

Dear Master Students,

We warmly welcome you to the Saarland University and Saarbrücken. With this document, we would like to help your orientation to our university and adaptation to the city. Here you can find all steps you should follow after your arrival. We have also explained our lecture and exam systems, introduced our university facilities and included valuable information about the city life in Saarbrücken.

Computer Science Students' Representative Council

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Checklist for New Master Students

In general, these are the steps you will have to follow after arriving at Saarbrücken (please carry them out in the following order):

Registering at Residents' Registration Office (Bürgeramt) in Saarbrücken

If you will be staying in Germany for more than three months, you (and the members of your family) will need to register at the local Residents' Registration Office within one week after arrival. If you move to new accommodation within Germany, you must register at your new and deregister at your old place of residence. You must also deregister your residence status when you leave Germany.

In order to register, you will need to present:

- A valid passport or personal ID document (+visa if applicable)
- Written confirmation (Wohnungsgeberbestätigung) from your landlord or their agent that you will be resident at the specified address
- The lease contract (Mietübergangsvereinbarung)

After registering, you will get your residence certificate (Anmeldebescheinigung) which you will need to open a bank account. Keep the original document and give photocopies when needed, the next documents only issued with additional charge.

About six to eight weeks after registering, you will be sent a letter with your tax identification number (TIN). If you have an employment contract with Saarland University or one of the on-campus research institutes, please communicate your TIN to the university's Human Resources department.

More info: http://www.saarbruecken.de/rathaus/buergerservice/saarbruecker_buergeraemter

Important: We highly recommend the use of translating extensions on your browser. Most of the websites in this document are only in German and those extensions generally translate the whole page properly.

Opening a Bank Account

You will need a bank account with a German bank in order to pay your bills or to be able to rent a room in a student dormitory. We advise opening a 'Girokonto', which is equivalent to a British current account or an American checking account. Most banks in Saarbrücken offer current accounts, though conditions and prices may vary. For students a current account is usually free of charge.

Documents you'll need to open a bank account:

- A valid passport or personal ID document (+visa if applicable)
- A residence certificate (Anmeldebescheinigung) from the Residents' Registration Office (Bürgeramt) in Saarbrücken
- Certificate of enrolment at Saarland University (Immatrikulationsbescheinigung) (In some cases, admission letter may also be enough)

Important: To open a bank account, you will need to make an appointment at the bank which may be around a week after the application. Within this time, you may complete your online enrolment and get your certificate of enrolment.

Getting a German Health Insurance

You will need to submit proof that you have an adequate health insurance cover while enrolling at the university.

EU nationals

If you are a national of an EU member state and are already in possession of a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), you will not need to take out additional German health insurance. The EHIC applies to medical and health services within the entire EU region. You need to present your EHIC here in Germany to a public health insurance company (for example AOK, IKK, BARMER GEK) at university's location. After checking your insurance cover the health insurance company will issue the relevant health insurance certificate to present to the university.

Students from outside the EU

Students from countries outside the EU will need to purchase student health insurance cover from a health insurance provider in Germany, unless they are from a state which Germany has signed a Social Insurance Treaty.¹

There is a range of different health insurance companies who charge almost the same amount of monthly contribution (currently around 90 €) for master students. The services of the health insurers differ very slightly. The health insurance companies **AOK** (AOK Rheinland-Pfalz/Saarland), **IKK** (IKK Südwest), and **TK** (Techniker Krankenkasse) run offices at Saarbrücken Campus and are among the insurance companies which are known for excellent performance.

TK offers the possibility to prepare a document beforehand as a part of their customer service at the campus. They issue a certificate of health insurance by providing a soft copy, so you can upload it in the online enrollment database. This document is a provisional document, and you will fill in the membership request form after arriving here and opening a bank account. Further information can be found on English website (<https://www.tk.de/tk/english/610312>).

If you choose another insurance company, you can settle everything upon your arrival, they do not offer the possibility to prepare a document beforehand.

