



STUDY-INFO

INCOMING GUIDE



**Hochschule
Biberach.
University of
Applied Sciences**



Dear international students, welcome to Biberach University of Applied Sciences!

Our university stands for future-oriented sustainable teaching and research. We have established thematic focal points in the fields of biotechnology, energy, construction and business administration. Our study programs are closely linked to professional practice and set up in an interdisciplinary manner with an international perspective. With numerous laboratories, studios and workshops, you can enjoy an optimal infrastructure and facilities to exploit your potential, expand your skills and knowledge. This welcome guide has been compiled to make you feel at home, help you to have a good start and answer questions concerning HBC and your time in Biberach. The staff of our International Office, our international coordinators as well as the staff of HBC's faculties are happy to assist you for your study exchange at HBC.

Contact: incomings@hochschule-bc.de



KEY FACTS ABOUT HBC

OUR COMMUNITY:

2500 Students in 17 Study programs

INTENSIVE SUPPORT:

82 Professors, 220 Lecturers,
220 Employees

CLEAR GOALS:

Climate-Neutral University by 2030

SPACE FOR DEVELOPMENT:

2 Campus locations in Biberach city
and Aspach

COMMITMENT:

We ensure quality and diversity at HBC



IMPORTANT DATES AND APPLICATION

	WINTER SEMESTER (SEP - FEB)	SUMMER SEMESTER (MAR - AUG)
NOMINATION DEADLINE	May 1st	November 1st
APPLICATION DEADLINE	May 15th	November 15th
ORIENTATION WEEK	1 week before semester start	1 week before semester start
LECTURE PERIOD	October - January	Mid-March - July
EXAM PERIOD	February	July/August

Incoming exchange students must be nominated by their home university: digital nomination via the EWP network (for Erasmus exchange students) or via e-mail for non-Erasmus exchange students to: incomings@hochschule-bc.de.

After the nomination is accepted, HBC's International Office will send nominated students a link to our online application portal with instructions on application as well as other practical information.

HOW TO FIND US

CAMPUS STADT (CITY CENTER):

Address: Karlstr. 11, 88400 Biberach

Located right in the city center with only 10 minutes walking distance to the market square and 15 minutes to the train station.

CAMPUS ASPACH:

Address: Hubertus-Liebrecht-Straße 15,
88400 Biberach

The Faculty of Biotechnology is located at Campus Aspach, 15 minutes by bike from Campus Stadt. There is also the possibility of taking the bus, which will be a 9-minute ride from the main train station in Biberach.

Study programs

AT HBC

HBC is a transformative university and offers study programmes in the fields of Architecture and Energy Engineering, Civil Engineering and Project Management, Business Administration and Biotechnology.

Theory and practice go hand-in-hand in all of our study programs. Students can acquire extensive theoretical knowledge and practical experience which are highly relevant to the professional requirements in the future workplace.



Faculty of Architecture and Energy Engineering

- Bachelor of Arts in Architecture
- Bachelor of Engineering in Energy Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering in Digital Engineering
- Master of Science in Resource Saving Architecture
- Master of Science in Energy and Buildings Systems

Faculty of Business Administration

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Master of Science in Business Administration

Faculty of Biotechnology

- Bachelor of Science in Applied Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Science in Medical Biotechnology
- Master of Science in Industrial Biotechnology
- Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology

Faculty of Civil Engineering and Project Management

- Bachelor of Engineering in Project Management/Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering in Timber Construction Project Management/Civil Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Project Management
- Master of Engineering in Engineering Management
- Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Structural Timber Engineering



Exchange program

AT HBC

An exchange semester at HBC will enrich your studies with a unique and memorable experience. Not only will you acquire specific knowledge and improve your language skills, you also have the opportunity to get to know Germans and their culture. Spending time abroad enhances and consolidates your intercultural competence while giving you an important advantage for your future career.

ENGLISH AND GERMAN LECTURES

A general overview of all lectures offered in English by HBC's faculties can be found [here](#).

Your minimum English language level should be B1. Students who are proficient in German language (minimum B1 level) can also enroll in German-taught courses. Module manuals in German and English can be found on our website at the corresponding faculties and their study programs.





EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

HBC welcomes students from around the world and maintains bilateral agreements with partner institutions in various countries. Incoming exchange students from partner institutions can have an exchange study for one or two semesters without paying tuition fees if the home institution has a bilateral agreement with HBC.

HBC incoming students must be nominated by their home university as a first step, followed by an online application by the deadline (see page 2, online application process).

