



**University of Stuttgart**  
International Office



# Pre- departure Information

Computer Science,  
Master of Science

Dear student,

Welcome to the University of Stuttgart!

The International Office and your Master's program have prepared this **Pre-departure Information** for you. It contains all information that you need before you actually travel to Stuttgart. Therefore please read this information carefully and follow the instructions given. Feel free to contact either the International Office or your Master's program in case you have further questions.

### **MSc Computer Science**

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### **International Office**

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Please name your study program when you contact the International Office. Thank you!



### **Study visa**

Please refer to the German mission nearest to you to find out if you need a visa to enter Germany. The German mission will also inform you about the documents needed for a visa application. You can find German missions worldwide here:

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen>

#### **\* Please note:**

The University of Stuttgart is not in the position to speed up the visa process. If you are a DAAD scholarship holder or it seems impossible to get a visa in time, please contact the International Office.

## **Student housing**

The dormitories in Stuttgart region are owned and managed by the organization Studierendenwerk Stuttgart (Student Services Stuttgart). Please apply immediately since the waiting time for a room is currently about six months:

<https://www.studierendenwerk-stuttgart.de/en/accommodation/>

Only single, furnished rooms are available. The kitchen and the bathroom are shared in a mixed gender community of 2 to 20 other students, German and international alike. Rooms get assigned according to the principle "first come-first serve" solely by the Studierendenwerk Stuttgart.

Advice on temporary accommodation and how to look for a room on the private market can be found on our homepage:

<https://www.uni-stuttgart.de/en/study/living-in-stuttgart/housing/international/>

Unfortunately the housing situation is difficult in Stuttgart. Be prepared to live in a temporary accommodation for several weeks before you find a long-term place to live!

## **Study financing**

Unlike other countries it is not common for German universities to grant scholarships. Students are expected to cover their study and living costs themselves.

The most important grant donor for international students is the Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (DAAD) (German Academic Exchange Service):

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

For most scholarship programs you have to apply prior to the start of your studies in Germany. For all further information about prerequisites, deadlines and the application procedures, please directly contact the scholarship organizations.

Here you can find information regarding costs of living in Stuttgart:

<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/financing/international/>

The residence permit for students usually includes a restricted working permit. Working might help you support you financially but do not expect it to be your main source of financing. The study load is high and it is difficult to find jobs without being fluent in German.

## **Arrival in Stuttgart**

It is advisable to arrive in Stuttgart a week or two before the lectures start in order to take care of the formalities in the beginning of your studies.

If you arrive within the first weeks of October/April you can ask a senior student from our buddy program "ready.study.stuttgart" to meet you at the airport and help you find your way. Please register online:

<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/startingout/international/ready-study-stuttgart/>

## Enrolment and other formalities

Once in Stuttgart, please visit the International Office and pick up your **Welcome Guide**. It contains all the information you need for the formalities such as enrolment and residence permit. We also offer small group meetings where you tackle the formalities together with the help of a ready.study.stuttgart buddy (see above).

You can already have a look at the Welcome Guide online. Please note, though, that some details might have changed after the print. We will provide you with up to date information after your arrival.

<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/startingout/international/first-steps/>

### \* Please note:

You may start with the enrolment process online in our C@MPUS portal but it must be completed in person in Stuttgart!

## Study schedule

Your Master's program invites you to a Welcome Session which is usually held the first day of the lecture period. During this session you will hear all about the study organization, course registration etc. Previous registration for courses is not necessary.

You can find the lecture periods and holidays – the so called **Academic Calendar** – on the homepage of the University of Stuttgart:

<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/organizing-studies/semester-dates/>

### \* Please note:

The winter semester always lasts from October 1 until March 31 and the summer semester from April 1 until September 30. The lecture periods, however, are shorter! In the semester break many examinations and block courses take place. Therefore check the dates for examinations and block courses before you leave Stuttgart for holidays or for any other reason.

## Checklist - what to take with you?

- A paper print of your letter of admission of the University of Stuttgart
- Originals of your degree and language certificates
- Passport and visa according to the advice from the German mission
- Travel health insurance for the first weeks of your stay
- 4 passport photos (biometrical photos according to German standards, if possible, otherwise to be taken in Stuttgart)
- Cash for the first days, some small bank notes and coins: cash is frequently used in Germany!
- Any medicine you might regularly need to take (at least for 4 weeks)

You might also like to:

- Take a second pair of glasses with you, if you wear any. Buying new glasses in Germany is very expensive.
- Check the weather forecast before you choose your travel clothing. The weather in October/April varies a lot!



**Further  
links  
and  
tips**

Arrival help and leisure time activities by the buddy program  
ready.study.stuttgart:

<https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/startingout/international/ready-study-stuttgart/>

The Cross Cultural Mentoring program of the University of Stuttgart:

<https://www.uni-stuttgart.de/en/study/international/mentoring/>

Welcome Center for new residents of the City of Stuttgart:

<https://welcome.stuttgart.de/welcomecenter/en/>

Tourist information of the City of Stuttgart:

<https://www.stuttgart-tourist.de/en>

