

FINDING ACCOMMODATION



Start your search early

Finding accommodation can take time, especially before the start of the winter semester. We therefore recommend that you start looking for a room as soon as you receive your letter of admission.

Please note: Admission or enrolment at JLU does not include accommodation. You are responsible for finding your own place to live. Student residences are a good and affordable option, but places are limited. It is therefore important to search for private accommodation at the same time.

YOUR FIRST STEPS

1 — Apply for student residence

Apply to the Studierendenwerk Giessen as soon as you receive your admission letter.

2 — Search the private housing market

Do not wait for an offer from a student residence. Look for a private room, a room in a shared apartment (WG) or an apartment at the same time.

3 — Have a backup plan

If you have not found permanent accommodation before travelling to Giessen, arrange temporary accommodation for your first days or weeks.

STUDENT RESIDENCES

Student residences are managed by the **Studierendenwerk Giessen**, an organisation that operates independently from JLU.

You can apply as soon as you have received your admission letter – **you do not have to wait until you are enrolled at JLU**. The application is submitted online. You will need to provide your personal details, select the type of accommodation you are interested in and upload your admission letter or proof of student status.

Applying does **not guarantee that you will receive a room**. Demand is high, particularly around the beginning of the winter semester. We therefore strongly recommend searching for private accommodation in parallel. The Studierendenwerk itself advises students to consider alternatives when its residences are fully occupied.

Keep your application active

After applying, make sure that you respond to any emails from the Studierendenwerk asking you to confirm that you are still interested in accommodation.

Planning your arrival?

If you receive a room in a Studierendenwerk residence, check the move-in arrangements before booking your journey. According to JLU's current information, moving into the residences and collecting your keys is possible on weekdays, Monday to Friday.

[>> www.stwgi.de/](http://www.stwgi.de/)

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

Do not rely solely on student residences. Many students in Giessen live in private apartments or in a **WG (Wohngemeinschaft)**, a shared apartment in which each person usually has their own room while sharing facilities such as the kitchen and bathroom.

There are several ways to find private accommodation:

Studierendenwerk Housing Exchange

The Studierendenwerk operates a Wohnbörse (housing exchange) with private rooms and apartments. You can search current offers and also place your own accommodation request.

→ [Studierendenwerk Housing Exchange](#)

JLU private accommodation offers

JLU also publishes private accommodation offers, often from students who temporarily sublet their rooms while they are away. JLU does not verify these offers and cannot guarantee their availability, so you should always clarify the details directly with the person offering the accommodation.

→ [JLU – Where to Live in Giessen](#)

GOOD TO KNOW

WG (Wohngemeinschaft)

A shared apartment. You normally have your own room and share the kitchen and bathroom.

Zwischenmiete

A temporary rental or sublet, for example for a few weeks or months. This can be useful when you first arrive in Giessen.

Kaltmiete

The basic rent, excluding most additional costs.

Warmmiete

Rent including specified additional costs such as heating and other utilities. Always check exactly what is included.

Kaution

A refundable security deposit paid to the landlord under the conditions of the rental agreement.

Private housing platforms

One of the most commonly used platforms for rooms in shared apartments is [WG-Gesucht](#). Other possibilities are housing portals ([ImmobilienScout24](#) and [Immowelt](#)) or [Kleinanzeigen](#). JLU's accommodation information also points students towards local advertisements and accommodation notices on campus.

When contacting a WG or landlord, introduce yourself briefly and personally – for example, your name, what you will be studying, when you would like to move in and how long you expect to stay.

NO ACCOMMODATION YET?

Don't delay your studies because you are still looking

If the semester is approaching and you have not yet found permanent accommodation, arrange a **temporary place to stay** and continue your search after arrival. Possible options include:

- a temporary room or Zwischenmiete,
- a hostel, youth hostel, hotel or guesthouse,
- temporary accommodation (Studierendenwerk).

The Studierendenwerk provides additional support when its residences are full and currently also points newly arrived students without accommodation towards **temporary accommodation (Übergangsquartiere)**.

[>> Studierendenwerk – Housing search and temporary accommodation](#)

Being in Giessen can also make the private housing search easier, as you can attend viewings at short notice and respond to local offers.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much money should I budget?

Your actual costs depend on the type of accommodation and your personal lifestyle. JLU currently advises international students to calculate approximately €950 per month for living expenses; for some residence-permit purposes, higher official amounts may apply.

Do not plan your finances on the assumption that you will immediately receive an inexpensive room in a student residence. You may need to pay for temporary or private accommodation when you first arrive.

Should I only search in Giessen?

No. If you cannot find suitable accommodation in Giessen, it can be worthwhile extending your search to nearby towns and villages with good bus or train connections. When comparing locations, check the actual journey to your university buildings rather than looking only at the distance on a map.

Can I enrol if I only have a temporary address?

Yes. If you do not yet have permanent accommodation, you can initially provide a temporary address to the Registrar's Office. Once you move to your permanent address, remember to update your address with the university.

NEED HELP?

JLU's International Office provides information and support for international students looking for accommodation.

International Office

Goethestraße 58

35390 Giessen

international.students@uni-giessen.de

For current consultation hours and contact information, please check the International Office website rather than relying on printed opening hours.

IMPORTANT LINKS & CONTACTS

Student residences, applications and housing advice

[>> Studierendenwerk Giessen – Housing](#)

Private rooms and apartments

[>> Studierendenwerk Housing Exchange](#)

JLU accommodation information and private offers

[>> JLU – Where to Live in Giessen](#)

Faculty 09 – questions concerning your studies

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