Enrolling with Saarland University

The enrolment has to be submitted by upload (for URL see on enrolment form) to the students' office enclosing the documents and evidence stated below. It is essential that you comply with the enrolment period stated in the admission notification. If the enrolment is not completed within this period the admission expires. Enrolment can only take place if all the necessary documents with the enrolment form (signed print out of the online enrolment form) be uploaded within the stated period.

The following documents have to be enclosed scanned to the enrolment form:

- A valid passport or personal ID document (+visa if applicable)
- The official admission letter issued by the Study Coordinator
- Online completed and signed enrolment upload

A guide can be found here (please choose the option without application number):

¹ The students from states which Germany has signed a Social Insurance Treaty need to present related documents to a public health insurance company at the university. In this case, the health insurance company will issue the relevant health insurance certificate to present to the university (i.e. students from Turkey may apply for the AT11 document in Turkey if they meet the requirements).

https://www.uni-saarland.de/fileadmin/user_upload/global/weltweit/in/guideline_online_enrollment.pdf

- Photo (passport size) jpg-format with minimum pixels 248 x 330.
- A certified copy of your Bachelor's certificate (English or German version)²
- Payment receipt of the summer semester fee.

The registration fee for winter semester 2018/2019 amounts to 277€ (which includes the free use of the public transport). The whole sum is to be transferred or paid in cash to "Saarland University's" account. Please state your first and last name as well as your date of birth in the reference field. Should you already know your enrolment number please state it to the very left of the first reference line. ("Universität des Saarlandes", IBAN: DE19 5919 0000 0000 33 0000; BIC: SABA DE 5 S) Students in their 55th year have to pay in addition to the semester contribution (277€) a fee of 400€ (a total of 677€), from which students for a "doctorate with prior graduation" only are exempt. The enrolment is only effective, when the complete amount of the fees has been paid. The transfer may take a few days due to bank processing time. Please consider bank transfer charge and do raise amount consequently. In case of cash payment, the fee can be paid from any branch (*except the one in the campus*) of Bank 1 Saar (additional charges may apply).

- A certificate of coverage from your health insurance company ([see 3](#)).
- If you had been registered to another university in Germany, a certificate of your removal from the register of students

Important: When you finish uploading all the required documents, you may go to the "Welcome Center" to ask if your enrolment is complete. Until you have an access to "LSF", Welcome Center may issue a certificate of enrolment (Immatrikulationsbescheinigung).

Additional info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/study/prospective/application/enrolment.html>
Enrollment: <https://bewerbung1.uni-saarland.de/qisserver/rds?state=wimma&stg=f&imma=einl>

Getting a Residence Permit

While a visa will allow you to enter Germany and stay for a period of up to 90 days, a temporary residence permit is required if you are planning to stay for longer than three months. If you are not an EU national, you will need to apply to the Foreigners' Registration Office (Ausländerbehörde) for a temporary residence permit. If you have entered Germany from a country, for which no visa was needed, you also have 90 days to request a residence permit.

Ideally, you should arrange an appointment six to eight weeks before your visa expires. To make an appointment with the Foreigners' Registration Office in Saarbrücken, please refer to the contact details provided. Please note: Staff at the Foreigners' Registration Office ONLY see visitors by appointment.

Address of Ausländerbehörde:
Lebacherstraße 6

² If the admission has been given by hochschulstart.de or for admission free degree courses:

For German student applicants and those with German entrance qualifications: Higher education access qualification; if applicable, endorsement attesting the recognition (for German applicants with higher education access qualifications from other countries or the former GDR) and if applicable certified German translations (not required if the students' office already has an up-to-date version of the application)

For foreign EU and EEA citizens: Higher education access qualification and the official German translation (not necessary for documents in English).

66113 Saarbrücken

Tel.: 0681 / 501-00

e-mail: auslaenderbehoerde@saarbruecken.de

The Foreigners' Registration Office is located near Ludwigskreisel (behind the Toyota car dealership)

– the reception desk is situated on the 2nd floor.