EXCHANGE STUDY AS FREE MOVER

If your university is not a partner institution of HBC, you can apply as a Free Mover. Free Movers can enrol for one or two semesters at HBC with tuition fees of EUR 1500 per semester (subjected to changes). Free Movers must meet the same language and academic requirements as other exchange students to be admitted. Please contact the International Office which will send you the link for the online application.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Erasmus+ Scholarship: Students from HBC's Erasmus+ Partner institutions (please see following link for our Erasmus+ partner institutions: [HBC Partner Institutions](#)) can apply for an Erasmus+ scholarship at their home institution. Please contact the International Office at your home institution for details of application procedure.

DAAD Scholarships: There are several other [scholarship opportunities](#) offered by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service). Check them out!

Other scholarships: There are also other scholarship opportunities for students from our partner institutions through HBC's various international cooperation projects. Information will be given to students of participating partners in the projects.

CREDIT AND GRADING SYSTEM

ECTS stands for 'European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System' and is a common European grading framework designed to facilitate academic exchanges. Each ECTS credit generally requires 30 hours of work, approximately.

The scale of German grading system is as follows:

1 - 1.5 Very good / 1.6 - 2.5 Good / 2.6 - 3.5 Satisfactory / 3.6 - 4.0 Sufficient / Below 4.0 Fail.



Coming to Biberach



VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT

Visa requirements for exchange studies vary, depending on the student's citizenship. As visa application takes time, it is essential that incoming exchange students start the application process at an early stage. Please contact the German Embassy or Consulate in your country immediately after you receive the Letter of Acceptance from HBC's International Office. Detailed information on student visa can be found [here](#) and also in the [Visa Navigator](#). After arriving in Biberach, students must register at the city and apply for the residence permit at the foreigner registration office (for non-EU citizens only). The International Office will arrange the appointments for students during orientation.

Important

All students from non-European countries need a proof of finances. The minimum amount of money to be proven is **992 € per month**.

It can be done in various ways (a combination of several sources is possible): Scholarship award notification, blocked account, official declaration of commitment by the parents or a legal guardian at the German embassy in your home country.

Please make sure to inquire at the German embassy in your home country which form of financial proof is required/accepted!

If you decide to open a blocked account, you may use one of the following providers:

- [Expatrio](#)
- [Fintiba](#)
- [Coracle](#)

The mentioned providers also offer service packages including a blocked account and a German health insurance as bundle packages.

MENTORING PROGRAM

Incoming students will be assigned an HBC student as their mentor before they travel to Germany. The mentors will assist the incoming students to settle in in Biberach and to integrate in the campus life at HBC.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Statutory health insurance is compulsory for all students in Germany.

Students from the EU/EEA or Switzerland: You are covered by your home insurance. Please bring your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). Students from Turkey will need to provide the A/T 11 certificate. In addition, you will have to get a so called "Confirmation of insurance for enrolment at university". We will let you know how to obtain said document in due time prior to starting your courses at HBC.

Students from non-European countries: You must take out a German statutory health insurance before coming to Germany. It is valid from the beginning of the semester (1st of September/1st of March)/from the date of enrolment and the cost is approximately 130€ per month.

Your national health insurance or a travel health insurance is not sufficient for enrolment at the university!

In Biberach and the surrounding area you will find the following health insurance companies:

- [AOK](#)
- [Barmer](#)
- [BKK VerbundPlus](#)
- [DAK Gesundheit](#)
- [Debeka BKK](#)
- [Pronova BKK](#)
- [Techniker](#)

Non-European students aged 30 years and older must insure themselves with a German private health insurance. Private health insurances from abroad are not accepted. If this is your case, please contact the International Office for further information: incomings@hochschule-bc.de

FURTHER INSURANCES

We highly recommend to take out **liability insurance** (professional and/or personal liability), as all personal and property damages caused by negligence must be compensated according to German law, **insurance covering accidents** and **travel insurance** (including repatriation from abroad) for the duration of your stay in Germany. In addition, an insurance covering serious illnesses (including full or partial incapacity for work) and a life insurance (including repatriation from abroad) may also be relevant.

Please note that HBC is not liable for damages arising from illness, death, accident, personal injury, loss or damage to property in connection with your stay abroad and does not take any damage claims. HBC does not offer insurance for incoming students. You have to organize sufficient insurance coverage on your own.

BANK ACCOUNT

If you are from a country, in which the euro is not the standard currency, we recommend to open a German bank account before coming to Germany.

A non-exhaustive list of German banks in Biberach and popular online banks can be found hereafter: [Baden-Württembergische Bank](#), [Comdirect](#), [DKB](#), [ING](#),

[Kreissparkasse Biberach](#), [N26](#), [Sparda-Bank Baden-Württemberg](#), [Volksbank Ulm-Biberach eG](#), [Wise](#).

