

Welcome Hoş geldiniz  
Добро пожаловать  
¡Bienvenidos Bienvenue  
Dobro došli Benvenuti  
Bem-vindos Mirësevini  
בהכים הבאים

## WELCOME IN CHEMNITZ

➤ Information for foreigners and migrants



CHEMNITZ  
STADT DER  
MODERNE

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## WELCOMING WORDS



Dear reader,

Chemnitz is a new city for you, in a new country. I would like to welcome you warmly.

The language, the culture, the people – they may still be quite foreign to you. But that should change quickly. Answers to the many questions that naturally arise at the beginning can be found.

This brochure is intended to serve as a guide and to provide you with information about which authorities will help you further and what you should be aware of in order to become a part of the city society more quickly. The staff of the city administration will gladly provide you with advice in various areas such as residence permits, housing, language, children and family or culture. In this brochure, you will find important addresses, contacts and information in order to find your way around your new home quicker.

I would like to encourage you to participate and to introduce yourself in life in Chemnitz. Then you will be able to discover surprising things in Chemnitz. Numerous associations and projects are dedicated to intercultural cooperation. There are events, meeting places and activities where different cultures, religions and nationalities show interesting perspectives of life, which make our city endearing.

I wish you a good start in Chemnitz!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Barbara Ludwig'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Barbara Ludwig  
Mayor

# CHEMNITZ



smac – Museum of archaeology



Town hall with Roland



Rosenhof



Playground at the Johannisplatz



Wasserschloss Klaffenbach



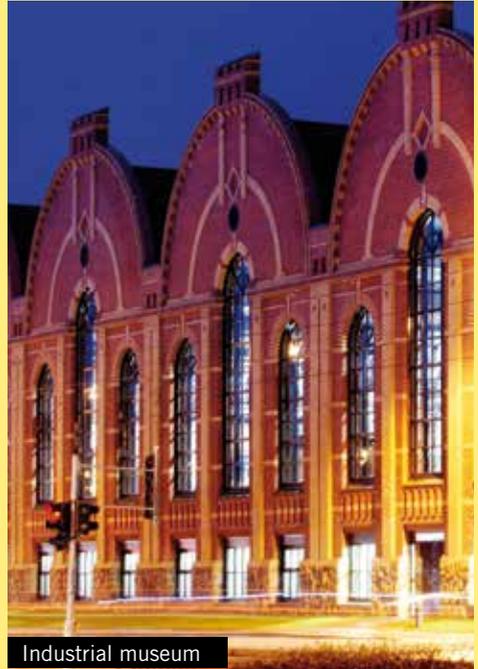
House TIETZ – petrified forest



Teenagers at the Karl Marx monument



Villa Esche



Industrial museum



City hall park



Auditorium building / Technical University



Sonnenberg

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# 1. A CITY INTRODUCES ITSELF

## City portrait

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### ➤ Tradition, that commits

Chemnitz can tell a unique story – from groundbreaking inventions in the automotive, engineering and textile industries as well as brave entrepreneurs such as Richard Hartmann, Carl Gottlieb Haubold or Louis Schönherr. As a modern industrial city, Chemnitz has continued to write such history and today it is one of the fastest growing cities in Germany. The city is a technological location with a focus on the automotive and supplier industries, information technology and mechanical and plant engineering. With its technology centre, it supports entrepreneurs and companies during start-up and development.

### ➤ Ingenuity that sets a precedent

Go your own way, be daring and ingenious, this recipe makes the city and its people successful: In Chemnitz, for example, the principles of the thermos flask or the first mild detergent were conceived, patented ideas as thousands more. Today, among other things, excellent machinery and production facilities are built here, which are used all over the world.

### ➤ Education and research that advances

The Technical University as an intellectual centre, the Smart System Campus as a dynamic network of micro-system technology competence, research institutes like the Fraunhofer Institute and successful mid-sized, for the most part family run companies, create the best prerequisites for an economic success story.

### ➤ Urban development solutions that make a name for themselves

Tradition and modernity are also reflected in exciting contrasts of urban development. Unique testimonies of Bauhaus and New objectivity or the Kassberg as one of the largest contiguous districts of the founding period in Europe inspire fans of architecture. As does the inner city of Chemnitz which has been newly designed in the last 20 years by internationally renowned architects such as Helmut Jahn, Hans Kollhoff or Christoph Ingenhoven.

### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz is one of the 30 largest cities in Germany?

## ➤ Young neighbourhoods that become urban

The next major project is already in the starting blocks: With the planned Inner-city campus, Chemnitz brings education and science into the heart of the city. The centrally located historic districts such as Brühl are developing into urban and young neighbourhoods with a high quality of living.

## ➤ Art and culture that people talk about

For lovers of the fine arts there is much to discover in Chemnitz: For example, the award winning Chemnitz art collections or the Gunzenhauser museum, which houses one of the most impressive collections of classical modernism. Meanwhile, the Sachsen Industrial Museum shows history and present.

The city theatres with their opera, drama, ballet and puppet theatre sections as well as the Robert Schumann Philharmonic attract visitors from all over Germany.

Also a detour to the more than 100 year old Town hall is well worthwhile: The monumental Klinger mural “Work – Prosperity – Beauty” can be admired in the City councillor hall.

Since 2013, the Council chamber has been decorated by the work “Die Abwägung” by Neo Rauch, one of the most important contemporary artists.

## ➤ Recreation areas that are diverse

For those who just want to relax, Chemnitz is also the right place: Recreation islands like the Schlossteich with the adjoining Küchwald invite you to stroll and linger just as the historical city park along the Chemnitz does.

## ➤ Famous people we are proud of

Many famous people were born or grew up in Chemnitz, including many sports stars such as figure skating queen Katarina Witt, national team footballer Michael Ballack, shot put champion David Storl or discus thrower Lars Riedel. Although not born in Germany, but matured in Chemnitz to become well known sports stars are for example the pair figure skating world champions Aljona Savchenko and Robin Szolkowy and the Olympic champion in weightlifting Matthias Steiner.

Also in the spectrum of art and culture are many names associated with Chemnitz: including the writer Stefan Heym, the painter Karl Schmidt-Rottluff, the Bauhaus icon Marianne Brandt or artists such as Carsten Nicolai.

Let Chemnitz surprise you, discover the city – it is well worth it!

### **Did you know,**

... that the German patent law was created in 1877 under the leadership of Chemnitz Mayor Wilhelm André? He wanted to protect the numerous inventions made in his city from imitators.

## Migration officer

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The Migration officer informs and advises foreign residents and supports departments on issues relevant to foreigners. You can get in touch with them with your concerns and questions, especially regarding foreigner specific issues.

Targeted projects are intended to facilitate integration for migrants, provide orientation, and sustainably promote tolerance and peaceful coexistence in the city. The Migration officer initiates and prepares such projects. In doing so, the officer works closely with private organisations or initiatives of migration work as well as with state and federal commissioners.

City of Chemnitz – Migration officer

Neubau an der Alten Post (New building at the old post office), Bahnhofstrasse 54 a  
09111 Chemnitz

Phone: 0371 488-5047

Fax: 0371 488-5099

Email: [migrationsbeauftragte@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:migrationsbeauftragte@stadt-chemnitz.de)

## Migration Advisory Council

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With the Migration Advisory Council, foreign residents of various nationalities living in the city of Chemnitz have a body that officially represents them and brings their concerns into local politics.

Since its appointment in 2002, the council has been dedicated to the interests of residents with a migrant background and at the same time to the tolerant coexistence of all citizens living in Chemnitz. All projects of the city that affect foreigners are submitted to the Migration Advisory Council before any decision is made. A representative of the Migration Advisory Council has the right to hear and speak on all matters concerning foreigners.

The Migration Advisory Council of the City of Chemnitz comprises five members of the city council and eight knowledgeable residents with a migration background.

Further information on the Migration Advisory Council can be found on the internet at [www.chemnitz.de](http://www.chemnitz.de).

You can contact the members of the Migration Advisory Council via the email address: [migrationsbeirat@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:migrationsbeirat@stadt-chemnitz.de).

### Did you know,

... that in Chemnitz since 2004, a Chemnitz peace prize has been awarded? The award recognises people or projects that are particularly committed to the integration of different cultures, tolerance, democracy and peacefulness in Chemnitz.

## 2. REGISTRATION AND RESIDENCE



### Registration formalities

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If you want to settle in Chemnitz, you must register at the

City of Chemnitz – Citizens office, Registration office  
Bürgerhaus Am Wall  
Düsseldorfer Platz 1 (2. floor)  
09111 Chemnitz

or at one of the citizen service points in the city area.

