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Integrationskurs — The Official German Course

Everything about Integrationskurs: who must participate, how to register, costs, duration, and what is tested at the end.

Deutsche Begriffe: Integrationskurs | BAMF | Deutschkurs | Sprachniveau | B1

Integrationskurs — The Official German Course

What is an Integrationskurs?

The **Integrationskurs** is the most important German course for immigrants in Germany. It is organized by **BAMF** (Federal Office for Migration and Refugees) and consists of two parts:

1. Language course: 600 hours of instruction (Level A1 → B1)

2. Orientation course: 100 hours (Life in Germany — politics, history, rights)

Who must participate?

• **Mandatory** for new immigrants with residence permit and limited German skills (stated in the notice from the foreigners' authority)

• **Voluntary** for EU citizens, late resettlers, or people with better language skills

• **Eligible** are also recognized refugees and tolerated persons

How much does the course cost?

- **Personal contribution:** 2.29 € per hour of instruction (total approx. 1,602 €)
- **Fee waiver** possible for: ALG-II recipients, low income
- **50% reimbursement** if you pass the test on your first attempt within 2 years!

How do you register?

Step 1: Get authorization

- From the **foreigners' authority** (automatically with residence permit)
- Or apply for admission at **BAMF**

Step 2: Find a course provider

- BAMF website: www.bamf.de → Integrationskurse → Course search
- Or locally: VHS (adult education center), private language schools

Step 3: Placement test

You will be assessed by the course provider — depending on your previous knowledge, you start in an appropriate module.

Language levels explained

Level	Description	After Hours
A1	Understand basic sentences	~100 hours
A2	Simple everyday conversations	~200 hours
B1	Independent language use	~600 hours
B2	Fluent for work and studies	Additional courses needed

Final Exam: DTZ

The **Deutsch-Test für Zuwanderer (DTZ)** tests:

- Listening
- Reading

• Writing

• Speaking

Result: B1 (passed), A2 (partially passed), or below A2.

With **B1**, you receive the **Integrationskurs Certificate** — important for:

• Settlement permit

• Naturalization

• Better job opportunities

Tips for success

• **Attend regularly** — too many absences may result in loss of authorization

• **Do homework** and practice 30 minutes daily

• **Use German media:** news, podcasts, YouTube

• **Speak German in everyday life** — even if it's difficult!

• Use the **hamboorg.city assistant** for practice and questions