ORIENTATION WEEK

We know going abroad to a foreign country is a big challenge and transition – have no fear! Our orientation program will help simplify your stay and make it more enjoyable. During orientation students will visit the universities facilities and obtain information on all administrative procedures related to the study period. It is also particularly important to get to know the structures in Germany. Therefore, all administrative issues will be accompanied by us: registration at the city and foreigner registration office, amongst others.

We will also organize an intercultural training seminar. We all need intercultural skills in our studies, on the job and in daily life. As you are new in Germany, this is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on your individual experiences and improve your intercultural competence.

COSTS OF EDUCATION AND LIVING

Germany is not that expensive compared to other countries in Europe. [Here](#) you can find an overview of the estimated costs.

SPORT PROGRAMS

HBC offers a wide range of sport activities – for free. You can play volleyball, basketball, football, ultimate frisbee or go for a run with your fellow students. If this is not enough, you can join several other sport clubs in or around Biberach. And if you are interested: There is a successful American Football team in town – the [Biberach Beavers](#).

HOUSING

We recommend students to stay in a shared apartment ('Wohngemeinschaft' (WG) in German). It is usually an apartment shared by several tenants, each with their own room and shared areas such as bathroom, kitchen and living room. Living in a WG is a great way to make friends and learn more about the local culture. There are fully furnished rooms at affordable prices available in Biberach. You can look for a room on the following websites:

[www.wg-gesucht.de](#)
[www.kleinanzeigen.de](#)
[www.immobilienscout24.de](#)
[www.wohnungsboerse.net/](#)
[www.studierendenwerk-ulm.de/](#)
[www.studierendenwerk-ulm.de/accommodation/private-room/](#) (clicking on "Private rooms in Biberach" once you are on the website)

GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES

Getting in touch with local culture and people is an essential part of the exchange experience. To facilitate this, HBC offers German language courses (2 ECTS) on beginner, intermediate and advanced levels (A1 – B2) to incoming exchange students that begins during orientation and continues throughout the semester.



Campus facilities

LOGIN DATA

You will receive your personal HBC login access after successful enrolment. After activating your login, you can get access to the campus Wi-Fi internet, webmail and all online platforms that are essential for your studies.

STUDENT CARD

The HBC student card has several different functions: identification, access control, cashless payment for food and beverages in the campus area, library card and use of the photocopy machines on campus. Your personal student card will be issued during orientation after students have paid the semester contribution to Student Services (EUR 82,-).

LIBRARY

Whether researching, writing a seminar paper or preparing for an internship – with numerous workstations and an extensive stock of literature relevant to the course of study, the HBC library offers everyone a quiet and practical place to work. It also offers various training courses for information literacy. Students can make an appointment with a librarian so that special needs can be catered for.

CANTEEN

The canteen is operated by the Student Services and offers a wide range of catering. You can enjoy meals with conscience, fair trade coffee and the side dishes of pasta, rice and potatoes that are mostly organically grown. Payment can be made with a bank card or pre-loaded student card. Outside opening times, vending machines are available on the campuses to ensure the supply of drinks and snacks.

IT SUPPORT

Our IT help desk assists students with technical issues related to HBC digital platforms.
E-Mail: helpdesk@hochschule-bc.de

STUDENT SERVICES – STUDIERENDENWERK ULM

‘Studierendenwerk Ulm’ is responsible for the economic, social, health and cultural care and support of students. As a non-profit organization, it offers its services at an optimal and fair price-performance ratio. They also offer counselling services for students in need. Further information can be found [here](#).

STUDENT PUB ‘HECHT’

‘Hecht’ is a self-organized pub by students for student’s right on the city campus. This is where people meet and celebrate.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

You can use the city's well-developed bus network (ÖPNV). During the day, buses run at least every 30 minutes and even more frequently, depending on the district. All bus lines congregate at the market place and train station. There you can easily switch from one bus to the another. At night and on weekends, you can use the dial-a-ride transit program (Anrufsmelktaxi, or AST).

You can check the public transportation connection in the following websites:

Bus timetables:

<https://www.swbc.de/verkehr/fahrplaene.php>

Travel planner:

<https://ding.eu/fahrplan/fahrplanauskunft>

BIKE RENTAL

It is very easy and convenient to get around with a bike in Biberach, no matter if it is for daily commuting or for a bike tour around the region.

