

Graduate studies at **RWTHAACHEN** UNIVERSITY



INTERNATIONAL OFFICE,
FUNDRAISING AND ALUMNI



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Table of contents

Welcome	4
Your benefit from choosing RWTH Aachen University	6
RWTH Aachen University – future and past	7
Graduate Studies – Your first stage on the road to success	8
Master's degree programs at RWTH Aachen University	10
Biomedical Engineering	12
Metallurgical Engineering	13
Electrical Power Engineering and Communications Engineering	15
Software Systems and Media Informatics	16
Experience the German language: German-taught Master's courses	18
How to apply	20
EU-Citizen or non-EU Citizen?	21
Application deadline	21
Important information	22
Your partner at RWTH Aachen University: The International Office	24
Your life in Aachen – Enjoy the European flair	26
Finding a room in Aachen	27
RWTH Aachen University's international students' opinion	29
University Ranking of WirtschaftsWoche	30



Welcome

Dear student,

We are delighted by your interest in graduate studies at RWTH Aachen University! Since we are constantly aiming to improve the quality of your educational experience, we strive to attract exceptional students from all over the world. As you may know, RWTH Aachen University is one of Europe's most renowned Technical Universities. Due to its outstanding performance in the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments, the university has been able to enhance its reputation even further. Top-level students from all over the world already benefit from RWTH Aachen University's commitment to the highest standards in education and research. RWTH's numerous partnerships with international universities and companies offer you outstanding professional and personal perspectives.

It will be a pleasure to welcome you as member of RWTH Aachen University's academic community in the near future.



Prof. Dr. Ernst Schmachtenberg
Rector of RWTH Aachen University



Your benefit from choosing RWTH Aachen University

- Academic excellence
- Long-standing tradition of research and teaching in
- Engineering, IT and the Natural Sciences
- Interdisciplinary research with external partners
- Close co-operation with international companies
- Research-oriented education
- State-of-the-art facilities
- International atmosphere
- Excellent career prospects
- Cultural diversity
- A supportive and stimulating environment

RWTH Aachen University – future and past

Partnerships – sharing innovation and technology

Close cooperations in research and development between the Departments of Engineering and Natural Sciences and numerous important companies contribute decisively to RWTH Aachen University's competitiveness at the national and international level. The establishment of international research centers by major companies such as Microsoft, Ford and United Technologies as well as a large number of start-up companies in the Aachen region, proves the university's strength in innovation.

The present – international expertise

Today, RWTH Aachen University is one of the most renowned Technical Universities in Europe. It has approximately 35,000 students and an academic staff of 2,420 - 460 of whom are full professors. RWTH Aachen University's long-standing reputation for research and educational distinction attracts students from all over the world: Currently over 5,000 international students from more than 130 different countries are part of our academic community.

Tradition – the basis of excellence

RWTH Aachen University's reputation for excellence in teaching, learning and research started in 1870, when the university was founded with considerable support from local companies.

Originally a polytechnic institute, it became the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH Aachen University) in 1948.





Graduate Studies – Your first stage on the road of success

RWTH Aachen University is one of the leading Technical Universities in Europe. We offer you an excellent education that enables you to start a successful academic or professional career. Many of our international alumni hold top positions in business, politics, administration, and academia. In return, we expect from you an outstanding Bachelor's degree and a passionate interest in your field of study. A strong interest in German culture and language is a prerequisite to succeed in your studies, your social life and, last but not least, your professional career.

Characteristics of studying at RWTH Aachen University

The German system of university education differs from the internationally well-known Anglo-American system. University studies in Germany are traditionally considered a period of both professional and personal growth.

As a consequence professors and university members will expect you to be:

SELF-RELIANT

RWTH students are solely responsible for organizing their studies.

INDEPENDENT

RWTH students must learn to successfully balance their studies with their private life in Aachen. They must also coordinate all administrative aspects of their studies and living on their own.

The International Office, for example, will inform students on how to find accommodation, however it is the student's responsibility to book a room or a flat.

ASSERTIVE and CO-OPERATIVE

The ratio between students and professors at RWTH Aachen University is quite high – for approximately 35,000 students, we have 460 full professors. Therefore the general atmosphere is less personal than you might be used to from your previous educational institution. This also explains why you typically cannot be supervised personally by your professors. Considering that the programs at RWTH are very demanding, you will need to demonstrate determination to be successful.

