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Handout for initial orientation

Integration courses

englisch

Attending an integration course is recommended for everyone moving to Germany for a longer period. It consists of both a **language course** and a **course on orientation**. During a language course participants can reach language level B1, which qualifies for communication in daily life. The orientation course provides basic knowledge on the legal system, history and culture in Germany. Participants will also learn about important values in Germany.

Some people are **eligible** to attend an integration course, such as late repatriates, foreigners living in Germany for longer already and asylum seekers with good perspective for long-term residency. Other people are **obliged** to attend an integration course. This applies for newly migrated people that can not communicate well in written or oral German, foreigners that are asked to attend an integration course by the aliens department ('Ausländerbehörde'), foreigners receiving welfare benefits ('Arbeitslosengeld 2'/'Hartz 4') and are asked to attend by the Jobcenter, as well as asylum seekers with good perspective for long-term residency, those with temporary suspension of deportation according to article §60a paragraph 2 residence law ('Aufenthaltsgesetz'), as well those with residence permit according to article §25 paragraph 5 residence law.

Before beginning the course, participants have to pass a **grading test**. According to the test's results the participant will be assigned to a specific **course module**. If necessary a special integration course can be recommended.

The language courses finishes with a test on **German language test for immigrants** ('Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer'), the orientation course with a **test on living in Germany** ('Leben in Deutschland'). Participants successfully passing both test receive a certificate. If the language test is failed despite regular attendance of the course, up to 300 additional class hours can be taken and the test can be repeated free of charge.

Everyone eligible for the integration course has the **right** to choose the **educational institution** offering the course by themselves. If the registration for the course was successful the institution has to confirm the estimated begin of the course. The course should not start later than **six weeks** after registration. The institution has to inform if the course does not start within six weeks.

Everyone enrolled into the course has the **duty** to attend the lessons regularly and to take the tests.

A list with educational institutions offering integration courses in Magdeburg can be found at the **aliens department** (Ausländerbehörde), the **employment agency** ('Arbeitsagentur') or the **Jobcenter**. Online you can find a list of courses in the **WebGIS** system of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (www.bamf.de). The **KURSNET** platform of the Federal Agency for Employment ('Bundesagentur für Arbeit') also provides a list of integration courses.

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Besides further handouts the Migrationswegweiser Magdeburg offers information on various information, consultation and assistance services.

www.willkommen-in-magdeburg.de



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