TUM International Student Guide
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Greetings from the President

On behalf of our faculty and staff, I warmly welcome you, our international students, to the Technical University of Munich (TUM).

We are delighted that you have chosen to study at our university. TUM strives to maintain its international reputation for quality in teaching and research and to provide students with an excellent education. The international students at our university are among the best in their chosen fields of study. As a student at TUM, you have many options. We not only offer a top-notch disciplinary education, but also promote community-building activities beyond everyday student life.

I hope that you will quickly feel at home as a member of the university community and that your studies at the Technical University of Munich will be a successful and exciting part of your education and personal development.

With my kindest regards,

Professor Wolfgang A. Herrmann
President

The Technical University of Munich (TUM)

TUM was founded in 1868 to provide a center of learning dedicated to the natural sciences for the state of Bavaria. Ever since, TUM has played a vital role in Europe’s technological advancement and is renowned for producing a number of Nobel Prize winners.

Milestones

1868  King Ludwig II founded a „Polytechnic School“ organized like a university
1901  Granted the right to award doctorates
1930  Integration of the College of Agriculture and Brewing in Weihenstephan
1958  Research Reactor Munich (FRM), Garching officially assigned to the TH München
2002  Offshore-Campus founded in Singapore
2006  TUM one of three successful universities in Germany’s excellence initiative
2012  Munich Center for Technology in Society established

Social Media at TUM

Facebook, YouTube and more: TUM gives you the latest from research and campus life via its official social media profiles

www.facebook.com/TU.Muenchen
https://twitter.com/TU_Muenchen
www.youtube.com/user/TUMuenchen1
Settling down... in Munich and at TUM
Arrival

Getting to the TUM City Campus

From the Airport
The trains (“S-Bahn”) depart every ten minutes from the airport and take approximately 45 minutes to reach the city center. It is recommended to buy an Airport-City Day Ticket, which is valid for the entire transit network. Take the train S1 or S8 to Munich central station (“Hauptbahnhof”).

From Munich Central Station
At Munich Central Station take the metro-line (“U-Bahn”) U2, destination Feldmoching, and exit the metro at stations “Königsplatz” or “Theresienstraße”. From both of these, it is only a few minutes’ walk to the main campus. Alternative ways to get to Munich Central Station: You can either get the Lufthansa Airport Bus or take a taxi. The ticket for the bus costs around 11 € and is valid for the bus ride only. The taxi ride will cost approx. 60 € from Munich Airport to Munich Central Station.

More information on public transportation in Munich (MVV)
www.mvv-muenchen.de/en/tickets-fares/tickets/day-tickets/airport-city-day-ticket/index.html

Getting to Garching

From the airport
You can get the S1 to Neufahrn and from there take the bus no. 690 to reach Garching Campus. Alternatively, you can get the S8 to Ismaning and take the bus no. 230.

From Munich Central Station
Take the metro lines U1 or U2 to Sendlinger Tor. At Sendlinger Tor, change to the metro line U6 which takes you directly to Garching Campus. Exit the metro at the final stop “Garching Forschungszentrum”.

www.tum.de/en/about-tum/contact-directions/

Getting around Munich is easy once you understood Munich’s public transportation network provided by the MVV.

The MVV provides diverse means of transportation:

U-Bahn: Munich’s underground network mainly runs in the inner circle of the MVV network. The only line which leaves the inner network circle is the underground line leading to Garching.

S-Bahn: You can use the suburban train network to reach the outskirts of Munich.

Bus and Tram: The bus and tram system in Munich is well developed. They are a good alternative to using the underground.

Train: Trains leave from “Hauptbahnhof” and “Ostbahnhof” to cities all over Europe.

MVV-Semester Ticket:
The MVV-Semester Ticket allows you to use the whole transportation network in Munich (inner and outer circles) for a whole semester, day and night. Please note that this offer is only valid for students.
Are you searching for a seminar room? Take a look at the TUM roomfinder:
https://portal.mytum.de/campus/roomfinder/

Room numbering:
1. digit – floor number
2. digit – wing number
3. and 4. digit (combined) – the actual room number
4. Example: Room number 1321
   Floor 1/Wing 3/Room 21

Buy a bike or make use of the MVV bikes to explore Munich.
www.muenchen.de/int/en/traffic/biking.html

Travel through Germany by bus or with the „Bayernticket“.
www.mvv-muenchen.de

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Student Support Services

Student Service Center

Student Service Desk
The Service Desk of the Student Service Center is the primary contact point for students. We are here to help you with issues such as applications, enrollment, student cards etc.

