for your concerns.

In your initial reception center, you usually will be allocated to a place in a communal accommodation (GU) while your **asylum application is still being processed**.

As **single asylum seeker**, you are primarily accommodated in shared apartments in Saxony-Anhalt.

**Families** are accommodated in a separate apartment as far as possible.

In case of accommodation in apartments, too, a social caretaker will often be on hand with help.

### Renting an apartment

Particularly after successful recognition, you can independently rent an apartment. In order to be able to move into your own apartment, you must sign a **lease** (Mietvertrag), for example with a municipal housing company. You can also rent a **room in a shared flat** (Wohngemeinschaft – WG) - for example from students - or from **other private providers**.

When looking for suitable rooms in Saxony-Anhalt, the housing exchange for refugees (**Wohnungsbörse für Geflüchtete**) or the nationwide accommodation portal for refugees (**Unterkunftsportal für Geflüchtete**) will help you.



Mietvertrag = lease



**The social welfare offices and the housing offices are one of the first contact points when you are planning to rent your own apartment. Good knowledge of the German language provided, you can also directly address housing associations or the local city administration.**

When moving to a self-rented apartment and when signing a private lease, you should pay attention to the **costs and the size of the accommodation**.

As a rule, socially appropriate apartments with a certain size are available for you. The lease stipulates the **additional expenses** (Nebenkosten), including **operating costs** (Betriebskosten), in addition to the rent. Additional expenses include costs for water, heating, house cleaning and garbage removal. In addition, you must bear the costs of electricity and internet or aerial input, for which you must conclude contracts with the individual providers.

Find out about the total costs of your own apartment before signing the lease. Please contact the local social welfare offices or the contact points of the **extra advice and support** if you wish to rent your own apartment.

When **moving**, some bureaucratic aspects have to be considered. In addition to registering with the citizen's office, you have **to report the new address** to the bank, to the insurance company or to the school of the children.

**!** Take advantage of the multi-lingual leasing guide (**Mietleitfaden**), if you want to get comprehensive information about all aspects of housing as a tenant and refugee. This guide will provide basic and further information about living in a rented apartment in Saxony-Anhalt.

## Ensuring the right indoor climate

In order to feel comfortable in your apartment for a long time, you should air and heat properly. In this way, you not only avoid health-endangering mold. You also ensure the apartment's good state of preservation. In case of move-out, you must hand over the apartment in the same state as at its renting.

All important references to that can be found in the multi-lingual brochure airing, heating, avoiding mold (**Lüften, Heizen, Schimmel vermeiden**).

## Waste sorting

In Germany, waste is recycled. Therefore, in all homes and communal accommodations domestic waste is being sorted in different garbage bins. Inform yourself, for example in your house community, about which garbage is being sorted into which bin. Please find an overview on waste sorting **here**.



## Ensuring good neighborhood

The observance of the legal rest period between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. is obligatory for all householders. Often, you will receive so-called house regulations (Hausordnung) together with the lease. These determine rules for good coexistence of all persons living in the house. This may include regular cleaning of shared areas. Greeting one another contributes to good neighborhood in the house.



Guten Morgen = Good morning

## 4. Studying German, advancing integration

German language skills are the foundation stones for long-term integration and door openers in everyday life. In all major cities as well as in smaller townships in Saxony-Anhalt, there are various offers to learn German.

In this chapter, you will find out how to attend an integration language class as a refugee and you will find out about other possibilities of learning the German language in Saxony-Anhalt.

### Communicating more easily and getting along well - with German

Understanding and speaking German is the basis for your integration process in Germany. Besides, understanding German is worthwhile. German is the official language in the EU countries Germany, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, as well as in Switzerland and South Tyrol. In many fields of public life, multi-lingualism is becoming increasingly important. And: Many people with migration background or fleeing experience understand and speak German!

Knowledge of German language facilitates communication. It

- helps you to express your concerns directly (e.g. at the social welfare office, at a doctor, at school), and thus shorten counseling times
- improves your training and career prospects
- makes you independent of language translators
- can provide you with social appreciation, for example as a translator in your community or in a flat-sharing community.

### Finding and attending integration courses

In Saxony-Anhalt as in the entire federal territory, integration courses (**Integrationskurse**) are offered in order to promote the German language competence and the understanding of the legal system, culture and history in Germany. Conversely, it is also expected that every refugee and immigrant acquires corresponding knowledge.

Integration courses are not automatically open to all refugees. As **recognized refugee**, you are entitled to participate in integration courses. Moreover, to asylum seekers from Syria, Iran, Iraq, Eritrea and Somalia the courses are open already during the ongoing procedure. Recognized refugees, and from 2017 onwards, asylum seekers with good residence prospects, tolerated refugees with a residence permit in accordance with section 60a, subs. 2, sentence 3 Residence Act (AufenthG) as well as holders of a residence permit pursuant to section 25, subs. 5 Residence Act may be obliged to take part in an integration course. In case of allocation, the participation is free of charge.

- ▶ For more information on the requirements for participation in the integration course, please refer to the BAMF's information sheet on the integration course (Merkblatt zum **Integrationskurs**).

Each integration course consists of a language course and an orientation course and takes a total of approx. 600-900 hours. You complete the integration course with a certified language test at the speech level GER A2-B1 (language competence in the basic and intermediate level).

- ▶ You can find your nearest provider for integration courses [here](#).



### Signing up for an integration course

In order to be able to participate in a language course as part of the integration course, you must file an **application for admission to an integration course** (Antrag auf die Zulassung zu einem Integrationskurs) at the Federal Office (BAMF). The required application form is available [here](#).



As soon as you have received your admission (authorization certificate) to an integration course from the Federal Office, you can choose a course provider and sign up for the language course. You will find **providers** and current course offers in your proximity at the **online portal „Kursnet“** of the Federal Agency for Employment, via the foreigners' registration office or your local migration counseling office.

As soon as you have found a course provider in your proximity, sign up for the language course there and submit your authorization certificate. The course provider assesses your language skills by means of a **placement test** (Einstufungstest) and selects the appropriate course for you.

### Access to language courses without entitlement to integration courses

From 2017 onwards, Saxony-Anhalt plans to introduce language courses for refugees who are not entitled to participate in the integration course. In these courses, you can acquire German language skills up to the language competence level A2 and conclude with an exam. Based on this, you will be able to attend further job-related German language courses.

### Studying German in learning clubs and conversation courses

Even without access to an integration language course, you have many opportunities to learn German in Saxony-Anhalt. For that, there are so-called low-threshold offers in many places. These are **language courses** or **language learning clubs** (Sprachlernetreffs) for people who obtain almost no German language skills and where conversation is often at the forefront. There are also special courses for women in many places, partly with the provision of child care.



Such language courses and learning clubs are often free of charge and are usually carried out by native speakers (volunteers), who like to help the refugees, in language cafés or welcome clubs. Preferably, ask about available offers on-site, for example, at a welcome initiative.

**Adults** can also take part in German courses of language schools and educational institutions (for example community colleges [Volkshochschulen] and the European Educational Society [Europäisches Bildungswerk]) throughout Saxony-Anhalt. Ask the respective local provider directly about course types and possible costs.

For **children**, playful learning during leisure time at constant contact with German-speaking peers is particularly recommended.