You only have to register if your stay in Germany will last more than 3 months. To do this, you need to bring your personal identification card or passport as well as a confirmation from your accommodation provider (landlord or owner of the property). You have 14 days to register. Appointments for the registration at the Bürgerhaus Am Wall can be arranged via the nationwide unified authority number 115.

At the end of the brochure you will find a checklist of other registrations that may be necessary for you.

### Information about the right of residence

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#### ➤ for Union citizens and EEA State members<sup>1</sup>

EU citizens and EEA state members only require a valid identity card or passport for entry and residence in the Federal territory. A visa or residence permit is not required. In the first three months from entry there is an unrestricted right of residence.

Thereafter, a so-called condition of freedom of movement must be met.

Those entitled to freedom of movement are:

- employed persons (self-employed or contracted),
- non-employed persons, if they have sufficient means of subsistence and health insurance coverage (e.g. students),
- family members (also from non EU/EEA countries) or
- permanent residents.

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<sup>1</sup> Ireland, Liechtenstein, Norway

#### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz was called “Sachsen Manchester” from about 1860? The reasons for this designation were the proud achievements of the machinery factories in Chemnitz, but also the many chimneys, the bad air quality and the poor living conditions of the workers.

Since 2013 a certificate from the Immigration authority on a given right of free movement no longer exists. All you need to do is register with the Registration office (unless you are here as a tourist).

## ➤ for third country nationals<sup>2</sup>

For the stay in Germany, a recognised and valid passport or passport substitute as well as a residence permit (visa, residence permit, settlement permit, EC long term residence permit, blue card) are required.

In the Federal territory, the Immigration authorities are responsible for issuing and renewing residence permits. In Chemnitz you can find the Immigration authority at the following address

City of Chemnitz – Bürgerhaus Am Wall  
Düsseldorfer Platz 1 (3. floor)  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 488-3434, -3371  
Email: [auslaenderbehoerde@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:auslaenderbehoerde@stadt-chemnitz.de)

Application forms are available there or on the Internet at [www.chemnitz.de](http://www.chemnitz.de). Please inform yourself about opening times and the possibility of making an appointment.

Residence permits are issued as an electronic residence permit (eAT). This is a multifunction card in credit card format. In a personal interview fingerprints are taken for this, a biometric passport photo is required and a signature is required.

If you are already in possession of an electronic residence permit and this is still valid, you can have the address changed when registering at the Registration office.

## ➤ Special rules for Swiss nationals

Swiss nationals have to report their stay within 3 months after entry to the Immigration authority. While they enjoy substantially the same rights as EU citizens, they need a residence permit for stays of more than 3 months. They can choose whether the residence permit is to be issued as an electronic residence permit (28.80 EURO) or only in paper form (8.00 EURO).

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<sup>2</sup> Foreigners who do not belong to EU, EEA or Switzerland

### Did you know,

... that the location of the Chemnitz petrified forest is unique? Nowhere else in the world can you find trees, plants and animals at the point where they were buried by volcanic ash.

# Information about the different residence permits

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## ➤ Temporary residence permit

The residence permit is always temporary. It is granted for the purposes of residence specified in the Aufenthaltsgesetz (Residence law) (family reasons, study and education, gainful employment, international law, humanitarian and political reasons). The legal basis is noted in the document.

Please apply for the extension of your residence permit in good time (approx. 6 months before expiry). A personal application is not required.

The issue (first time issue) should be requested immediately after entry.

If you entered without a visa, please ask for further clarification of the procedure at the information desk of the Immigration authority.

## ➤ Settlement permit

The settlement permit is indefinite and requires a legal residence of several years with residence permit or Blue Card EU as well as economic and social integration. Depending on the group of people, it is issued according to various legal principles.

## ➤ New issue of a residence permit when issuing a passport

If you have received a new passport, a new electronic residence permit must be issued. A personal interview is required to collect the biometric data.

Please make an appointment by calling 488-3410 or -3412 or by email [auslaenderbehoerde@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:auslaenderbehoerde@stadt-chemnitz.de).

You must bring the following documents to the interview:

- old and new passport
- a biometric photo
- previous electronic residence permit

A fee is payable for issuing your residence permit.

### **Did you know,**

... that the first Sachsen locomotives were built in Chemnitz? Previously, locomotives were bought from England.

# Information about naturalisation

## (Acquisition of German citizenship)

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### ➤ General

Foreigners are entitled to naturalisation after an eight year lawfully habitual residence.

Requirements for this are:

1. Possession of an unlimited or a (specific) temporary residence permit
2. Security of livelihood for themselves and dependent family members without claiming benefits according to SGB (Social security statute book) II and XII
3. Proof of sufficient knowledge of the German language (B1 according to the Common European framework of reference)
4. No criminal record
5. Commitment to the free democratic fundamental principles
6. Willingness to give up the previous nationality
7. Naturalisation test or completion of a secondary school or a comparable or higher school diploma from a German school of general education.

For specific conditions, there are exceptions (e.g. shorter periods of residence, criminal record, receipt of public benefits, citizenship test, etc.), which can be explained in a personal interview.

Due to the complexity of the legal situation, it is therefore always necessary to consult the Nationality authority before making an application:

City of Chemnitz – Bürgerhaus Am Wall  
Düsseldorfer Platz 1 (3. floor)  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 488-3430, -3431  
Email: Staatsangehoerigkeitsbehoerde@stadt-chemnitz.de

### ➤ Co-naturalisation

Spouses and children under the age of 16 may be co-naturalised according to the above mentioned requirements. It is sufficient for the spouse that he/she has been legally resident in Germany for at least four years and that he/she has had the marital partnership for at least two years. For children, shorter periods of residence are sufficient.

Young people from the age of 16 can apply for it themselves.

### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz has an open air theatre? On the Küchwaldbühne, theatre performances and various events take place from May to November.

## ➤ Foreign spouses of German nationals

Spouses of German nationals can be naturalised.

The legally customary residence in the country must last at least three years. The marriage must have existed for two years and the spouse must have been at least two years a German national.

Naturalisation applicants must have their main residence in Chemnitz. A formal, written request is to be submitted. The civil status is generally to be proven by civil status documents. Foreign documents must be translated by a publicly appointed and sworn interpreter. Which other documents are required in individual cases and which fees are charged will be explained in a personal interview.

### NOTE

Children can also obtain German citizenship if they are born in Germany.

All children of foreign parents born in the Federal Republic of Germany from 01.01.2000 onward are automatically German nationals if, at the time of birth, the father or mother of the child

- a) has been legally a resident in Germany for at least eight years uninterrupted and
- b) has an unlimited right of residence under the Aufenthaltsgesetz (Residence law), the Freizügigkeitsgesetz (Free movement law)/EU or a residence permit due to the agreement regarding the free movement of persons between the European Community and its Member States on the one hand and the Swiss Confederation on the other hand.

The examination, whether the mentioned conditions are fulfilled or not, is assumed by the Chemnitz Registry office with the registration of your child. If these are fulfilled, the child is a German citizen and the Registry office will issue a corresponding notification.

At the same time the child can maintain the nationality of the parents. If the child is of legal age, it must choose a nationality. This decision is called option obligation. Affected option holders will be informed at the age of 18 by the Nationality authority. When deciding on German citizenship, until the age of the 23, the foreign nationality must be given up (resignation or dismissal). If this is not done, an automatic loss of German citizenship is possible. You will also be notified by the Nationality authority regarding exceptions.

### Did you know,

... that you can practice 80 different sports in Chemnitz? The variety of sporting activities ranges from American football to water polo. You can find more information at [www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/kultur-freizeit/sport](http://www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/kultur-freizeit/sport).



## 3. LIVING

### Housing search and housing agency

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Chemnitz offers a suitable living environment for every taste, whether living in the countryside or in the city centre of Chemnitz. The 39 districts above all have one thing in common: The people in Chemnitz live in a family-friendly way and can be sure of short distances for shopping or to kindergarten and school.

You can search for a home, for example, by means of the newspaper, the internet or directly from the landlord. If you need help with the search for a place to live, the Social welfare office of the City of Chemnitz is available to help you.

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Department of Migration, Integration, Housing  
Neubau an der Alten Post, Bahnhofstrasse 54 a  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 488-5035  
Email: [sozialamt.unterbringung@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:sozialamt.unterbringung@stadt-chemnitz.de)

### Rent and cost of accommodation

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The rent of a place to live is usually composed of a basic rent and the “cold” and “warm” operating costs. Cold operating costs are to be paid for, and include among other things, cold water, caretaker, elevator, chimney sweep. These costs are distributed among all tenants of the building. Warm operating costs are to be paid for, and include among other things, heating and water heating. All operating costs are usually paid in advance per month, and once a year, settlement takes place.

