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Occupational German Courses — Deutsch für den Job (B2/C1)

Continue learning after your integration course: Berufssprachkurse (DeuFöV) will bring you to B2 or C1 level — free and government-funded.

Deutsche Begriffe: Berufssprachkurs | DeuFöV | B2-Kurs | Sprachzertifikat | telc

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Occupational German Courses — Deutsch für den Job (B2/C1)

What are Berufssprachkurse?

Berufssprachkurse (officially: DeuFöV — Deutschsprachförderverordnung) are advanced German courses following integration courses. They bring you to **B2 or C1** level — the proficiency required for qualified work in Germany.

Why B2 is so important

Many employers require **at least B2** for:

• Office and administrative jobs

• Healthcare professions (nursing, medicine)

• Skilled trades with customer contact

• Apprenticeships and university studies

Without B2, you're often limited to helper positions — with B2, many doors open.

Who can participate?

- You have completed the **integration course** (or demonstrated B1 level)
- You are **unemployed** or participating in a job center program
- You are doing an **apprenticeship** and need better language skills
- You are **employed**, but your German isn't sufficient for your job

How much do the courses cost?

- **Free** for: unemployed, job seekers, benefit recipients
- **Cost-sharing** (50%) for employed workers with higher income
- **Refund** possible upon passing the exam

Course types

Course	Goal	Duration
B2 Basic Course	B1 → B2	400–500 hours
C1 Basic Course	B2 → C1	400 hours
Nursing Specialist Course	B2 Nursing	600 hours
Trade/Technical Specialist Course	B2 Specialized	300 hours
Retail Specialist Course	B2 Retail	300 hours

How to register?

1. Get authorization

- From your **job center** or **employment agency**
- Or apply directly to **BAMF**

2. Find a course provider

- BAMF course search online
- VHS, private language schools, IHK

3. Placement test

You will be assessed and assigned to the appropriate module.

Exams and certificates

Exam	Level	Recognized for
telc B2	B2	Apprenticeships, university, many professions
telc B2 Nursing	B2	Nursing professions
Goethe B2	B2	Internationally recognized
telc C1 Hochschule	C1	University studies
TestDaF	B2–C1	University entrance

Tips

• **Combine coursework with practice:** Speak as much German as possible at work or during internships

• **Learn specialized vocabulary:** Every profession has its own vocabulary — deliberately learn terms for your field

• **Prepare for exams:** Practice with sample tests (free at telc.net and Goethe-Institut)

• **Don't give up:** B2 takes time — expect 6–12 months of regular learning