When you are notified about the date and time of your appointment, you will also be given a list of documents that you will need to bring with you. Generally the required documents are:

- A valid passport and visa
- 1 recent passport-size photo (biometric)
- The completed application form (generally provided during the application).
- Residence Permit application fee.
Students who have been granted a scholarship need to present proof of scholarship payment. Scholarship holders don't need to pay any fees.
- A copy of your confirmation of registration at the town hall (Meldebescheinigung)
- A copy of your lease contract
- A copy of your confirmation of registration at university ("Immatrikulationsbescheinigung")
- A copy of your health insurance certificate

Important: The officers at Foreigners' Registration Office do not prefer to speak English. It is highly recommended to go to the application with someone who speaks German well.

Lectures & Exams

LSF/HISPOS

The university portal for students is called LSF/HISPOS. Here students can see the overview of all lectures, schedule their study plan, view their confirmation of registration at university ("Immatrikulationsbescheinigung"), view their transcript of records and register for events (Seminars, Exams, Tests). To enter the LSF portal, students should use their university accounts (s8example@stud.uni-saarland.de) which will be given at the same time with the UdS ID cards.

Address: www.lsf.uni-saarland.de

While the LSF is the central system, there are several lecture systems: dCMS, RCMS, Cspa CMS, Moodle, Vipa and SZSB Courses-system lecture.

Registering for Exams

Students should register for their exams/re-exams on the LSF portal. The registering and unregistering is possible until 1 week before the exam. It requires iTAN, which will be obtained after following the steps on the mail of IT Desk informing how to get a new iTAN-List. To take part in the exam, generally it is compulsory to register for the exam. A registered student fails the exam if s/he fails by points or if s/he does not show up at the exam without a medical certificate.

Registering for Seminars

Students should register for seminars also on the LSF portal. The registering and unregistering is possible until 3 weeks after topic decision. It also requires iTAN.

Registering for Lectures

Registering for the lectures is usually possible in the first weeks of the semester on the related lecture systems.

University Facilities

The university offers several facilities to the students. The interactive map of the campus showing all the buildings and the rooms can be found here:

<https://www.uni-saarland.de/footer/dialog/anfahrt/lageplan/interaktiv.html>

Social Activities

- **Sports**

The University Sport offers a wide range of different sports at the “Herrmann Neuberger Sportschule” (right next to the campus). Some of them are for free whether the others require registration or payment.

More info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/institution/sports/saarbruecken/semesterprogram.html>

University gym: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/institution/sports/unifit.html>

- **Student Groups**

If you are interested in politics, religion, theatre or some other social activities, you may find some of the social (university) groups on the following links:

University: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/studium/im/campus/engagement.html>

ASTA: <https://asta.uni-saarland.de/links>

Eat & Drink

- **Mensa**

To supply the students with warm food, Mensa offers a selection of eight different meals each day. Students can select the set meal (3,10€) available at the stairwell ‘A’ serving point or the vegetarian meal (2,45€) that is on offer at the stairwell ‘B’ serving point. Stairs ‘B’ and ‘C’ take you up into the free-flow area where you can choose between a low-fat meal, a fish dish, a low-price one-course meal and vegetarian and regional dishes (their prices may vary).

Opening hours: Monday to Friday: 11.30 – 14:30 (14:15 on Friday)

The other places where students can get food from the „Studentenwerk“ is the Mensacafé (at the entrance floor of the Mensa building) and the Mensgarten (behind the building A 1.7).

The meals can be paid by the UdS student ID card. The money upload machines are located at the entrance floor of the Mensa building.

More info: <http://www.studentenwerk-saarland.de/en/Verpflegung/Mensa-Saarbrucken/Mensa-Essenausgabezeiten>

The “MenSaar” app shows the weekly menu at the Mensa: <https://mensaar.de>

- **iCoffee**

Besides the Mensa, the campus has several places to get food or to relax. The most preferred one by the computer science students is the iCoffee (in front of the building E 1.3), where you can get food (sandwiches, sweets etc.) and drinks (coffee, orange juice etc.).