In Germany, there are regulations regarding the noise volume in rental housing. The noise volume within the home should be such that noises from one home should not be clear or be barely perceptible in a neighbouring home. Between 22:00 and 06:00 a night rest is to be observed, which prevents disturbances of the tenants of a building. If you are bothered by the noise of other tenants, you can contact your landlord.

#### **Did you know,**

... that Chemnitz is the third largest city in eastern Germany?

You can apply for housing allowance for your home. Whether a claim exists is determined by examining your income situation. If you have any questions about the housing benefit or want to make an application, please contact

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Customer portal Social benefits  
Moritzhof (Ground floor)  
Bahnhofstrasse 53  
09111 Chemnitz  
Email: [soziale.leistungen@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:soziale.leistungen@stadt-chemnitz.de)

You can find information at [www.chemnitz.de](http://www.chemnitz.de).

### **Did you know,**

... that the important Art nouveau architect Henry van de Velde worked several times for Chemnitz manufacturers? Three of the villas designed by him and their furnishings have been preserved to this day: Esche-Villa, Körner-Villa und die interior design of the Villa Quisisana.

## 4. LANGUAGE SUPPORT

### Language support for children and adolescents

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Newly immigrated children and adolescents aged 6 to 18 years are admitted to preparatory classes or preparatory classes with professional practical aspects. Further details can be found in chapter 6 in the section “Integration of children with a migration background”.

Furthermore, unaccompanied minor refugees (who are children and adolescents under the age of 18 who enter Germany alone and without a legal guardian) are given the opportunity to find help with orientation in a foreign country. This includes mainly the teaching of the German language, but also the socio-pedagogical care of the young people.

The care is given by means of

AGIUA Migrationssozial- und Jugendarbeit e. V.  
Müllerstrasse 12  
09113 Chemnitz  
Email: [umf@agiua.de](mailto:umf@agiua.de)

### Language support for adults

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#### ➤ Integration language courses

The integration course offer is aimed at all eligible and obligated new immigrants who live permanently in Germany and speak only little or no German. Likewise, foreigners living longer in Germany can be obligated.

If you are entitled or obligated to participate, you will receive a corresponding certificate from the Immigration authority, the Social welfare office or the Job centre as well as a current list of course providers in Chemnitz.

The general integration course consists of a language course with 600 hours of teaching and an orientation course with 100 hours of teaching.

In the language course you will learn the vocabulary you need to speak and write in everyday life.

The orientation course informs you about life in Germany and provides knowledge about the legal system, culture and recent history.

#### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz is rich in stone? After the volcanic eruption 290 million years ago (today's Zeisigwald), many of the trees were petrified. Part of it can be visited in the house Das TIETZ or on the excavation site on the Sonnenberg.

There are full-time and part-time courses. At the end of an integration course there is a final test, which consists of a language test and the test “Living in Germany”. If you pass both tests, you will receive the “Integration course certificate”.

This knowledge is required, among other things, if you want to obtain an unlimited right of residence in Germany. In the case of an intended naturalisation, you may then be naturalised earlier. In addition, the German skills acquired will increase the chances on the job market.

**Integration courses** are financed by the state. The Aufenthaltsgesetz (Residence law) provides for different regulations for participation and costs. Information on whether you can participate in an integration course in principle, what you have to pay for the course and how to enrol in a course is available from the Federal office for migration and refugees (Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge – BAMF):

Otto-Schmerbach-Strasse 20  
09117 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0911 943-72799  
Fax: 0911 943-99699  
Email: CHE-Integrationsbearbeitung@bamf.bund.de

You can find further information at [www.bamf.de](http://www.bamf.de).

## ➤ German for work

In order to find work and be successful at your job, a good knowledge of German is important. There are therefore special courses in which you can learn work related German.

The BAMF offers the courses “German for work” free of charge for people with a migration background. The courses combine German lessons, vocational training and the opportunity to get to know a profession by means of an internship.

In addition to the courses funded by the BAMF, there are also other German courses for jobs. For these you often have to pay a participation fee. It is worthwhile to look closely and compare, because the contents of the courses are often very different. Always choose the course that best suits your needs.

You can find further details at [www.bamf.de](http://www.bamf.de).

### **Did you know,**

... that there has been a law in the Federal Republic of Germany since 1 April 2012 which allows the recognition of degrees acquired abroad?

## ➤ Other possibilities for language training

In addition, there are currently German courses that are funded by the **Sachsen state language support** – Integration measures directive. These include the literacy courses, “German immediately” and “German qualified”. In Chemnitz, there are several German course providers who offer such courses. Information can be obtained from the Social welfare office and on “KURSNET” of the Federal employment agency.

<http://kursnet-finden.arbeitsagentur.de/kurs/>

The **Job related German language training (DeuFöV)** is implemented by BAMF and builds directly on the integration courses. In the integration courses, immigrants learn German everyday language. In the following job related language and further qualification modules, job seeking migrants and refugees are continuously prepared for the job market. For more information about participant access requirements, please contact BAMF or use the website:

[www.bamf.de/DE/Willkommen/DeutschLernen/DeutschBeruf/Bundesprogramm-45a/bundesprogramm-45a-node.html](http://www.bamf.de/DE/Willkommen/DeutschLernen/DeutschBeruf/Bundesprogramm-45a/bundesprogramm-45a-node.html)

Some associations offer **voluntary German language courses** where predominantly the basic principles of the German language are taught. These courses are free. Some courses are specifically oriented for women. These courses also offer childcare during the German course. Up to date information can be obtained from the Migration officer or the Social welfare office.

### Did you know,

... that the Robert Schumann Philharmonic does not just play in the Opera House or in the Stadthalle? Several times a year concerts are held at unusual locations: e.g. in the open air on the Theaterplatz, in the meadow at the Schlosskirche, in the “Pumpwerk eins” and in the State museum of archaeology.

## 5. TRAINING AND WORK



### Recognition of foreign professional qualifications

If you have completed a school or university education in your home country, this is a great advantage when starting a career in Germany.

Vocational recognition means the assessment and, in the case of a positive decision, the confirmation of the equivalence of a foreign vocational qualification with a German degree. In a legally regulated procedure, it is examined whether your education is equivalent to a comparable German education and whether a vocational recognition can be granted.

Vocational recognition is helpful in many professions. In some professions it is even a prerequisite for practising the profession in Germany. This depends on the profession:

In **regulated professions** you need recognition of your professional qualifications in order to practice the profession or to have the professional title. Without such a recognition, you are not allowed to work in Germany in these professions with your vocational qualification obtained abroad. In Germany regulated professions are for example doctor, nurse, lawyer, teacher, educator and engineer.

The database of all professions currently regulated in Germany can be found at [www.berufenet.arbeitsagentur.de/berufe](http://www.berufenet.arbeitsagentur.de/berufe).

In **non-regulated professions** a recognition is not a mandatory requirement for the practice of the profession. In these professions you can apply and work directly in the job market. However, an assessment of your degree would be useful in helping employers and companies understand your foreign qualifications. In addition, a degree recognised as equivalent provides access to continuing vocational training. In Germany, all so-called training occupations are not regulated, i.e. the occupations that are taught in the dual system. A list of all training occupations in Germany can be found here: [www.bibb.de](http://www.bibb.de)

To see whether you need recognition, if you want to work in your chosen profession, check the website [www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de](http://www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de).

#### Did you know,

... that in the 18th century foreign merchants ensured that Chemnitz became the centre of the textile industry? They supplied low cost cotton and bought semi-finished and finished products. The Schlossberg Museum displays 7 portraits of Macedonians.

## Vocational training and job placement

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If you are looking for a job or training, you can get help from the

Employment agency  
Heinrich-Lorenz-Strasse 20  
09120 Chemnitz

In particular, the Employment agency is responsible for vocational counselling as well as employment and training placement services and employment promotion.

It causes the payment of financial benefits such as unemployment benefit, vocational training allowance or rehabilitation benefits.

The benefits of employment promotion exist for example, in vocational training, the payment of subsidies to wage and integration costs or start-up, the employment and career promotion for disabled people or the so-called job creation measures.

Vocational training for disadvantaged young people (e.g. in a non-company institution) can be promoted as vocational training or as educational support.

The family funds of the Employment agency pay child benefit and child supplement on application.

You can find further information at [www.arbeitsagentur.de](http://www.arbeitsagentur.de).

## Your rights as an employee

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### ➤ Work permit

Whether you can work or not depends on your nationality and residence status. Information can be provided by the Immigration authority and the Employment agency and advice centres.

### ➤ Employment contract

Always, any employment requires an employment contract. It is always advisable to conclude a **written** employment contract!

