

„Studying in Germany“

Orientation event organized by



Structure



- ▶ The German education system
 - ▶ Schools in Germany
- ▶ Dual (vocational) education
- ▶ Higher Education
 - ▶ Studying at university and other institutions
- ▶ General requirements
 - ▶ German language requirements
 - ▶ Qualification for higher education
 - ▶ Preparation at the „Studienkolleg“
- ▶ Guest study programmes
- ▶ Financing your studies

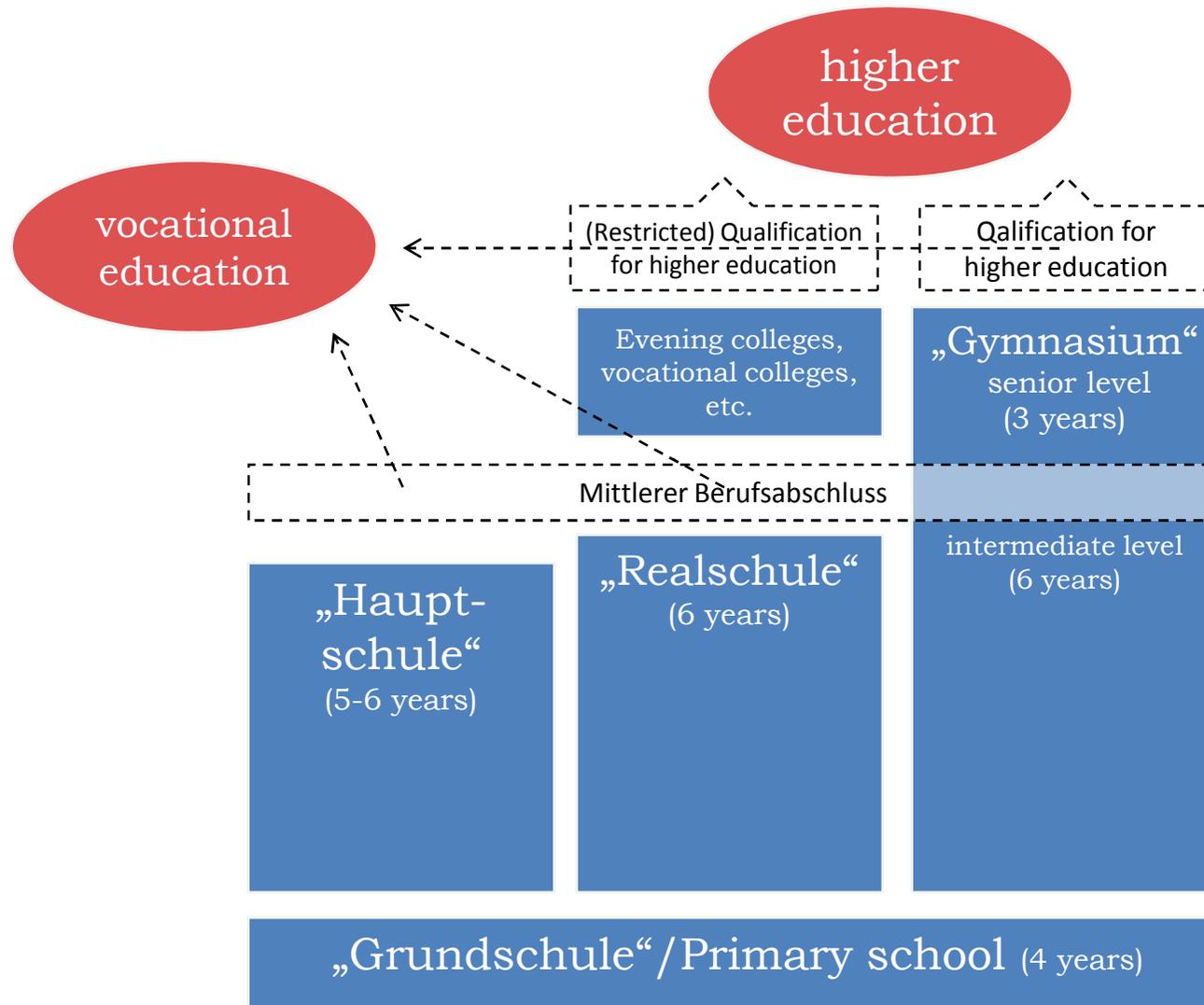
The German education system



- ▶ federal states have authority over education:
 - ▶ 16 federal states
 - ▶ 16 different systems
- ▶ not always comparable
- ▶ association of the ministers of education aims at establishing standards for all