- **Other**

There is also another coffee store at the Campus Centre, "Café Unique". Besides, there is the "Fast Food Heros" (for fast food), the "Ausländer-Café", the "PhiloCafe", the "Sportlertreff", the "Cafete im Audimax-Foyer", the "KHG-Café", "Starbooks Coffee", the "Juristen-Café" and an "EDEKA" (next to the "Fast Food Heros").

More info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/studium/im/campus/essen.html>

Important Offices

- **Card Office**

If you have any problems with your student ID card (cannot transfer money on it, it is not readable anymore, you lost your card etc.), you should go to the card office in the Campus Centre A 4.4.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 8:00 - 12:00

More info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/page/uds-card/karten-bueros.html?type=99%3Fty>

- **IT Service Desk**

If you have any problems regarding your UdS account (email, WLAN, VPN, iTAN-List etc.), you should go to the IT Service Desk which is located in the Campus Centre building A 4.4.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 - 12:00, 13:00 - 16:00

- **Examination Office**

If you have any questions regarding the lectures and exams or if you would like to submit your Bachelor/Master thesis, you should visit the examination office. It is located in the building E 1.3, Room 202. For the visit, you should get a ticket from the machine located at the entrance.

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday: 10:30 - 11.30

To download some important documents, to submit your thesis or to carry some of your credit points to another course of study, visit: (<http://www.ps-ntf.uni-saarland.de>)

- **Study Coordination**

Unlike the examination office, the study coordination helps students about decisions regarding their course of study ("Is this course of study right for me?") or study regulations. It is located at building E1.3 Room 209 (on the same floor as the examination office, located at the other side of the room).

Opening hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 13:00

FAQ: <https://saarland-informatics-campus.de/en/ueberuns-aboutus/the-department>

- **Central Student Advisory Service (Zentrale Studienberatung)**

The central advisory service helps students to decide what to study, to apply for a place on a degree course, about reorientation options (switching subjects, problems with studying or dropping out) and financing their studies.

More info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/study/advice/centre.html>

- **International Office**

The International Office is managing all aspects of Saarland University's international relations and activities as a central coordination and service unit. It manages the international exchange programmes and the university's academic partnerships. It is also the main contact whenever university management or the faculties require information on international issues.

More info: <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/international/profile/institutions/international-office.html>

Rooms

- **Library**

With the student card, you are allowed to rent a book from the computer science library (Building E2.3, open from Monday to Friday 8.00 – 20.00) and from the SULB (The Saarland University and State Library) (Building B1.1, open from Monday to Friday 9.00 – 21:00). The library is a common place for students wishing to study in a quiet place. In case of need, students may find some of the previous Bachelor/Master theses at the library.

CS Library: <http://www.infomath-bib.de/en/welcome.shtml>

SULB: <https://www.sulb.uni-saarland.de/>

- **CIP - Pools**

Students who does not have a Laptop may use one of the CIP-pools (for bioinformatics students, there are additional CIP-pools). (Building E1.3: Room 104, 012)

More info: <https://w3rbg.cs.uni-saarland.de/~aufsicht/index.html>

- **Lecture Halls**

The most commonly used lecture halls for computer science students are Günter-Hotz Hörsaal in the building E2.2, lecture halls in the building E2.5 (Math building) and the lecture halls in the building E1.3. Most of the tutorials take place in tutorial rooms of buildings E1.3 and E2.5.