### ➤ Salary

The salary is always to be documented on a pay slip. Gross and net wages and all allowances and deductions are listed in detail. Wage allowances can be, for example, child benefit. Deductions are made for unemployment insurance, pension insurance and health insurance. Taxes are levied on the salary.

### Did you know,

... that the Grüna head forester Ernst Georg August Baumgarten invented the first steerable airship before Count Zeppelin in the 19th century? The first successful take off took place on 30.07.1879 in Grüna.

## ➤ Working hours

In most German companies the employees work 40 hours a week. The number of hours worked depends on the employer, the tasks and the sector. The working hours are determined in the employment contract.

## ➤ Leave entitlement

According to the Bundesurlaubsgesetz (Federal leave law), the paid leave is at least 24 working days per calendar year (6 day week). If a 5 day week has been agreed with the employee, the statutory minimum leave entitlement is 20 working days. The statutory minimum leave entitlement is mandatory. Of course, more can be agreed with the employee at any time.

## ➤ Probationary period and termination

An employment relationship is usually preceded by a probationary period. This can be agreed in the form of a temporary trial working period contract. The employment relationship ends automatically after the trial period has ended. The temporary probationary relationship converts into an indefinite employment relationship, if the continuation of employment after the expiration of the probationary period is agreed in advance or the employment is continued by mutual tacit agreement. Temporary employment contracts must be concluded in writing.

Permanent employment contracts may include a probationary period of no more than six months. Within the probationary period, the employment relationship may be terminated with notice of two weeks.

The period of notice is generally determined by the employment contract. Employers may not terminate employees if they are in one of the following situations: Illness or accident, pregnancy, maternity protection, parental leave.

Terminations must be declared in writing to the other party.

Employees have the right to a certificate of employment (written assessment).

## ➤ What to do if you are unemployed?

The job seeker or unemployed report should be registered as soon as possible at the Employment agency after becoming aware of the impending unemployment. In order to receive unemployment benefit, it must be demonstrated that the eligibility requirements are met.

### **Did you know,**

... that the Kassberg has a "cellar" ? Since 1531, over the centuries, 4 km of tunnels and cellars have been cut in the steep slope on the Chemnitz to store beer, wine, vegetables, but also materials for factories. During the 2nd World War, the people were able to take refuge there from the bombs. A part of these vaulted passages can be visited again today.

## Business start-up and self-employment

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Do you want to start your own business? Prepare a self-employment start-up well.

For a start-up consultancy in Chemnitz you have an extensive network of advice centres available, which can be used free of charge and without a lot of paperwork. As self-employed you must voluntarily insure yourself (health insurance) and transfer your taxes yourself to the appropriate tax office in Chemnitz. It is possible to take out voluntary unemployment insurance. Self-employed or freelancers should definitely be covered by a private disability pension. In order to secure your old age provision, it is advisable to conclude a contract for private pensions.

Contacts for the path to self-employment can be:

Chamber of trade Chemnitz  
Limbacher Strasse 195  
09116 Chemnitz  
[www.hwk-chemnitz.de](http://www.hwk-chemnitz.de)

Chamber of commerce Chemnitz  
Strasse der Nationen  
09111 Chemnitz  
[www.chemnitz.ihk24.de](http://www.chemnitz.ihk24.de)

Employment agency (Employer service)  
Heinrich-Lorenz-Strasse 20  
09120 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0800 4555520  
Email: [chemnitz.arbeitgeber@arbeitsagentur.de](mailto:chemnitz.arbeitgeber@arbeitsagentur.de)

Network integration through qualification  
[www.netzwerk-iq.de](http://www.netzwerk-iq.de)

### NOTE

Please note that you must be allowed to work as self employed with your residence permit. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the Immigration authority.

## 6. FAMILIES



### Childcare day facilities

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Children can visit a kindergarten in Chemnitz. Nursery schools, kindergartens, childminders or day nurseries are available from the local authority as well as at independent and private institutions. Child care can be arranged from the 9th week until the end of nursery. For pre-school age, nursery school, childminder or kindergarten with a supervision time up to max. 11 hours a day are available. For school age, children can be cared for daily up to max. 6 hours.

For the use of a place in a nursery, parental contributions are charged. These can be partially or completely waived. The basis for the calculation is the respective income situation of the family. For advice on how to apply and how to apply for a place in a municipal institution, please contact:

City of Chemnitz – Office for youth and family  
Department of child day care facilities, day care  
Moritzhof  
Bahnhofstrasse 53  
09111 Chemnitz

Registration, forms and further information can be found on the website of the day care centre portal of the City of Chemnitz [www.chemnitz.de/kinderbetreuung](http://www.chemnitz.de/kinderbetreuung).

Of course, children can also be registered in day care centres of independent providers. The registrations, changes and de-registrations for places in child daycare facilities of independent providers take place on site at the institution or likewise via the Kita-Portal [www.chemnitz.de/kinderbetreuung](http://www.chemnitz.de/kinderbetreuung).

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Enrol your child early for a place in a day care centre. There your child will receive much better support in the German language and will be better prepared for attending school. You can contact one of the migration counselling centres at any time if you have problems with the kindergarten place.

#### **Did you know,**

... that there are 140 day care centres and 96 children's day care centres in Chemnitz?

## Entry to school

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In Sachsen there is compulsory education for all children and adolescents who are domiciled or habitually resident or have training or work places in Sachsen.

### ➤ Registration

All children who complete their sixth year of age by 30 June of each year are to be enrolled in the primary school responsible for the school district. Children who will be 6 years old from 1 July to 30 September can be registered. In this case, the written request for early school admission must be submitted to the school headmaster of the responsible primary school.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

When registering, the signature of both parents is necessary. For single parents, the certificate of custody must be presented. If parents wish to visit a privately run school, they must still first register at the primary school responsible for the school district.

### ➤ Integration of children with a migration background

In order to enable the fastest possible integration of children with a migration background in schools in Sachsen, there has been a special concept since the beginning of the 90s. This Sachsen concept for the integration of migrants in the school area is founded in the Sachsen curriculum for preparatory groups, preparatory classes and preparatory classes with practical aspects, German as a second language (DaZ).

For children with a migration background at general and vocational schools in the Free State of Sachsen, school integration takes place in the following three stages:

1. Education in preparatory classes (at selected primary and secondary schools as well as at grammar schools),
2. Education in preparatory classes as well as partial integration into regular classes (at selected primary and secondary schools as well as grammar schools) and
3. additional support in regular classes in all schools, especially in the German language.

If necessary, ask at the kindergarten or school if there are any support opportunities for your child. Many schools also offer native language lessons, homework help and more.

If there are any special costs associated with going to school (e.g. transport, school trips, etc.), you can apply for benefits. This is to take into account the special needs of children. Contact the school of your child if you have any questions.

### Did you know,

... that children who grow up multilingual have a right to claim that the school recognises and promotes this language potential as talent potential? That is why there is native language instruction in 12 languages among other things.

Further information can be obtained from the Sachsen education agency.

Sächsisches Landesamt für Schule und Bildung  
Saxon State Office for School and Education  
Annaberger Strasse 119  
09120 Chemnitz  
Email: [poststelle@lasub.smk.sachsen.de](mailto:poststelle@lasub.smk.sachsen.de)  
[www.lasub.smk.sachsen.de](http://www.lasub.smk.sachsen.de)

## Entry into vocational training

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After school your children can start vocational training. In Germany, for the most part there is a dual system of vocational training. This means that school and practical training parts alternate and are coordinated with each other. The application is made directly to a training company or via a referral of the Employment agency. For this purpose, the career advice of the Employment agency is available.

More information available at:  
[www.arbeitsagentur.de](http://www.arbeitsagentur.de)

To prepare for an apprenticeship you can also complete a Berufsvorbereitungsjahr – BVJ (vocational preparation year). The placement takes place via the school or the Employment agency. By means of the BVJ, the students can fulfil their compulsory education and at the same time acquire their school leaving qualification. The BVJ teaches basic vocational knowledge in one or more occupational groups. It therefore also serves the vocational orientation, in addition to the expansion of the general education and the acquisition of basic key qualifications, which should lead to a better educational maturity. With the one year BVJ, compulsory education ends even if the final exam was not passed.

## Educational opportunities via the second educational path

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School education can also be provided for adults who thereby can significantly improve their chances in the labour market. The following options are available:

### ➤ Evening school

You can also obtain a secondary school diploma at evening school. The prerequisites for this are that you have completed compulsory education (9 years) and compulsory school attendance (3 years) or completed BVJ or social or ecological year (at least 1 year). In addition, you must be at least 18 years old. Furthermore, you may not already have the desired certificate or equivalent or have taken the exam to obtain the desired qualification twice without success.