Visit us in person:
Student Service Center – Service Desk
Arcisstraße 21
80333 München

Opening hours:
Mon – Fri: 09:00 – 12:00 h
Mon – Thu: 13:00 – 16:00 h

E-Mail and Telephone:
Tel.: +49.89.289.22245
E-Mail: study@tum.de

Telephone hours:
Mon: 09:00 – 12:00 h
Tue – Thu: 13:00 – 16:00 h
Fri: 09:00 – 12:00 h

Student Advising

Our student advisors offer either personal appointments or by telephone and are happy to give advice regarding such things as university entrance qualification, choosing or changing your degree program, making the transition from bachelor’s to master’s, housing and any other questions concerning your studies. You will also find many answers to your academic queries on:
www.tum.de/en/studies

Appointments must be arranged by telephone in advance.
Tel.: +49.89.289.22737

For detailed information:
www.tum.de/en/studies/advising
International Center

The Welcome Office of the International Center is the first contact for international exchange students at TUM. It can help and advise you on a variety of issues from application for an exchange to various formalities to life as a student in Munich.

TUMi is devoted to the support of our international students and offers a wide range of events throughout the semester. For example, it organizes “orientation weeks” at the start of your studies in Munich to help you quickly find your way and stay on track. Many of its activities are also open to German students of TUM, as TUMi aims to be a meeting point between international and Germans students of TUM.

Welcome Office
Arcisstr. 21
80333 München
E-Mail: incoming@zv.tum.de
www.international.tum.de/en/

Further services

Student Service Center
Application & Enrollment
Scholarships
Student Advice
Barrier-Free Education
Housing Search Assistance
www.tum.de/en/studies/

Career Service
Network and Contacts
Career Orientation
Job Search
Application
International Career
www.together.tum.de/en/career/

TUM International Center
Studies & Internships Abroad
Welcome Office for Exchange Students
Orientation Weeks
www.international.tum.de/en/home

Alumni & Mentoring
Alumni Network
TUM Mentoring for Students by the Alumni
www.together.tum.de/en/alumni/
Further services

TUM Language Center
Courses in 17 Languages
Academic Writing
Assistance with German
English Writing Center
Intercultural Communication
TUMtandem
http://www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de/en/homepage/

Carl-von-Linde Akademie & ProLehre
Coaching
Learning to Learn –
Studying Successfully
Coaching
www.cvl-a.mcts.tum.de/en/startseite

TUM Family
Finding Suitable Childcare
Holiday Childcare

Munich Student Union
BAföG Advice
Student Credit Advice
Psychotherapeutic &
Psychosocial Counselling
Legal Advice Service
Accommodation Service
www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/en/

TUM Schools and Departments and Contacts

The Technical University of Munich encompasses 14 schools and departments:

- Architecture www.ar.tum.de
- Bavarian School of Public Policy www.hfpm.de
- Chemistry www.ch.tum.de
- Civil, Geo and Environmental Engineering www.bgu.tum.de
- Electrical and Computer Engineering www.ei.tum.de
- Informatics www.in.tum.de
- Mathematics www.ma.tum.de/Mathematik/WebHome
- Mechanical Engineering www.mw.tum.de
- TUM School of Medicine www.med.tum.de
- Physics www.ph.tum.de
- Sport and Health Sciences www.sg.tum.de
- TUM School of Education www.edu.tum.de
- TUM School of Management www.wi.tum.de/en
- TUM School of Life Sciences Weihenstephan www.wzw.tum.de

The TUM schools and departments are home to a broad range of Chairs, whose faculty teach and research in their respective fields of specialization.

If you have subject specific questions about your degree program and related issues you may turn to the Departmental Student Advisors:

http://portal.mytum.de/studium/studiengaenge/fachberatung.

They can even help you with inquiries into career fields.
TUM Schools and Departments and Contacts

Examinations
The office of student affairs in your department is responsible for organizing course work examinations in the individual degree programs, examination registration and cancellation, certificates and withdrawals, administration of grades and the publication of examination results. Each course of study has a corresponding examination committee within the school of department. The examination offices create the Notification of Examination Results on a semester basis, as well as degree program documents, preliminary degree certificates and benefits statements, such as social security and family/child allowances.

Contacts and details:
www.tum.de/en/studies/during-your-studies/examinations/

Are you an exchange student? Then contact the International Center or the TUM International Affairs Delegate of your school or department.

www.international.tum.de/en/contact-and-counseling/international-affairs-delegates/

First-semester events organized by the schools or departments/the student council for first-year students
Be sure to attend orientation events held by your school or department or the student council, as this is where you can pick up a good deal of valuable first-hand information and advice:
www.tum.de/en/studies/international-students/studentorientation/

Getting started

Checklist

Have you already been admitted to a degree program at TUM? We have put together a checklist with the important steps that you should undertake when arriving in Munich:

- Search affordable accommodation
- Take out a health insurance policy
- Pay the student fees
- Print out your enrollment documents
- Register your address at the Residence Registration Office
- Open a bank account
- Pick up your student card
- Find out about courses in your school or department and register for classes
- Check orientation activities
- Register at the TUM University Library
- From a non-EU country? Apply for a residence permit
- Discover your new home (guided city tours, student councils (Fachschaften), language tandems, university sport, university orchestra/choir...)

