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Dear Future Student,

Settling into Magdeburg takes a few steps, and you don’t have to do them alone. Discover the range of welcome offers provided by the International Office and its partners, from important first steps and practical services to Welcome Weeks and student initiatives like IKUS.

Important: The newsletter does not replace an official admission at university. You may receive it as an applicant or as someone who is already enrolled. All binding information can be found in the myOVGU application portal.

First Steps in Magdeburg

Did you miss the info session about “First Steps in Magdeburg”? Don’t worry! It will be held again during the International Welcome Weeks. Here is a quick checklist to help you get started:

1. Find accommodation
2. Register at the Citizen’s Office
3. Open a German bank account
4. Sign up for the Broadcasting Fee
5. Complete your study formalities
6. Apply for a residence permit at the Foreigners’ Office

More information here

Make use of the following special services for new OVGU students!

First Steps in **Magdeburg**

Your quick guide to settling in before and after you arrive.

Before You Arrive

- Apply for a student's visa *(if required)*
- Find an apartment
- Get familiar with student life here

How to organize your stay

After You Arrive

- Register your residence at the Magdeburg's Citizen's Office *(Bürgerbüro)*
  A tax ID will be sent to you automatically.
- Open a German bank account
- Register for the broadcast fee at rundfunkbeitrag.de and get your individual license fee number
- Non-EU students: apply for a residence permit *(Aufenthaltstitel)* for study purposes
  Due 2 months before your visa expires, or within 3 months of arrival if you come visa-free.

AKADEMISCHES AUSLANDSAMT
INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Stand: August 2026

Special Appointments for your City Registration

The City of Magdeburg offers OVGU students exclusive appointments at the central Citizens' Office "Bürgerbüro Mitte". From September 28 to October 17, 2026, you can schedule appointments for your city registration. Online appointment booking is required. The slots are opened for booking on a weekly basis.



Book special appointment

Sparkasse MagdeBurg is Coming to Campus

You can open a German bank account on campus with Sparkasse MagdeBurg. The current bank account is free of charge until the age of 25. Account opening takes about 20 minutes and consultation will be conducted in English.

Date: **October 22, 2026**
Time: **9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**
Location: **Campus Welcome Center** (Building 01), Room 021

Bring a valid ID card (EU citizens incl. Norway, Switzerland) or passport / valid residence permit or visa (non-EU citizens), city registration certificate, German tax ID and, if available, your country-specific tax ID.

Appointments will be announced and registration will open in advance via the "Welcome to OVGU" app.



Among other things you need a bank account to settle down. We'll support you.

Campus Welcome Center
Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg
Building 01 / R. 021

October 22, 2026 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Weil's um mehr als Geld geht.

Sparkasse MagdeBurg

Magdeburg Welcome Service

The city’s Welcome Service provides support for any questions you may have when starting in Magdeburg, including those related to work, housing, off-campus language courses, family, leisure activities, health and residence or work permits. The Welcome Service also organizes information events and workshops. You can visit during their office hours or contact them via email.



Magdeburg Welcome Service

Kickoff of the International Welcome Weeks

The International Welcome Weeks start next week! Don’t miss popular events like the karaoke, the bar crawl and the new IKUS Oktoberfest. For some events (*), you need to register via the “Welcome to OVGU” app calendar. Registration opens one week before each event. You don’t need to register for the LSF workshops or for the Welcome Brunch with the International Office. Just join! Zoom links for the workshops will be published in the app beforehand.



Welcome Weeks Program

IKUS (Intercultural Students)

IKUS is a student initiative that works in cooperation with the Studentenwerk Magdeburg, the International Office, and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Students from different faculties and backgrounds support international students in Magdeburg, connecting them with other students.

IKUS WhatsApp Community

INTERKULTURELLE STUDIERENDE

IKUS organizes office hours, the International Welcome Weeks, game nights, country evenings, regional excursions and the Festival of Cultures every second year. Events are announced through the “Welcome to OVGU” app.

All presentations from the Pre-Arrival Info Sessions can be found on the website.

Looking for previous newsletters? You can find them in our Newsletter Archive.

Best regards,

Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg
International Office

If you don't want to receive any more messages (to: {EMAIL}), you can unsubscribe here free of charge at any time.

Akademisches Auslandsamt / International Office
Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg
Universitätsplatz 2
39106 Magdeburg
Deutschland

arrival@ovgu.de
www.ovgu.de/international