- **Computer Science Students' Representative Council**

The room 109 in the building E 1.3 belongs to the Computer Science Students' Representative Council. The council is a committee of students representing the interests of the student body in different boards (e.g., faculty or examination boards), organizing social events (e.g., summer party, Christmas party, pub crawls), providing the free student printer and old exams, organizing orientation events for new students (StEP) and organizing job fairs (NEXT). (Events: fs-announce@cs.fs.uni-saarland.de, Jobs: jobs@cs.fs.uni-saarland.de, council public discussion list: fsr@cs.fs.uni-saarland.de)

More info: <https://cs.fs.uni-saarland.de/?lang=en>

- **Printer Room**

A service offered by the CS Students' Representative Council to the students of computer science and related study fields is the printer room located in E 1.3 Room 013. There, students can use the printer for free. Each student has a monthly limit of 80 copies, not used monthly limit sums up to 300 at most. Students may register for the printer using the printer machine or online (<http://ophelia.fs.uni-saarland.de>). To complete the registration process, students need to send their confirmation of registration at the university ("Immatrikulationsbescheinigung") to printer@cs.fs.uni-saarland.de.

The council also offers cheap printing and free binding of Bachelor/Master theses for relatively low prices. To use this service, students should send an email to printer@cs.fs.uni-saarland.de.

- **Notebook Rooms**

If you need a place to study or to work in groups, there are the notebook rooms 105, 106, 012 and 103 in the computer science department in building E1.3. In room 103/4, you have access to some of the monitors. The rooms are air conditioned.

- **Software**

All computer science students have access to the University Computer Science account on Microsoft Imagine (earlier: DreamSpark) where students can find some software offered for free (Visual Studio, Windows Licenses). Students who are interested in prototyping can also get a AXURE RP 9 license for free during the time of their Bachelor/Master.

A list of companies which offer free licenses can be found here: <http://freestudentsoftware.com>

City Life in Saarbrücken

Accommodation

- **Apartments offered by the Studentenwerk im Saarland e.V.**

Studentenwerk's dormitories are open to all Saarland University students. The dormitories in Saarbrücken and Homburg offer different kinds of accommodation: single apartments, rooms in shared housing („Dublette“) and family housing, all of them furnished. There are washing machines available in the common areas. Applications for all dormitories are only available online. The rooms are assigned on a first come first serve basis, which means there is always a waiting list.

Link: www.studentenwerk-saarland.de/en/Wohnen

Application: <https://tl1host.eu/SWSB/#home>

- **Private dormitories**

There are several private dormitories in Saarbrücken, which are not run by the Studentenwerk. These dormitories mostly offer furnished rooms, single or double apartments. To get a place in these dormitories, you need to apply directly with their administration:

The Carl Duisberg Haus: www.sib-saarbruecken.de/wohnen

Evangelische Studierendengemeinde: www.waldhausweg7.de

Verein Internationales Studierendennetzwerk „Cusanus-Haus Saarbrücken“ e.V.: www.cusanustreff.de

Saarland Bauträger Immobiliengruppe: www.studentenwohnungen-saarbruecken.de

Gesellschaft für Hausverwaltung mbH: www.gfhdudweiler.de

studioeins: www.studioeins.info

- **Private housing market**

While searching a flat in private housing market, please be aware of dubious methods. Fraudsters mainly use money transfer services, such as Western Union, to obtain security deposits. Do not accept prepayments without viewing. If an advertiser asks for a copy of your ID, this is a possible sign of fraud. Scammers use this later to pretend seriousness.

Usually students search on these web pages:

- www.wg-gesucht.de
- <http://saarbruecker-zeitung.immowelt.de/immobilien/immosuchedetail.aspx?geoid=10810041100&etype=1>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WG.Zimmer.Wohnungen.Saarbruecken/>
- www.freundlich-wohnen.de

- www.sib-saarbruecken.de
- www.htwsaar.de/service/wohnraumboerse/angebote
- www.immonet.de
- www.wg-gesucht.de
- www.studenten-wg.de
- www.easywg.de
- www.zwischenmiete.de
- www.studenten-wohnung.de
- www.studentenwohnungsmarkt.de
- www.wohnen-jetzt.de
- www.immowelt.de/provisionsfrei/wohnungen.aspx
- www.immo-suche.net/wohnungen-immobilien-saarbruecken.html
- www.immobilienscout24.de/wohnen/saarland,stadtverband-saarbruecken-kreis/wg-zimmer.html
- www.kleinanzeigen.ebay.de (Saarbrücken; Immobilien)

