Vocational training in Germany (Ausbildung)

Optician (Augenoptiker/in)

Augenoptiker / Augenoptikerin

You advise customers, test their eyesight, choose lenses and make spectacles: a paid 3-year training combining workshop, advice and sales.

LEVEL	DURATION	GERMAN	PAY DURING TRAINING
Baccalaureate required	**3 years** 36 months	**B2** required level	**€762 to €1,039** gross / month, during the training

We are by your side from day one until you arrive in Germany.

GERMANY
+49 (0) 7033 694 18 80

CAMEROON
+237 622 20 81 64

www.campus-allemagne.org

Douala office : Rond-point Maetur Bonamoussadi – Nice Cream building (4th floor), opposite the COGENI hardware store, Douala, Cameroon

View the full sheet online

THE OCCUPATION IN 30 SECONDS

What an optician does

Opticians choose spectacles with their customers, carry out sight tests, then make, adjust and repair each pair in their workshop. They also handle the business side.

Advise

Carry out a sight test, explain lens materials and coatings, help the customer choose a frame.

Make

Centre and grind lenses, fit them into the frame, then adjust the spectacles to each face.

Repair and manage

Repair damaged spectacles, give advice on contact lenses and keep the accounts.

This occupation is for you if…

- ✓ you have the manual dexterity for very fine work
- ✓ you are careful and attentive to the smallest details
- ✓ you enjoy advising and serving customers
- ✓ you are interested in maths, physics and the biology of the eye

Less suitable if…

- – you dislike constant contact with customers
- – you refuse to work on Saturdays, which is common in this trade
- – you dislike calculations and optics theory

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE WORKSHOP

09:00 **Opening and preparation** : You check the workshop tools and go through the day's orders with your trainer.

09:30 **Welcome and sight test** : You help measure a customer's eyesight and note their needs in the order.

11:00 **Choosing lenses and frame** : You explain lens types and coatings, then the customer picks a frame.

13:30 **Workshop: grinding lenses** : You centre the lenses using the measurements, grind them and fit them into the frame.

15:30 **Adjusting and handing over** : You adjust the spectacles to the customer's face and explain how to look after them.

17:00 **Repairs and invoicing** : You repair a damaged frame, then tidy the workshop and prepare the invoices.

Sight testing · Lens centring · Grinding and fitting · Fitting spectacles · Spectacle repair · Advice and sales · Costing and invoicing · Eye for detail · Manual dexterity · People skills · Rigour · Listening

THE TRAINING

How the Ausbildung works

In Germany you learn by working: this is the “dual system”. You are an employee of a company and a student at a vocational school (Berufsschule) at the same time.

3 to 4 days a week at the company | **1–2 days school**

Year 1

The basics

- Tools, machines and safety
- Working lenses and frames
- First simple repairs

Year 2

Practice

- Assessing lenses and contacts
- Adjusting spectacles to the face
- Exam part 1

Year 3

Advice and sales

- Determining visual needs
- Handing over spectacles, sales
- Part 2 of the final exam

Exams and qualification

The Gesellenprüfung (journeyman's exam) has two parts. Part 1, before the end of the second year, covers the repair of spectacles and counts for 30%. Part 2, at the end of training, counts for 70%: rimless spectacles, optical advice, the eye and visual aids, economics. Qualification: the Gesellenbrief, issued through the Chamber of Crafts (HWK).

YOU ARE PAID DURING THE TRAINING

1st year	≈ €762
2nd year	≈ €902
3rd year	≈ €1,039

What you need to apply

- ✓ Baccalaureate level is required.
- ✓ The required level is B2. Good technical vocabulary for the trade is a real plus.
- ✓ In the workshop you work with grinding dust and sometimes fumes; in the shop you are in constant contact with customers. Saturday work is usual.

Documents to prepare

- ✓ CV and cover letter in German
- ✓ Translated baccalaureate diplomas and transcripts
- ✓ German B2 level certificate

AFTER THE TRAINING

Where it can lead

STRAIGHT AWAY

Qualified optician

Jobs in optical shops, contact lens centres, eye clinics and practices, or the optical industry.

WITH EXPERIENCE

Adaptation courses

Keep your knowledge up to date with courses, from optics to online marketing.

LONGER TERM

Meister, studies or own shop

Take the Meister (master craftsman), study optometry with a baccalaureate or open your own optician's shop.

YOUR PATHWAY WITH CAMPUS GERMANY

We are by your side from day one until you arrive in Germany

1

CHECK MY ELIGIBILITY

Take the test online or at the office

The eligibility test is done online on our website, or by visiting our Douala office directly.

2

TALK TO AN ADVISOR

Talk to our team

Germany: **+49 (0) 7033 694 18 80**
Cameroon: **+237 622 20 81 64**

3

PREPARE YOUR GERMAN

DZK, our language centre

Deutschzentrum KAGEDEV (DZK) is our own language centre in Douala. Outside Douala: partner language centres, call us to find the nearest one.

4

GET THE CONTRACT

AZUFA is always us

AZUFA is our platform: it connects you with German companies that recruit apprentices and follows your application through to the training contract.

Douala office

Rond-point Maetur Bonamoussadi – Nice Cream building (4th floor), opposite the COGENI hardware store, Douala, Cameroon

From German A1 to the first day of training in Germany

Each step is run by one of our structures. You keep the same contact from start to finish.

1 — **Check my eligibility**
The test is done online on our website or at our Douala office.
RUN BY CAMPUS GERMANY

2 — **Talk to an advisor**
Review your profile, your wishes and the chosen occupation.
RUN BY CAMPUS GERMANY

3 — **Learn German, from A1 to B2**
Courses adapted to your starting level, up to the required B2 level. In Douala at our own language centre; elsewhere, with our partner centres.
RUN BY DZK

4 — **Prepare the application file**
CV and cover letter in German, translated baccalaureate diplomas and transcripts, B2 level certificate.
RUN BY CAMPUS GERMANY

5 — **Find the company and sign the training contract**
We connect you with German companies that recruit apprentices, and follow your application through to the contract.
RUN BY AZUFA

6 — **Prepare the visa and paperwork**
Support to gather the documents and complete the administrative steps.
RUN BY CAMPUS GERMANY

7 — **Prepare your departure and settling in**
Travel, housing and first steps in Germany: we prepare you before you leave.
RUN BY KAGEDEV E.V.

8 — **First day of training in Germany**
You arrive prepared and supported, with a team that has known you since day one.
RUN BY AZUFA

Contact us

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