Accommodation in Aachen – Information for admitted students

Webinar | May 2018
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Agenda

1. General Accommodation
2. Student dorms
3. Alternative accommodation
4. Private Market
5. Assistance provided by RWTH IntAc
6. Contact

„The Toaster“ lecture hall of RWTH Aachen University
Welcome to the RWTH Aachen University

Broaden your academic horizon!

Congratulations for your Admission to a Master of Science degree program at the RWTH Aachen University!
General information

Facts – City of Aachen

- ~ 254,800 inhabitants
- ~ 56,000 students
- 4 Universities and about 150 different study degree programs
- 160 km²
- RWTH is not a campus university (University buildings located throughout the city)
- **good infrastructure** (bus, bike, train & by foot)
- 101 different bus lines

Also look for apartments located in **surrounding districts** (e.g. Burtscheid, Laurensberg, Haaren, Brand, Soers: 10 min. by bus)
General information

Facts – City of Aachen

Students in Aachen may either live

- in a student dormitory (~10 %),
- in a single apartment,
- or share a flat with fellow students ("WG") - a cheap and fun alternative to the dormitories.

**Monthly Accommodation Expenses:**

- Room in a student dorm: 200-500 €
- Room in a flat share: 250-400 €
- Single Apartment: 350-550 €
- 2-person apartment: 450-700 €

Please calculate at least EUR 300 - 350 per month for accommodation!
General information

Facts – Living expenses & other costs

When you study at RWTH International Academy, you have to expect the following costs:

- Tuition fees (EUR 4,500 - EUR 5,500 per semester)
- Semester Contribution (approx. EUR 260 per semester)
- Living Expenses (approx. EUR 820 per month)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Living Expenses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; general expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>„Rundfunkbeitrag“</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phone contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet at home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third party liability insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Max:

It’s very important you have enough money to finance your stay in Germany before you arrive. To be allowed to study in Germany, you must prove that you have sufficient financial resources. The German authorities will ask to see a Finanzierungsnachweis (proof of financial resources) when you apply for an entry visa, or at the latest, when you apply for a residence permit.
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Student dorms

Facts

• **5,129 places in 24 residence halls for 54,000 students** are provided in Aachen and Jülich
  - not common that students are allocated a dormitory room along with admission
• **different types of rooms** are available:
  • single rooms and single apartments
  • shared apartments (WGs)
  • family apartments for students with children
  • accessible apartments for students with disabilities
• most rooms are **partly furnished** and have **internet access**
• all residence halls are equipped with **washing machines** and **tumble dryers** that can be used for a fee
• unlike the rents on the private housing market the rents are usually all-inclusive, so there are **no additional payments**
• Overview of all residence halls can be found [here](#)
Application for a student dorm of the Studierendenwerk Aachen

2. Being enrolled is not necessary for application
3. There is a waiting list managed by the Studierendenwerk
4. Confirm your application EVERY month
5. Rent & deposit has to be transferred on time!

Please read the pdf Application Student Dorm on our website carefully
Application for a Student dorm at Studierendenwerk Aachen

1. Apply here: https://bewerberportal.stw.rwth-aachen.de/app.php/en
2. Being enrolled is not necessary for application
3. There is a waiting list managed by the Studierendenwerk
4. Confirm your application EVERY month
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Please read the pdf Application Student Dorm on our website carefully

**IMPORTANT:**

Waiting list for a student dorm!

- Renew/confirm your application every month on the 15th!
- You will be asked to confirm within 10 days by the 25th that you are still interested in renting the room.
- If you miss it, your place on the waiting list will be deleted.
Student dorms – RWTH International Academy Offer

RWTH International Academy – Contingent & Lottery

- There will be a lottery for student dorms offered by RWTH International Academy.
- Couple of student dorms: 1 September 2018 and end 30 April 2019.
- Contracts cannot be extended – we can only use them for one semester!
- No family or couple rooms included!
- Even if you get one of the rooms of our contingent you need to stay on the official waiting list of the Studierendenwerk!!!
Student dorms

Couples & families

- Family Apartments in Aachen’s student dorms:
  - Mattschö-Moll-Weg 4-28 and Rütscher Straße 123-125

