EXPAT SERVICE DESK
ME & DUS

www.expatservicedesk.de

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EUROPÄISCHE UNION
Investition in unsere Zukunft
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Expats welcome!

The Expat Service Desk offers initial information and advice on living and working within the city of Düsseldorf and the County of Mettmann to international professionals and their families as well as to small and medium sized enterprises.

As a platform for all expat-related activities, we bundle together information, networks and institutions such as government agencies and departments, international schools, Expat-networks, international associations and (foreign trade) investment promotion agencies. We support you in dealing with our regional authority partners and ensure that you are well informed to contact the office responsible for you.

“Düsseldorf is an international, growing city. The project “Expat Service Desk” will make a contribution to our welcome culture to specialists and professionals from abroad coming to Düsseldorf.” Thomas Geisel, Mayor State Capital Düsseldorf

“Due to the Expat Service Desk, employing international professionals in local companies is becoming easier, which supports sustainable economic growth in the region.”

Thomas Hendele, County Administrator, Mettmann

“Within the Düsseldorf Chamber District, more than every sixth company has foreign (capital) ownership. If not here, where does the work of an Expat Service Desk make more sense?”

Gregor Berghausen, CEO, Chamber of Industry and Commerce Düsseldorf

From left to right: Gregor Berghausen (CEO, Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Düsseldorf), Svitlana Bayer (Project Team Member, Expat Service Desk), Johannes Grünhage (Project Manager, Expat Service Desk), Thomas Geisel (Mayor, State Capital Düsseldorf), Thomas Hendele (County Administrator, Mettmann)
Are you an international specialist working here or planning to settle in the region? Do you wish to integrate or contribute professionally and privately?

We offer comprehensive support on official procedures, professional qualifications and careers, social integration and aspects of everyday life. Our goal is to help you, your family, your work and your new life in the region.

Does your company employ international specialists or plan to do so in the near future?

Then we are here to support you and your new employees. Comprehensive information covers the recruitment of international specialists, official procedures, professional development and qualifications. Our goal is to facilitate recruitment and employment of international specialists in the region.

Project partners of the Expat Service Desk are the Office of Economic Development of the State Capital Düsseldorf and the County of Mettmann as well as the Chamber of Industry and Commerce Düsseldorf (IHK). The project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).
Düsseldorf: the city on the Rhine

Düsseldorf is the capital city of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia and is located at the core of the largest European economic area. As a trade fair town and place of international and listed companies, Düsseldorf is a top-location for foreign direct investment in Europe.

Düsseldorf is an important location for industry and service providers. The city’s key economic activities are telecommunications, banking, insurance, fashion, and legal and business consultancy. With a growing start-up business and the rising importance of the digital economy, Düsseldorf is a leading hotspot of digitalization. Düsseldorf’s international airport is an intercontinental hub in Europe that connects the region with all major business centres and destinations worldwide. Düsseldorf is home to 22 universities, including the renowned Academy of Fine Arts and the Heinrich Heine University, and has numerous museums and galleries. The shopping boulevard Königsallee ("Kö"), the modern Medienhafen (harbour media district) and the Old Town offer a wide range of gastronomy, art and culture as well as fashion.

Düsseldorf is one of the most favoured cities worldwide for Expats. The survey by the Expat-network InterNations shows in its worldwide city ranking that according to quality of life and career opportunities, Düsseldorf ranks fourth. For this reason, the numbers of international specialists in Düsseldorf are continuously rising. More than 12 percent of employed residents in Düsseldorf hold foreign citizenship, equivalent to 46,000 persons.
County of Mettmann: 10 business locations in the heart of Europe

Like a sickle, the County of Mettmann surrounds Düsseldorf in the north, east and south. With around 485,000 residents, it is one of the most densely populated counties in Germany.

Apart from Düsseldorf, neighbouring municipalities of the “neanderland”, as the County of Mettmann is also called, are the cities Essen, Wuppertal and Leverkusen. The cities of Erkrath, Haan, Heiligenhaus, Hilden, Langenfeld, Mettmann, Monheim am Rhein, Ratingen, Velbert and Wülfrath are located within the “neanderland”. In terms of tourism and culture, the county offers a variety of picturesque old towns, some of the best and modern shopping destinations, beautiful recreation areas and cultural highlights, such as the world famous Neanderthal Museum.

The County of Mettmann is also an important economic centre especially for locking and security technology, metal/mechanical engineering, life sciences/biotechnology, and services and ICT. All ten cities of the county have beautiful residential areas and attractive working conditions. Over 18,000 residents holding foreign citizenship are employed in the region. This represents around 10.5 percent of the whole working population.
Our service scope

The Expat Service Desk team offers advice and information about:

- Childcare, schooling and the school system
- Formalities, authorities, health, housing, insurance, finance, leisure
- Foreign-law procedures such as work and residence permit applications
- Associations, networks and institutions in international, business and cultural fields
- Professional qualification, training and career opportunities
Contact us!

Advice is free of charge and takes place in English, German and in other languages if required.

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Office hours:  
Mo.–Th.  9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
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Please book an appointment via phone, email or check our online calendar.

Online calendar:

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