



Date: August 21, 2020

If you return to Germany from a trip abroad

Entering Germany

Ultimately the border officials at the airport or point of entry have the authority to decide who is allowed to enter Germany. When you return to Germany, you must ensure that you have a valid residence permit. You must also be able to prove that Germany is currently your habitual place of residence and that you have an important reason to return. It will be necessary/helpful to have the following documents with you:

- Passport and valid residence permit
- Proof of enrollment at the university or proof of your admission as a doctoral candidate to your faculty
- Proof that your residence is registered in Germany (Anmeldebestätigung), perhaps also your rental contract
- Perhaps a confirmation from your doctoral supervisor that your doctoral studies in Heidelberg are ongoing and your presence in Heidelberg is necessary for your studies

The Graduate Academy cannot make any recommendations at this time about travelling to Germany. We are also not able to exert any influence on your behalf on border officials.

Citizens and permanent residents of the EU, the UK, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Norway und Iceland as well as Australia, Canada, Georgia, New Zealand, Thailand, Tunisia und Uruguay are exempt from the current COVID-19-related entry restrictions. Please be aware that this list will be updated as the COVID-19 pandemic develops. There is up-to-date information about travelling to Germany in the [Corona FAQs](#) on the website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

After you return to Germany

Quarantine and COVID-19 testing

Travelers to Germany are currently being divided into two groups: 1) travelers from non-risk areas and 2) travelers from international risk areas. The list of international risk areas as determined by the Robert Koch Institute can be found [here](#).

Travelers from non-risk areas do not have to self-quarantine and do not have to be tested for COVID-19 after entering Germany. However, voluntary, free-of-charge testing is available to any such traveler who wishes it within 72 hours after arriving in Germany. Testing is being done at the airports, at some train stations (e.g. in Mannheim), in special corona testing centers and also by general practitioners.

Travelers from international risk areas must be tested for COVID-19 upon entering Germany and must self-quarantine until they receive a negative test result. Testing is being done at the airports, at some train stations (e.g. in Mannheim), in special corona testing centers and also by general practitioners. Independent of the COVID-19 test, you must also register with the local authorities

(generally with the local police) – in most cases this is taken care of by filling out and handing in the so-called “Aussteigerkarte” (passenger locator card) at your entry point into Germany. The passenger locator card is normally provided by your airline or travel company but is also available through the Robert Koch Institute [here](#).

If you received a negative COVID-19 test result before travelling to Germany, you are not subject to mandatory testing and quarantine after you arrive. However, the test must fulfill the requirements set down by the government of Baden-Württemberg and the test must have been carried out within 48 hours of your trip to Germany. There is information about the test requirements [here](#).

If you are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 or think you might be infected

If for any reason you think you might be infected by the COVID-19 virus, you should call the telephone hotline for the Rhein-Neckar metropolitan region, which is also responsible for Heidelberg. The hotline number is 06221 522-1881 and it is available Monday – Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 2 pm. On the weekends you can also call the off-hours medical care service (Ärztlicher Bereitschaftsdienst) at 116 117. If you have a medical emergency, you can call the medical emergency number 112. Please make sure to indicate that you suspect a COVID-19 infection so that the medical specialists can react accordingly.

The following websites provide up-to-date information about travel and entry regulations, quarantine and COVID-19 testing:

[Einreisebeschränkungen der Bundespolizei](#) (in German)

[Corona FAQs – Federal Ministry of the Interior](#)

[Corona Ordinance of the state of Baden-Württemberg](#)

[FAQs zur Corona Verordnung](#) (in German)

[Informationen zu Corona Tests](#) (in German)

[Requirements for international corona tests](#)

[Information about international risk areas](#)

Information from the Heidelberg University pertaining to COVID-19

Heidelberg University provides information about courses, research and COVID-19-related regulations on the following website:

[Coronavirus: FAQs about student affairs and teaching](#)

[Information about the corona virus](#)