*Heidelberg
is located in the state of
Baden-Württemberg*

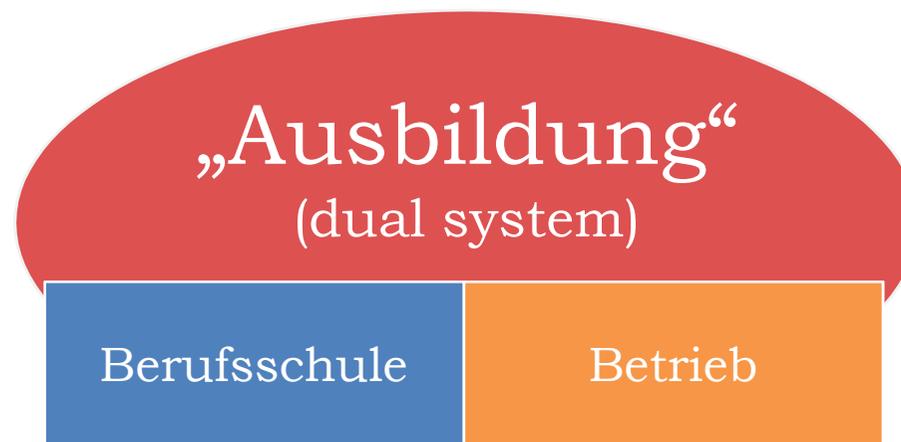
Schools in Germany



Dual vocational education („Ausbildung“)



- ▶ two places of education:
 - ▶ vocational school („Berufsschule“): theoretical part
 - ▶ company („Betrieb“): practical part
- ▶ contract between company and apprentice
- ▶ duration: 2-3 ½ years, final examination