Master's degree programs at RWTH Aachen University

English-taught programs: Expertise and intercultural skills

Due to the language of instruction, RWTH Aachen University's English-taught Master's degree courses particularly attract international students. Therefore you can benefit from the high quality of teaching, the close collaboration with national and international industrial partners and the intercultural exchange with your fellow students from all over the world. English-taught Master's degree programs are typically four semesters in duration.

Currently, RWTH Aachen University offers six programs:

- Biomedical Engineering
- Communications Engineering
- Electrical Power Engineering
- Media Informatics
- Metallurgical Engineering
- Software Systems Engineering

General information and requirements

- Final degree awarded: Master of Science (M.Sc.)
- Duration of the program: two years
- Beginning of the program: September/October (winter term)
- Qualification to pursue a doctoral degree upon receipt of the Master's degree
- In order to be successful, you should have performed above average in your undergraduate studies.

Language requirements

If you would like to apply for an English-taught study program, please submit one of the following certificates:

- TOEFL internet-based test (80 points or more)
- TOEFL paper-based test (550 points or more)
- IELTS (6.0 or higher)
- CAE or CPE

! Please note:

Your TOEFL score report must not less than two years old in October of the year for which you plan to matriculate. RWTH must receive the original TOEFL score report directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

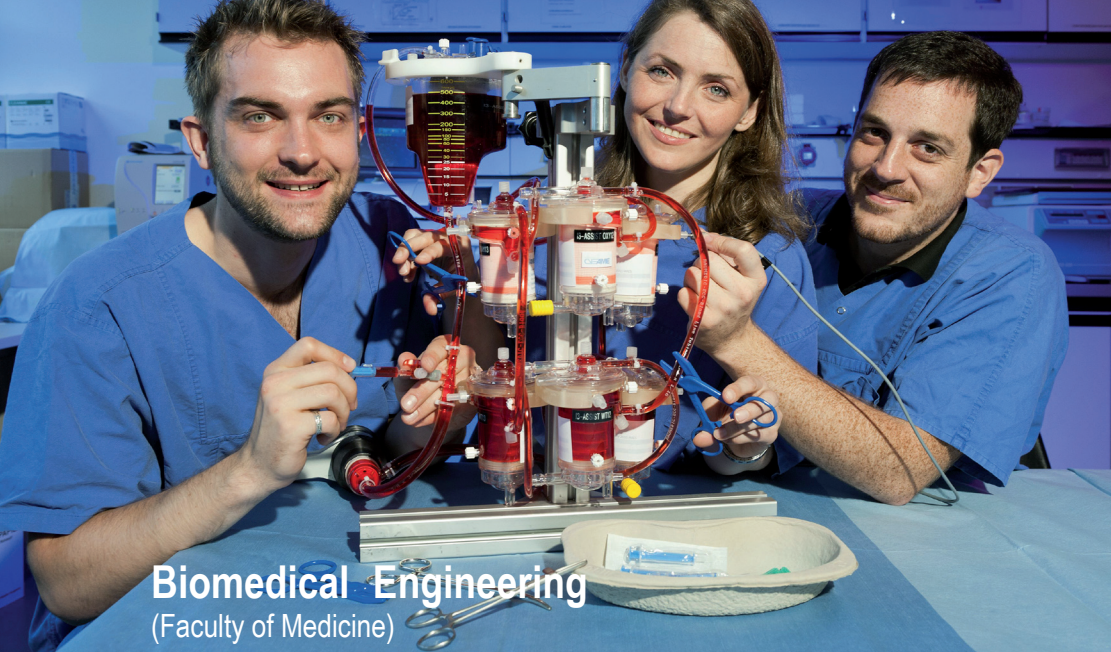
- the ETS/TOEFL code for RWTH is 8504
- Applicants with a degree from Great Britain, the USA, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, or Canada do not need to provide an English certificate.

Experience the German language

Although your academic life in Aachen will be structured around English, we advise you to gain at least a basic knowledge of German, thus ensuring that you can enjoy and take part in the non-academic life in Aachen. For this reason, all English language Master's programs have German courses as part of their core curriculum. German courses are available at all levels, from beginners to advanced students.