**Some municipalities in Saxony-Anhalt particularly promote the acquisition of the German language of refugees regardless of their residence status. Some of these offers are fee-based. The costs can be partly covered by an educational voucher (Bildungsgutschein). Find out more in your job center.**

### Studying German online

Those who want to study German independently and mobile, can take advantage of a lot of web-based offers

- The **language acquisition app "Einstieg Deutsch"** provides language training for German language close to everyday life, for example in lessons such as "medical visits" or "visiting authorities". The free app (for iOS and Android), available in nine languages, is particularly suitable for those who do not have access to an integration or German course and would like to practice and learn German mobile.
- The **online learning portal Ich will Deutsch lernen** offers a digital integration course for beginners and advanced persons at the levels A1 to B2. German as working and professional language can be acquired and improved in 30 situations. The free offer is available in 16 languages.
- The **language acquisition game Lern Deutsch – die Stadt der Wörter** works with pictures, audios and sample sentences. It can be played online as an app for iOS and Android and is available in English and Arabic.
- The **image and audio dictionary of ARD** (Bild- und Audiowörterbuch der ARD) facilitates better communication in everyday life for asylum seekers and helpers. The dictionary is composed of 17 chapters for all areas of life.
- An **online dictionary for Arabic-German / German-Arabic** with application examples for language learning is offered by **Langenscheidt** publishing company.
- **Deutsche Welle's online German trainer** trains the first steps into the German language.

► Find [here](#) an overview of free online language guides for German.



There are free great and funny coloring pictures of illustrators **especially for child language acquisition** on the online-portal [illustratorenfuerfluechtlinge.de](http://illustratorenfuerfluechtlinge.de)



You have arrived in the municipality and your asylum procedure may not have been completed yet. Nevertheless, you would like to take up an employment immediately or to start a career in training.

In this chapter, you will find out which authorities and services in Saxony-Anhalt assist you with your first steps into work and training, how to improve your **professional qualifications**, which paths lead to **vocational training** and how **integration into labor** is being promoted especially for refugees.

### Why labor and training are of importance for you

Along with language competence, labor (employment) and training are the key to social integration. By means of occupation or training you

- increase your chances of a longer-term residence in Germany
- can achieve economic independence, sovereignty and personal satisfaction
- promote your long-term competence acquisition and a regulated everyday life
- achieve more social participation
- positively influence your claims in the unemployment and pension insurance.

### Active promotion of the access to labor and training

Everywhere in Saxony-Anhalt, there are special offers for professional consultation, recognition and qualification, which support your integration into labor or training.

The following is important:

- **Become active as early as possible** regarding your first steps into labor and qualification. This can include the visit of consultation centers or the search for a job opportunity in order to get to know the regional labor market in Saxony-Anhalt and to be able to plan your own career more realistically.
- **Check as many of the provided opportunities as possible** and accept assistance of supporters on the labor and training market. It is always the case that your own efforts and the taking up of labor, training or studies will promote your integration process strongly.

### First steps into the labor market

Your possibilities to pursue or to acquire a profession in Saxony-Anhalt and the federal territory are principally dependent on your residence status (also legal status).

- As a person entitled to asylum or as **recognized refugee with a residence permit**, you have **absolute permission to gainful employment**. You can therefore either work as employee or pursue a self-employed activity. You receive placement assistance and passive benefits in the job centers according to SGB II.
- **If you have been staying legally in the federal territory for four years**, you can also find a job in the free labor market without the consent of the employment agency as tolerated refugee.
- If a **ban to deportation** applies to you, you may file an application at the foreigners' registration office on presentation of a job offer. The foreigners' registration office obtains the necessary approval from the employment agency and decides on the employment permit (Arbeiterlaubnis).



## Formal requirements

### Employment permit (Arbeitserlaubnis or Beschäftigungserlaubnis)

In order to be able to work in Saxony-Anhalt, you need an **employment permit** (Arbeitserlaubnis or Beschäftigungserlaubnis).

If you have been recognized as refugee and if you obtain a residence permit for humanitarian or political reasons, you can accept any employment if your identification documents include the notations "employment permitted (Beschäftigung gestattet)" or "gainful employment permitted (Erwerbstätigkeit gestattet)".

As asylum seeker with **permission to reside** (Aufenthaltsgestattung) or as **tolerated refugee** (Duldung), you must pay attention to the following legal regulations:

- 1) You will receive the employment permit (Arbeitserlaubnis) not until **three months after your initial registration as asylum seeker**.
- 2) In order to obtain the employment permit, you need the **approval of the foreigners' registration office**. The employment permit must be applied for at the responsible **foreigners' registration office**. If the employment permit is issued, it is indicated in your certificate of the permission to reside or Duldung, with the notation "gainful employment only permitted with permission of the foreigners' registration office ("Erwerbstätigkeit nur mit Genehmigung der Ausländerbehörde gestattet").
- 3) The foreigners' registration office decides by proving your individual case whether or not the approval can be granted. It checks whether you possess the **assurance of an employer to a job**. In addition to the approval, the **employment agency must agree**. You do not have to take care for the employment agency's agreement personally. It is being obtained by the foreigners' registration office. After four years of residence in the federal territory, you no longer need this approval from the employment agency any longer.
- 4) The employment agency checks whether your workplace complies with legal requirements. Your wages and working conditions must not be less favorable than those of German employees.

If the single steps have proceeded positively, you can generally **also work with a permission to reside or a Duldung**. For example, you can accept employment as a temporary employee (temporary employment). You can also file for unemployment (arbeitssuchend melden) at the local employment agency. The employment agency is on hand as contact partner with help and advice.



If you obtain a **permission to reside** (Aufenthaltsgestattung), you are not entitled to a special residence status by taking up work or training. Whether you are working or pursuing a training does not affect your asylum application.

If you obtain a **Duldung**, taking up employment is relevant for the extension of the Duldung or for the issuance of a legal status.

### Limited employment permit and labor ban

You are not allowed to work in Saxony-Anhalt as in the entire federal territory, if you

- live in the initial reception center (LAE). LAE-domicile requirement applies six weeks and can be extended to six months at the most.
- come from so-called safe countries of origin (EU member states, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Senegal, Serbia) and have filed your asylum application before August 31, 2015
- deceive about your identity or citizenship.



In case of labor ban, the notation "gainful employment not permitted" (Erwerbstätigkeit nicht gestattet) is indicated in your residence documents. If you have any questions concerning the right of residence (for example regarding the employment permit), please contact your responsible local foreigners' registration office.

### Assessment of equivalence of professional qualifications acquired abroad

Numerous professions may only be pursued in Germany if a certain education can be proved. So-called regulated professions (reglementierte Berufe) are for example doctors, psychotherapists, nurses or teachers. In order for you to be able to work in your acquired profession, you may need to recognize your professional qualification acquired abroad. In case of non-regulated professions, the employer can decide whether or not the qualifications acquired abroad meet the respective workplace requirements. Without the proof of a formal qualification and the presentation of relevant diplomas or certificates, it is difficult to find a qualified job in these professional fields.



Ausbildung = education

If you have already worked in your home country or have acquired professional qualifications and experience, you should have your educational and professional competences assessed and recognized by the authorities as soon as possible. This increases your chances of speedy professional integration.

! **Employers and companies in Saxony-Anhalt can better assess your aptitude for a particular job if they know your professional qualifications and if you can present them.**

**In principle**, regardless of the immigration status and citizenship, you can as asylum seeker file an application for the recognition of your professional qualifications. However, the recognition of your professional qualification acquired abroad does not automatically imply that you are allowed to work in Germany. The above stated additional requirements apply to the employment permit.

The application fees for the professional recognition may add up to several hundred euros. Additional costs may arise from providing (translated) documents, certifications, travel expenses or language classes.