Examining
TUM warmly welcomes its international students, who make up 22% of our student population. The following services will help you settle in quickly and enjoy life at TUM.

**Central Services at TUM**

**Fit for TUM (Winter Semester)**
Heads up, first-year students! TUM offers a wide range of services and support initiatives for students. Find out more at the service fair Fit for TUM.

[www.tum.de/servicemesse-studienstart](http://www.tum.de/servicemesse-studienstart)

**Pre-Study Course**
On your marks, get set, TUM! A place for you at TUM has been confirmed, but you would like to get a head-start and get to know Munich and TUM before the semester starts? A pre-study course might be just what you’re looking for!

[www.tum.de/prestudy-course](http://www.tum.de/prestudy-course)

**Welcome Summer (Summer Semester)**
Are you starting at TUM in the summer semester and would like to connect with fellow students before your courses begin? Then TUM’s Welcome Summer event is the place to go!

[www.tum.de/welcome-summer](http://www.tum.de/welcome-summer)

**TUMi Orientation Weeks**
Heads up, all exchange students! TUMinternational (TUMi) organizes orientation weeks at the start of every semester. Use this great opportunity to learn more about life at TUM and get to know other students.


**Services Offered by TUM Schools and Departments:**

**Mathematics Prep Courses**
If you are starting a course in Mathematics, Physics, Informatics, Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering or Civil Engineering and Surveying, why not refresh your math skills before embarking on your course and get to know your fellow students?

[www.ma.tum.de/Vorkurse/WebHome](http://www.ma.tum.de/Vorkurse/WebHome)

**Tutoring and Buddy Programs**
Settling into new surroundings can be difficult. But it’s a lot easier if you have someone to call on for support, whether that be a mentor, a tutor or a ‘buddy’. Nearly all of the schools and departments at TUM offer support for new students in the form of tutoring or ‘buddy’ programs. International students are usually paired up with a German partner who can answer study-related questions, as well as give advice on everyday life in Munich.

[www.tum.de/en/studies/international-students/tutoringandbuddyprograms/](http://www.tum.de/en/studies/international-students/tutoringandbuddyprograms/)

**Leisure Time and Networking Opportunities**
You can network with TUM students from other courses by taking part in leisure activities. There are also student groups for different nationalities. They are a great way to get valuable advice and enjoy a bit of your native culture here in Munich.

[www.tum.de/en/studies/international-students/leisuretimeandnetworking/](http://www.tum.de/en/studies/international-students/leisuretimeandnetworking/)
“When I arrived in my new home to study, I was very happy. I tried to be more ‘German’ than the Germans. I was in love with the new culture, the beautiful sounds of the foreign language, the people, and the food. Everything was just perfect. Without any advanced notice, I was overwhelmed by homesickness from one day to the other. Suddenly, there was this feeling of sadness, loneliness. I started asking myself if it really was the right decision to move to this place so far away from home.”

Does this sound familiar? Many international students (and sometimes even German students away from home for the first time) experience homesickness. The overwhelming sense of homesickness can affect everybody, whether you have experience living abroad or not.

Take a look at how international TUM students deal with homesickness:

Food! Munich is a very international city. There are many great restaurants with cuisines from all over the world. If you enjoy cooking, you can also cook some dishes that you love back home. Nothing fights the homesickness better than the tasty home food.”

Lifan, China

“Best way to do reduce homesickness is to make lot of friends. Make a lot of trips, Munich has plenty of leisure spots right from picturesque landscapes to crazy party places. Spend more time on your hobbies. When you have ample time, explore your self and inner peace.”

Babu, India

“Participate in a lot of activities that TUM organizes and go to several of the events that Munich has throughout the year. By attending those events, one forgets the idea of home and enjoys more the time that is here.”

Octaviano, Mexico

Are you looking for inspiration for travel in and around Munich, meeting new people, discovering the city and spend time on your hobbies? Take a look at the chapter “Student life” (p. 38-49) in this guide.
Languages and Intercultural Communication

SprachDUO
SprachDUO gives you the chance to find a language partner from your chosen country.

http://muenchen.sprachduo.de/start?form_lang=2

German Hub
The Protestant Student Society of Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich organizes a German hub – a regular get-together to practice speaking German with different language exercises.

www.esg.uni-muenchen.de/artikel/271/werkstatt-deutsch-konversation-redeuebungen-in-der-gruppe

Intercultural

Intercultural Communication
The TUM Language Center offers seminars on intercultural communication for international students – the perfect way to acquire new competencies and get ready for your studies.

www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de/en/our-services/intercultural-communication/

TUM Housing Search Assistance and Advice

Come to Munich – Be at Home
Come to Munich - Be at Home brings international and German students together in intercultural communication workshops and leisure activities.

www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de/en/our-services/intercultural-communication/

"Servus, wurscht, pfiat di" - learn a little bit of Bavarian.

