

Study Abroad at HAW Hamburg



2025



Why HAW Hamburg?

Life-Enriching Experience

Can study abroad change your life? We think it can. We see it happen every semester. Come to Hamburg for an amazing international experience and lose your heart to this beautiful city.

Employability Made in Germany

Employers are looking not just for academic knowledge, but also for interpersonal skills such as the ability to communicate across cultures in global markets and to work well in international teams and across international borders. With students from more than 100 countries - diversity is our particular strength.

Practice-oriented Studies

Studying at a university of applied sciences adds a practical element to a study abroad experience. The professors have worked in industry before joining the university, so students are offered an insight into real-life problem-solving in engineering and business management.

Summer Semester 2025:

1. April – 30. September

Study period incl. exams: 7. April - 2. August 2025; Welcome Weeks and preparatory German course start mid-March (not obligatory)

Nomination deadline: 20th October 2024

Application Deadline: 30th October 2024

Facts

Full Name of The Institution: Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg (HAW Hamburg) - Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

Erasmus+ Code: D HAMBURG 06

Language: Depending on the programme and semester the language of instruction will be either English or German. Students need to have a level of at least **B2** (according to CEFR).

Semester Contribution: There is an obligatory contribution which includes the ticket for the public transport in the Hamburg area and the contribution to the students' union. The amount may vary each semester (prognosed 288€).

Housing: We can provide only a limited number of students with accommodation.

Website: www.haw-hamburg.de/studyabroad

Instagram: #hawinternational

Winter Semester 2025–26:

1. October – 31. March

Study period incl. exams: 1. Oct. 2025 - 15. Feb. 2026; Welcome Weeks and preparatory German course start mid-September (not obligatory)

Nomination deadline: 20th April 2025

Application Deadline: 30th April 2025

How to apply for Winter Semester 2025–26*

Nomination

Partners need to nominate their students via our online application system “Mobility Online”. The nomination link will be sent to all partner universities at the start of the application period (March and September). We kindly request to nominate students according to the partnership agreements and only one semester in advance. Students need to upload all documents by the application deadline.

Application

To apply students need to upload their transcript of records, selection of courses, language certificate, health insurance confirmation, and for design student also a portfolio. When uploading each document in Mobility Online, students should check the guidelines marked with a blue question mark. To choose courses, check out the list on our website:

In English: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/international/erasmus-study-abroad/>

In German: <https://www.haw-hamburg.de/international/erasmus-gaststudierende/>

After submitting the application the exchange coordinators at HAW Hamburg will review all applications. This might take up to four weeks so we kindly ask for patience. We will inform about our decision by email.

Pre-Arrival

Visa and Residence Permit

Students need to check whether they need a visa or not. Generally, citizens of an EU country, EEA country or Switzerland you don't need a visa to enter Germany. Also, students from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, USA and UK do not need a visa but they need to apply for a residence permit within 90 days after entering the Schengen area.

All students will receive an official Letter of Acceptance for their visa and scholarship applications. We will also provide exchange students from China will an APS number for their visa application. Students with a non-EU nationality, studying in an EU country will be registered by HAW Hamburg for the simplified residence permit process (REST).

in
June

Budget

The German Ministry for Education and Science has estimated that a student needs about 992€ per month to cover their expenses. Here is an estimate of the monthly costs:

- Accommodation (incl. electricity and water) – 350 – 750€/Month
- Living costs (e.g. food, cloths, phone) – 300 – 400€/Month
- Health Insurance - up to 130 €/Month
- Residence permit – up to 100€/Semester
- Transportation – 289€/Semester (included in the semester contribution)

Deadline
30 April

To Do:

- Check emails and Spam
- Check visa/entry regulations
- upload health insurance confirmation
- Pay semester contribution
- Sign an accommodation contract
- Buy a ticket and pack

Health Insurance

The health insurance laws for students in Hamburg are very strict and we cannot enrol students without a proper health insurance. The rule is: Students who do not have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) have to register for a German public health insurance. Students from Turkey can bring an AT11 form from their home health insurance and UK students - their global health insurance card. We offer help in registering for a German health insurance. Students just need to fill out, sign and upload the health insurance form provided in Mobility Online. The student health insurance tariff is about 130€ per month so please plan it in your budget.