For further information, please check:

www.sz.rwth-aachen.de/start.html



Biomedical Engineering

(Faculty of Medicine)

The Master's of Science program in Biomedical Engineering is an interdisciplinary course of study involving interaction between the Natural Sciences, Medicine, and Engineering, taking into account current developments and interdisciplinary research in the field of Biomedical Engineering.

The program provides a high level of education in close cooperation with clinics and industry. Students will be trained in the application of engineering principles and techniques in the medical field.

Career opportunities

Graduates of this programme have career opportunities in a broad range of professional fields including the engineering, health care, science, and business sectors. The task of such an engineer may cover aspects of research, development, production, quality assurance, certification surveillance, and monitoring of medical facilities, procedures, and instruments.

Formal entrance requirements

Applicants should have a recognized first degree (Bachelor of Science or Engineering) in Mechanical Engineering, Mechatronics, Automation Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Sciences, Information Engineering or Medical Sciences, Dentistry, Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Chemistry or Physics. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE not older than five years) is required for non-EU students. For more detailed information on special entrance requirements and the structure of the program please check:

<http://www.ukaachen.de/content/referencepage/13939833/1>.

Metallurgical Engineering

(Faculty of Georesources and Materials Engineering)

Metallurgical Engineering is concerned with the development, production, and processing of ferrous, non-ferrous, and mineral materials. Research focuses on materials design. Scientists also deal with issues relating to surface technology, recycling, manufacturing, and processing, using state-of-the-art production processes and quality assurance inspections.

Its particular focus is on industrial R&D practices and modern manufacturing processes. The program aims to enhance the students' ability to design and manage projects and to lead and co-ordinate project teams.

Career opportunities

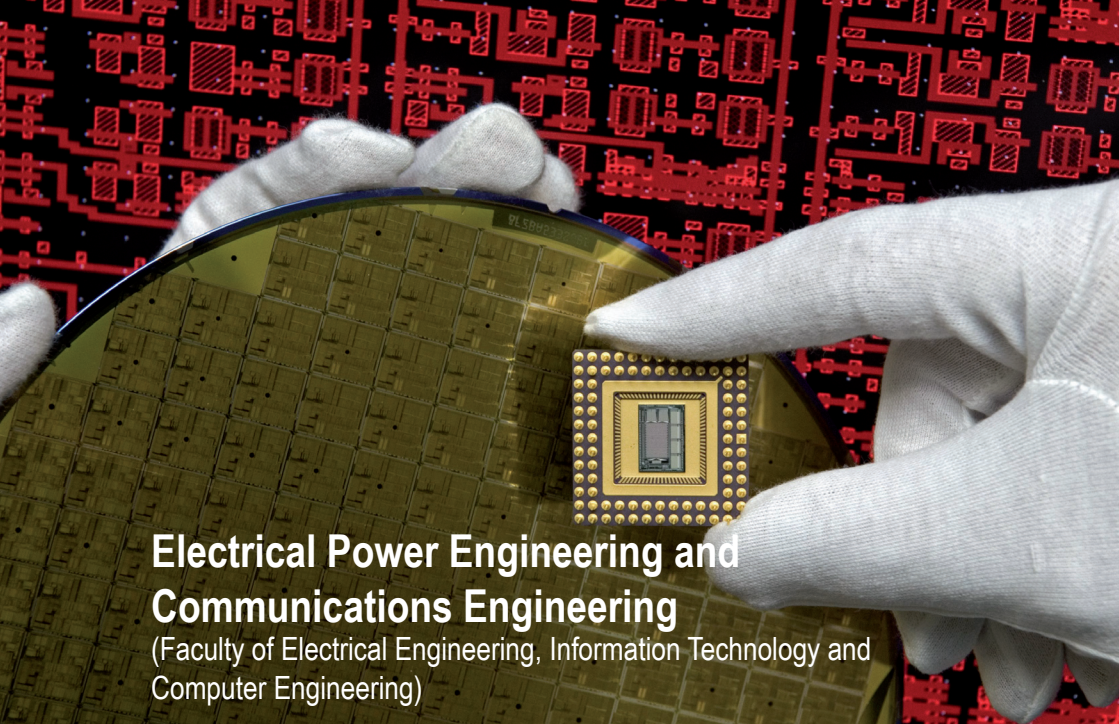
Career opportunities include positions in R&D, production, and management in world-leading companies in the fields of industry, technology, and medicine.