Do you need help with German academic writing? As an international student, you can receive help with your German academic writing projects. Take a look on how to book an appointment:

www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de/en/languages/german-as-a-foreign-language/schreibberatung-assistance-with-german-academic-writing

5 Golden Tips for Finding Accommodation

1. Start in good time:
Nearly all first-year students tend to start looking for accommodation at the beginning of the winter semester, i.e., October and November. This may be too late, as accommodations go fast!

Semester dates:

2. Read advertisements carefully:
It is important to understand the abbreviations used in classified ads to avoid any unwelcome surprises!

Bilingual Glossary:
www.researcher.international.tum.de/en/accommodation-service/faqs-abbreviations-terminology

3. Be quick to respond:
Apply immediately when you see a new ad - such as in the TUM housing online exchange:

4. Make a good impression when you view a flat: Bring guarantees/references, proof of income and perhaps even your CV. It is important that the landlord gains trust in you.

5. Look further afield: Rent on the outskirts of Munich is often a lot cheaper (two euros per square meter) than in the city center, especially in the vicinity of the university itself. Distance is not an issue, however, thanks to Munich’s excellent transport network.

Residential areas in Munich: www.muenchen.de/rathaus/Stadtverwaltung/Sozialereferat/Wohungsamt/Mietspiegel/Wohnlagenkarten.html

For more information: www.tum.de/en/university-life/accommodations/tips-for-finding-accommodation

Administrative Matters

Resident Registration

All students who move to Munich for more than two months must register within one week of their arrival at the Resident Registration Office.

If you live in Munich, you must register at the Resident Registration Office (Einwohnermeldeamt) of the city official (Bürgerbüro), which is part of the Department of Public Order (Kreisverwaltungsreferat or KVR). To register, you will need your passport or identification card as well as a confirmation in writing from your landlord or property owner. On presenting these, you will receive a registration confirmation in written form, which is often required by other institutions or authorities.

Students who do not live in Munich need to register at the offices of the municipality where they reside (e.g. Freising or Garching). NB: Before leaving Munich, please remember to deregister.

www.muenchen.de/rathaus/home_en/Department-of-Public-Order/Registration-Deregistration

Bank Account

We recommend that you open an account at a German bank so that, for example, your monthly rent can be debited automatically. Major banks in Germany include, for instance, Deutsche Bank, Dresdner Bank, (Stadt-)Sparkasse, Volksbank, Raiffeisenbank, HypoVereinsbank, Spardabank and Postbank. You will need to bring along your passport, proof of resident registration and your university enrollment documents.

Do you need information on blocked accounts? Major German banks provide FAQs in English for international students which may help you answer your questions.

Please note: Account management should be free-of-charge for students.

Be sure that you pay your GEZ fees.
www.rundfunkbeitrag.de
Applying for a Residence Permit

Students from the EU or from Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein do not have to apply for a residence permit. However, they are obliged to register (see above). All other students need to apply for a residence permit within 3 months after entering Germany.

Required Documents:
• Proof of resident registration
• Valid passport
• Proof of adequate funding
• Proof of adequate health insurance
• Enrollment documents from TUM
• Completed application form for the granting/renewal of a residence permit
• A biometric passport photograph

www.muenchen.de/rathaus/home_en/Department-of-Public-Order/Foreigners-Office/student-visa-residence/new-students

Entry Requirements

Students from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, the Republic of Korea, Israel and Switzerland can enter Germany without a visa, but need to apply for a residence permit within 3 months after their arrival. Students from all other countries need to apply for a visa at the German Embassy of their home country. Please do not travel to Germany on a tourist visa, as this cannot be converted into a student visa once you are in Germany! Please contact the German Embassy/Consulate in your home country for detailed information.

Exemptions from mandatory health insurance: Students starting their 15th semester (or higher) of active enrollment in their degree program [Fachsemester], students aged 30 or over, as well as doctoral students, are not required to have health insurance coverage.

Health Insurance

All students in Germany are required to have health insurance. You must therefore provide proof of health insurance in order to enroll at a German university. We recommend you apply for your health insurance certificate as soon as possible as your enrollment at TUM will not be complete until this proof is provided.

Check out the different options on how to show proof of your medical coverage depending on your personal situation: students covered by a public health insurance plan, students covered by a private health insurance plan, students from the EU or from Non-EU countries. More information can be obtained on the following website: www.tum.de/studium/bewerbung/krankenversicherung

International students in Munich who are in Germany on a student visa need to inform the Aliens’ Registration Office (Ausländerbehörde) about any changes to their situation. If you, for example, change your course of study, graduate etc., please do not forget to inform the Alien’s Office.
IT Services

TUM Account

Your TUM account is created during the application process. It gives you access to several IT services at the TUM.

To login you will need your TUM-mail address or your TUM-ID in combination with your password.

Your TUM ID can be found on TUMonline under the heading „e-mail addresses“. It consists of 7 characters (2 letters – 2 numbers – 3 letters, e.g. gu27cat).