! **Watch the video clips of the portal recognition in Germany (Anerkennung in Deutschland) in order to see how crucial professional recognition can be for your professional integration.**

### Assistance in the recognition of professional qualifications

For the assessment of equivalence of their professional qualifications acquired abroad, recognition seekers must apply to the recognition office responsible for their profession. You can find the responsible office for the recognition procedure via the portal recognition in Germany (Anerkennung in Deutschland) and the [recognition finder](#).

The recognition advice of **Network IQ "Integration through Qualification - IQ"** will support and advise you on finding the responsible office and preparing the recognition procedure. Please contact the recognition advice if you

- want to know, whether and why the recognition procedure is worthwhile for you
- wish to receive individual recognition advice and assistance
- need support regarding applications for professional recognition
- want to inform yourself on qualification possibilities in case of missing or partial recognition of diplomas

! **Information on the professional recognition of your existing qualifications is also available via the multi-lingual app (6 foreign languages) [Anerkennung in Deutschland](#).**

### Getting to know the German workplace

As soon as you have arrived in your municipality, you are of legal age and are no longer subject to compulsory schooling, you should use all possibilities to get into labor and employment.

During the ongoing asylum procedure, you have the possibility to take advantage of **refugee integration measures** (Flüchtlingsintegrationsmaßnahmen - FIM). These are **employment opportunities** (Arbeitsgelegenheiten), that is, employment in non-profit work. They specifically serve your social and professional integration. Take advantage of this opportunity if offered to you, provided that you are at least 18 years old and do not come from safe countries of origin. This way, you can get to know the local labor market at an early stage.



! **Refugee integration measures do not serve as full-time employment. Your participation in a language or integration course, in a measure of employment promotion, a vocational training or a study program always have priority over the employment opportunities.**

A further career entry possibility is the **internship (Praktikum)**. An internship is an employment in a company aiming at acquiring professional knowledge and preparing for a future professional activity. In this way, you are able to gain professional experience and develop professional skills. An internship is regarded as employment relationship, but is not paid in any case. The trial internship (Schnupperpraktikum), also called probational employment (Probeschäftigung), is an exception. Here, the general statutory minimum wage is paid. A Federal Employment Agency permit is no longer required for asylum seekers and tolerated refugees.

! Professional experiences gained in the internship are valuable proof of qualifications. It is recommended to present them in your next application.

The Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit) provides information on vocational activities and internships for asylum seekers and tolerated refugees via the **central telephone number +49 228 713 2000**.

**Tip:** The Federal Voluntary Service (Bundesfreiwilligendienst – BFD) is also a good way to prepare for the German labor market, both theoretically and practically. Please check **chapter 8** for details.

## Employment prospects via vocational training

### Vocational (dual) training

In Germany, about 400 different recognized training programs are currently offered. The dual vocational training combines theoretical and practical learning contents. Training is split between guidance in a firm and education at a vocational school. Starting point can be any school qualification and there is a fixed training payment. If young refugees start a training in Saxony-Anhalt or the federal territory, they can apply for governmental grants (vocational training grants – Berufsausbildungsbeihilfe).

A vocational training is an important investment in your professional future. Tolerated refugees who take up a training are provided safe residence for the period of the training.

Asylum seekers have a legal permit to take up a training and for preparatory internships. This permission must be given to you by the foreigners' registration office (Ausländerbehörde) without any restrictions.

**Dual training in crafts (duale Ausbildung im Handwerk)** is an example of the combination of training and professional perspectives in Saxony-Anhalt. As refugee with legal status you can acquire a profession in crafts in Saxony-Anhalt. You can choose from about 130 professions. If you are interested in training and work in craft, please contact the persons in charge of the Chambers of Craft (**Handwerkskammer**) in Saxony-Anhalt.



! If you seek for a training, you should obtain advanced basic knowledge of the German language (Level B1). It is favorable if, for example, you are able to prove first professional experiences gained during an internship or a prevocational measure.

### Unterstützung bei der Aufnahme oder Vorbereitung einer beruflichen Ausbildung

In Saxony-Anhalt, young refugees receive targeted support in order to complete a training. A total of **six specific programs and projects for the integration of young adults in training** are particularly worth mentioning.

- 1) The project "Immigrants in dual training (Migrant\*innen in Duale Ausbildung) – MiiDu"** aims at informing adolescents and parents from migrant families about the dual training and preparing them for the in-firm training. Regional companies in Saxony-Anhalt are purposefully integrated, thus enabling a first direct practical insight into the local work place. Inform yourself by means of the information leaflets for adolescents and parents (**Infoblätter für Jugendliche und Eltern**) and get in touch directly.
- 2) In the course of the vocational preparation language year (Berufsvorbereitungsjahres Sprache – BVJ-S)** young refugees under the age of 18 can acquire first knowledge of the German language and subsequently transfer to the vocational preparation year (Berufsvorbereitungsjahr – BVJ), where they can acquire the secondary school qualification (Hauptschulabschluss).
- 3) The entry-level vocational qualification (Einstiegsqualifizierung – EQ) ++** is a training preparation offer for refugees of legal age consisting of an in-firm internship, vocational preparation and language promotion. To begin with, this funding possibility is being tested at three locations in Saxony-Anhalt.
- 4) The regional program future chance assisted training (Zukunftschance assistierte Ausbildung)** has been implemented in cooperation with the Federal Employment Agency and also specifically addresses young refugees. You are supported in successfully completing your vocational training by appropriate preparation and intensive socio-pedagogical assistance.
- 5) The regional program BRAFO for young refugees** provides young refugees with advanced work orientation, competence assessment and professional testing following a youth integration course (Jugendintegrationskurs).
- 6) The coordination center for training and migration (Koordinierungsstelle Ausbildung und Migration – KAUSA)** assists self-employed, adolescents and parent with migration background as well as young refugees in the preparation of professional integration.

- 7) The regional initiative Landesnetzwerkstelle des **Landesprogramms Regionales Übergangsmanagement (RÜMSA)** supports cross-jurisdictional cooperation in the field of transition to vocational training.

! Contact the employment agency in your place of residence or nearby. Once your asylum application has been approved, you will receive a wide range of support. If you receive basic security benefits as recognized refugee, the local job centers are your first contact persons.

Here you can quickly find the address of a local authority. ▶



## Studies

**Studying at a college or university in Saxony-Anhalt** is a further way to increase your chances on the German labor market. However, the requirements for university education are very high. You need a university entrance certificate and a very high competence level of the German language.

**Please note:** Studying in Saxony-Anhalt currently does not require any study fees. Nevertheless, semester fees are charged. Moreover, you have to finance yourself during your studies. If necessary, there are possibilities for support, for example by governmental assistance (BAföG) or a scholarship.

In Saxony-Anhalt, there are a variety of study programs for refugees at selected locations. Corresponding requirements provided, the *Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences* offers the possibility of a complete university education. *The University of Halle* offers asylum seekers the opportunity to register free of charge as guest auditors. Guest auditing is the first opportunity to get to know the requirements of a university and university education.

Look for the *Welcome-Center* or the *International Office* of the respective university in order to get an overview of the possibilities of studying at universities in Saxony-Anhalt. Basic information on studying in Germany is also provided by the local employment agencies.