### Did you know,

... that there are about 17,000 media items (books, CDs, DVDs, newspapers, etc.) in 35 languages in the Chemnitz city library? Among them are many aids for language learning, also for German as a second language. There are also language learning games there.

Information about the evening school, information about the necessary application documents, deadlines and contact information can be found at [www.abendmittelschule-chemnitz.de.tl](http://www.abendmittelschule-chemnitz.de.tl).

## ➤ Evening secondary school

You can also obtain the general higher education entrance qualification at the evening secondary school Chemnitz. For this you must have a secondary school diploma. You must be at least 18 years of age, have vocational training or be able to prove a minimum of two years of employment.

Information about the evening secondary school, the necessary application documents, deadlines and contact information can be found at [www.abendgymnasium-chemnitz.de](http://www.abendgymnasium-chemnitz.de).

The training courses on the second educational path are free of charge and there is free supply of educational material.

Some adult education centres in Sachsen offer the opportunity to acquire the school leaving or secondary school certificate later on a full time basis. The exams are then taken at assigned secondary schools.

The degrees of the general education schools in Sachsen can be acquired after independent preparation also by an external school examination (also called external or non-school examination). Adult education institutions, e.g. adult education centres or private educational institutions offer preparatory courses for the examination. The respective exam consists of a written and an oral part and takes place once a year. The application for admission must be submitted to the responsible regional office of the Sachsen Education Agency.

## Studying in Chemnitz

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Currently at the Technical University (TU) Chemnitz more than 11,000 students are studying in 8 faculties. At the university you can acquire a bachelor or master degree or study the teaching profession.

If you intend to study at the Chemnitz Technical University, you can obtain comprehensive information from the student secretariat.

TU Chemnitz  
Strasse der Nationen 62  
09111 Chemnitz

After arriving in Chemnitz, every new international student can register for the **Sponsorship programme of the International University Centre IUZ** at (Bahnhofstrasse 8, Room G206a). Here, all students receive important information about enrolment as well as useful information on the further course of studies.

### Did you know,

... that the Technical University of Chemnitz offers readings for children between 7 and 12 years? These readings are free of charge. Registration is not necessary.

The project “**Welcome to the TU Chemnitz**” (Bahnhofstrasse 8, G103) is aimed at students interested in studying and students who have fled to Chemnitz. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) supports this project as part of the programme “Welcome – Students are committed with refugees”. Following this principle, the project will be coordinated by the IUZ, but will be run “by students for (future) students”.

Phone: 0371 531-33072 or

Email: [refugeeswelcome.projektkoordination@tu-chemnitz.de](mailto:refugeeswelcome.projektkoordination@tu-chemnitz.de).

You can find further information at [www.tu-chemnitz.de](http://www.tu-chemnitz.de).

### **Did you know,**

... that the Chemnitz School Theatre Week will take place for the 20th time in 2018? Every year in March or April, school theatre groups from Chemnitz and the surrounding areas show their skills on the stages of the playhouse for one week. In June 2018, the “Sachsen student theatre meeting” festival will take place for the first time in the Chemnitz Opera House.



## 7. SOCIAL SECURITY

### Basic benefits for job seekers

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If required, you will receive basic benefits for job seekers at the Job centre.

The Job centres are the regional institutions in which the Employment agency and the municipalities jointly implement basic income (unemployment benefit II). Case managers at the Job centre look after and advise job seekers who receive unemployment benefit II. They support them in finding a job. At the disposal of the Job centres are also the services of employment promotion, as provided by the agencies for work. The goal is to be able to earn a living on their own in the future.

You can find further information at [www.jobcenter-ge.de](http://www.jobcenter-ge.de).

Other social benefits, such as benefits for old age or disability, but also for children and adolescents, such as benefits from the education and participation package, federal parental allowance and state upbringing benefit or the ChemnitzPass can be obtained from the Social welfare office depending on your personal situation.

You can find further information at [www.chemnitz.de/soziales](http://www.chemnitz.de/soziales).

### Benefits for asylum seekers and special services for children and adolescents

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You can apply for benefits under the Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (Asylum seekers benefits law) if you have one of the following residence permits:

- Temporary resident permit
- Exceptional leave to stay
- Residence permit
  - pursuant to § 23 para. 1 or § 24, § 25 para. 4 sentence 1 of the Aufenthaltsgesetz (Residence law) (AufenthG) or
  - according to § 25 of the AufenthG (Residence law), unless the decision to suspend the deportation was made 18 months ago
- or you are obligated to leave and this is enforceable.

The services include among other things: Money for food, clothing, housing and heating. Furthermore, you will receive pocket money for your personal needs of daily life.

#### **Did you know,**

... that there are 92 public playgrounds and leisure facilities for children and adolescents in Chemnitz?

You can also apply for the ChemnitzPass.

For children and adolescents, special benefits can be requested, such as for school trips, food money in school and kindergarten and school materials.

The benefits can be requested at the

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Department of migration, integration and housing  
Neubau an der Alten Post, Bahnhofstrasse 54 a  
09111 Chemnitz

## ChemnitzPass

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If you receive benefits from the Job centre or are entitled to benefits under the Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (Asylum seekers benefits law), you can apply for the ChemnitzPass for yourself and your children at the Social welfare office. With this you pay less in different museums, cultural, sports and leisure facilities.

The ChemnitzPass and an overview of all discounts are available at the

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Customer portal Social benefits  
Moritzhof  
Bahnhofstrasse 53  
09111 Chemnitz  
Email: [soziale.leistungen@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:soziale.leistungen@stadt-chemnitz.de)

Bring your notice of performance from the Job centre or the Social welfare office and a photo for each child. Adults do not need a photo.

## 8. EXPERIENCE INTERCULTURAL CHEMNITZ

### Counselling services

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Chemnitz is a city in which currently about 17,600 foreigners live (as of 30.06.2017). That is about 7% of the inhabitants of the city. There is a wide range of special counselling and meeting facilities that support and accompany migrants in their integration into our city.

In addition, a number of migrant self-organisations, associations, religious communities have formed, which also promote the integration of the migrant communities living in Chemnitz, but also provide space and opportunity to cultivate the native culture, language and religion and pass it on to the next generation.

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Department of Migration, Integration, Housing  
Neubau an der Alten Post, Bahnhofstrasse 54 a (2. OG)  
09111 Chemnitz

For the support of the initial integration, you can contact the Migration Advice Centres for adult immigrants of the

Arbeiterwohlfahrt Kreisverband Chemnitz e. V.  
Migration Advice for Adult Immigrants  
Max-Müller-Str. 13  
09123 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 2677572  
Email: [mbe@awo-chemnitz.de](mailto:mbe@awo-chemnitz.de)

as well as the

Caritasverband für Chemnitz u. Umgebung e. V.  
Migration Advice Centre for Adult Immigrants (MBE)  
Augustusburger Str. 21 b  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 2607882  
Email: [migration-mbe@caritas-chemnitz.de](mailto:migration-mbe@caritas-chemnitz.de)

#### **Did you know,**

... that in June 2017 in Chemnitz the German road cycling championships took place? The competitions were held over three days. 25,000 spectators cheered on the 420 athletes who started. The winner of the men's race was Marcus Burghardt from Zschopau.

The integration of young people with a migrant background is supported by the

Arbeiterwohlfahrt Kreisverband Chemnitz e. V.

Youth Migration Service (JMD)

Wiesenstrasse 10

09111 Chemnitz

Phone: 0371 67426-12 , -11, -13

Email: [jmd@awo-chemnitz.de](mailto:jmd@awo-chemnitz.de)

Voluntary return to home countries is supported by the Return counselling centre

DRK Kreisverband Chemnitzer Umland e. V.

Return counselling

Zwickauer Strasse 432

09117 Chemnitz

Phone: 0371 84208-12

Email: [freiwillige-ausreise@drk-chemnitzer-umland.de](mailto:freiwillige-ausreise@drk-chemnitzer-umland.de)

For returnees who live in initial reception facilities, two mobile teams are responsible.

These can be contacted with the telephone numbers: 0152 25160072 or

0152 25160024.

For further information about which counselling centre or intercultural meeting facility can provide you with a suitable offer or to find out which migrant self-organisations exist, please contact the

City of Chemnitz – Migration officer

Neubau an der Alten Post, Bahnhofstrasse 54 a

09111 Chemnitz

Phone: 0371 488-5047

Fax: 0371 488-5099

Email: [migrationsbeauftragte@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:migrationsbeauftragte@stadt-chemnitz.de)

You will also find contact details in the brochure “The Migration officer informs” (online at [www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/aktuelles/Publikationen](http://www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/aktuelles/Publikationen)) and in the Social Atlas Chemnitz at [www.sozialatlas-chemnitz.de](http://www.sozialatlas-chemnitz.de). The website Integration atlas Chemnitz at [www.integrationsatlas-chemnitz.de](http://www.integrationsatlas-chemnitz.de) is intended to help people with a migration background to orient themselves in the Chemnitz region and to make contacts.