The corresponding personal password is the same password as the one you used to register at TUMonline. You can also change your password in TUMonline.

E-mail

After enrollment it is advised that you set up your TUM-mail account in TUMonline under “e-mail addresses”, as TUM sends important notifications to this address. It has the following form e.g. joe.bloggs@tum.de. You can also forward these e-mails to your private e-mail account.

We recommend you use our e-mail system Microsoft exchange. To find further information follow the link:
www.it.tum.de/en/faq/it-services/e-mail

TUMonline

TUMonline is the Campus Management system. Log in with your TUM-ID and your password.

Course and exam registration takes place in “Study Status/Curriculum”. Choose your course/exam and click the green letter (T/ P). Then check the box to participate.

You are not automatically registered for the exam by registering for the course. If the letter is not green, the course is not open for registration.

www.campus.tum.de

Moodle

Moodle is the central learning platform at TUM. It provides students with learning materials from the lectures and has many other functions, too.

Not every school and department uses moodle to distribute their learning materials. Your lecturer can inform you of any alternative platform they may use.

Your moodle account is created automatically. To enter the platform, log in with your TUM-ID and your personal password.

Registration for moodle courses occurs automatically after registering for courses via TUMonline.

www.moodle.tum.de/?lang=en

WLAN/Wi-Fi

Internet access runs via eduroam and is free for students on campus. In Munich eduroam is also available at Marienplatz, Karlsplatz (Stachus), Sendlinger Tor, Odeonsplatz and some other highly-frequented places.

Select eduroam as a network and register with your TUM-ID and the appendix @eduroam.mwn.de.

Your password is your personal password.

To find further information follow the link:
www.lrz.de/services/netz/wlan_en/
IT Services

Storage Cloud

The Leibniz-Rechenzentrum provides you with a personal storage area to which only you have access.

To use it you will need to download a VPN client via asa-cluster.lrz.de. Login with your TUM-ID and your personal password. You can also access the storage cloud via browser using the webdisk: https://webdisk.ads.mwn.de (login with TUM-ID and personal password).

If you want to share data with others, you can do this via the web interface \MWNtemp or by using the service Sync+Share: https://syncandshare.lrz.de/login

Free Software

The TUM offers a wide range of free software including Windows, Office 365, MathWorks, Apple on Campus and many more.

You can find available software on TUMonline under “Services”/“Software”. Use your TUM-ID and your personal password to register.

Check the IT Guide available at the Student Service Desk or access the following links for further information.

www.it.tum.de/en/home
www.it.tum.de/en/it-support
www.it.tum.de/en/students

Good Online/Email Communication Practice

When starting your degree program at TUM, you will be able to set up your TUM email account. Apart from your student email, you can use different means of online communication during your studies, e.g. the learning platform moodle.tum.de. When using email, learning platforms or social media platforms, it is indispensable to respect certain rules and conventions of good online communication practice. They are known by the term of “netiquette”.

Common sense tells us to respect our fellow students and university staff when communicating electronically to make sure that the communication is pleasant for all sides.

With a university population of more than 20% international students, you will be part of a truly international learning community. This requires a high sensibility when communicating with others, especially electronically, as additional information like gestures and facial expressions are missing. Always keep in mind that the person you are communicating with may not have the same sense of humor as you or might be offended by certain comments.

Some advice for writing emails in an academic context (especially to professors, academic or administrative staff at the university):

- The content and the formulation of your email should be appropriate to the addressee.
- Please use a suitable form of address.
- Some responses may sound rude if they are too short, even though this may be so only because you are short on time. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you take the time to think about how your message could sound to the receiver.
- Ways of communicating considered to be impolite: e.g. putting several punctuation marks one after another, using capitals only.

Read more about IT Services at TUM. (p. 30)

Do you want to immerse yourself in the fascinating world of intercultural communication? Read more about intercultural training offerings at TUM (p. 24)
The university library comprises nine branch libraries situated at the TUM campuses in Munich, Garching, Freising and Straubing.

As a TUM student, you can profit from large and extensive collections of electronic and printed media that is available for loan or online for full-text downloads. The library also offers numerous study areas, study carrels and group study rooms.

Your StudentCard serves as your library card. All you need to do is accept the library regulations in your TUMonline account and visit one of the branch libraries to activate your library account. Your library user ID on the back of your StudentCard is then valid for login into the online catalogue (OPAC).

Explore more library services: Take part in a library tour or visit one of the numerous courses covering topics such as search strategies, citing or reference management. Have a look at upcoming events: www.ub.tum.de/en/studying-working www.ub.tum.de/en/opening-hours www.ub.tum.de/en/branch-libraries www.ub.tum.de/en/first-level-hotline

TUM provides numerous e-books and e-journals as learning material for students. To explore the e-media collections off-campus or via wireless network, please log in with your TUM ID via eAccess! www.ub.tum.de/en/eaccess

The library offers you free scanning facilities in its branch libraries.