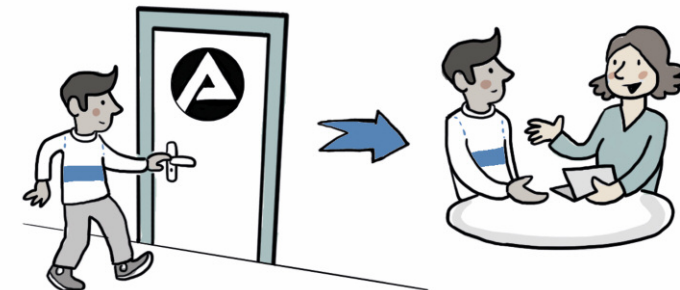
! You will need a residence permit for the duration of your studies. Inform yourself individually about studying in Germany and Saxony-Anhalt as much as possible before the personal consultation in the employment agency, e.g., on the information site *studying in Germany (Studieren in Deutschland)*. You can also use the public information day of the university in your place of residence or future study location.

## Placement in labor by the employment agency or the job center

If you obtain a permit to reside or Duldung, in general, the local **employment agency** and the local **job center** are responsible for your advice and placement. You can file for unemployment there, for example.

The employment agency

- informs about the labor market in Saxony-Anhalt
- advises you individually on possibilities of professional integration and qualification
- places you in employment and training.



! As long as you do not have access to the labor market, you can only use the **consultation services** offered by the employment agencies. If the legal conditions for an employment permit exist, the **consultation and placement offers** of the employment agency are available for you. If you are entitled to benefits under SGB II (e.g. recognized asylum seekers), the **local job center** is responsible for your advice and placement in employment.

Inform yourself about the topics **job search, labor and profession related to entry and residence** via the Federal Office's hotline (BAMF) **Work and life in Germany** (Arbeit und Leben in Deutschland) **+49 30 1815-1111** (Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., charged call). Via this service number you will receive personal consultation in German or English on the topics mentioned around your employment prospects in Saxony-Anhalt and in the federal territory.

**Tip:** The website of the **professionals' assurance portal** (*Fachkräftesicherungsportals*) Saxony-Anhalt provides important information on funding programs, the perspective of vocational training and much more. Important information about the integration in training and labor in Saxony-Anhalt with references to appropriate supporters can be found in the orientation guidebook of the Network IQ Saxony-Anhalt *Orientierungsleitfaden des IQ Netzwerk Sachsen-Anhalt*.

### Consultation and assistance in job search by Welcome Service (Willkommensbegleitung) and Job Bridge PLUS (Jobbrücke PLUS)

Saxony-Anhalt offers asylum applicants with permit to reside, tolerated persons and recognized refugees a wide range of assistance in integration into labor. For this, funded programs such as Welcome Service (*Willkommensbegleitung*), Professional in Focus (*Fachkraft im Fokus*) or Job Bridge PLUS (*Jobbrücke PLUS*) are available. The programs have different emphasis. They aim at the same goal – possibly rapid integration into labor. Some offers may overlap. Please do not hesitate to ask for individual solutions in the consultation centers.

**By the way:** Municipal offers also support you regarding your work and training paths, e.g. the city Halle with a welcome portfolio (*Willkommensmappe*) especially for young refugees.

### Welcome Service of the regional initiative Professional in Focus (Fachkraft im Fokus – FiF) Sachsen-Anhalt

The Welcome Service staff in Saxony-Anhalt brings together professionals and companies. The contact persons of this program will assist you in searching appropriate vacancies in companies in Saxony-Anhalt. They

- create a competency profile with you and work out a plan for further personal professional development
- assist you in compiling your application documents and in presenting yourself well to the employer

- accompany you in the course of your integration into your professional life and remain at your side as a contact person during the probationary period or internship
- provide information about administrative procedures, childcare, housing and more.

You will find more information at the **regional consultation centers** (Regionalberatungsstellen) in **Magdeburg, Halle, Stendal, Halberstadt** and **Dessau-Roßlau**.



**Use the Welcome Service contact form** (*Kontaktformular der Willkommensbegleitung*) **for your consultation appointment!**

### Job Bridge PLUS (Jobbrücke PLUS)

The project **Job Bridge PLUS (Jobbrücke PLUS)** also assists you in searching for employment opportunities in Saxony-Anhalt. The emphasis of this offer is the admission to or resumption of school education. It is intended to enable a qualification which qualifies for the pursuit of a profession.

Further offers of the project include

- individual counseling with reference to the labor market
- assistance with the recognition of qualifications acquired abroad
- occupational qualifications with a language component, competency assessment
- placement in labor and training.



Please contact the **regional representation** of Job Bridge PLUS (*Jobbrücke PLUS*) with your request.

### Finding work offers online – job markets

You can find attractive jobs in Saxony-Anhalt through a free profile and job application on the FiF's job and professionals board (*Stellen- und Fachkräftebörse des FiF*). The job board of the Federal Employment Agency (*Jobbörse der Bundesagentur für Arbeit*) offers a comprehensive job pool with regional and transregional employment opportunities.

On the online platform *workbeer*, refugees can specifically select job offers in many sectors and at different locations. This way you can easily find and directly contact an employer. Regional training places can also be found via this nationwide training and labors board.



## Your rights as employee

In the German labor market you are protected by legal regulations against bad work and low payment.

- 1) The written **employment contract** regulates your rights and obligations (work assignments, payment, probation period, working hours and place of work, salary, leave, etc.). In any case, make sure that you get your employment contract in writing and that it is signed by you and the employer.
- 2) In Germany, the eight-hour day is legally applicable. **Weekly working hours** are regulated by labor agreements and are usually no more than 40 hours. There are deviations in some professions. Night, Sunday and holiday work is paid extra.
- 3) Throughout the federal territory, the **uniform legal minimum wage of 8.84 euros** per hour applies. Each employee is entitled to this salary. Inquire before the employment contract is concluded, whether there is a labor agreement or whether the salary can be negotiated with the employer.
- 4) If you work, you are entitled to social security, the so-called **social insurance** (Sozialversicherung). With this, you are protected against the greatest risks, for example against illness, accidents or unemployment. Social insurance is financed from a part of your income. The fee is automatically deducted from your salary on a monthly basis. **Statutory health insurance** (gesetzliche Krankenversicherung) is an exception. You choose your own health insurance, the contribution is calculated individually and also deducted from the monthly salary.

## Access to labor and training at a glance

### Immediately after leaving the initial reception center / Arrival in the municipality

- vocational training
- vocational preparation
- federal volunteer service
- accompanying internship in the course of vocational training or university education
- work orientation internship
- internship for entry-level vocational qualification

↳ permission of foreigners' registration office required  
internship duration: temporarily limited (maximum duration)

- aptitude assessment internship
- sitting in on classes
- voluntary work

↳ permission of foreigners' registration office required

### after 3 months and residence in the municipality

- gainful employment, German university degree
- gainful employment, foreign university degree
- gainful employment as manager
- gainful employment science, research, development
- any other employment
- temporary employment

↳ permission of foreigners' registration office required  
approval of Federal Employment Agency for priority proof / no priority proof  
requirement Blue Card or German university degree

### after 15 months

- any other employment
- internship with longer period of employment
- temporary employment

### after 48 months

- measures funded bei employment agency
- vocational preparation measure „assisted training“ (assistierte Ausbildung)

↳ permission of foreigners' registration office required

## 6. Medical care and support in specific life situations

Once you have been allocated to a municipality, it will cover the costs of medical and dental treatment and will ensure supply.

Your medical supply is principally assured. Depending on whether you obtain recognition or are still in the asylum procedure, you will receive different benefits.

