

Germany Study Planner 2026



Timeline for Indian Students

*German universities generally follow **two main intakes** each year, with a few variations depending on the program.*



1. Winter Intake (WS – Wintersemester)



Start

October (some courses may begin late September)



Application Period

Typically **May to July**, depending on the university



Who it's for

Most undergraduate and graduate programs, including STEM, Business, and Humanities



Notes

Winter intake is the most common and has the largest number of seats for international students

2. Summer Intake (SS Sommersemester)



Start

April



Application Period

Usually **December to January**



Who it's for

Limited courses and universities offer summer intake, mostly for graduate programs or selected undergraduate programs



Notes

Fewer seats are available compared to the winter intake, so competition is higher

3. *Special / Rolling Intakes*



Multiple intakes

throughout the year (January, July, or September) in some private universities and international programs



Who's it for

These intakes are usually **English-taught** master's programs or short courses

Tip for Indian Students



Winter intake

ideal for most students because more universities and courses are available.



Summer intake

is only recommended if your program explicitly offers it, as options are limited.

Timeline	Task / Step	Details / Action Points	
12+ months before intake	Define Goals	Decide program level (Undergrad / Grad) Choose field of study (Engineering, Business, STEM, Arts)- Identify cities & universities (use Gradsearch) Decide language preference (English or German)	
10–12 months before intake	Check Eligibility & Requirements	Class 12 / Bachelor's GPA- APS certificate (if needed) Language tests: IELTS/TOEFL (English), TestDaF/DSH (German) Entrance exams: GRE/GMAT if required Attestation & translation of documents	
10–11 months before intake	Research Universities & Courses	Shortlist universities using Gradsearch Compare: courses, tuition & living costs, QS ranking, program duration Finalize shortlist of 5–7 universities	
8–10 months before intake	Prepare Documents	Academic transcripts & certificates Language test scores Passport (6+ months validity)	APS certificate SOP & recommendation letters (for Grad) Certified translations
6–8 months before intake	Submit Applications	Apply via Gradsearch or university portals Pay application fees	Track deadlines for each university Monitor application status

5–6 months before intake	Receive & Accept Admission Offer	Check Letter of Admission (Zulassungsbescheid) Accept offer and confirm seat Prepare for visa application	
3–6 months before intake	Apply for a Student Visa	Submit documents to German Embassy / Consulate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission letter • Passport & photos • Academic & language certificates Schedule embassy appointment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of funds (€11,904/year) • Health insurance 	
1–2 months before departure	Plan Travel & Accommodation	Book flights Confirm university dorm or WG/apartment	Arrange temporary stay Pack documents, insurance, essentials
Arrival in Germany	Registration & Enrollment	Register at local authorities (Anmeldung) Open a German bank account	Enroll at university (Immatrikulation) Join student groups & explore city life
Ongoing	Student Life & Planning	Attend orientation programs Manage monthly budget (€900–€1,200)	Explore internships & part-time jobs Learn basic German for daily life

Need help?

Chat with a counselor on WhatsApp for deadline reminders.

Contact Us

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