



Fact Sheet 2025-26

Incomings Overseas | July 2024

1. Contact details

University Homepage www.tu-darmstadt.de
International Relations & Mobility www.tu-darmstadt.de/international/
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Contact persons

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Incomings to TU

Christian Tischer: Afrika, America, Asia-Pacific overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Outgoings from TU

Julia Fitzthum: North- and South America overseas-out@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

Lars Bergmeyer: Afrika, Asia-Pacific overseas-out@zv.tu-darmstadt.de

2. Eligibility

- Enrollment at partner institution
- Degree-seeking student status at the home university is to be maintained throughout the stay at TU Darmstadt
- 2 years in an undergraduate program before the starting at TU Darmstadt
- Applicants must be of good academic standing

3. Departments and academic offerings

TU Darmstadt has 13 departments and offers 29 study programmes for non-degree seeking incoming exchange students. Incomings are enrolled in one of the programmes, which offer a rather large selection of courses and allow students to choose courses from other departments as well:

Departement	Study Programmes for Incoming Exchange students
Dept. 01: Law and Economics	Business Administration - Betriebswirtschaftslehre; Industrial Engineering - Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen; Business Informatics - Wirtschaftsinformatik
Dept. 02: History and Social Sciences	German Studies - Germanistik; History - Geschichte; Philosophy - Philosophie; Political Science - Politikwissenschaft; Sociology – Soziologie
Dept. 03: Human Sciences	Pedagogy - Pädagogik; Psychology - Psychologie; Sports Science – Sportwissenschaft
Dept. 04: Mathematics	Mathematics – Mathematik
Dept. 05: Physics	Physics – Physik
Dept. 07: Chemistry	Biomolecular Engineering - Molekulare Biotechnologie (offered in cooperation with Biology); Chemistry – Chemie
Dept. 10: Biology	Biology – Biologie

Dept. 11: Materials and Earth Sciences	Applied Geosciences - Angewandte Geowissenschaften; Materials Science – Materialwissenschaft
Dept. 13: Civil and Environmental Engineering	Civil Engineering and Geodesy - Bauingenieurwesen und Geodäsie; Environmental Engineering – Umweltingenieurwissenschaften
Dept. 15: Architecture	Architecture – Architektur
Dept. 16: Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering - Sustainable Engineering
Dept. 18: Electrical Engineering and Information Technology	Electrical Engineering and Information Technology - Elektrotechnik und Informationstechnik; Information and Communication Engineering
Dept. 20: Computer Science	Computer Science – Informatik
Interdisciplinary Study Programmes - Studienbereiche	Computational Engineering; Mechanics - Mechanik ; Mechatronics – Mechatronik

[Further information on the departments, their courses, contact persons.](#)

4. Course load, grading, course calendar

- A German semester runs 24 weeks – 16 weeks of classes, 4-6 weeks self-study and preparation for exams and 3-4 weeks exam period. We recommend exchange students (graduate & undergraduate) to take between 18 ECTS and 30 ECTS (full course load for degree-seeking students) per semester. Further information on ECTS credits and the recognition of your academic achievements can be found on our [website](#). The calculation of ECTS credits is explained [here](#).
- Course Catalogue: published in [TUCaN](#) in September for winter and March for summer semester. [Further information on the departments, their courses, contact persons.](#)
- How to find courses? Since the course catalogue is only available shortly before your exchange semester starts, you have to use current and old course information from [TUCaN](#) and [module handbooks](#) to check if a stay at TU makes sense for you. Most courses are offered each winter or each summer semester. Please contact the [departmental advisor](#) of your prospective host department for questions on courses.

5. Academic Year

Overview of current and next semesters on our [website](#).

Winter semester: Orientation, language course in September | courses October to February | exams February and March

Summer semester: Orientation, language course in March | courses April to July | exams July to September

Exam periods: In case exchange students leave before the examination period, there are two options:

- The student arranges an earlier (oral) exam with the TU Darmstadt professor(s).
- The student arranges a proctored exam at their home university with the TU Darmstadt professor(s).

6. Costs

Exchange students are exempt from paying tuition but required to pay a semester contribution of approx. €290 per semester. This includes free public transport in Germany (no high-speed trains) and access to the services of Studierendenwerk Darmstadt (cafeterias, dorms and more). Due to rising energy costs and a general inflation prices have been rising in Germany in the last years. A breakdown of potential costs can be found on our [website](#).

7. Language Requirements for incoming exchange students

- Students have the option to study in German or English. The main language at TU Darmstadt is German. A growing number of courses for advanced bachelor and master students is offered in English.
- English: B2 or better for students planning to studying in English
OR
- German: B2 for students planning to study in German
- Further information can be found on our [website](#).

We have adjusted the language requirements. You need English OR German.

8. Nomination and application

Nomination: TU Darmstadt requires an official nomination by the home university (by email to overseas-in@zv.tu-darmstadt.de).

	Nomination deadline
Winter semester	March 31
Summer semester	September 30

Application: is made through an online portal. Only complete applications are processed:

www.tu-darmstadt.de/incoming

	Application deadline
Winter semester	April 30
Summer semester	October 31

- Regular Exchange Students: Please choose “Overseas” as the type of framework in the section “Current studies and requested stay”.
- Double-Degree Students from Brazil/China/USA: Please choose “DD-Overseas” as the type of framework.

