

How to Pick Your Language School

A guide for Candidates



When selecting your local German language school options, follow this list to assess the offering

1

Which courses are offered? A1, A2, B1 and B2?

All nurses need to obtain B1 (and in some cases B2) certification before relocating to Germany. If you would like to learn continuously at the same school, you will want to make sure that all necessary levels are offered.

2

What are the start and end dates of the course?

Understanding the start date and length of each course module, and reporting this information to CWC, is critical for accurately mapping out your timeline to deployment.

3

How many hours of lessons do you receive per week and how much self-study is expected?

Some schools offer intensive courses where you will spend the majority of your day in class with additional study work outside of class. Or, you opt for a part-time approach which requires only 2-3 days per week of lessons with additional study time. Whichever option you choose, make sure you understand the full time commitment so you can work it into your schedule.

4

What is the cost per course?

Cost is one of the most important factors when selecting a language school. There is a wide range of costs, from inexpensive to very expensive. First, identify how much you are able to afford and then find a school within that range that meets as many of your criteria points as possible. It is tempting to go with the cheapest option, but don't miss out on quality as a result.

5

Are textbooks and other materials included in the fees?

In many instances, language schools will charge an additional fee for the course materials, such as textbooks and workbooks. Verify this information with your school and make sure you can afford both the classes and the materials. Some schools offer electronic versions or second-hand materials for a lower cost.

6

How many students per class?

It isn't surprising that smaller language classes produce better results. The smaller the class, the more interaction and attention you will receive from your instructor. Aim for 8-10 people per class with 20 being the absolute limit.

7

What is the school's average passing rate for the B1 or B2 exam?

A school's exam passing rate will give you a good idea of the school's quality and how well they prepare their students for the exam. A passing rate of 60-70% is average and anything above that is very good.



8

How does the school prepare you for the B1 or B2 exam? Do they offer regular assessment tests and mock exams?

Always attend a school that will prepare you for the specific exam that you are going to take (Goethe, OSD or TELC are the accepted exams in Germany). Some offer specific exam prep courses, which are a great option. These courses typically last 1-2 weeks and train you on the specific elements that will be presented to you during the exam as well as offer mock tests. If you are unable to take an exam prep course, that is ok. There are many resources online to help you prepare for exams, including the CWC Language Center.

9

Are the lessons face-to-face or online?

Some schools are in-person only, some are online only and some have a mix of both options. Both in-person and on-line produce good results, but it also depends on your availability and learning style. If you need more flexibility because of work or other commitments, then online is a great option. However, if in-person is a possibility, it is a great opportunity to learn with a face to face with an instructor and build community with your fellow classmates.

10

Are the teachers native Germans?

While not mandatory, It is considered best practice so you are able to hear and understand native accents and mannerisms that will be encountered when you arrive to your new job in Germany.

11

What are the school facilities like?

If you are taking in-person classes, make sure you feel comfortable in the learning environment offered by the school. The more comfortable you are, the more you'll be able to focus on learning!



Questions? contact us!

candidates@cw-recruitment.com

