

Housing Information for Students in Cooperation Programmes

The International Office can dispose over appr. 70 rooms in **student residences run by the 'Studierendenwerk Bielefeld'** (student welfare organisation). These rooms are reserved for cooperation students who stay at Bielefeld University for one or two semesters. Rental contracts are with the Studierendenwerk Bielefeld. At present, places are available in the student residences in Morgenbreede, Stennerstraße, Universitätsstraße, Jakob-Kaiser-Straße and Wertherstraße. As places in the student residences are not sufficient, the housing service of the International Office also looks for private accommodation possibilities which can be conveyed to international students.

In winter semester the places in student residences will be available for students attending the orientation programme with intensive German language course which begins in September. If more than 70 students register for this course, some students will receive an offer for **private accommodation**. This may be a (furnished) room in a shared house or flat together with other students, a room/an apartment with a family ('zur Untermiete') or a separate apartment. Students who receive offers for private accommodation must get into contact with the landlord/landlady immediately afterwards in regard to conditions and arrangements. Please note that we usually can only present one offer of private accommodation per person. Students who arrive only in October might receive an offer for private accommodation.

In summer semester appr. 35 places will again be available for new incoming students in student residences run by the Studierendenwerk Bielefeld. In addition, the International Office provides offers for private accommodation.

Equipment of the rooms in student residences

In the student residence 'Morgenbreede' and 'Stennerstr.' apartments for single use are available. Student apartments in the residences have a kitchen line with fridge and a small bathroom and are equipped with a DSL-connection. They are furnished with bed, desk, shelves and a wardrobe. A blanket, pillow and bed linen are provided, as well as dishes, cutlery and cooking pots.

The rooms in Universitätsstraße are part of shared flats ('Wohngemeinschaft' = WG): five international students share two bathrooms and a big kitchen. The rooms in Jakob-Kaiser-Straße and Wertherstraße are also part of shared flats (WG), however just two international students share a bathroom and a kitchen. Apart from this the flats are furnished and equipped as the apartments.

The internet connection in the student residences is available via LAN cable, no WIFI is provided. If students want to use WIFI, they have to buy a router in Bielefeld (~ 75 €).

Rental terms in student residences

Rental contracts with the 'Studierendenwerk Bielefeld' are bound to fixed and limited periods of time. These periods are binding for all students who rent rooms, which are reserved for cooperation programmes and cannot be altered:

- In **winter semester**: 6 months: **September to February**
 11 months: **September to July** (if stay is for one academic year).
- In **summer semester**: 5 months: **March to July**.

Housing Costs

Accommodation for cooperation students in student residences costs at present a monthly rent of 250 to 350 Euro, utilities included. The **deposit** for a room or apartment let by the Studierendenwerk Bielefeld is **300 Euro**. **This deposit has to be paid (by bank transfer) already about two months before the move-in date in order to reserve the room/apartment.** The deposit serves as security for the rent of the first month and will be returned after moving out, if there are no outstanding payments and the accommodation is not damaged.

In addition, a monthly amount of 17,50 € per flat/apartment has to be paid. This is the 'Rundfunkbeitrag' (a statutory licence fee for TV and radio in Germany). Shared flats will split the amount between all flatmates.

Private accommodation costs between 300 and 450 Euro a month, depending on size, location and equipment, and usually also requires payment of a deposit.

Accommodation Request and Room Reservation

Please apply for the accommodation service in the online portal as soon as possible, if you wish to make use of it. Closing dates for this service are:

May 31 for a stay in **winter semester** or the **whole academic year**;
November 30 for a stay in **summer semester**.

After the closing dates we will allocate the rooms available and then send out either a form with a binding offer for a place in a student residence run by the 'Studierendenwerk' or an offer for private accommodation. Please note that even if it may take a while until you receive information, we will in any case send an offer for residential or private accommodation! So it is important that you check your mail regularly and can react without delay.

The **signed form with the binding offer** for a place in student housing by the 'Studierendenwerk' has to be returned immediately and the deposit transferred in order to reserve the place.

Students who receive an offer for private accommodation, should immediately contact the landlord/landlady or flatmates in regard to rental conditions and in order to save the place.

Arrival in Bielefeld

Please note: It is not possible to move into a student residence on the weekend or a public holiday. If you arrive in Bielefeld in the evening after 18.00 hrs or on the weekend you can stay overnight at one of these hostels:

Jugendgästehaus

Hermann-Kleinewächter-Str. 1
D-33602 Bielefeld
Tel. +49 521 5 22 05-0
jgh-bielefeld@djh-wl.de
www.djh-wl.de/jh/bielefeld

Kolpinghaus

August-Bebel-Str. 7A
D-33602 Bielefeld
Tel. +49 521 60363
info@kolpinghaus-bielefeld.de
www.kolpinghaus-bielefeld.de

Please reserve a place well ahead of time!

It is also an option to stay in a hostel in case you have a place in a student residence and arrive before the scheduled move-in date.

People who stay in **private accommodation** should contact the landlord/landlady or flatmates about the move-in date. In this situation, it may be possible to move in on the weekend.

If you have further questions please contact us via email: wohnen-io@uni-bielefeld.de