There are several bike rental companies in Biberach offering rental service of bicycles, mountain bikes and e-bikes. <https://tourismus.biberach-riss.de/Active-recreation/Bike-Tips/?La=2>

VEHICLE SHARING

In order to achieve the goals of an energy self-sufficient and emission-free university campus, we offer students and staff a vehicle sharing scheme consisting of e-scooters, bicycles, pedelecs and e-cargo bikes.

Biberach University of Applied Sciences is developing a sustainable, economical, community-orientated sharing service in rural Baden-Württemberg. This enables us to offer our students and staff a productive, flexible and environmentally friendly [mobility service](#).

With this, we want to fulfil our role as a driving force for the city, region and state of Baden-Württemberg and achieve our goal of becoming a climate-neutral university by 2030. By looking at things from two perspectives –users and the operators– we can offer smart solutions to everyone involved.

EMERGENCIES

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- Police: 110
- Fire Department: 112
- Paramedics: 112
- Poisoning: +49 761 19240

REPORTING AN EMERGENCY

- Who are you?
- Where has the emergency taken place?
- What has happened?
- Who is affected?
- What is the current situation?
- Are people in danger?

EMERGENCY SERVICES (DOCTOR)

- Dial for medical help: 116 117
- Helplines for mental health: 0800 1110111, 0800 1110222, 116 123

USEFUL LINKS

Homepage of the City of Biberach

- <https://welcome.biberach-riss.de>

STUDY IN GERMANY: GENERAL INFORMATION AND TIPS ABOUT STUDYING AND LIVING IN GERMANY

- <https://www.study-in-germany.de/en/>

RAILWAY: TIMETABLE, TRAVEL CARD & TICKETS

- <https://www.bahn.de>

TOURISM OFFICE OF BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

- <https://www.tourism-bw.com>

DIRECTORYS / SERVICES

- <https://www.gelbeseiten.de/>

Biberach and the region

HISTORIC AND ENERGETIC

Biberach is located in upper Swabia between the river Danube and Lake Constance. It can look back on a rich historical past. Nowadays it is also a significant industrial location in the southwest of Germany where numerous renowned multi-international corporates establish their headquarters.

LEISURE AND NATURE

Body and soul feel at ease here, historical and natural highlights are in the immediate vicinity, it is also only 152 km from Munich, near The Alps and Lake Constance. Many leisure activities are offered in the region, both outdoors and indoors for all seasons.

CULTURAL AND SPORT ACTIVITIES

HBC offers various clubs for students who are interested in cultural or sport activities. For music lovers, bring along your instrument and join the HBC orchestra, big band, and choir. You can also experience a wide range of sport activities, like volleyball, basketball, football, running groups or even American football organized by students, together with local sports clubs. Joining sport activities is not only fun and keep you fit, you can also quickly get to know other students!

FESTIVE EVENTS

'Schützenfest' is a historic festival held annually in July and lasts ten days. The name 'Schützenfest' comes from the German noun Schütze, meaning marksman. The city is filled with festive atmosphere with lots of events organized throughout the city. The Christmas market is another highlight of the year. Stalls with different crafts and cuisine are set up in the beautiful historical market square. It is a perfect place to meet friends for a warm mulled wine.





Mini dictionary

ENGLISH - GERMAN - SWABIAN

ENGLISH	GERMAN	SWABIAN
Hi (informal)	Hallo	Hallöle
Hello (formal)	Guten Tag	Grüß Gott
Hi everybody (informal)	Hallo zusammen	Hallöle zsamma
How are you?	Wie geht es dir?	Wie gohd's dr?
Thanks	Danke	Dankschee
You're welcome	Bitte, gern geschehen	Bidde, gern gschää
Sorry	Entschuldigung	Tschuldigung
What's your name?	Wie heisst du?	Wie hoisch?
Where do you come from?	Woher kommst du?	Wohär kommsch?
Yes, please	Ja, gerne	Jo gern
Bye, see you soon	Tschüss, bis bald	Tschüssle
Have a nice day!	Einen schönen Tag!	Scheena Dag
All the best!	Alles Gute!	Älls Guade!
Do you speak German? (formal)	Sprechen Sie Deutsch?	Schwätzad Sie deitsch?
Where is the pharmacy?	Wo finde ich die Apotheke?	Wo isch a Abodeeg?
headache	Kopfschmerzen	Schädlweh
bike	Fahrrad	Drahtesel
toilets	Toiletten	Klo
windows	Fenster	Fenschdr
cell phone	Handy	Händy
to call	anrufen	arufa
to eat	essen	essa
to drink	trinken	saufa





Contact and Enquiry

More information:

www.hochschule-biberach.de/international

For enquiry, please kindly contact:
incomings@hochschule-bc.de

With funding from the:



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