- The Protestant Student Community has two residences: Nizzaallee 20 and Templergraben 39

- The Catholic Student Community also offers housing possibilities:
  - The dorm in “Neupforte” offers several apartments to couples and families especially

“At our 5 dorms Langer Turm, Eckertweg, Pontstr., Hermannstr. and Neupforte, there is room for 175 students. Some of the apartments are furnished, but you may also bring your own furniture if you prefer. Our dorms are not just about having a place to stay, but also about living with each other, making friends and experiencing community spirit”
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Alternative accommodation

RWTH International Academy – Flat shares

- 15 shared flats offering rooms sized between 12 m² and 15.5 m²
- Furnishing in neutral colors: bed (without mattress), desk and chair, rack, wardrobe, lighting
- modern bathrooms
- Kitchen including a high-quality kitchenette: oven, microwave, refrigerator, sink and dish-washer, storage spaces, sitting area
- Premium cable connection with Internet and digital TV
Information for Admitted Students 2018 | RWTH International Academy
Lisa Portz | Project Coordinator

Alternative accommodation

Border region Aachen – Take your chance!

Student Dormitories from 217€ in Kerkrade, Netherlands:
(also for non-EU students)

• directly located on the German/Dutch border
• offers especially for students of RWTH Aachen University
• dormitories in various converted buildings
• by bus or train you can reach the city centre of Aachen or RWTH easily and free of charge

„Kerkrade is a beautiful small town. People are nice and friendly to foreigners. The bus takes you directly to Aachen Bushof. Supermarkets are open on sundays. The apartment is clean and quiet and the students living here are very nice.” (Liu from China studies Computer Science at RWTH Aachen University)

„Living in the Netherlands and studying in Aachen? Yes, its possible! Kerkrade is a quiet town, with everything you need for a living. Aachen is nearby and you can get to Germany by feet. The students living here are all studying at RWTH Aachen University and we are a colorful mix of people.” (Luisa from Germany studies Economics at RWTH Aachen University)
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Private Market – Warning!

Attention – Beware of Accommodation Scams!

Got in contact with a landlord? Not sure if you can trust them?

• First visit the property, check the lease contract and meet the landlord!

• Do not make any payments in advance
• Do not make payments via money transfer services like Western Union, MoneyGram, TNT or Moneybookers

➢ Do not respond - These are hints of an attempt to defraud you. If you are not sure what to do, please ask us!
Private Market

Long term accommodation – Increase your chances!

• it is important to be flexible regarding the location
• take the outer city regions of Aachen into consideration:
  • Richterich, Haaren, Laurensberg, Brand, Eilendorf, Kornelimünster, Walheim
• as well as neighboring cities:
  • Würselen, Herzogenrath, Kohlscheid, Alsdorf, Eschweiler or Stolberg
• Aachen has a really good infrastructure and with your student ticket you can use the bus and the trains for free
Private Market

Long term accommodation – Living in a „WG“

• most students live in **private flats** in Aachen
• most popular option is a shared flat with other students, called “WG” (Wohn-Gemeinschaft)
• cost are usually around 250 EUR to 350 EUR.
• usually, every student has his own room in a WG
• kitchen, bathroom and maybe living room are shared.
Private Market

Long term accommodation – How to find a room in a „WG“

- Most students find their rooms in **online portals** or via **facebook**
- The **most popular online portal** for accommodation offers in English/German (shared flats and single apartments) is:  
  **https://www.wg-gesucht.de/en/**

- find offers
- upload your own request

**IMPORTANT**: Be authentic and friendly and try to put your messages as individual as possible. It is like an application ;-)
Private Market

Short term accommodation

Sometimes it is hard to find accommodation in Germany while you are still in your home country. Luckily, there are several hostels and budget hotels in Aachen that could provide another option in the initial weeks following arrival

- Hostel Aachen
- Jugendherberge Aachen (International Guesthouse)
- Boarding House
- Couch Surfing
- Klenkes Appartements
- Hotel ibis Aachen Marschiertor
- A&O Hostel Aachen Hauptbahnhof

Please make a reservation for your first nights in Aachen as soon as possible, as these venues are extremely busy in the summer months.