### **Did you know,**

... that since 2002 there has been an integration network (a municipal network in the field of integration of immigrants) and a Migration Advisory Council (see page 10) in Chemnitz?

## Intercultural events

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In the city of Chemnitz numerous intercultural events are offered throughout the year.

### ➤ Jewish culture days in Chemnitz

The Jewish culture days have been held annually since 1991 in February/March in Chemnitz. Visitors can experience a sophisticated artistic programme of Yiddish songs, music, dance and more.

### ➤ European week

The annual nationwide European week in May also offers a variety of events in the city of Chemnitz. The week long series of events concludes with the European neighbourhood festival. Guests from European countries, including Poland and the Czech Republic are also invited.

### ➤ Welcome in Chemnitz!

Since 2015, actors have been extending an invitation each year in May for a welcome party. The festival stands for a cosmopolitan and diverse Chemnitz. In addition to the intercultural programme, regional associations present their offers.

### ➤ Great children's day party on the KÜchwaldwiese

The children's festival "We celebrate the international children's day" is one of the largest in Sachsen and takes place every year in June as an open air event on the KÜchwaldwiese.

### ➤ Integration fair

The first integration fair of the city of Chemnitz took place in the spring of 2012. It is aimed at migrants seeking access to the labour market. In addition to advice from companies, public authorities, educational service providers and associations, the fair also offers the opportunity to find out about the application process in Germany. The integration fair is held annually.

### ➤ World Refugee Day

The World Refugee Day is a United Nations organised event day that has been held since June 20, 2001. On the occasion of the World Refugee Day, events of solidarity take place in numerous German cities, including Chemnitz. Here a broad action alliance constitutes a sign of a tolerant and cosmopolitan Chemnitz.

### **Did you know,**

... that people from over 130 countries live in Chemnitz?

## ➤ Intercultural weeks

On the initiative of the churches, a first so-called “Foreigner Sunday” was held in 1975. A short time later, a preparatory committee consisting of churches, trade unions and foreigner representatives called for the first “Foreign citizen week”.

The week itself quickly caught on in many cities and towns, the name, however, less and less. From 1991, the week was called “Intercultural week”, and it was first celebrated in the new federal states. In cities and towns, where the proportion of foreign residents is considerably lower, but at the same time where there is no shortage of reservations and fear of strangers.

Chemnitz, the third largest city in Sachsen, has also followed the call of the preparatory committee every year since 1991. The ceremonial opening of the now two week event series in Chemnitz is held in September.

The programme is published in a programme booklet and can also be found online at [www.chemnitz.de](http://www.chemnitz.de).

## ➤ Meet new friends

The meeting party in the smac – State Museum of Archaeology Chemnitz – has been held since 2016. In the form of an exchange, the visitors can arrange to meet new contacts with numerous activity offers from various Chemnitz associations and institutions. Volunteers also have the opportunity to present their leisure activities and to invite those interested to their meetings – whether it be for the sewing group or for sports training.

## ➤ Intercultural film week

Following the Intercultural weeks, an Intercultural film week has been held in the city of Chemnitz since 2013.

With its wide range of films from various genres, the Intercultural film week offers an excellent opportunity to introduce topics such as migration, integration, other lifestyles, everyday racism, racism, xenophobia, right-wing extremism in a vivid and interesting way, to deal intensively with the topic and to discuss different points of view.

## ➤ Intercultural artist market

Artists from Chemnitz with and without migration background have been extending an invitation to “art shopping” in the advent season since 2016. Visitors can experience an almost infinite variety of colours and forms of handicraft. Ornate paintings, colourful ceramics, fun metal objects, precious metal jewellery, textile work, wooden works of art, felt and enamel, extraordinary handbags, knitted, sewn, sound objects and wind chimes as well as unique hats and garments made of precious materials can be bought and admired. Numerous exhibitors also demonstrate their craft live at their stands.

### **Did you know,**

... that there is an extinct volcano in Chemnitz? At the outbreak of the Beutenberg in Zeisigwald 290 million years ago, plants and animals were covered with a metre high layer of ash throughout the city and thus were partially preserved until today.

## ➤ Intercultural Christmas party

Since 2014, an intercultural Christmas festival has been organised in Chemnitz. The programme includes Christmas music and stories from around the world, typical treats (not only from the local Erzgebirge) and various craft offers. Well-known Christmas figures such as Father Frost with Snegurutschka (snowflake), Zwarter Piet and witch Befana, Queen of Lights Lucia and of course Santa Claus distribute small Christmas gifts to the children.

In addition, there are many other national events in the city of Chemnitz, such as the Vietnamese New Year festival “Tet” and the Vietnamese family festival with lantern procession “Trung Thu” or the great Hungarian cultural evening.

### **Did you know,**

... that there are 21 public museums in Chemnitz? From the castle Rabenstein to the Wasserschloss Klaffenbach there are many interesting things to discover.

## 9. EXPERIENCE INTER-RELIGIOUS CHEMNITZ

In Germany religious freedom prevails.

Therefore, many different faiths have established themselves in our country. Christians make up the largest share of believers. The largest group here are the Catholic Christians making up 29% of the German population. Approx. 27% of all inhabitants are Protestant Christians. About 5% of all inhabitants belong to Islam and about 100,000 believing Jews live in Germany. (Status 2016)

Many religious communities in Chemnitz are committed to the integration of immigrants.

### Christian communities in Chemnitz

Chemnitz also has a large number of Christian communities.

In Chemnitz, the Protestant-Lutheran Christians form the largest denomination. In all districts you will find Protestant churches. Catholic Christians form the second largest group of believers in Chemnitz. In the provost of St. John Nepomuk, Hohe Strasse 1 in 09111 Chemnitz, you can find out about the Catholic communities in Chemnitz.

The following communities in Chemnitz are particularly popular for people with a migrant background:

Russian Orthodox Church of the Nativity of Mary	Hohe Strasse 1 09112 Chemnitz <a href="http://www.russische-kirche-c.de">www.russische-kirche-c.de</a>
Romanian Orthodox parish of St. Vitus and St. Stefan	Zwickauer Strasse 315 09116 Chemnitz <a href="http://parohia-chemnitz.ro">http://parohia-chemnitz.ro</a>
Evangelical International Community	Theaterstrasse 76 09111 Chemnitz <a href="http://www.eigchemnitz.com">www.eigchemnitz.com</a>

#### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz has 12 twin cities in Europe, Asia, Africa and the USA?

Chemnitz Chinese Evangelical Church	Luther meeting Augsburger Strasse 14 09126 Chemnitz Mobile: 0176 41670421 <a href="http://cceg-chemnitz.de">http://cceg-chemnitz.de</a>
Egyptian Coptic Christians	The Christians visit the services in Dresden and Leipzig: <a href="http://www.koptische-gemeinde.de/index.html">www.koptische-gemeinde.de/index.html</a> . The community also offers joint activities via Skype.  Your contact person in Chemnitz: Dr. Sh. Abdel-Malek Phone: 0371 5610939 Email: <a href="mailto:shawkymalek@yahoo.de">shawkymalek@yahoo.de</a>
Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo community	Services in the parish house of the Catholic provost community, Hohe Strasse 1, 09112 Chemnitz  Contact for Tigrinya speaking Orthodox Christians: Yonas Sereke Phone and WhatsApp: 01521 7424413  Yonas Sam Sam Phone and WhatsApp: 01521 4939528  Contact person for Germans: Irina Clement Phone: 0371 5610939 Mobile: 015128864594 Email: <a href="mailto:ibeiclement@yahoo.com">ibeiclement@yahoo.com</a>

People with a migration background are also integrated in other Chemnitz communities. In various churches also native language services are offered, for example, every Sunday from 11:00 a Holy mass in Polish takes place in the parish of St. Antonius Chemnitz.

### Did you know,

... that the International Children and Youth Film Festival "SCHLINGEL" has its home in Chemnitz? Every year in autumn, more than 150 films from over 50 countries are screened for children and adolescents for one week, with international films in their original language.

## Other religious communities in Chemnitz

### ➤ Judaism

In the second half of the 19th century a lively Jewish community was established in Chemnitz. The first burial in the Jewish cemetery in the district of Altendorf took place in 1879. The first Chemnitz synagogue was inaugurated in 1899 on the Stephanplatz.