Formal entrance requirements

You should have a recognized Bachelor's degree in Metallurgy, Materials Engineering, or in another closely related discipline.

For more detailed information please check:

<http://www.muw.rwth-aachen.de/>



Electrical Power Engineering and Communications Engineering

(Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Information Technology and Computer Engineering)

Electrical Power Engineering

This program is designed to train you in modern electrical power engineering, in close cooperation with industry. You will learn how to apply your knowledge of mathematics and electrical engineering to solve technical problems in a global social and economic context. During an industrial internship of at least four months, you will learn to address practical engineering problems.

Career Opportunities

Electrical Power engineers work in electric power utilities, in industrial R & D, planning, construction, production, sale and distribution departments, in public authorities with supervision and control tasks or in research centers and university institutes.

Communications Engineering

This program provides in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge of modern communication technologies. Its particular focus is on advanced digital multimedia transmission systems. During your six-month period for the Master's thesis you will work in a research project with an industrial focus. The integrated industrial internship of at least 18 weeks will give you the chance to address practical engineering problems.

Career opportunities

A Master of Science in Communications Engineering from RWTH Aachen University is your personal entrance ticket to an abundance of companies and research facilities. Your future employer may be part of any industry sector, since communications is applied everywhere.

Formal entrance requirements

For Electrical Power Engineering you should have a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Power Engineering. For Communications Engineering your Bachelor's degree should be in a field strongly related to Communications Engineering. We advise you to include the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in your application materials.

Special entrance requirements

You should have a substantial knowledge of Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Electrical Power Engineering and Communications Engineering. For more detailed information please check: <http://www.iaew.rwth-aachen.de/fuer-studierende/msc-epe.html>, <http://www.ce.rwth-aachen.de>

Software Systems and Media Informatics

(Faculty of Mathematics, Computer Science and Natural Science)

Software Systems Engineering

This interdisciplinary program focuses on the design and implementation of complex software systems, including their embedding in technical and socio-technical systems. You will gain knowledge of both theoretical and practical aspects of computer science, which will allow you to adapt quickly to the constant changes in this fast-paced field.

Media Informatics

This international program will teach you how to successfully master novel, technical, and economic challenges at the crossroads of computer science, software engineering, next-generation communication systems, and media. It is offered by RWTH Aachen University and the University of Bonn in co-operation with the Fraunhofer institutes in St. Augustin within the Bonn-Aachen International Center for Information Technology (B-IT). The final degree is awarded by RWTH Aachen University.

Career opportunities

Computer scientists with a Master's degree in Software Systems Engineering have been highly demanded for many years and there is no change in sight. The ability to design and implement large computer software systems in an interdisciplinary environment opens the door to management and leadership positions.

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<http://dbis.rwth-aachen.de/SSE> or <http://mi.b-it-center.de/>



Master's programs at the International Academy

The International Academy, on behalf of RWTH Aachen University, is a private, legal entity, independent from the University. It organizes accredited Master's degree programs for students from throughout the world. It offers two English-taught programs :

- Computer Aided Conception and Production in Mechanical Engineering
- Productions Systems Engineering

! Please note: The International Academy requires payment of tuition fees of approximately € 3700 per semester. For more detailed information please check the website: www.academy.rwth-aachen.de.

Strength in research and teaching through collaboration

RWTH Aachen University offers two programs taught in English in cooperation with:

TU Delft and ETH Zürich: Applied Geophysics

<http://www.idealeague.org/geophysics/>

Forschungszentrum Jülich: Simulation Sciences

<http://www.grs-sim.de/education/master/20>



Experience the German language: German-taught Master's courses

RWTH Aachen University offers Master's degree programs taught in German in all subject areas. The number of these programs is steadily increasing. Please find a list of these programs in German at: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/yev. German-taught Master's degree programs are typically three to four semesters in duration.

Where and when should you learn German

Good German language skills provide a crucial basis for successful studies. Thus, we advise you to gain sufficient skills in German even before coming to Aachen. In most cases, this should not be expensive. Moreover, this is the only way to make sure you meet all the requirements for your studies at RWTH Aachen University.