After receiving the complete application and documents, we will issue a letter of admission (“Zulassung”) which will be sent via email to the incoming exchange student and the home university approx. 4 weeks after the application deadline. The admission letter is important for the visa application/residence permit.

9. Visa

All students with non-EU citizenship need to prove that they have sufficient financial means to live in Germany (Either for the visa application or the residence permit). You are required to have at least €5.952 for a semester or €11.904 for a year at TU (€992 per month). There are two ways to prove that:

1. **Scholarship:** proof of a (full-) scholarship, stating duration and amount of monthly allowances
2. **Self-financed stay:** limited-withdrawal bank account (also known as **blocked account**)
3. *A third option may become available in the future, bank account statements from your bank account showing that you have at least €5.952 for a semester or €11.904 for a year at TU in your account.*

International students who do not come from a member state of the European Union (EU) usually need a visa before travelling to Germany:

- Make sure your passport is valid until at least 6 months after the end of your stay in Germany.
- Please contact the German embassy of your home country **at least four months** prior to your departure to Germany in order to obtain information on the specific visa regulations for your home country and make an appointment.
- Students from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Singapore, Uruguay and USA can enter Germany without a visa. Students who plan to reside within Germany and the European Schengen Area for MORE than 90 days are required to apply for a residence permit after arrival in Germany. During the application process, you are not allowed to travel outside Germany or take up any form of employment. You will need at least €5.952 for a semester or €11.904 for a year at TU on the blocked account in September (starting your stay in winter semester) or March (summer semester).

The European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) will be introduced around May 2025.

- Students from PR China and India: you have to apply through the APS in your country (PR-China: A-Verfahren/India: Process A), we will get you a group application number.

More up-to-date information about the necessary steps for visa application and the proof of financial means is on our [website](#). Please inform yourself before coming to Germany.

Recommendation: Some providers offer a very convenient online blocked account, e.g. www.expatrio.com or www.coracle.de. Expatrio also offers a statutory health insurance from our partner health insurance TK (Techniker Krankenkasse). These providers have a good reputation and a good online service.

10. Health Insurance

Exchange students studying at TU Darmstadt for one or two semesters and double degree students **are required to purchase statutory German health insurance** (Gesetzliche Krankenversicherung) in order to be able to register as a student at TU Darmstadt.

Further information for [Degree-Seeking Students \(double degree\)](#) as well as [Exchange students from Non-European Countries](#) can be found on our website.

- The insurance coverage is for one full semester (winter semester: October 1 – March 31; summer semester: April 1 – September 30) and will automatically continue if not cancelled.
- Every German statutory health insurance charges the same rate for students. TU Darmstadt cooperates with the [health insurance “Techniker Krankenkasse” or “TK”](#).
- It is possible to sign up for health insurance in advance if you need a confirmation for the visa application.

September OR March:

- Travel Insurance: Students have to purchase travel health insurance for the times and places that are not covered by the health insurance of your home country and the statutory German health insurance.
- Students participating in the Orientation & Intensive German Language Course in September (winter semester) and March (summer semester) are not covered by the statutory German health insurance and therefore must buy additional travel insurance before the departure to Germany.

11. Accommodation

Accommodation in student dormitories is available, but cannot be guaranteed due to limited capacities. The unit in charge of room allocation is the [“Welcome and Housing Department”](#) offering assistance to international exchange students in finding adequate accommodation.

12. Arrival/Orientation/German language course

- The arrival day is the first working day in September or March.
- The orientation program “The Experience Weeks” or “X-weeks” for incoming exchange students start on the second or third working day in September (for the winter semester) and in March (for the summer semester). More information here: [website](#).
- Simultaneously with the X-Weeks, we offer a [4-week Intensive German language course](#) for all incoming students. The courses are free of charge. Additionally, continuing German language courses are offered throughout the semester (also free of cost).

13. Special Programmes

For the following programmes different application deadlines and regulations apply:

Double Degree:

- [Double Degrees with Escola Politécnica of the University of São Paulo](#)
- [Double Degree Mechanical Engineering \(FZD\) with Tongji University Shanghai](#)
- [Double Degree Material Sciences with Tongji University Shanghai](#)

Short-Term Programmes:

- [International Summer University \(ISU\)](#)
 - German Engineering and Language
 - Beginning of June to middle of July 2025
 - Two weeks virtual + four weeks in Darmstadt
 - Combination of engineering courses (mechanical or electrical track), company visits, intensive German language courses, social and cultural activities
 - www.tu-darmstadt.de/isu
 - summer@zv.tu-darmstadt.de
 - [International Research Experience Programme IREP](#) selected partners only
 - Research internship programme
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- Summer: End of May to beginning of August
 - Spring/Fall: April-June/October-Dezember
 - www.tu-darmstadt.de/irep
 - irep@zv.tu-darmstadt.de
 - [Automotive Engineering Summer Germany AESG](#) selected partners only
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