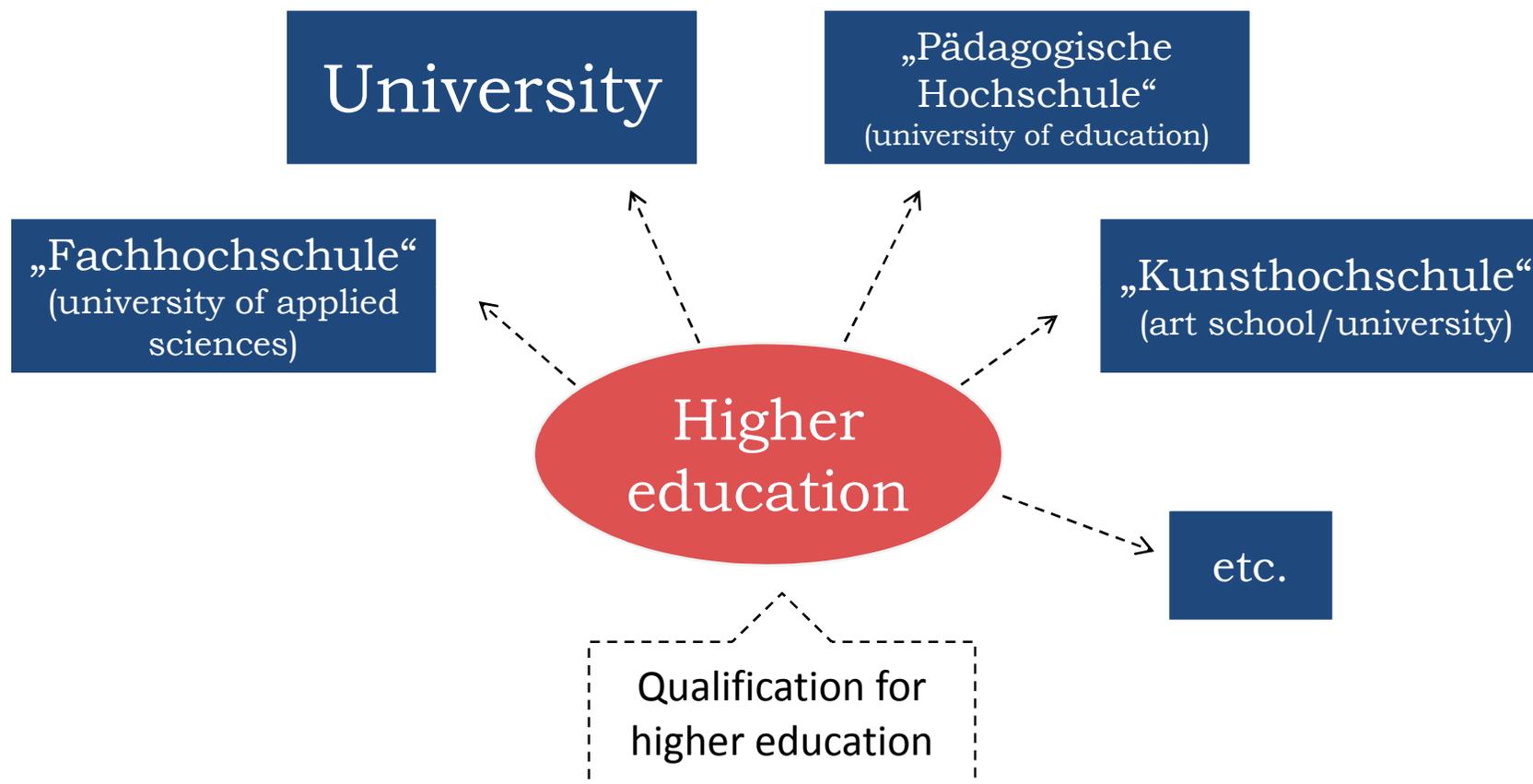


Dual vocational education („Ausbildung“)



- ▶ two places of education:
 - ▶ vocational school („Berufsschule“): theoretical part
 - ▶ company („Betrieb“): practical part
- ▶ contract between company and apprentice
- ▶ duration: 2-3 ½ years, final examination
- ▶ Examples for professions:
 - ▶ Professional driver
 - ▶ Salesman/-woman
 - ▶ Bank clerk
 - ▶ Carpenter
 - ▶ Baker
 - ▶ Hairdresser
 - ▶ Graphic designer
 - ▶ Electrician
 - ▶ Chemical laboratory assistant
 - ▶ (Geriatric) nurse

Higher education



Art schools / universities



- ▶ education of artists, art scholars and art teachers
- ▶ requirements: qualification for higher education; proof of artistic talent (application with portfolio or entrance examinations)
- ▶ Examples for subject areas:
 - ▶ visual arts
 - ▶ music
 - ▶ drama
 - ▶ architecture
 - ▶ film
 - ▶ design

- ▶ requirements: qualification for higher education
- ▶ academic and practical education
- ▶ focus on education/pedagogics; complemented by modules from psychology and the social sciences
- ▶ in the federal state of Baden-Württemberg education of future teachers for all school types
(only if you want to teach at the “Gymnasium” you have to study at a “normal” university).

„Fachhochschulen“ / universities of applied sciences



- ▶ requirements: „Fachhochschulreife“ (restricted qualification for higher education); sometimes practical experience
- ▶ academic education with strong practical focus
- ▶ similar to schools in size of classes, structure, and ways of learning
- ▶ includes cooperations with a companies
- ▶ Examples for subject areas and professions
 - ▶ Engineering
(mechanical , electrical, constructional engineering etc.)
 - ▶ Economics
(business administration, management, etc.)
 - ▶ Health and social services
(social work, music therapy, nursing science etc.)
 - ▶ Media, communication, and information technologies
(media and IT management, communication design, journalism etc.)

