

German Language Skills at Bachelor Level

Those wishing to register at the University of Bern who are not native speakers of German must present evidence that they possess an adequate knowledge of the German language. This may mean actual native speaker status or the language of instruction of the upper secondary school-leaving certificate or qualification. Everyone else must take a German test at the University of Bern.

Generally exempt from German test are:

- French or Italian native-speaker prospective students with Swiss school-leaving certificate or qualification
- visiting students, federal and exchange scholarship holders
- Prospective students who have passed the supplementary examination of the Swiss universities in German
- Prospective students who can provide confirmation that they have passed the German test for foreigners at a Swiss university
- Prospective students who have obtained one of the following certificates:
 - C1** Goethe-Zertifikat
 - C2** Goethe-Zertifikat
 - ZOP** Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung
 - KDS** Kleines Deutsches Sprachdiplom
 - GDS** Grosses Deutsches Sprachdiplom from the Goethe-Institut in Germany or an accredited Goethe-Institut testing centre in another country
 - telc** Deutsch C1-Zertifikat
 - TestDaF** From the German TestDaF-Konsortium with a grade of at least 4 in each part
 - F**
 - DSD II** Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kulturlinienkonferenz - Zweite Stufe
 - ÖSD** Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Prüfung C1 Oberstufe Deutsch
 - ÖSD** Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Wirtschaftssprache Deutsch - Niveau C2 with a grade of sehr gut
 - DSH** Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang ausländischer Studienbewerber an deutschen Universitäten, grade 2 or 3

No other German tests or certificates are recognised.

An individual or general exemption from the German test is available for specific courses.

Applications for exemption from the German test must be submitted to the [Admissions Office](#). Please note the following:

| Faculty | German test |
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| • Faculty of Theology | application |
| • Faculty of Law | no exemption |
| • Faculty of Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences | no exemption |
| • Faculty of Medicine | no exemption |
| • Vetsuisse Faculty | no exemption |
| • Faculty of Humanities | application |
| • Faculty of Human Sciences | no exemption |
| • Faculty of Sciences | no exemption |