Need a place to study? Check out the different study areas of the university library. www.ub.tum.de/en/facilities

In General
Munich is a beautiful and attractive city which makes living in Munich relatively expensive. According to current calculations you will need at least 850€ a month for living in the Bavarian Capital.

This amount covers just the basic needs, but does not for example include costs for free-time activities.

If you are applying for your visa, you will need to present proof that you will have 659€ per month at your disposal.

www.muenchen.de/rathaus/wirtschaft_en/international-resources/cost-of-living

Monthly Expenses
Adding up to the 850€ are several expenses:
• Rent (including utilities): 350 - 600 €
• Food: ca. 300 €
• Public Transport: ca. 50 €
• Health Insurance: ca. 80 €
• Phone/Internet/Broadcasting fees: 45 €

Because of the high rent in Munich, it is important to start early with searching for affordable accommodation. You should also consider looking for accommodations in the outskirts of Munich which are often cheaper than in the center. TUM's housing search assistance supports students and employees in their search for accommodation by providing personal advice, in-house listings and useful information to ensure you quickly find a place to call your own.

A less expensive alternative to private housing is living in a dormitory of the Munich Student Union. The rooms usually cost 280 to 350 Euros a month.

www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/en/accommodation
www.tum.de/en/university-life/accommodations/international-students-and-scientists
Cost of Living in Munich and Financial Aid

Other expenses

**Student Fee Payment:** Students have to pay their student fees in a designated period before the start of each semester: 117 € in the winter semester 16/17. Please note that the amount might change in the upcoming semester.


**Basic Semester Ticket:** The semester ticket includes public transportation from 6 pm to 6 am on weekdays and public transportation all day long on weekends and holidays. It is included in the student fee payment.

**IsarCard Semester:** The IsarCard semester enables students to use all forms of transportation within the entire public transportation network at any time: 189 €/semester.

**Residence Permit:** First time applicants must pay 110€. Renewing your permit costs 65-80€.

Financial Aid

Are you looking for a suitable scholarship? The Scholarship Office can inform you about the scholarship programs offered by the TUM.

TUM awards scholarships for international students. Good academic records and verification of need (e.g. low income of parents) are required.

As an undergraduate student you must have completed at least two semesters at TUM, for graduate students only one completed semester is required.

**The Germany’s National Scholarship at TUM**

The Germany’s national scholarship at TUM supports talented students who assume responsibility and show outstanding social commitment.

Do you need any advice regarding scholarships? Please make an appointment for a personal consultation: stipendien@zv.tum.de


To save money, you can buy things second hand or visit a rummage sale. Check out the rummage sales in different quarters of Munich. [www.muenchen.de/veranstaltungen/events/flohmaerkte.html](http://www.muenchen.de/veranstaltungen/events/flohmaerkte.html)

Visit Munich’s markets in the evening. They tend to reduce their food prices a lot.

Settling down…

in Munich and at TUM
In the Café Vorhoelzer

Student Life
Student Representation

Departmental Student Councils (Fachschaften)

The departmental student council consists of active members who represent students vis-à-vis the faculty of their school or department.

Not only do they organize events, but they also actively represent the students’ interests when it comes to political matters, such as improving your studies, investing your financial means and dealing with legal matters. If you have any questions concerning your studies, your student council is the first place to go.

At TUM there are 20 different student councils:

- Munich City: Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering, TUM-WIN und TUM-NAWI, TUM-BWL, Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, TeacherTUM, Medicine, Sport and Health Sciences
- Garching: Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, Informatics, MSE-School of Engineering
- Weihenstephan: Agricultural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Forestry and Wood Science, Landscape Architecture and Landscape Planning, Brewing and Food Technology, Nutritional Science, RStV

Student Government

The Student Government discusses subjects that concern students from all schools and departments. They meet regularly every three weeks. The meetings are public, so everyone has a right to talk in front of the Student Government. When decisions need to be made, every Student Council has a certain number of votes to contribute to the decision.

The Student Government elects its chairmen, speakers and representatives.

Elected students form the ASTA („Allgemeiner Studentischer Ausschuss”), which meets every Tuesday at 7 pm to discuss topics concerning TUM and general student affairs.

Sport Activities

The University Sports Center (ZHS)

If you are interested in complementing your student life with sports, take a look at the program of the University Sports Center (ZHS).

The ZHS is a sports facility for students in Munich that promotes free, open and competitive sports for students at the universities in Munich, Freising and Landshut.

With more than 600 individual courses in more than 100 different disciplines, the ZHS offers a professional and diverse program.

Facilities

The sport facilities are located all around Munich, Freising and Landshut. The main sports grounds include the TUM Campus in Munich’s Olympic park, the Olympic training pools, the water sports facilities at Starnberger See and the Olympic regatta facilities in Ober–schleißheim.

