



Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg

Behörde für Inneres und Sport & Behörde für Wissenschaft, Forschung, Gleichstellung und Bezirke

Behörde für Inneres und Sport & Behörde für Wissenschaft, Forschung,
Gleichstellung und Bezirke, Johanniswall 4, 20095 Hamburg

19. August 2022

Herzlich Willkommen in Hamburg

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

we would like to welcome you to Hamburg.

You are receiving this letter because you, as a student from Ukraine, have been issued a fictional certificate (so called „Fiktionsbescheinigung“) for the duration of six months in Hamburg in the past weeks. Such a fictional certificate was issued to non-Ukrainian third-country nationals who were forced to interrupt their studies in Ukraine due to the war, and who wish to continue their studies in Hamburg.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg as well as its universities are working together intensively to enable as many of you as possible to take up or continue your studies at a university in Hamburg.

Your fictional certificate has been issued for six months. This gives you six months starting from the date of issue to fulfil the requirements for the issuance of a residence permit for study purposes according to Section 16b of the German Residence Act („Aufenthaltsgesetz“). Proof of fulfilment of these requirements must be submitted to the Office for Migration („Amt für Migration“). There are various possibilities, which we would like to inform you about in this letter. At the same time, we sincerely encourage you to take advantage of the various counselling and support services available.

In order to obtain a residence permit for study purposes, you must first provide one of the following documents:

- proof of acceptance for full-time studies at a state university, at a state-recognized university or at a comparable educational institution, or (*Section 16b, Paragraph 1, Sentence 1 of the Residence Act*)

- proof of attendance of a language course to prepare for studies, if you have been accepted for full-time studies and the acceptance depends on you attending the preparatory language course, or (*Section 16b, Paragraph 1, Sentence 3, No. 1 of the Residence Act*)
- proof of attendance of a preparatory or comparable course prior to studying („Studienkolleg“) if you can prove that you have been accepted for the preparatory or comparable course. (*Section 16b, Paragraph 1, Sentence 3, No. 2 of the Residence Act*)
- Attendance of university preparatory courses is a prerequisite and provides important assistance in case you are not accepted to a university or a Studienkolleg during the period of validity of the fictional certificate. This is because, according to Section 16b, Paragraph 5, Sentence 1, No. 2 of the Residence Act, you can also be granted a residence permit if you have been enrolled in a preparatory language course, without having been accepted for a course of study. In this case, you must prove that the preparatory language course serves to prepare you for your studies and - if necessary, taking into account follow-up language courses - is aimed at acquiring sufficient German language skills to attend university. For this purpose, the universities offer language courses starting from Level B of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Placement in language courses at Level A is handled by the integration offices. (*Section 16b, Paragraph 5, Sentence 1, No. 2 of the Residence Act*)
- Furthermore, you can also be granted a residence title in accordance with Section 16b, Paragraph 5, Sentence 1, No. 3 of the Residence Act if you have been accepted for a (voluntary) preparatory company traineeship. This applies in particular to so-called pre-study internships, the completion of which is a prerequisite for enrolment in a particular course of study. (*Section 16b, Paragraph 5, Sentence 1, No. 3 of the Residence Act*)

Another prerequisite for the issuance of a residence permit according to § 16b AufenthG is that your financial subsistence is ensured. Your subsistence is deemed to be secure if you have monthly funds in the amount of the monthly requirement as determined pursuant to Sections 13 and 13a Paragraph 1 of the Federal Education Assistance Act („Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz“). Generally you must prove that the subsistence is secured for the entire duration of your residence permit, usually for one to two years. Please note that the residence permit for study purposes - unlike your current fictional certificate - does not allow you to receive social benefits.

You can find more detailed information on the above-mentioned requirements in the brochure "Information for international students: Visas, residence and work permits before, during and after your studies" from the Department of the Interior and Sports. You can download it in German and English here: <https://www.hamburg.de/amtfuermigration/service/3724682/studenten/>.

For further information, please contact the international offices of the universities, which are listed below.

Before the validity of your fictional certificate expires, the Office for Migration will also review whether you are entitled to be granted temporary protection in accordance with Section 24 of the Residence Act - i.e. whether on February 24, 2022, you have resided in Ukraine legally, and not just for a temporary short stay, and are unable to return in safe and durable conditions to your country or region of origin. The residence permit according to Section 24 of the

Residence Act also enables you to study and additionally to receive benefits according to the Federal Education Assistance Act.

You also have the option of applying for other residence permits, provided that the reasons for exclusion under Section 19f of the Residence Act do not prevent you from doing so.

We ask for your understanding that the period of validity of your fictional certificate can not be extended, unless the examination of the requirements of temporary protection according to Section 24 of the Residence Act has not yet been completed. With the issue of the six-month fictional certificate, Hamburg exhausts all its legal possibilities to enable you to acquire a residence permit for study purposes. Please bear in mind that your application will have to be rejected if the above mentioned conditions are not met after the six months have expired.

If you would like to know more in detail whether studying or working in Hamburg is an option for you, you can find out more here:

On August 23, 2022 at 10 a.m., there will be an online information event via Zoom. At the event you can find out, about the study opportunities offered by the universities and colleges in Hamburg. The Hamburg Welcome Center will also provide information about its services and present alternatives to studying. More information on the event and registration can be found at this link: <https://welcome.hamburg.de/hwc-events/>.

Support and information for international prospective students

Universität Hamburg

<https://www.uni-hamburg.de/en/uhhhilft-ukraine.html>

Mail: uhhilft-ukraine@uni-hamburg.de

Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg

<https://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/international/students-with-refugee-experience/>

Mail: kompetenz-kompakt@haw-hamburg.de

HafenCity Universität Hamburg - Universität für Baukunst und Metropolenentwicklung

<https://www.hcu-hamburg.de/en/student-services/for-prospective-students/international-prospective-students>

Mail: studierendenservice@vw.hcu-hamburg.de

Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg

[HFBK: Ukrainische Kunststudierende willkommen! \(hfbk-hamburg.de\)](https://www.hfbk-hamburg.de/en/ukrainische-kunststudierende-willkommen/)

Mail: ukraine@hfbk.hamburg.de

Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg

<https://www.hfmt-hamburg.de/die-hfmt/internationales/>

Mail: international@hfmt-hamburg.de

Technische Universität Hamburg

<https://www.tuhh.de/tuhh/en/international/incoming-international-students/support-for-students-scientists-from-ukraine.html>

Mail: study@tuhh.de