Transportation

- **Buses in Saarbrücken**

Saarbahn&Bus. This state-owned local company provides bus lines and a tramway. Depending on the line, buses run every 15 to 60 minutes. You can check the timetable [online](#). Also ticket prices are available [online](#). For mobile app:

Google Play: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=de.hafas.android.vgs&hl=en_US
 iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/ch/app/saarfahrplan/id574369626?l=en&mt=8>

Important: With the UdS Card you can use trains (RB, RE, VLEX) except long-distance ones (IC, ICE, TGV), buses and the SaarBahn in the entire Saarland and as far as to Trier by train and to Saargemünd by tram without any additional costs. The UdS card serves as a ticket. The prerequisite is that the saarVV logo and a stamp with the current semester are located in the lower part of the card.

- **Bicycle**

Used Bicycle Exchange: The ADFC Saar regularly offers bicycle exchanges in the summer months, where used bicycles can be sold and bought from private to private. The dates are the second Saturday of each month from April to September.

More info: <http://www.adfc-saar.de/joomla/index.php/fahrradboerse>.

Bicycle Shop at the University: The bicycle shop at the university in front of the KWT building offers bikes for a low prices.

- **Deutsche Bahn**

The Deutsche Bahn is responsible for the German train system, its website gives detailed information about train schedules and platforms, trips inside Germany, and prices. Passenger trains are classified according to their speed, the distance they cover, and the type of services.

Holders of a Bahncard receive a discount on all train fares within Germany. The card is only valid for the person it is issued to. (There are different types of BahnCards. Some BahnCards are automatically renewed for one year, unless they are cancelled no later than 6 weeks before the renewal date.)

The rule in Germany is that you buy a ticket before travel begins; otherwise, you will end up paying a higher fare or even a penalty (60€ or more). Bear in mind that ticket checks are routine, as each train usually has a team of staff rather than a single conductor. Tickets for train travel can be purchased from travel centers or booking offices at stations, authorized travel agencies (additional handling fee), ticket machines at stations (touch screen), timetable and tickets via the Internet.

- **mKart to travel to Luxembourg**

The mKart with „Studentenabo“ offered to students less than 30 years old and studying at Saarland University includes the use of the CFL Saarbrücken-Luxembourg Express (operated by the enterprise „Emile Weber“). Regularly the bus transfer to Luxembourg costs 9€ for one-way and 16€ for a day ticket. Students who would like to use the bus should apply for the mKart (with Studentenabo) and keep their student identity card (Studierendenausweis) with them. Also the local transport in the grand duchy of Luxembourg can be used for free by students who own the mKart with Studentenabo.

Details: (https://asta.uni-saarland.de/tl_files/Referatuploads/finanzen/AStA%20Luxembourg%20mKart.pdf)

- **Homburg Shuttle Bus**

The shuttle bus is free for students and employees, it runs three times a day. The schedule is displayed at the bus stop Mensa and online (AStA). The bus follows the route: Saarbrücken Rathaus > Campus Saarbrücken > Campus Homburg

- **Parking**

There are several tariffs depending on the student residence location and duration of parking. On campus; from Monday to Friday 7.00-17.00 one hour free, second hour 4€ and thereafter 2€/hour. Otherwise it is free. At parking garages P1 and P3; authorized students free, for others one hour free, thereafter 1€/hour and maximum 3€. In theory the following students are allowed to park **for free**; more than 45-minute commute by public and the students with certain disabilities. Following students are **excluded**; too close postal codes 66111, 66113, 66115, 66117, 66119, 66121, 66123, 66125, 66128, 66129, 66130, 66132, 66133, 66280, 66386; too far postal codes 00000-54199, 54550-55699, 55800-66110, 67000-76725, 77000-99999; foreign address, except France (Department Moselle) and Luxembourg.