Explore the TUM water sports facilities at Starnberger See to cool down on hot summer days. You have free entrance with your ZHS-ID card. Without ZHS membership, you will need to pay 2 € as a TUM student.

Course Registration:
To take part in a course, you need to obtain a sports pass and purchase the corresponding “Semestermarke”. After receiving your sports pass you can register for all courses you are able to access with your token (Semestermarke). You can register for a course before obtaining a sports pass. Once you have registered for a course, please print the registration form and take it to the course together with your sports pass.

For information on the different choice of sport activities or course registration check the website of the ZHS: https://www.zhs-muenchen.de/en/home/
Sport Activities

What is the “Semestermarke”?  
The “Semestermarke” is a token that you can purchase together with your sports pass. You can choose between different tokens that will grant you access to different kinds of facilities for a semester. To purchase the token, you will need to fill in an online registration form. Print the online form and the authorization for direct debit and take it with you to get your sports pass and the token. You will need your StudentCard, passport and a recent passport photo. There are several service desks where you can pick up the sports pass and your token. Please note that ZHS only hands out the tokens during a certain time period at the beginning of each semester.

Watch the guys from FC Bayern München train for their top league games at their training grounds in Säbener Straße.

Your Very Personal Impression of Germany

What do you think of when you hear “Bavaria”? Beer, Dirndl and Lederhosen? Munich and Bavaria have much more to offer than its history of beer and the typical Oktoberfest scenarios.

When studying at TUM, you can learn more about Germany and its people. Off the beaten track, you have the chance to form your own, in-depth perception of Munich, Bavaria and the German people – the key to any culture is the people. International students may find it hard to get to know German students in their degree programs especially in big programs with more than 500 first-semester students. Make the first step and address your German fellow students. Often, it is easier to make new friends with students who have common interests. University life at TUM has a lot to offer apart from academics: University sport, music ensembles, participation in student councils and groups, languages and much more. You will find lots of inspiration in this handbook as well. If asked the same question again after two years of study, what would you say then?
Food

Food (especially healthy food) is essential for every student. But food is not just about nutrition, dining in Munich can be a really delicious and delightful experience.

www.muenchen.de/int/en/restaurants/eating-out

Bavarian Food
Everyone has heard about Bavaria’s famous Bier, Brezen and Sauerkraut. But have you ever tried a Schweinshaxn or a real Bavarian roast pork with dumplings? If not, visit of one Munich’s many Bavarian restaurants and beer gardens!

Beer Gardens
As soon as the temperature rises, everyone in Munich is drawn to their favorite local beer garden. Why not find your own personal favorite while living in Munich? Some of the best known beer gardens in Munich include the Hofbräukeller, the beer garden at the Chinesischer Turm or the beer garden Rosengarten.

Restaurants
When the weather is bad, you can enjoy the rustic Bavarian atmosphere in an indoor restaurant. They are located throughout the city, and most beer gardens even have an in-door option.

Cafeterias/ Cafés
Stucafé: They offer a variety of meals and additionally sell hot beverages, snacks and sandwiches.

Crazy Bean Espresso Bar: Here, you can grab a hot or cold drink and a snack or sweet treat in a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere.

www.muenchen.de/int/en/restaurants/eating-out

Food at TUM
The Munich Student union has developed a canteen and cafeteria system at the campuses in Munich, Garching and Freising to enable students to eat decent food at a reasonable price. You can charge your StudentCard with money at terminals provided throughout the campuses and use it as a credit card to pay for your meals.

www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/mensa

Canteens
Mensa: They offer a wide variety of meals for a fair price. They even have vegetarian and vegan food offers. Meals with pork are marked with (S), meals with beef are marked with (R).

Spiritual Life

Munich is home to various religious organizations. Here are the three largest ones which offer special counseling for students and also cooperate with TUM.

KHG – Catholic Students’ Association

KHG offers workshops, trips, activities, tutoring, discussion groups and more. The association additionally hosts a popular non-religious get-together („Stammtisch“), especially for international students.

EHG – Protestant Students’ Association

EHG offers lectures, discussion groups, social events for all students and a special counseling for international students.

IHV – Muslim Students’ Association

IHV offers city tours, orientation assistance for the newcomers, workshops, trainings and much more.

Prayer room in Garching: CH53110
Prayer room in Munich: N2769

www.khg-tum.de
www.ehg-tum.de
www.ihv-muenchen.net
Food

International Food
No matter where you are from, in Munich you can find nearly every kind of restaurant imaginable. Whether you like Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Greek, Italian or African food, you can be sure to find the right place to dine.

www.sueddeutsche.de/thema/Internationales_Restaurant

Cooking/ Supermarkets
Maybe you are a passionate cook or maybe you just want to chill at home and have a nice quick student meal. Either way, you need to know where you can get groceries in Munich.

Supermarkets
Numerous supermarkets are located throughout Munich. Grocery prices are usually cheaper than restaurant prices. So grab your bag and head out to Rewe, Tengelmann, Lidl, Aldi, etc. and buy some food.

