

Information sheet on compulsory education

You have just moved to the city of Halle (Saale) and have school-age children? Then there are a few things to consider in order to fulfil the obligation of compulsory schooling.

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers:

My child is only 5 years old and scheduled to start school next year: What do I need to know?

For the primary school with jurisdiction over your street, please check the current school district register at www.halle.de and apply for your child's enrollment there. For this purpose, there are fixed dates in February, about 1.5 years before your child starts school. This information is available on request from the responsible elementary school or in the official gazette of the city of Halle. Before your child enters school, a pre-school physical examination will be conducted by the health department. You can make appointments for this examination individually at the health counseling centers listed below.

My child has already attended a primary school in the area where he/she has lived in Germany up to now:

Please check the school district register at www.halle.de for the primary school responsible for the area where you live and apply for your child's enrollment there.

I am a foreign national and my child has never been to school in Germany before:

For the school admission your child needs a certificate of health certified by a family doctor or a municipal doctor. Please contact the medical support centers for children and adolescents at the following address:

Medical support center I, Helmeweg 2, 06122 Halle (Saale),
Telephone: 0345 685 6742
City area: North, northern city center

Medical support center II, Helmeweg 2, 06122 Halle (Saale),
Telephone: 0345 690 2683
City area: west

Medical support center III, Stendaler Straße 7, 06132 Halle (Saale),
Telephone: 0345 770 4766
City area: south

Medical support center IV, Niemeyerstrasse 1, 06110 Halle (Saale),
Telephone: 0345 221 3241
City area: city center, east

Medical support center V, Helmeweg 2, 06122 Halle (Saale),
Telephone: 0345 685 6742
City area: west

The health certificate (and, if applicable, certificates of previous school education) and a current residence registration from the Department of Residence Affairs must be submitted to the Department of Education, School Affairs. We recommend to send them directly per letter or per email addressed to the corresponding contacts mentioned below. An application to be allocated a place will be submitted from there to the federal department of education (Landesschulamt). They will send your admission letter to your address and you can then attend the school of your choice.

My child has previously attended school from year 5-10, which school is the most appropriate for my child?

Are you looking for a grammar school or a comprehensive or common school (intended certificate Realschule or Abitur)? Then you can look for one of the schools which are available in the city and contact them for a free place. You can find more information about schools and education at www.halle.de. Secondary schools that allow students to receive a Hauptschule or Realschule leaving certificate (also an extended Realschule leaving certificate) belong to certain school districts. Using the school district register, you can find the responsible school, which you can then contact.

How long does compulsory education last?

In Saxony-Anhalt, compulsory full-time schooling lasts at least 9 years, and usually during this time pupils learn at a secondary school providing public education. Compulsory schooling is fully completed with at least one year's attendance at a vocational school. Compulsory schooling is over at the latest 12 years after its start.

Does my child have to attend school?

Yes. It is possible to be temporarily released from compulsory school attendance, e.g., shortly before and after giving birth to your own child (maternity leave). In such cases, please contact the responsible school or the Federal Department of Education. The Federal Department of Education decides on other exceptions, such as temporary interruption of compulsory schooling (Lscha-Poststelle@Sachsen-Anhalt.de, Tel.: 0345 5140).

The city of Halle regularly monitors all registrations of children of compulsory school age residing in the city area in regard to school attendance. Any violations of compulsory school's attendance duties will be prosecuted as an administrative offense.

If you have any questions about school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Department of Education

School Affairs Office

Albert-Schweitzer-Str. 40

06114 Halle (Saale)

Tel.: 0345 / 221 3131 or 3141

E-mail: schulverwaltung@halle.de

If you have further questions about attending school or the full range of educational institutions in the city of Halle, or if you need language assistance, please contact the following counseling centers. You can also refer to the parents' brochure published by the Migrants' Network in Saxony-Anhalt:

<https://www.nemsa.de/infothek-wissen/elterninformationen-mehrsprachig/>

We wish you a successful start at school and happy learning.