

Housing Checklist – Before and After Arrival

Use this checklist to prepare for your housing situation in Germany. It covers the key steps before your arrival, after you arrive, and once you move in.

Before arriving in Germany

- Contact the HSBI Housing Service
- Register on the waiting list of the Studierendenwerk
- Search for accommodation (private housing, WG rooms, dormitories)
- Contact landlords
- Prepare all necessary documents:
 - Passport
 - Letter of admission from HSBI
 - Financial proof (e.g., scholarship, blocked account)
 - SCHUFA credit report (if applicable)
 - Guarantee (if required)
- Book temporary accommodation (e.g., hostel or short-term stay), if needed
- If possible, get a confirmation or offer for a room before arrival

After arriving in Germany

- Finalize and sign the rental agreement (if not done already)
- Move into your new room or apartment
- Buy basic furniture and household items

Obligations after moving in

- Register your address at the Bürgeramt (city registration office) within two weeks
- Register for the radio license fee (Rundfunkbeitrag) as soon as you get the letter by “ARD ZDF Deutschlandradio Beitragsservice”
- Check or update your insurance (e.g., liability, household)
- Set up internet and mobile phone service (if needed)
- Open a German bank account

Kind regards
International Office