Find out in this chapter what you need to pay attention to when visiting a doctor after arriving in the municipality, how people are treated without health insurance in Saxony-Anhalt and who will help in case of an emergency.

### Medical care

If you obtain a recognition or receive benefits under the SGB, you can join a statutory health insurance. The medical supply benefits are then carried out to the full extent.

If you are an asylum-seeker, your **medical care** is regulated by the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act (AsylbLG). Your medical care is always at the level of the statutory health insurance (GKV). However, some restrictions apply.



- **Medical support and care** is limited to **fulminating pain and diseases**. Chronic conditions are usually not treated. Asylum seekers will always receive important benefits such as all vaccination for children.
- **Supply of dental prosthesis** is only provided if it cannot be postponed in individual cases for medical reasons.

From the 15th month of residence onwards, you are entitled to the benefits of the statutory health insurance to the full extent.

**Pregnant women and women in child bed** (up to 8 weeks after birth) receive full medical and nursing support from midwives and doctors. Before the birth of the newborn already, you can apply for initial fitting-out at the social welfare office.

- ▶ You can find out more about health insurance and special regulations for refugees [here](#) (German and English).



### Treatment certificate (Behandlungsschein)

If you are already living in a municipality, the municipality is responsible for your health care. In order to visit a doctor (regarding yourself or your children), you need an **authorization or treatment certificate** (Berechtigungs- oder Behandlungsschein). You must apply for this at the social welfare office responsible for you. You must bring it along and present it to the doctor, because the doctor's benefits are recorded on this document.

- ! Often, treatment certificates are issued for a quarterly period. Always pay attention to the date until which your treatment certificate is valid!

### Communicating with the doctor

Language problems may delay or complicate the treatment of symptoms. The doctor or dentist is, however, obliged by the **patients' rights law** (Patientenrechtegesetz) to inform you clearly about the nature and extent of the treatment.

Many medical offices have multi-lingual information sheets - ask for them. If you are not sure, bring along a translator to the treatment.

- ! If you are looking for a **doctor or psychotherapist with foreign language skills in your environment**, use the online search ([Online-Suchformular](#)) of the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians (Kassenärztliche Vereinigung). You will find doctors in Saxony-Anhalt with their respective fields [here](#).

**Tip:** Use the medical dictionary ([medizinischen Sprachführer](#)) to prepare for your doctor's interview (available in German, Arabic, Farsi).

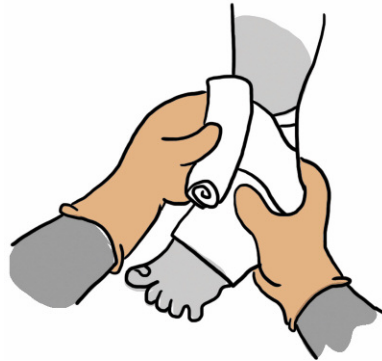


## Emergencies - Things to know regarding one's own security

Acute **health emergencies** are diseases or injuries that **require immediate medical treatment**. This is also called a life-threatening situation.

Acute emergencies are for example

- injuries with severe bleeding or fractures
- respiratory distress
- heart trouble
- poisoning
- severe burns
- unconsciousness



In Saxony-Anhalt, there is a densely developed supply network for emergencies. In **life-threatening situations**, the respective funder takes over the emergency treatment in the hospital.

**!** Only if an **acute emergency** is on hand, you are entitled to treatment at short notice in a hospital. The **emergency numbers 110 and 112** are only for life-threatening emergencies! Dial these numbers only in case of such emergency. The **emergency room in hospitals** is also only for medical emergencies.

## Psychosocial Centers

Refugees with psychological problems receive help from the Psychosocial Service (Psychosozialen Dienst) and the Psychosocial Centers (Psychosozialen Zentren) in Halle and Magdeburg.

In the personal interview, your cultural background is taken into consideration and, as a rule, several languages are offered. The employees of these centers offer among other things

- free psychological consultation and therapy
- accompanying social counseling
- opportunity of participation in psychosocial group offers

If necessary, arrange an appointment with the **psychosocial centers in Halle or Magdeburg**.

## Gratuitous medical aid: MediNetz Magdeburg

**MediNetz** is an initiative of committed medical students and doctors for refugees with and without residence papers. Medinetz in Halle and Magdeburg provides medical assistance for refugees and migrants regardless of their health insurance status. Placement and counseling is free of charge and anonymous.

In the course of the weekly consultation hours, the required appointments are arranged with doctors, who have agreed to carry out the treatment cost-effectively and confidentially. Ask for the limited visiting hours on-site.

## Support for people with hearing and visual impairment

If you are hearing-impaired or visually impaired, you can turn to special consultation centers and associations in Saxony-Anhalt. Contact one of the counseling centers (**Sinnesberatungsstellen**) in Saxony-Anhalt if you have a hearing or visual impairment and are looking for support.

## Support for female refugees in case of pregnancy

In Saxony-Anhalt, you can get in touch with **pregnancy counseling** in many places. In the local counseling centers you will receive expert advice and comprehensive help with all your questions regarding pregnancy and childbirth. The offer is confidential and anonymous if requested.

In case of very urgent questions, please dial the **help line pregnant women in need** (Hilfetelefon Schwangere in Not): **0800 4040 020**. The help line is available around the clock and free of charge.

You can also use the help line's online help desk. For anonymous e-mail advice and individual chat consultation (with appointment) please check **here**. ▶



If you prefer personal consultation on-site, you will find **here** (search by postal code) the nearest pregnancy counseling. ▶



## Specific protection for female refugees being at risk of violence

According to German law, women and men are equal. Everybody is entitled to a life without violence and oppression. All people living in Germany must adhere to this law. As a victim of discrimination based on your gender, you can defend yourself and receive **legal protection**.

In Saxony-Anhalt, there is help for women in dire straits in Germany due to trafficking in women, forced marriages or honor-related violence. Women who have worked or are working in prostitution are also advised and supported.

If you are living in a **forced marriage** or have been the **victim of violence** because of "injured honor", you can use the services offered by the special department **VERA** (Fachstelle VERA) in Magdeburg. Here, for example, you receive psychosocial assistance or you will receive support in the search of a safe accommodation.

In many places in Saxony-Anhalt women's shelters offer protection. If necessary, you can also contact the equal opportunities officers (Gleichstellungsbeauftragten) in the counties and urban districts. For all single female refugees and their children who have become victims of violence or feel threatened, there is the refugee women house in Halle **FlüchtlingsFrauenHaus**.

- ▶ Please find an overview of the statewide women's shelters (Frauenhilfshäuser) **here**.



Schutz für Frauen = Protection of Women

The **help line violence against women** (**Gewalt gegen Frauen**) is a nationwide counseling service for women who have experienced or are experiencing violence. Affected people of all nationalities receive support via the number **08000 116 016** (by chat) and via **online counseling** (by e-mail). Relatives and friends as well as professionals are advised anonymous and free of charge. Consultation service is available in 15 languages.



The free multi-lingual app "**RefuShe**" supports the integration of female refugees. It provides information on fundamental rights, support possibilities in case of violence and emergency numbers.

## Support in case of discrimination based on sexual orientation

In Germany following applies: Gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are protected from discrimination and are entitled to live out their sexual orientation self-determinedly.

For these people, there are special contact points for advice (**Anlaufstellen zur Beratung**) in Magdeburg, Halle and Halberstadt. In the larger cities of Saxony-Anhalt, the lesbian and gay association has **groups, associations and initiatives**. Local AIDS-supports (**AIDS-Hilfen**) are also good contact points for problems related to your sexual orientation.

