

# Apprenticeship as carer for the elderly in Germany

Guided steps towards your secure and professional perspective:

Successful application → preparatory language training → three months trial period (internship) → Apprenticeship as assistant carer for the elderly (2 years) → Apprenticeship as carer for the elderly (2 years) → Working as skilled worker in a secure profession

## The initiating foundation: Stiftung Liebenau

The Stiftung Liebenau, founded 1870, is a church foundation governed by civil law and has its headquarters in Meckenbeuren (Southern Germany). The Stiftung Liebenau has more than 300 institutions at 94 locations with more than 7.000 employees in Germany. The nursing facilities of Stiftung Liebenau are homes for people who are in need of special support. In these facilities, the elderly and the ones with special needs are supported to live their lives in dignity and autonomy as far as they can. Please find more detailed information here: <https://www.stiftung-liebenau.de/en/>

### The project partner: dialoge SBL GmbH

The educational organization dialoge SBL GmbH in Lindau at Lake Constance (Southern Germany) accompanies the project from the start as a recruiter, language trainer and coach in order to prepare the participants for the life in Germany. More information: <http://www.dialoge.com/en/how-to-learn-german.html>

**The work places:** Nursing homes of the Stiftung Liebenau in the Upper Swabia region, close to Lake Constance (Germany's biggest inland lake) [www.danube-lake-constance-route.com/](http://www.danube-lake-constance-route.com/) As the infrastructure is good, the cities Ravensburg or Friedrichshafen are quickly accessible: <http://www.bodensee.eu/en>

## The program ( phases I to IV)

### I. Preparatory language training / trial period (internship), three months

#### Language training – online as well as classroom training

Before the trial period (internship) in Germany starts, language trainers and participants meet in a central place and get to know each other during a 3 day workshop. There will be an introduction for the online learning program and the course material as well as the opportunity to clarify all open questions. Via computer and internet, you take part in the language course from home for 15 weeks up to the language level A1+/A2, terminating with a final exam.

More information:

<http://www.dialoge.com/en/virtual-courses-languages-online-german.html>

#### Trial period (internship), three months

During the internship, you will work in the different departments of a nursing home and you will get to know the German language, culture and your regional surrounding through the accompanying language training.

In the nursing homes, you will get to know the tasks and processes effected in the departments and you will learn how the collaboration between them works. You will support older people in daily life situations where they need help.

You will for example help with *going to bed, getting up, putting clothes on, personal care, walking, getting around with the wheelchair, eating meals* etc.

Also, you will support the employees of the nursing home when leisure time activities are organized such as memory training and story hours.

You will accompany inhabitants to cultural events, shopping and doctor's visits.

**Work hours** Shift work according to the roster: **40 hours on 5 days a week**, partly shifts on weekends or holidays, 7 to 8 days off per year

#### Wage and additional benefits:

Accommodation in furnished staff homes, guaranteed net amount 880 € (ca. 450 €/month internship salary, additional subventions for rent, transport and food).



The Stiftung Liebenau's nursing homes are places where older people in need of help live in dignity and autonomy.



The language training takes place in a virtual classroom where participants and language trainers meet on fixed hours.



The Upper Swabia region is partly located in the Southern-East of Baden-Württembergs as well as in the Southern-East of Bavaria. The region is characterized by agriculture and tourism and offers very high life quality.

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## II. Apprenticeship as assistant carer for the elderly

**Duration:** 2 years

**Tasks as an apprentice in this profession:** Support of the care employees via for all tasks related to support and care of elderly people. Assistance for elderly people in everyday life, care documentation, and housekeeping tasks.

**Theoretical contents of this apprenticeship:**

Physical, psychical and social changes in seniority, symptoms and caring methods, support of the elderly in their daily life, caring processes, basic pathology, gerontology, German, Religion, communication, politics and law, economics, social studies, music, art.

**Work hours:** please see conditions in I., three months trial period (internship)

**Wage:** ca. 1000 € gross wage/month

**Days off per year:** 30 days

## III. Apprenticeship as carer for the elderly

**Duration:** 2 years

**Tasks as an apprentice in this profession:**

Care, support and encouragement of elderly people and those in need of care in everyday situations, and with personal day-to-day activities. Consideration and encouragement of existing capabilities the supported people have, as well as accompaniment of group and individual activities. Contact person for the cared-for, their loved ones as well as doctors and therapists.

**Theoretical contents of this apprenticeship:**

Concepts in the care of the elderly, support of the elderly in organizing their way of life, biography-oriented conversation techniques, caring process, ambulant caring, therapeutical and medical-caring knowledge, legal parameters, EDP-assisted caring

**Work hours:** please see conditions in I., one year trial period (internship)

**Wage:** ca. 1.100 € - 1.200 gross wage/month

**Days off per year:** 30 days

## IV. Employment as skilled worker

**Duration:** minimum 3 years or long-term

As skilled worker having passed the apprenticeship, you will be employed in one of the Stiftung Liebenau's nursing homes and gain valuable work experience.

**Work hours:** please see conditions I., trial period (internship)

**Income:** ca. 2.640 – 3700 € gross wage/month

(increasing with the years of professional experience)

**Days off per year:** 30 days

### Your benefits:

- best-quality qualification: **Step by step towards your professional qualification**
- secure professional **perspective**
- **fair work conditions** and a contract with a renowned employer
- Personal contact person in Germany as **integration** supporter
- Learning the **German language** and **cultural basics**
- Needs-based **professional support**
- **Individual support** depending on personal requirements and needs

Around **1,3 million people** attend a **dual apprenticeship** in Germany.

More information: <http://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/for-qualified-professionals/working/prospects/prospect-of-vocational-training>



The **integration support** includes information regarding arriving in Germany and living your daily life there.

- Introduction event
- First orientation in the place of residence
- Support in communication with authorities
- Answering individual questions
- Work-accompanying language training
- Practical support for everyday life