Universities



- ▶ requirements: „Abitur“ or another qualification for higher education („Hochschulzugangsberechtigung“)
- ▶ theoretically oriented academic education
- ▶ often large number of students in on class (lectures)
- ▶ interrelations between teaching and research
- ▶ broad range of subjects:
 - ▶ Humanities (Philosophy, Divinity, History, Literature, Linguistics, etc.)
 - ▶ Law
 - ▶ Medicine and Natural Sciences
 - ▶ Mathematics
 - ▶ Economics and Social Sciences

General requirements

German language requirements



- ▶ language of instruction of most programmes is German
- ▶ international applicants have to pass a German test:
 - ▶ „DSH“ („Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang“)
 - ▶ ...or „TestDaF“, a Goethe certificate, the „Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom“ (GDS), etc.
- ▶ applicants should have German skills on the level of...
 - ▶ ...B2-C1 (ca. 1000-1200 h of instruction) for a normal study programme
 - ▶ ...B2 (800 h of instruction) if they have to take the preparatory year at the Studienkolleg

German language knowledge



- ▶ Level A = basic user, Level B = independent user, Level C = proficient user

Level group	Level group name	Level	Level name
A	Basic user	A1	Breakthrough or beginner
		A2	Way stage or elementary

B	Independent user	B1	Threshold or intermediate
		B2	Vantage or upper intermediate
C	Proficient user	C1	Effective operational proficiency or advanced
		C2	Mastery or proficiency

German language courses



- ▶ Please contact the **Asyl-Arbeitskreis** or the city council to find out how to get access to German classes. In Heidelberg: www.asyl-heidelberg.de/kontakt/
- ▶ **Online language classes for free**
 - ▶ *Deutsche Welle*: <http://www.dw.com/de/deutsch-lernen/deutschkurse/s-2068>
 - ▶ *Ich will Deutsch lernen*: <http://www.iwdl.de>

Qualification for higher education



- ▶ international as well as German applicants need a so-called „**Hochschulzugangsberechtigung**“ (HZB) – the school-leaving certificate that counts as qualification for higher education
 - ▶ in Germany: usually the „Abitur“
 - ▶ in other countries: Baccalauréat, High School Diploma, A- & O-Levels etc., or special university entrance exams
- ▶ questions of equivalence → “Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen” (ZAB) evaluates foreign certificates and provides recommendations for recognition
 - ▶ anabin.kmk.org
 - ▶ www.daad.de
- ▶ if the certificate is equivalent to the “Abitur” the international applicant can be directly admitted to university

„Studienkolleg“ / preparatory year



- ▶ if a school-leaving certificate is not fully equivalent to the “Abitur”, students have to visit the **“Studienkolleg”** for a **preparatory year**
- ▶ there are different courses for different subject areas
- ▶ students acquire subject-related basic knowledge and German terminology, as well as methodological skills and cultural competence for their specific study programme
- ▶ if the final exam (**“Feststellungsprüfung”**) is passed, students are granted subject-restricted access to university

Guest Study Programme



- ▶ Guest auditors (“Gasthörer”) are not registered as students but may only audit certain lectures without the possibility of obtaining credits.
- ▶ In order to register as a guest auditor, you do not need a special qualification.
- ▶ You can register with every status – it does not matter if you are „Anerkannter Flüchtling“, „geduldet“ or if you already have a residence permit („Aufenthaltserlaubnis“).
- ▶ **The registration deadline for the summer term is on 30. April.**
- ▶ Guest students **can only attend lectures**, furthermore **only courses of studies without a numerus clausus can be visited**.
- ▶ It is possible for guest auditor to get an Uni-identification (Uni-ID).
- ▶ **There is a (small) fee**, but it is possible to apply for reduction or remission.

Financing your studies



- ▶ Recognized refugees and those with a legal status can apply for educational grants/state funding (BAFöG) (BAföG § 8 Abs.2 Nr.1) → www.bafög.de/leichte-sprache-565.php
- ▶ For further information visit www.internationale-studierende.de/en/prepare_your_studies/financing/government_funding/
- ▶ There are two ways:
 1. those who are recognized refugees can apply, regardless the length of their stay in Germany
 2. those who have a legal title can apply for BAföG if they have been in Germany for at least 15 months
- ▶ Scholarships are another possibility.

Thanks for coming! 😊

**Don't hesitate to contact us
if you have any further questions:**

offeneuniheidelberg@gmx.de