## Support after violent assaults

If you have become a victim of right-wing violence, you will find special counseling centers in many places in Saxony-Anhalt - the **mobile victim counseling** (**Mobile Opferberatung**). You will be directly advised (in several languages) and practically supported, in order that you can assume your rights.

The Mobile victim counseling supports you in your rights as a victim, for example in the case of claims to injury award. You can be accompanied to institutions and get advice, for example, on financing of a lawyer.

- ▶ Nationwide contact point in acute emergency and crisis situations is white ring (**Weisser Ring**).



Once you have been allocated to a municipality, your children have a legal right to child support and child care in a kindergarten (Kita). Children of compulsory school age are obliged to attend a school. As parents, you should familiarize yourself with the German school system in order to be able to support your children well.

In this chapter you will find out what you have to consider when registering your child for Kita and school.

### Kindergarten (Kita)

Kindergartens (Kita) support the social and linguistic integration as well as early childhood development of children at any age and regardless of their origin. Refugee children have the same legal entitlement to a place in a kindergarten from the age of one year.

You have to care about a place in a kindergarten yourself. Your direct contact point is the youth welfare office. Please check with your local social welfare office for the necessary steps of registration. Please note: There are often long waiting periods for kindergarten places. If you need child care to pursue your job, you usually get a place faster.

**!** Kindergarten is subject to charges. You can file an application in order that the costs are being absorbed by the municipality. Please contact the local social welfare office.

In Saxony-Anhalt, there are 20 welcome kindergartens (WillkommensKITAs) with a care focus on refugee children. Ask [here](#) where you can find such a day care center.



### Compulsory school attendance for minors

Boys and girls aged six as well as adolescents are legally obliged to attend a school in Saxony-Anhalt. This **compulsory school attendance** (gesetzliche Schulpflicht) is valid for accompanied and unaccompanied children under 18 years (minors). It applies to refugee children with their arrival in the municipality. The right to education is associated to that. Ensure that your child gets this right quickly.

**!** After leaving the initial reception center, it is your responsibility as parents that your child goes to school every day. If your child is ill, you must notify the school immediately. If your child does not come to school, this can lead to a financial penalty.

### School system in Saxony-Anhalt

First, all children attend **primary school** (Grundschule) for four years (**1st to 4th grade**).

After primary school, children and adolescents in Saxony-Anhalt can choose between four different school forms depending on their professional goals and abilities. It is possible to change between these secondary schools later on.



Schule = school

- 1) Secondary school/high school** > Here, your child can obtain a secondary school qualification (Hauptschulabschluss) or high school diploma (Realschulabschluss), for example to start a **dual vocational training** or to **acquire a profession (5th to 10th grade)**
- 2) Academic high school (Gymnasium)** > Here, your child can obtain the general higher education entrance qualification (Abitur), for example in order to **study** at a college or university later on (**5th to 12th grade**)
- 3) Comprehensive school (Gesamtschule)** > Here, your child can obtain a secondary school qualification (Hauptschulabschluss), a high school diploma (Realschulabschluss) or the general higher education entrance qualification (**5th to 12th or 13th grade**)
- 4) Common school (Gemeinschaftsschule)** > Here, your child can obtain all school qualifications including Abitur (**5th to 12th or 13th grade**)
- 5) Special-needs school (Förderschule)** > Here, your child with special educational needs (e.g. disability) can obtain a special-needs school qualification (Förderschulabschluss) or a secondary school qualification (Hauptschulabschluss) (**1st to 10th grade**)

**!** Please find everything you need to know about school attendance, kindergarten (Kita) and after school center (Hort) especially for refugees and migrants on the website of [Servicestelle Interkulturelles Lernen](#).

## Registering your child for school

As soon as you have arrived in the municipality and have registered in the foreigners' registration office (Ausländerbehörde) or in the local residents' registration office (Einwohnermeldeamt), you should register your child for school and for after school care (Hort). Your contact person for school enrollment is the state education authority (Landesschulamt) Saxony-Anhalt. Please note: Your children of compulsory school age must register at Landesschulamt by the record date March 1st, **in the year before school enrollment**. If you have arrived later than this date in your municipality, please contact the education authority.

Before school attendance starts, there is a medical examination. This examination is required by law. You will be notified of the examination date by the health office.

! You would like to know how school routine at a primary school looks like, what parent-teacher conferences and school trips are? Then inform yourself reading **this brochure** (in German, English, French, Arabic).



## Benefits for education and participation – Bildungspaket

Lunch at school or school materials cost money. Under certain circumstances, you may receive financial support for your under aged child. This aid is called *benefits for education and participation* (Leistungen für Bildung und Teilhabe), in short **Bildungspaket**.

If you wish to receive this support, please contact the relevant social welfare office or the office of which you are already being supported.

! Find answers to the most important questions from parents about school and education in Saxony-Anhalt with a lot of information about the school enrollment (Schulanfang), school subjects (Schulfächer), school preparation (Schulvorbereitung), after school center (Hort), duty of supervision (Aufsichtspflicht) and the right parental assistance (Elternhilfe) for your child in the multi-lingual brochure **Eltern-Information „Schule“**.

## 8. Living in Germany

### Democracy and Human Rights: Principles of our coexistence

You are seeking protection as refugee in Germany. Our country guarantees asylum from political persecution and shelter from war and civil war. This shelter is part of our democratic constitutional order. This order includes encompassing fundamental and human rights that constitute the foundation of our society.

The rights of people in Germany are guaranteed in the German Constitution of 1949, in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and in the European Union's Charter of Fundamental Rights of 2000. The rights of children are protected by the United Nations' Convention on the Right of the Child of 1989.

- Germany is a democratic republic. Head of state, parliament as well as government are elected democratically, the same is true for the parliaments and governments of the 16 Federal States and the self-governments of the cities and municipalities. All elections are conducted by secret ballot.
- Every person has the right to express his or her opinion, to assemble and to demonstrate for his or her opinion. All persons have the right to form democratic parties, unions and other associations.
- Many people in Germany commit themselves to cultural, social or sporting interests in associations or initiatives that take over many duties for the community.
- All persons are equal before the law. Government and authorities are bound to the Constitution and to the laws. Those whose rights are infringed, may defend themselves by complaint or in court and are not to be disadvantaged. Those who try to bribe a civil servant have to face punishment.
- Men and women have equal rights. That extends to the decision on one's lifestyle, the right to labor and free choice of profession as well as disposition of one's income. In Germany women pursue all careers, even leading positions.
- Children have the right to non-violent parenting, to early childhood and formal education. Fathers and mothers are equal regarding their children's education. Parents can have a determining influence in day care centers and at schools in terms of parental representations.



- All persons have the right to respectful interaction. Use of physical violence is prohibited. Every person has the right to sexual self-determination. Any infringement against this is punishable.
- Every person has the right to freely practice his or her religion. Most people in Germany are Protestants or Catholics and most of the holidays and many customs in Germany originate in Christianity. German culture is moreover crucially shaped by Jews. Nowadays, also many Muslims are living in Germany. Besides, there is a range of other faith communities and many people without religious affiliation. No person shall be discriminated against because of his or her faith or ideology. Freedom of expression includes as well the right to criticize religions and religious communities.
- No person shall be discriminated against because of his or her origin, skin color, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. Homosexuals do not have to hide in Germany and may recognize their long-term relationship like marriages by the state.
- The analysis of the German felonies at the time of National Socialism (1933-1945) is very important in Germany. Racism and anti-Semitism are socially proscribed. Denying the Holocaust is a crime.