More information about accommodation at our [homepage](#)!
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Assistance

How does IntAc help?

One of the services that RWTH International Academy provides to new students is assistance in finding accommodation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Services</th>
<th>Accommodation Offers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Provision of important information concerning accommodation in Germany (webinar, website, emails!)</td>
<td>• Distribution of a <strong>limited amount</strong> of contingent rooms in student dorms that will be allocated to the students via a lottery system (in mid-July)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Online advertisement</td>
<td>• Forwarding offers from the private market to interested students via email (continuously)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Contract check</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Networking with landlords in Aachen</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Accommodation survey to know the exact needs and wishes of all students</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We cannot guarantee a room for every student, but we will assist you in finding a room as best as we can!
Assistance

Team Work!

1. Please read all emails and information carefully, especially regarding contract duration and rent!
2. Please respect our deadlines!
3. Please do only register for a lottery or agree to an offer if you are seriously interested!
4. If you find something else or take a different offer in the meantime, please step back from all other lottery registrations immediately!
5. Inform us about your new address!
Renting your own flat!

- Please be aware that **rental contracts** in Germany are binding and official!
- For your own safety, please do not make any payments in advance before having visited the property, signed a lease contract, or met the landlord.
- **Deposit** costs may arise (up to 3 months rent)
- If you move in/out: Always document the status quo with **pictures**!
- **3 months cancellation period:**
  - If you want to move out of your room or flat, you must cancel your contract 3 months in advance! Otherwise, you have to pay for another 3 months or find a new tenant/"Nachmieter"!
- In order to register with the **City of Aachen** („Einwohnermeldeamt“), you will need a **confirmation of your landlord/Studentenwerk**. Ask your landlord!
Assistance

Germany – a different climate | How to avoid mold!

- German Houses are designed for cold winters and gentle summers and are especially designed as heat insulated buildings.
- Usually they do not have an air-condition, but they always have a heating system.
- Mistakes in heating and ventilation can cause many troubles, concerning your financial budgets as well as your health!
- IMPORTANT: Please check the information pdf on our website!

Housing and Cleaning Advice | pdf, 1 MiB
Assistance

Keep it clean!

- Keep your flat/room tidy and **clean** and **open** the **windows** regularly!
- Please **do not cook in your room**, only in the kitchen!
- If you are living in a flat share/dorm: Please make a **cleaning schedule** for all roommates!
Please check out our website and find more useful information about housing in Aachen!

Information and links for short term accommodation

Information and links for private accommodation

Please read the Housing and Cleaning Advice!

How to apply for a student dorm
Remember

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• look for apartments located centrally in **surrounding districts**
  (e.g. Burtscheid, Laurensberg, Haaren, Brand, Soers: 10 min. by bus)
**Assistance – First steps!**

**What you need to do:**

- Apply for the student dorm now!
- Book a short term accommodation!
- Try to find a room on the private market!
- Fill in our accommodation survey!
- Take part in our dorm lottery!
- Keep us updated about your accommodation status!
- Be patient and good luck!

**What we will do:**

- **Support**
  
  Send you emails about your first steps in Aachen concerning Accommodation & accommodation offers!

- **Accommodation Survey**
  
  Please fill in the accommodation survey in order to help us to assist you in finding suitable accommodation! (Mid-July)

- **Lottery**
  
  We will send out an email with an invitation to take part in our **student dorm lottery** around mid-July!
Links

Services that offer help in finding rooms

- **INCAS** (INtercultural Center of Aachen for Students) a platform for students to offer accommodation for newly arrived students in the first days of their stay
- **ASiA** (General Student Committee of RWTH Aachen) offers consultation hours for accommodation concerns
- **HomeCompany**
- **GEWOGE**
- **RWTH Accommodation Exchange Portal for international students**
- **Accommodation in Aachen & Apartment Hunting**
- **Study in Germany** - Finding a flat. Information provided by the DAAD, German Academic Exchange Service
- **AISA** - Association of Indian Students in Aachen
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Contact Us

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Thank you for your Attention!

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Aachen soon!

Any further questions? Now it’s time to ask.