In 1923 the Jewish community had 3,500 members, there were 26 Jewish associations and every third of the 600 Chemnitz manufacturers, every tenth doctor and many artists were Jewish. The Nazi terror destroyed Jewish life in Chemnitz as well as the synagogue. From 1945 there was again a tiny community.

In 1957 it had just 35 members, in 1989 only twelve. After the reunification of Germany, the number increased due to immigration from CIS countries. Today, the Jewish community of Chemnitz has about 580 members. In 2002, the new synagogue on Stollberger Strasse was consecrated.

Jewish community Chemnitz	Stollberger Strasse 28 09119 Chemnitz <a href="http://www.jg-chemnitz.de">www.jg-chemnitz.de</a>
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### ➤ Islam

Islam is the third largest religious community in Germany alongside the two Christian denominations. So far, only a few members of this religion live in the city of Chemnitz, about 500 Muslims come for the Friday prayers. There are three mosques registered in the city.

Fatih Camii Mosque Turkish Cultural Association	Zieschestrasse 13 09111 Chemnitz Phone: 0371 4791036
Masjid Mosque Islamic Cultural Association	Solbrigstrasse 22a 09120 Chemnitz
Arabic-Islamic meeting place El Hadi e. V.	Dresdner Strasse 58 09130 Chemnitz
Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat – Community in Chemnitz	Mobile: 0160 1854900 Email: <a href="mailto:said.arif@ahmadiyya.de">said.arif@ahmadiyya.de</a> <a href="http://www.ahmadiyya.de/gebetsstaette/gemeinden/chemnitz/">http://www.ahmadiyya.de/gebetsstaette/gemeinden/chemnitz/</a>

### Did you know,

... that there are more than 50 churches and meeting places of different religions in Chemnitz?

## ➤ Sikh

According to various data, between 8,000 and 15,000 Sikhs live in Germany, especially in urban centres such as Frankfurt am Main, Cologne, Hamburg, Munich and Stuttgart. The followers in Germany maintain numerous community centres, called “Gurdwara” (Gate to the Guru). Also in Chemnitz they have the opportunity to practise their religion.

Meeting place:

Gurdwara Sing Sabha Chemnitz Sikh Temple Association	Wiesenstrasse 11 (2. OG) 09111 Chemnitz Phone: 0371 664855
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## ➤ Bahá'í

Around 6,000 Bahá'í live in many cities and communities in Germany today. About 200 members of the Baha'i live in Sachsen, of them 32 in Chemnitz.

Meeting place:

Bahá'í-Community Martha-Root-Haus	Dittersdorfer Strasse 79 09120 Chemnitz <a href="http://www.chemnitz.bahai.de">www.chemnitz.bahai.de</a>
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## ➤ Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

In Germany, around 40,000 people profess to be Mormons. There are two Mormon temples in Germany, one in Freiberg between Chemnitz and Dresden and one in Friedrichsdorf, a suburb of Frankfurt am Main. Nationwide there are 164 churches of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one of them in Chemnitz. The community in our city looks back on a nearly 120 year old history.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Stelzendorfer Strasse 25 09116 Chemnitz <a href="http://www.kirche-jesu-christi.org">www.kirche-jesu-christi.org</a> or <a href="http://www.mormonen.de">www.mormonen.de</a>
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### Did you know,

... that there is a stalactite “cave” in Chemnitz? The Felsendome visitor mine was a lime mine until 1908.

## 10. CULTURE, SPORTS AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Chemnitz is a city with a variety of interesting cultural facilities, sports facilities and recreational facilities. The Municipal theatre with its five sections – opera, drama, philharmonic, ballet and puppet theatre – is known far beyond the country's borders. The Chemnitz art collection, which also includes the Gunzenhauser Museum, the Schlossberg Museum and the Villa Esche, attract visitors from all over the world with sensational exhibitions.

The Haus TIETZ includes an adult education centre, the city library, new Sachsen gallery and museum of natural history with the world famous “Petrified forest”.

The Stadthalle and Messe Chemnitz are also well known with regular concerts for young and old. The socio-cultural centre Kraftwerk e.V. attracts with its extraordinary variety of creative participation offers and cross neighbourhood children, family and street parties.

Another attraction for many young people is the Weltecho, a cultural centre for alternative art and culture.

Our city is often referred to as a sports city. Chemnitz is rich in Olympic traditions like no other city in Germany. In addition to competitive sports, there is of course a wide range of opportunities to do sports for everyone. There are 223 sports associations available, where you can pursue almost any sporting ambition. Questions about sport and migration as well as sport and asylum are addressed to the “Coordinator of integration through sport” at the Stadtsportbund Chemnitz e. V. We are happy to inform you about current sports offers and answer your questions about membership in a sports association. You can reach us at:

Stadtsportbund Chemnitz e. V.  
Stadlerstrasse 14 a  
09126 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 495000-40  
Email: [dunger@sportbund-chemnitz.de](mailto:dunger@sportbund-chemnitz.de)  
[www.sportbund-chemnitz.de](http://www.sportbund-chemnitz.de)

You can find more information on culture, sports and recreational opportunities at [www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/kultur-freizeit](http://www.chemnitz.de/chemnitz/de/kultur-freizeit) and at [www.chemnitz.de/sport](http://www.chemnitz.de/sport).

### **Did you know,**

... that Chemnitz athletes have won 27 gold, 33 silver and 31 bronze medals at the Olympic Games until 2016?

# 11. WHAT ELSE IS IMPORTANT

## Equal rights

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In Germany, men and women have equal rights. Women and men have the same rights and opportunities in the state, in companies and in the family.

Women and men decide for themselves which profession they want to take up. Also, they each determine themselves how they dress, when and whom they marry, whether they even want to marry or if and when they want to have children.

And men and women are equally involved in the household duties and the education of children.

## Public holidays in Germany

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On public holidays, the shops in Germany are closed and buses and trains run as on Sundays.

These holidays always take place on the same date:

- 01.01. New year
- 01.05. Labour day
- 03.10. Day of German unity
- 31.10. Reformation day – in Sachsen and other federal states, but not in all
- 25./26.12. Christmas

These holidays depend on the lunar calendar and therefore do not always have the same date:

Easter (from Friday to Monday, in March or April)

Ascension day (Thursday, the 6th week after Easter)

Pentecost (Saturday to Monday, 7 weeks after Easter)

Day of Atonement (only in Sachsen, Wednesday, usually in the penultimate week of November)

## ➤ Special notes for Christmas and New year's eve

Christmas begins in many families and many churches already on 24.12. Therefore, the shops close on this day often at 14:00. Buses and trains run until 15:00 as on Saturdays, then less often.

### Did you know,

... that you can rent bicycles in Chemnitz? A total of 150 "city bikes" can be rented at the Main train station and 9 other stations for 2 Euro per day. There are also tandems and children's bicycles.

In the night from 31.12 to 01.01 Germany celebrates the end of the year “New year's eve”. At midnight it gets very loud with New year's fireworks and bangers. In the old days this noise was supposed to drive away “evil spirits”, today New year's eve fireworks is an expression of the joy of the upcoming new year.

You do not need to be afraid: the colourful New year's fireworks display is loud, but harmless if done properly.

To make the change to the New year really well and without injuries, you should only admire the colourful lights from a distance. If you want to participate yourself, buy only certified fireworks with the designation BAM P II or F II or the European CE mark, each with the corresponding test number. Use these according to the instructions for use and only outdoors. Fireworks such as bangers and rockets will be exclusively available from 29 to 31.12 and only sold to persons over 18 years old. Their firing is allowed exclusively from 31.12 until 01.01.

Often the shops close on 31.12 already at 14:00. Buses and trains on New year's eve generally run as on Saturdays.

## Insurance

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### ➤ Compulsory insurance

The most important compulsory insurance policies are the health insurance, the pension insurance and the nursing care insurance. Whoever has a job gets these insurance policies automatically. By non-payment of health insurance retroactive debt can also be incurred! Non-working EU citizens who have relocated to Germany (re-registration by leaving their home address) are given a certificate from the health insurance institution of their home country to register with a health insurance company at their new place of residence. The German health insurance issues a health insurance card which entitles to benefits in kind according to German health insurance law.

### ➤ Voluntary insurance

The most important voluntary insurance policies are liability insurance, household insurance and life insurance. If someone accidentally damages another person, then his liability insurance pays. The household insurance pays when things get broken in the home, for example due to water damage. And life insurance pays if you die. Your children for example, receive the money.

#### **Did you know,**

... that in Germany in 1883, the world's first Health insurance law for low earners was adopted and put into effect?

## Local public transport

The inner city traffic is handled with the buses and trains of the Chemnitzer Verkehrs AG (CVAG).