**These fundamental rights also constitute the basis for respectful and tolerant interaction.**



## Finding out more about life in Germany and getting along better

Social coexistence in Germany is regulated by the Basic Law (Grundgesetz). Particularly important extracts from the Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany (**Grundgesetz für die Bundesrepublik Deutschland**) can be found [here](#).

Please take advantage of the free multi-lingual online guidebook Arriving. An orientation guide for life in Germany (**Ankommen. Eine Orientierungshilfe für das Leben in Deutschland**) in order to learn more about life in Germany and how to best prepare yourself for certain situations in your new life environment.

Important information for your life in Germany, an understanding of society and the legal and political system can also be found in the **multi-lingual guide** Welcome to Germany. Information for immigrants (**Willkommen in Deutschland. Informationen für Zuwanderer**) of the Federal Office.

You will find important information about the principles of life in Germany in the book Germany. First information for refugees (Deutschland. Erste Informationen für Flüchtlinge), available in Arabic-German.

## Promoting coexistence by commitment on-site

Democracy lives from the fact that people participate and commit themselves to their interests. This possibility is principally open to refugees. Especially, many clubs are glad if you show interest and participate. Many immigrants have founded self-organizations which make an important contribution to peaceful coexistence and solidarity in Germany.

There are many ways to help fellow countrymen or new arrivals to find their way in the new life environment. Appropriate support offers at the **local volunteer agencies** (Freiwilligen-agenturen) provide direct cooperation projects.

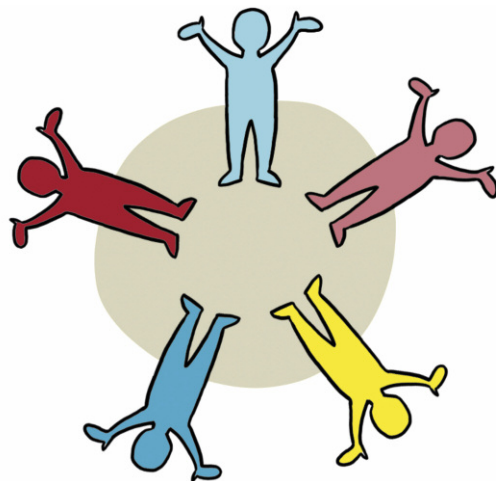
In some cities of Saxony-Anhalt, there are sponsorships for refugees, the so-called **arriving sponsorships** (Ankommenspatenschaften). With these, you can help other refugees to get to know the city and facilitate everyday life. Knowledge of the German language is important for that. In order to support a newcomer, simply contact a local volunteer agency (**Freiwilligen-Agentur**).

### Socializing - meeting people- acquiring competences: federal volunteer service (Bundesfreiwilligendienst - BFD)

As refugee, you or your children can establish new contacts and try out talents in Saxony-Anhalt in the program **federal volunteer service with refugee reference** (Bundesfreiwilligendienst mit Flüchtlingsbezug). BFD is open to adolescents and young adults aged 16. In Saxony-Anhalt, volunteers can be employed in 300 urban townships. BFD takes at least six and a maximum of 18 months. Participants receive pocket money and social insurance.

BFD focuses on learning and education offers. Practical experience in youth clubs, community centers or other social facilities will increase your social contacts and enrich your understanding of the country. The time between school and training is an appropriate time for BFD. What is particularly convenient: you can train your German language skills.

► Find out more about the BFD [here](#).



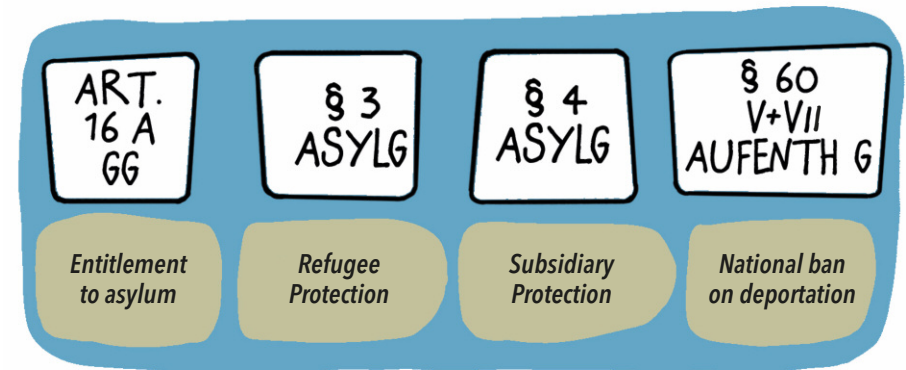
## 9. Legal status and asylum procedure

After your allocation to a municipality in Saxony-Anhalt, many possibilities will open up enabling you to take charge of your life more independently. Above all, you should know what the decision of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF or Federal Office) means in detail.

This chapter explains important legal provisions on the asylum procedure and possible forms of protection. You will also find out which contact points provide consultation on the right of residence and who will help you with advice and guidance.

### Protection status and its consequences

The Federal Office knows four different forms of protection:



The Federal Office's decision determines your residence permit in Germany. It is the basis for subsequent decision-making and for your benefit claims in the municipalities of Saxony-Anhalt. This includes, for example, your scope for action on the training and labor market or access to language and integration courses.

**Because of the great importance of the decision of the BAMF, the 4 different variants of obtaining entitlement to protection as asylum applicant, are explained in more detail below**

- **Variant 1:** That means **recognition of entitlement to asylum** according to Art. 16a para. 1 of the German Basic Law. You obtain a residence permit for three years (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) and a German passport substitution document (travel document). You can apply for settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) after three years if other preconditions are met.

- **Variant 2:** That means recognition as refugee according to the Geneva Refugee Convention. You obtain a residence permit for three years (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) and a German passport substitution document (travel document). You can apply for settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) after three years if other preconditions are met.
- **Variant 3:** That means entitlement to **subsidiary protection** (according to section 4 subs. 1 Asylum Act). You obtain a residence permit for one year, which can be extended for another two years. You can apply for settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) after five years.
- **Variant 4:** That means that a **national ban on deportation** is issued (according to section 60 subs. 5 or 7 Residence Act) and you obtain a **residence permit for humanitarian reasons** limited to one year. You can apply for settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) after five years.

! You can find more information about the decision-making possibilities of the Federal Office [here](#). If you have any further questions, please contact Caritas asylum procedure counseling (Asylverfahrensberatung der Caritas).



## Permit to reside (Aufenthaltsgestattung)

If your asylum application is not completed yet, you obtain a **permit to reside** (Aufenthaltsgestattung). With your permit to reside, you can move freely within the federal territory at the end of three months. However, you must always be available for BAMF and your responsible foreigners' registration office. You will always have to carry your permit to reside with you and present it to the police in case of identity checks.

## Voluntary return

If you are obliged to leave the country after the withdrawal of your asylum application or if you wish to return to your home country for other reasons (even if your asylum procedure has not been completed yet), you can use the option of **voluntary return**.

The foreigners' registration offices will advise you on the possibilities to end your stay in Germany (return interview). The competence center for return (Kompetenzzentrum Rückkehr) in Magdeburg provides the opportunity to leave the country independently, without authority assistance on a freely chosen date. You will receive comprehensive personal consultation for your return. You can find local return counseling offices (Rückkehrberatungsstellen) [here](#).



