



Refugees at universities – a practice-oriented handout

The German National Association for Student Affairs (Deutsches Studentenwerk, DSW), the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF), the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) jointly publish the handout "Access to Higher Education for Refugees Germany" („Hochschulzugang und Studium von Flüchtlingen“) for employees working in universities and student services.

More and more refugees would like to study in Germany, a new challenge for universities and student services. Although they have experience with international students for many years, specific questions arise regarding refugees:

Which asylum and residence laws apply to refugees who are interested in higher education? What needs to be considered concerning access to institutions and registration? What type of financial support is available to refugees? Are there offers for specific assistance e.g. for traumatized refugees?

Answers to these questions can be found in the new brochure published by DSW, BAMF, KMK and HRK. Employees of universities and student services can download the brochure from websites of all involved associations and organizations from now on. "The excellent cooperation of all participating organizations enabled the generation of a handout which offers a comprehensive and effective assistance for questions concerning refugees in higher education to employees of universities and student services", says Fr. Uta Dauke, vice president of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees.

In a practical manner step-by-step manner, the brochure examines the paths that refugees may take in accessing higher education, starting with their first orientation session and ending with their studies themselves. All regulations in terms of higher education, work, and social policy are explained and additional information is made available. The brochure is an important tool for universities and student services giving advice to students planning to start studying.

Regardless of the challenges created by the integration of refugees at universities and student services, all involved organizations agree on the opportunities: The approval to a studies program and its successful completion help refugees to gain their footing in society and the job market, while Germany benefits from well-trained graduates in general.

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