Many public transport lines converge at the central station in the city centre. From there they travel to the respective districts of Chemnitz. The lines are coordinated so that you reduce your waiting times when changing.

In addition to shops and snack bars, the central station also houses the CVAG Mobility centre. Here you can receive personal advice on the right ticket, timetables for the inner city lines and you can also find out about the cheapest connection to your destination.

CVAG Mobility centre  
Chemnitz-Plaza  
Rathausstrasse 7  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 2370333



You can travel in the city area by bus, tram, Chemnitz train or train. You need a ticket. Make sure you buy the right ticket! You can buy tickets as a single ticket, day ticket, weekly ticket or for the whole month. The monthly pass is transferable, so other people can use it if necessary.

Apart from in the Mobility centre, you can also buy your ticket on the buses from the driver or in the ticket machines in the tram. These tickets are already validated at the time of purchase.



At some stops in the city, you can buy your ticket at a vending machine. At the machine, select the desired ticket via the display. Do not forget to validate your ticket, otherwise it will not be valid and you will have to pay a fine.

**CAUTION:** Since June 1, 2017, no monthly tickets have been sold on CVAG buses.

Travelling with a valid ticket is especially important. If you have no or no valid ticket and are checked, you usually have to pay a fine of 60 €. It is possible that travelling without a ticket may lead to a criminal complaint.

(Source: CVAG)

### Did you know,

... that illegal work (work without appropriate authorisation) is prohibited?

## ➤ Doctor surgery for the treatment of asylum seekers

If asylum seekers have to go to the doctor for acute pain or illness and vaccinations, they will be treated at the refugee outpatient centre. If the asylum seeker does not have his own health insurance card, a medical treatment certificate issued by the Social welfare office is required. (Address see Seite 31).

In addition, an appointment must be made in advance by phone. The practice managers speak Arabic, English, French, Spanish and German. For other languages such as Urdu, Pashto, Dari, Russian and others, video interpreting is possible.

In the practice, work general practitioners, paediatric and adolescent medicine doctors, gynaecologists and obstetrics.

Internationale Praxis am Klinikum Chemnitz  
09116 Chemnitz  
Flemmingstrasse 2  
Phone: 0371 33333-938, -943  
Email: internationalepraxis.chemnitz@kvsachsen.de

## ➤ Psychosocial centre Advice centre for people with fleeing and migration background

This centre offers free counselling and psychological support for people with fleeing or migration background.

SFZ Förderzentrum GmbH  
Psychosocial centre Advice centre Chemnitz  
09111 Chemnitz  
Düsseldorfer Platz 1 (Entrance from Richard-Möbius-Strasse)  
Phone: 0371 404672-02  
Email: psz@sfz-chemnitz.de

### Did you know,

... that the access into the CVAG buses is at the front and the exit is at the second, third or fourth door. Please note: the doors of the tram and the third and fourth doors on the articulated bus close automatically if the door area remains free for more than three seconds.

## Broadcasting license fee

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Since 2013 applies: one home – one fee. The broadcasting license fee is currently about 17.50 € per month. The number of receivers and people in a home does not matter. If you receive benefits from the Job centre or the Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (Asylum seekers benefits law), you do not have to pay any license fees. For this, you must submit an application directly to the contribution service and send a copy of your benefit statement.

You can find more information about the broadcasting license fee, reductions or exemptions and the application forms at [www.rundfunkbeitrag.de](http://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de).

## Rubbish separation

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In Germany, the rubbish is separated in an exact way. The proper disposal of rubbish greatly reduces the environmental impact and helps to recover valuable resources. Therefore recyclables such as paper, glass, etc. are collected separately and recycled. The collection of these resources is free and also brings cost savings to the individual household.

### ➤ Rubbish separation in Chemnitz

In the residential areas are located public glass containers with brown, green and white openings. The glasses and glass bottles are to be thrown into the containers according to their colour.

Some locations also have public containers for paper and cardboard, old textiles (old clothes and shoes) and small electrical/electronic equipment and metals.



### Did you know,

... that the Chemnitz Animal Park was 50 years old in 2014? About 1,000 animals from all over the world live here.

Each inhabited property is connected to the waste disposal. The residents use the rubbish bins in front of their house to dispose of their waste.

Blue container	Black container	Yellow container Yellow sack	Brown container
<p>for paper and cardboard</p> 	<p>for residual waste</p> 	<p>for light packaging</p> 	<p>for biowaste</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newspapers</li> <li>• Catalogues</li> <li>• Magazines</li> <li>• Flour bags</li> <li>• Old exercise books</li> <li>• Empty boxes</li> <li>• Envelopes...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash</li> <li>• Sweepings</li> <li>• Vacuum cleaner bags</li> <li>• Pointed waste</li> <li>• Candle stumps</li> <li>• Wallpaper waste</li> <li>• Lamp bulbs</li> <li>• Nappies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yogurt pots</li> <li>• Drink packs</li> <li>• Chocolate wrappers</li> <li>• Detergent bottles</li> <li>• Cans</li> <li>• Tubes made of aluminium</li> <li>• Screw caps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaves</li> <li>• Bush cuttings</li> <li>• Fruit and food leftovers</li> <li>• Vegetable waste</li> <li>• Grass cuttings</li> <li>• Tea bags</li> <li>• Cut flower leftovers</li> </ul>

The lids of the rubbish containers must always be closed in order to avoid odour nuisance.

Batteries, energy-saving lamps, electrical and electronic appliances (e.g. televisions, refrigerators) and old furniture can be handed in at municipal recycling centres during opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	8 am – 6 pm
Wednesday	10 am – 8 pm
Saturday	7 am – 3 pm

### Did you know,

... that Chemnitz is a very green city?

Of the about 22,000 hectare total area 15.7% is forest and 8.3% parks and other recreational areas. In addition, 39.6% is agricultural land.

Locations of these recycling centres:

Blankenburgstrasse 62, Jägerschlösschenstrasse 15 a, Kalkstrasse 47,  
Strasse Usti nad Labem 30, Weisser Weg.

For information on rubbish disposal in Chemnitz, please contact the Waste Management Service at 0371 4095-102 or visit the website of the City of Chemnitz Municipal Waste Management and Urban Cleaning Company [www.ASR-Chemnitz.de](http://www.ASR-Chemnitz.de).

(Source: ASR)

**Did you know,**

... that the burning of waste outside approved facilities is prohibited?

## Important telephone numbers

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Police	110
Fire/Rescue service	112
Medical emergency service	116117
Poison emergency telephone	0361 730730
Women emergency centre (for raped, sexually abused women and girls)	0371 4014075 0172 3718116
Child and youth emergency service	0371 300455 0163 4158125
Crisis line	0800 1110111 or 0800 1110222
Citizens service telephone	115
Intervention and coordination centre against domestic violence and stalking	0371 9185354 0163 4158125
Victim counselling after racist violence	0371 4819451 0172 9743674
Victim counselling after criminal action	0371 4331698 (Opferhilfe e. V.) or 0371 3542314 (WEISSER RING)

## ➤ Checklist – First steps after arrival in Chemnitz

- Notification within two weeks after moving into a flat/house with the competent Registration office
- Report to the Immigration authority to clarify matters on immigration law
- Registration with the selected health insurance
- Open a bank account

### Registrations if required

- Registration of the children in school and/or kindergarten
- Job centre for applying for income benefits
- Social welfare office to apply for basic income, for persons over 65 years
- Pensions – only for persons over 65 years
- Registration for the contribution service (television, radio, internet – one per home)
- Re-registration of the motor vehicle
- Transfer of the driving license

### Did you know,

... that the Karl Marx monument in the city centre of Chemnitz is the second largest freestanding modelled head in the world after the Egyptian Sphinx?



## ➤ CONTACT

City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Neubau an der Alten Post, Bahnhofstrasse 54 a  
09111 Chemnitz  
Phone: 0371 488-5001  
Fax: 0371 488-5099  
Email: [sozialamt@stadt-chemnitz.de](mailto:sozialamt@stadt-chemnitz.de)  
[www.chemnitz.de](http://www.chemnitz.de)



Bürgerhaus Am Wall  
Düsseldorfer Platz 1, 09111 Chemnitz

- City of Chemnitz – Citizens office, Registration office, Nationality authority, Immigration authority



Neubau an der Alten Post  
Bahnhofstrasse 54 a, 09111 Chemnitz

- City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Department of Migration, Integration, Housing
- City of Chemnitz – Migration officer



Moritzhof  
Bahnhofstrasse 53, 09111 Chemnitz

- City of Chemnitz – Social welfare office  
Customer portal Social benefits
- City of Chemnitz – Office for youth and family