Follow the link to find the nearest supermarkets to your apartment:
www.kaufda.de/Filialen/Muenchen/Supermarkt/v-c11-s6

Fresh Food Markets
If you prefer fresh food, you should head to one of Munich’s traditional markets: Viktualienmarkt (in Altstadt), Elisabethmarkt (in Schwabing), Wienermarkt (in Haidhausen) and Pasinger Viktualienmarkt (in Pasing). These are traditional street markets with a fantastic atmosphere and exquisite food.

Follow the link for further information on markets in Munich:
www.muenchen.de/int/en/shopping/markets.html

Culture and Free-time

Music
Whether you are a professional musician or a passionate newcomer who just wants to make music with other people - in Munich you can find the right university music group for you.

There are many orchestras, choirs and bands listed on the TUM website for further information.


Here are a just three of many:

MiO (Munich International Orchestra):
A Symphonic amateur orchestra for young people from around the world with the aim to help musicians from other countries make new friends in Munich.

TUMChor- Voices of TUM:
A huge choir that consists of singers from all of the Munich university choirs practice so as to sing at the TUM Adventsmatinee in the philharmonic.

TUM Jazzband:
A big band at TUM playing classic big band arrangements with many different jazz pieces.

Film
TU Film regularly offers blockbusters for students in changing locations and special atmospheres. You may find yourself in one of your lecture halls or outside under a heap of blankets. Make sure to check out their program regularly if you are interested in films.

www.tu-film.de
Culture and Free-time

Student Research Groups

Do you have a passion for research and want to engage in an exciting new project? New student research groups are popping up all the time with ideas and aims that range from building a space elevator to getting concrete to float through to developing and launching innovative gliders. These groups always welcome new recruits with a passion for research. Here is a link to a list of groups:
www.tum.de/en/university-life/student-life/student-research-groups

TUNIX: Is located at Königsplatz in the heart of Munich, right by the main campus of the university.
www.tunix.de

GARNIX: Is located at the campus in Garching.
www.garnix-festival.de

Festivals

Each summer, TUM students organize two festivals in Munich.

Once in a while students just need to escape their study routine. What could be more effective than visiting a festival with a buzzing atmosphere and delicious Bavarian food?

Check for the festival dates and drop by to have a look. If you want to help during the festival, you can sign up as a volunteer.

Experiencing Culture - 10 things to do as an International Student

1. Go for a hike in the nearby mountains. With the train (BOB) you can reach famous touristic places near the mountains “Schliersee, Tegernsee, Lengries, Bayerisch Zell” in about one hour.
   www.bayerischeoberlandbahn.de

2. Make German friends and visit someone’s home
   www.gastfreunde-muenchen.de/en/index.html

3. Go to a beer garden and bring your own food. In traditional beer gardens, you only have to consume drinks.

4. Celebrate a festival with German friends. The KHG invites international students to celebrate Christmas together regardless of their confession.
   www.khg-tum.de

5. Learn how to cook a German dish and invite your friends for dinner.

6. Find out what the tradition “Wichteln” is all about.

7. Try something new.

8. Join in a “Stammtisch”.

9. Take part in a running dinner and get to know fellow students from all over the world.

10. Try a winter (snow) sport.
Important Phone Numbers and Addresses

Country code of Germany: +49 or 0049
Area code of Munich: (0)89

Emergency Phone Numbers
Police: 110
Fire brigade/ambulance: 112
Medical emergency: 116 117 (24h)
089/ 19 222 (ambulance Munich, 24h)

www.muenchen.de/leben/service/notdienste/medizinisch.html

Medical Help

Emergency Practice (Elisenhof)
Prielmayerstr. 3
Tel.: 116 117
Mo, Tue, Thu  19:00 – 23:00 h
Wed, Fr  14:00 – 23:00 h
Sa, Su, holidays  08:00 – 23:00 h

International Pharmacy
Internationale Ludwigs-Apotheke
Neuhauserstraße 11
Tel.: 089/550 5070
Mon – Sat: 09:00 – 20:00 h

Useful websites

Study in Germany
www.study-in.de/en

Studentenwerk München (Student Union)
www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/en

Dictionary and Translation
http://leo.org (also translations for German – Chinese, Spanish, French and Italian)

Meet people
www.meetup.com

Cinemas and Movies
Information on all cinemas and movies shown in Munich on:
www.artechock.de

The biggest cinemas are Mathäser (Karlsplatz), Royal Filmpalast (Goetheplatz), Maxx (Isartor). English movies are shown in Museum Lichtspiele (Isartor), Cinema (Stiglmaierplatz) and Mathäser.

Entertainment Guide
What is going on in and around Munich?
www.in-muenchen.de

You can also find the „In München“ magazine in some bars, cafes and restaurants as well as in the Mensa.

Information about Munich
www.muenchen.de/int/en