## Subsequent family immigration (family reunification)

As **recognized refugee** or as a **person entitled to asylum** you have the right to file an application for **subsequent family immigration** (Familiennachzug). You thereby apply for easier subsequent immigration of your spouse and your minor children. The respective foreigners' registration office in the municipality is responsible for that.

! Easier subsequent immigration is only possible if the application is filed within 3 months. A so-called keeping-the-term application (Fristwahrungsantrag) is sufficient, e.g. at the Federal Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt) or the responsible foreigners' registration office. The application for entry by your family members must be submitted in the responsible German Embassy.

For **persons entitled to subsidiary protection** family reunification is suspended until March 15, 2018 (as of 10/2016). After this period, you can also apply for the easier subsequent immigration of your family at the Federal Foreign Office.

**Please note:** During the ongoing asylum procedure no application for family reunification can be filed. However, family members can already try to make an appointment at the German embassy.

! Caritas (Magdeburg Bishopic) manages a fund for refugee support, which also supports family reunifications. More information on family asylum and subsequent family immigration can be found [here](#).



## Further information about asylum and refugee protection

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) provides comprehensive information about the German residence right and asylum procedure on its [website](#) and in the online brochure [Ablauf des deutschen Asylverfahrens](#).

## SELECTED ADDRESSES AND CONSULTATION CENTERS

## Consulting and support

**Migration Counseling Saxony-Anhalt**

[www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de](http://www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de)

**Extra consultation and assistance**

[www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/beratung-und-netzwerke/beratungsstellen/gesonderte-beratung-und-betreuung/](http://www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/beratung-und-netzwerke/beratungsstellen/gesonderte-beratung-und-betreuung/)

**Procedure Information of Caritas for Asylum Applicants in Saxony-Anhalt**

[Asylum Procedure Consultation Center] Halberstadt

[www.caritas.de](http://www.caritas.de)

Phone: +49 3941 609300

**Voluntary Return**

Competence Center Return.

Consultation Point for Voluntary Return of Third Country Citizens

[www.magdeburgerstadtmision.de/arbeitsgebiete/kompetenzzentrum-rueckkehr/](http://www.magdeburgerstadtmision.de/arbeitsgebiete/kompetenzzentrum-rueckkehr/)



## Studying German

**Migration Counseling Centers**

[www.bamf.de/SiteGlobals/Functions/WebGIS/DE/WebGIS\\_Migrationserstberatung.html](http://www.bamf.de/SiteGlobals/Functions/WebGIS/DE/WebGIS_Migrationserstberatung.html)

**Locations of integration courses**

[www.bamf.de/SiteGlobals/Functions/WebGIS/DE/WebGIS\\_Integrationskursort.html](http://www.bamf.de/SiteGlobals/Functions/WebGIS/DE/WebGIS_Integrationskursort.html)



## Labor and training

**Professional in Focus (FiF)**

Welcome Service for Foreign Professionals in Labor

[www.fachkraft-im-fokus.de](http://www.fachkraft-im-fokus.de)

Phone: 49 152 537 729 43 (HAL), +49 173 8498 196 (MD)

**Job Bridge PLUS**

Integration of Asylum Applicants and Refugees in Labor and Training  
Magdeburg

[www.jobbruecke-chance.de](http://www.jobbruecke-chance.de)

Phone: +49 391 7279882

**Network IQ - Recognition and Qualification Counseling**

Halle / Magdeburg

[www.sachsen-anhalt.netzwerk-iq.de](http://www.sachsen-anhalt.netzwerk-iq.de)

Phone: +49 345 686948-23/-15/-21 (HAL) /

+49 391 40805-15/-10/-13 (MD)



## Health and protection

**Support in case of violent assaults**

Mobile Counseling for Victims of Right-wing Violence

Halle / Magdeburg / Salzwedel / Dessau-Roßlau

[www.mobile-opferberatung.de](http://www.mobile-opferberatung.de)

Phone: +49 345 2267100 (HAL) / +49 391 6207752 (MD) /

+49 3901 306431 (SAW) / +49 340 6612395 (DE)

**Consultation and support for women**

FemaleRefugeeHouse

Halle

[www.migration-paritaet-lsa.de/ffh](http://www.migration-paritaet-lsa.de/ffh)

Phone: +49 345 5238115

**Help-Line „Violence against Women“ (free of charge)**

[www.hilfetelefon.de](http://www.hilfetelefon.de)

Phone: +49 8000 116016

**Vera - Department of Trafficking in Women and Forced Marriage**

[www.awo-sachsenanhalt.de](http://www.awo-sachsenanhalt.de)

Phone: +49 391 4015371



### AIDS-support

#### AIDS-Support (Halle / Sachsen-Anhalt Süd e. V., Sachsen-Anhalt Nord e. V.)

Halle / Magdeburg

[www.halle.aidshilfe.de](http://www.halle.aidshilfe.de)

Phone: +49 345 5821271 (HAL)

[www.aidshilfesachsenanhaltsud.de](http://www.aidshilfesachsenanhaltsud.de)

Phone: +49 391 5357690 (MD)



### Orientation and social integration

#### Regional network of migrant self-organizations

Saxony-Anhalt (LAMSA) Halle

[www.lamsa.de](http://www.lamsa.de)

Phone: +49 345 17164890



#### Welcome Haunt of the Volunteer Agency Halle-Saalkreis e. V.

[www.freiwilligen-agentur.de/themen-und-projekte/engagiert-fuer-fluechtlinge](http://www.freiwilligen-agentur.de/themen-und-projekte/engagiert-fuer-fluechtlinge)



#### Consultations Services and Networks for the Support of Refugees/Arrivals

[www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/netzwerke/](http://www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/netzwerke/)



#### Welcome initiatives Saxony-Anhalt

[www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/willkommen/willkommensinitiativen](http://www.integriert-in-sachsen-anhalt.de/willkommen/willkommensinitiativen)



### School and education

#### Service office Intercultural learning at Kita and school

[www.lerneninterkulturell.de](http://www.lerneninterkulturell.de)



### Guidebooks for orientation (print and online)

Arriving and more. Info guide for refugees in Saxony-Anhalt

- [Ankommen und mehr. Erstinformationen für Geflüchtete in Sachsen-Anhalt](#)



Guidebook for immigrants

- [Wegweiser für Neueingewanderte \(AGSA\)](#)



Guidebook to Saxony-Anhalt

- [Wegweiser nach Sachsen-Anhalt](#)



- Guide refugee support. Guideline for supporters in refugee work. AWO

Migration guidebook Magdeburg

- [Migrationswegweiser Magdeburg \(für LSA\)](#)



Orientation guidebook to offers of labor market integration for immigrant

- [Orientierungsleitfaden in Angeboten der Arbeitsmarktintegration von Migrantinnen und Migranten](#)



Parents-information school

- [Eltern-Information Schule \(LAMSA\)](#)



### Internet portals for topics such as migration & integration in Saxony-Anhalt

- Integration portal Saxony-Anhalt (Integrationsportal Sachsen-Anhalt) > Service platform and report panel for activities and initiatives in the field of integration and commitment
- Integration portal of the state capital Magdeburg (Integrationsportal der Landeshauptstadt Magdeburg) > Service portal for offers of integration, cooperation and commitment to the state capital
- LAMSA e. V. > Website of migrant organizations in Saxony-Anhalt
- welcome-to-Halle > Service portal for people with migration background for the city Halle
- welcome-to-Magdeburg > Service portal for people with migration background for the city of Magdeburg