Please find information on language schools on the internet and consider the duration and prices of such preparation courses. Several international Goethe Institutes offer German language courses at all levels: <http://www.goethe.de>.

Deutsch- Uni Online (DUO) provides supported online-language courses: <http://www.deutsch-uni.com>.

If you would like to apply for a German-taught degree program, please submit one of the following certificates:

- Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang (DSH 2 or 3)
 - Test Deutsch als Fremdsprache (TestDaF): Level 4 in all four test sections
 - Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz - Zweite Stufe (KMK II)
 - Goethe-Institut: Kleines Deutsches Sprachdiplom (KDS), Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom (GDS) or Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung (ZOP)
 - Deutsche Sprachprüfung II of the Sprachen- und Dolmetscher-Institut München
- You can obtain these certificates at the worldwide TestDaF centers (www.testdaf.de) or at the Goethe Institutes (www.goethe.de).

Restricted vs. non-restricted Master's programs

Restricted programs – also called Numerus Clausus (NC) programs – can admit only a limited number of students because there are considerably more applications than places available. This means that those students with the best grades will have the best chance of being admitted. Since the Numerus Clausus will be fixed depending on the number of applications, we advise you to submit your application in any case, as long as you were among the best students in your study course at your home university.

How to apply

Please check our website at: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bqrm for detailed and up-to-date information on the application process. In order to apply, please print and sign the application form (Adobe Acrobat Reader required) found at: www.rwth-aachen.de/ioam/?lang=eng.

You will need to do the following steps:

1. Print-out of your online **application questionnaire**. Please do not forget to sign the questionnaire
2. Add a **CV** of maximum two pages; please list your education, academic achievements, stays abroad, jobs internships etc.
3. Write on a separate piece of paper about your motivation for applying at RWTH Aachen University (**letter of motivation**)
4. Add copies of your complete transcripts (**academic records**) together with (if possible) detailed description of modules and courses that you studied (**diploma supplement**)
5. Add a **copy of your Bachelor's degree certificate** (if you already received it by the time of application; otherwise you may submit it upon enrolment)
6. Add **copies of language proficiency certificates**
7. Add further documents required by the examination council of the degree program you want to apply for.

Please gather information about these extra documents. Examples may include a GRE, a technical essay, etc.

! Please note:

If your documents are not in English, German, Dutch or French, please also provide copies of a translation by a certified translator.

Application deadlines

! Please note: deadlines are non-negotiable! Missing a deadline leads to a rejection of your application. The deadline refers to the arrival of your application at the International Office. Please consider that sending your application can take up to four weeks or even longer!

Effective deadlines can be found here (for EU/EEC-citizens and Non- EU/EEC-citizens): www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bqrm

EU-Citizen or non-EU Citizen?

Depending upon your home country you have to submit your application documents to different university departments:

a) The application process for EU citizens and applicants from Norway, Lichtenstein, and Iceland

Applications for NC programs are to be made to:
The Registrar's Office of RWTH Aachen University
SuperC Building, Templergraben 57, 52056 Aachen
tel: +49 241 80 94214, fax: +49 241 80 92380
email: StudSek@zhv.rwth-aachen.de

For further information on the online application process for NC programs please visit: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bvdq. Due to the fact that German language skills are a precondition for being admitted to NC Bachelor's and Master's courses this website is only offered in German.

Applications for non-restricted (non-NC) programs are to be made to:

International Office of RWTH Aachen University

Division 2.1 – Admissions and Social Affairs

SuperC Building, Templergraben 57, 52062 Aachen

tel: +49 241 80 90674, fax: +49 241 80 92662

Email: international@rwth-aachen.de

! Please note: all English-taught Master's programs are non-restricted programs

b) The application process for non-EU citizens

Applications by non-EU applicants for both NC and non-NC programs are to be made to the International Office of RWTH Aachen University (see above address).

Online application

For Bachelor's and German-taught Master's degree

programs: <http://www.rwth-aachen.de/ioa>

For English-taught Master's programs:

<http://www.rwth-aachen.de/ioam/?lang=eng>

Important information

Visa and residence permit

Applicants from member states of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland do not need a visa to travel to Germany.