Parking at campus, authorized students:

<http://www.uni-saarland.de/en/footer/dialogue/find-us/saarbruecken/car/parking.html>

Parking in the city:

http://www.saarbruecken.de/leben_in_saarbruecken/einkaufen/parken

Shopping Facilities

Larger shops and department stores in downtown Saarbrücken are open until 8pm Monday-Saturday and closed on Sunday. Be aware that some shops, especially smaller ones, may close before 8p.m. on Saturdays. Some bakeries are open until 11a.m. or 12noon on Sundays. Restaurants are, of course, open on Sundays, but most of them are then closed on Mondays. Pharmacies are separate stores and are not affiliated with grocery or drugstores. Prescription drugs are only available in pharmacies.

To search stores depending on area, category and payment method:

<http://www.einkaufen.saarbruecken.de/geschaefte>

- **Department Stores**

There main department stores in Saarbrücken are Karstadt and Galeria Kaufhof.

- **Malls**

The main malls that feature all kinds of stores in Saarbrücken are Europa Galerie and Saarbasar. Saarbasar is suitable for the people living in Eschberg while the Europa Galerie is located in the city center (next to the main train station). Unlike Saarbasar, Europa Galerie includes also an electronics store. The main shopping mile, the “Bahnhofsstrasse”, featuring 150 stores starts next to the Europa Galerie.

- **Grocery Stores**

The main grocery stores in Saarbrücken are Aldi, Netto, Lidl, Real, Edeka and Rewe. Also there are grocery stores in Europa Galerie and Saarbasar.

- **Hardware Stores**

The main hardware stores are Bauhaus, Obi and Hornbach.

- **Electronics Stores**

The largest electronics stores are Saturn and Media Markt.

- **Hairdressers**

There are a lot of hairdressers in Saarbrücken, but most of them expect you to have an appointment. Only a few accept drop-ins.

- **Order Takeaway**

There are several websites to order a variety of food:

<https://pizza.de>

<https://www.lieferheld.de>

<https://www.lieferando.de/en>

There are also several places where you can get food in the city after midnight. These stores are mostly located around the St. Johanner market in the middle of the city.

- **Markets**

If you like to buy some groceries, especially fresh vegetables on a market, there is a list of markets you may want to visit:

http://www.saarbruecken.de/leben_in_saarbruecken/einkaufen/maerkte

Mobile Phones and Internet

There are several companies in Germany offering mobile tariffs and internet services. Prepaid mobile tariffs does not require a contract and can be easily obtained by a valid passport or personal ID document. However, other mobile tariffs and internet services with a contract requires a valid bank account for the payments. The comparison between different options can be found in the given links below.

Mobile Phones: <https://www.verivox.de/handy/>

Internet: <https://www.verivox.de/internet/> (Enter the area code for Saarbrücken: 0681)

Fines

- **Registration**

If you move within a city/village, you have to go to the Registration office within one/two weeks after you moved into the new apartment. If not, a high fee can be set up as a punishment.

More information: <http://www.saarbruecken.de/en>

- **Internet**

German laws concerning file-sharing are pretty strict and clearly condemn any kind of file sharing activity related to copyrighted content. While both download and upload are condemned by law, in reality the uploading part of the process will result with a warning letter. Using services like torrent clients makes you automatically share the file you are downloading. This is why torrent and other P2P clients' users receive a lot of letters from German lawyers.

Since April 2017, users of illegal streaming services (also broadcasting of live events) can also get in trouble because of a decision from the European Court of Justice. However, unlike P2P, it's very difficult to identify users of such platforms as IP addresses are often not stored by these platforms in the long-term, making the enforcement unlikely. Only premium users can easily have identified.

Taxes

- **GEZ**

The GEZ is a fee, which every household in Germany have to pay. In general, you pay for the opportunity to watch TV (this does not mean that you can actually watch TV) and listen to the radio. The fee is 17,50€ per month (per household/flat, not per person). An exemption or reduction of the fee is possible if it is reasonable (or you are a Bafög Student).