*The nomination for Summer Semester 2026 will start in September 2025.

Housing

The main dormitory provider is *Studierendenwerk*. They provide us with a limited number of rooms for our exchange students. Our International Office distributes the rooms so students **should not apply to *Studierendenwerk* directly**. The rental period is set - it starts in September and it is for full six months. If students are interested in staying at an dormitory, they need to submit the „Housing Form“ through „Mobility Online“ during the application period.

If we cannot provide students with a room they need to search for accommodation on their own. We will provide some useful information. Exchange students should start with their accommodation search as soon as possible as it is sometimes difficult to find suitable accommodation.

Semester Contribution

The semester contribution is not a tuition fee and must be paid by all students. It includes contributions to the Students' Union and the Students' Welfare Fund. Most importantly exchange students will get a semester ticket for unlimited travel on Hamburg's public transport system (HVV) for the whole semester. The current amount is **288€** and we will send you the bank details by email. You have to transfer the contribution by **30th July**.

in
July

While in Hamburg

weBuddy
Programme

Welcome Weeks

We will be offering a preparatory German course and a welcome programme starting mid-September. There will be many fun events, that will help newcomers settle in and get to know their new university and new home better.

Semester dates and holidays

Officially the semester continues from 1st October until 31st March. The classes will start in the first weeks of October and the examination phase will be end of January until mid-February. The university will be closed on 3rd and 31st October (public holidays) and during the Christmas holidays from 24th December until 4th January.

Class schedule and learning agreement

You will receive the final class schedule when you arrive in Hamburg. As soon as classes start you can make adjustments to your learning agreement.

weBuddy programme

Exchange students can be matched up with a buddy (a HAW Hamburg student from a higher semester). The buddy will ideally pick up the student from the airport/train station, answer questions and assist with address or bank registrations. Throughout the semester we will offer fun cultural programme. There will be trips, leisure activities, sport events. Students will get the chance to meet people from all over the world, practice languages and discover Germany.

Students with disabilities

Students with a disability or a long-term health condition can request individual adjustments to examinations and assessments to ensure they have the same opportunity as other students. Students should contact us in advance so we can make the necessary preparations.

Also Important

Address registration (obligatory for everyone)

Everyone who moves to Hamburg must register with the local authorities (Einwohnermeldeamt) within two weeks of arrival.

Residence permit (obligatory for some)

Students, who don't have a passport from an EU or EEA country or a visa for Germany, also have to apply for a residence permit within 90 days after entering the Schengen area. Make an appointment at the foreigner's office (Ausländerbehörde) as soon as possible after arriving in Hamburg.

Opening a bank account

Non-EU students should open bank account as it makes payments (e.g. rent, health insurance fee) much easier. Credit cards are not accepted everywhere and students should always carry some cash with them.

Health insurance appointment (obligatory for some)

There will be a special appointment at the insurance company for all students who had to registered at the German public health insurance. Students can pick up their health insurance card then.

Transportation

The nearest airport is Hamburg Airport. With line S1 you can get from there to our main campus (Berliner Tor) or to the main train station (Hauptbahnhof) within 20 min. **HVV** is the public transport provider in Hamburg. With your semester ticket you can use the public transport and regional trains throughout Germany (but not ICE, IC, FlixTrain).

Weather

The temperature usually varies from 0°C to 25°C. Due to the high humidity it might feel colder or hotter than it is. A warm wind and water proof jacket is a must.

Safety

Hamburg is a safe city but still you should be careful at all times. The emergency number is 112.

in
September/
October

Contact

Your contact for all study-related matters and course information:

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Your contact for enrolment, health insurance, accommodation, and weBuddy:

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Head of International Office

Ines Tobis

Emergency
Call
112