Citizens of Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, and the United States do not need a visa to enter the country, but they will have to apply for a residence permit for the purpose of studying from the relevant foreigners' registration office within three months of arrival.

Foreign citizens of all other countries need a special student visa, which allows them to enter the Federal Republic of Germany for the purpose of studying. They must apply for this visa at a German Consulate or Embassy in their home country as early as possible, as the processing time for visas usually takes at least eight weeks and can take up to four months.

For detailed information on visa applications, please contact the Info Service Center of the International Office or check our website at: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bpra.

Tuition fee

Currently neither German nor international students have to pay tuition fees at RWTH Aachen University

Social security fee

There is a social security fee of approx. € 220 per semester. This fee includes a ticket for public transport in the whole region of North-Rhine Westphalia. The ticket is valid for the entire semester.

Living and other expenses

The average cost for living and studying, including food, accommodation, personal and social expenses and study-related costs, is estimated to be between € 700 and € 900 per month (if you enroll in a public Master's program). For further information please visit: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bqmn.

Health insurance

If you live in Germany, you have to take out health insurance, either with a public or a private health insurance company. We strongly recommend you to take out an additional liability insurance. For detailed information please go to:

www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bqeb.

How to finance your life in Aachen

If you have demonstrated strong academic performance, you can apply for a scholarship. You can also cover your expenses by working as a research or teaching assistant with an university department. Such a position, often linked to ongoing research projects, provides an excellent complement to your degree program, and frequently serves as a springboard to doctorate level studies later on. Please find detailed information at: www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/bqmp and <http://www.daad.de/deutschland/foerderung/hinweise/00461.en.html>.



Your partner at RWTH Aachen University: The International Office

The International Office is the main contact point for you as an international student, both prior to your studies and also after having enrolled at RWTH Aachen University.

The well-informed, friendly staff, which also includes international students, is happy to assist you with all aspects of studying and living in Aachen.

The International Office's Info-Service Center (ISC) offers you information and services concerning the following issues:

- visa and residence permit
- admission and enrolment
- registering your address at local authorities offices
- insurance
- locating pertinent university and city offices
- tips for finding a job in Aachen
- finding an accommodation in Aachen and surroundings

! Please note:

The website of the International Office offers you current, important information on the above mentioned issues and many more. Please browse through the websites as soon as you think about the possibility to study at RWTH Aachen University.

Don't miss the orientation event!

At the beginning of each semester, the International Office organizes an orientation event especially for students taking part in English-taught Master's programs. We strongly encourage you to take part in this event because you will get more useful information regarding the first period of your studies at RWTH Aachen University. Programs aiming at social and academic integration, such as the "BeBuddy" program (www.rwth-aachen.de/bebuddy/?lang=eng), as well as activities to meet other students, such as our "Leisure & Pleasure" program (www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/cfuf), help you to settle in quickly.

Many of the university's international students are engaged in an international student club and/or society. These organizations provide assistance to international students, especially newly enrolled ones, and contribute to the cultural life in Aachen and at the university.

The Humboldt Haus is the meeting place for both German and international students. Please visit the website: www.rwth-aachen.de/humboldt to get more detailed information.

The University Sports Centre (HSZ) covers a total of 70 disciplines. Please check www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/cfue for further information.



Your life in Aachen – Enjoy the European flair

Aachen is an ancient city, which was already greatly appreciated by the Romans for its thermal springs. To this day Aachen is famous for the curative effects of its thermal waters. Its historical importance dates back to the days of emperor Charlemagne, the “father of Europe”.

Aachen cathedral, which became the first German building to be listed as a UNESCO world heritage site, the gothic city hall and the cathedral treasury give testimony to the city’s rich cultural heritage and beauty.

Aachen is a medium-sized, international city of 250,000 residents, whose lives are perceptibly influenced by its geographical location: Being Germany’s westernmost city, Belgium and the Netherlands can be reached easily within just a few minutes. Other major cities such as Brussels, Cologne and Düsseldorf are just a short trip away.

The narrow winding streets in the city center and its numerous fountains render Aachen a very romantic and idyllic place. Aachen is also famous for its annual events such as the CHIO, the World Equestrian Festival, and the awarding ceremony of the International Charlemagne Prize, which is awarded in recognition of services promoting European peace and unity.