More info: <https://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de>

Recycling

Germany has an elaborate system for separating trash. There are different categories you have to understand in order to recycle properly.

For more: http://www.wbc-coesfeld.de/fileadmin/WBC/downloads/infos/019_Sortieranleitung.pdf

Pfand Items: Items with a deposit ("pfand" in German). This includes most beer bottles, as well as other plastic and glass beverage bottles which are reused. Look for the pfand symbol to see if a bottle is returnable. Not all stores accept all bottles, the best is to try the store from which the item was purchased. Most stores nowadays have machines into which you feed the bottles. The machines scan the bar codes, check that the weight of the bottle is correct, and credit you for the deposit. When you're done it prints out a credit slip that you can give to the cashier when you check out.

Glass Outdoor Bins: Glass bottles with no deposit. This includes wine bottles, foreign beer bottles, any glass bottles used to store food, etc. These bottles have to be taken to large outdoor bins that are scattered around the city. Glass must be separated by colour (green, clear, and brown).

Blue Paper Bins: Individual buildings are given blue bins for paper and cardboard. They are emptied by the city once a month. If you don't have blue bins at your residence, take your paper and cardboard to the large outdoor bins that are located every couple blocks in the city centre (as well as on the university campus). This includes packaging materials of paper, board or paperboard, such as egg boxes, shoe boxes, pizza boxes, paper bags, sugar bags, cartons of: frozen food, pudding powder, cocoa powder confectionery and cigarette (without foil and plastic insert), newspapers, magazines,

books made of cardboard, file folders, brochures, exercise books, letters, envelopes, wrapping paper, towel, serviettes (little dirty), receipts, invoices, office documents (if any shred or tear before) and wallpaper offcuts (only paper, woodchip wallpaper).

Green Bio Bins (compost): Many apartments in Saarbrücken have a small green bin for compost (kitchen and yard waste). Compostable items include fruit and vegetable waste (including egg shells, coffee, and citrus fruits), paper towels and napkins, and garden waste including hardwood, hedge, and lawn cuttings, potted plants, and weeds. No bones, raw meat, animal waste and liquid waste.

Gelbe Sack: Any packaging that displays the green dot symbol can be put into the yellow bag (get from: <https://www.rmg-gmbh.de/gelber-sack/stadt-saarbruecken>). Items to be put in the bag include films (sausage, meat, cheese...), plastic bags cup (cream, yogurt, margarine...), plastic flowerpots containers, cans and tubes of dishwashing detergents, laundry detergents and personal care products, bucket, wall and facade paint, disposable tableware, foamed plastics (shells, polystyrene mouldings...) networks (potatoes, lemons...) packaging, metal beverage, canned food, paint cans tubes (mustard, creams, ointments...) closures, aluminium trays, aluminium foil packaging and composites, milk/drink cartons with film/aluminium-coated paper/cardboard packing (butter, cocoa), blister packs (batteries, toothbrushes...), wooden boxes (cheese, cigars...), earthenware bottles and pots (liquor, mustard).

Grey Household Trash Bins: These are the waste that cannot be utilized, such as sanitary paper, diapers, sanitary napkins, vacuum cleaner bag, small plastic products which are not packaging (toys, bowls, Painters film, toothbrushes, pens), small animal bedding (if not composted), ashes, garbage, cigarette stubs, ceramic, porcelain, mirror, bulbs, rags, duvets, heavily soiled packaging or paper-date and old wallpaper.

Medical waste is collected separately, pharmacies collect syringes.

Sightseeing

Sometimes you will just need a break from your studies. You can find a list of worthy places to see here:

Saarbrücken: <http://www.saarbruecken.de/en/tourism/saarbruecken/sights>

Saarland: <https://www.tripadvisor.de/Attractions-g187395-Activities-Saarland.html>