For detailed information please visit: <http://www.aachen-emotion.com/en-students/content/welcome-to-aachen-students>.

Finding a room in Aachen – a very important task

Aachen is home to about 250,000 inhabitants, 180,000 of whom live in the inner-city district. As the buildings of RWTH Aachen University are not contained on a single campus, the institution’s facilities are spread across the city. As such, students may have to move between different university buildings by bus, bike or on foot.

The question of where to live in Aachen is a very important one. We strongly recommend that you begin searching for an accommodation even before you have been admitted to a program of study at RWTH Aachen University. We also suggest that you have some money available in case you have to stay in a guest house or hotel for a few days (or weeks) while looking for a permanent residence.

Please note: While the International Office offers a consulting service (a housing specialist who would be glad to give advice on how best to conduct your search), there is no housing service at RWTH Aachen University to provide you with an accommodation!

We would like to present you with the three most common ways of living in Aachen:

Student dorms

Student dorms are very popular among international students because they offer furnished rooms at a reasonable prize. Due to the steadily increasing number of international and German students in Aachen there are unfortunately far fewer rooms than interested students! For this reason, you should apply for a room at least six month **before your arrival** in Aachen. Please note that even this is no guarantee for getting a room in a student dorm. For more details, please read very carefully all information on the International Office’s website: http://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/main/root/Studium/Vor_dem_Studium/~egp/Wohnen_in_Aachen/?lidx=1.

Flat-sharing

Sharing a flat with other students is also a very popular way of living in Germany. Two or more individuals share one apartment with a kitchen, bathroom, etc. In most situations, one applies for a flat-share via an interview with the prospective roommates. This interview allows the would-be roommates to meet you and decide whether they are interested in sharing the apartment with you. Considering this detail, the pursuit of a flat-share is often better organized **after arrival** in Aachen. Even so, we recommend that you browse the following website for room vacancies in the weeks prior to your

arrival: <http://www.wg-gesucht.de>. You should pay special attention to the category “short term rent.” Experience has shown that roommates may be willing to choose an international student without an in-person interview, provided that the international student is willing to meet up via Skype (or a similar means). Please find a list with more housing portals at: <http://www.international.rwth-aachen.de/housing> (Information on finding private-sector accommodation).

Own apartment

The third option is to rent an apartment for yourself or together with other students whom you already know or will get to know during your first semester. In this case, you will most likely have to furnish the apartment by yourself. Please visit our website for more detailed information on finding a private accommodation. One of RWTH Aachen University's student associations, INCAS, also offers help with finding an accommodation in Aachen. Please visit:

<http://www.incas.rwth-aachen.de/index.php/en/house-hunting/overview>

The International Office would be glad to help you during the following times:

Monday – Thursday from 09:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tel: +49 241 80 90618

Fax: +49 241 80 92622

E-mail: wohn@zhv.rwth-aachen.de

SuperC Room 328, Templergraben 57, 52062 Aachen



“Thanks to RWTH Aachen University Aachen is a gateway to a world of knowledge. Numerous exciting projects await you here in the city! You can look forward to cultural diversity and many excursions.”

University Ranking of

Wirtschafts Woche

WirtschaftsWoche is one of the most renowned German business news magazines. Every year it publishes a university ranking that reflects the opinion of more than 500 human resources officers. The results are related to the quality of the universities' graduates and the interest to recruit them for their own companies. RWTH Aachen University is the only German university that was ranked in the first place in four categories:

1. Electrical Engineering
2. Mechanical Engineering
3. Business administration and Engineering
4. Natural Sciences

In Computer Sciences, RWTH Aachen University has a second-place ranking.

For more detailed information, visit: (in German)

<http://www.wiwo.de/erfolg/campus-mba/uni-ranking-deutschlands-beste-universitaeten/6476062.html>



Get connected online with RWTH Aachen University

Visit RWTH Aachen University's facebook sites at:

<https://www.facebook.com/RWTHAachenUniversity>

and the International Office's Info-Service Center's facebook site at:

<https://www.facebook.com/IO.ISC>

and watch our videos at our youtube channel at:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/RWTHAachenUniversity/videos>



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UNIVERSITY**

**www.rwth-aachen.de
contact-international@rwth-aachen.de**