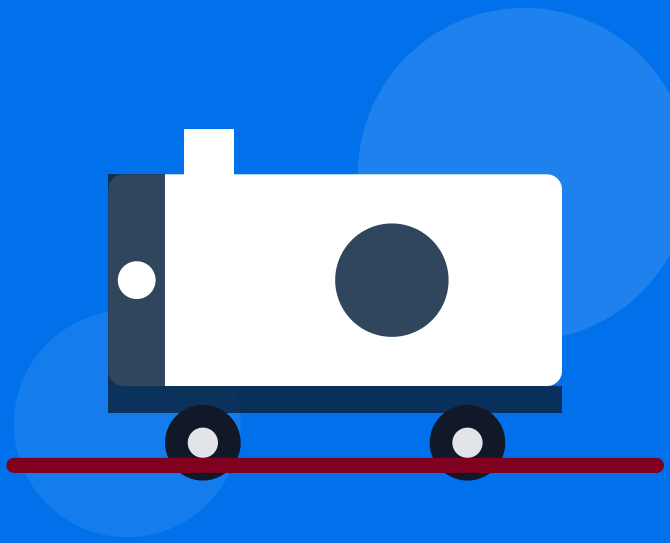
Vocational training in Germany (Ausbildung)

Railway operator, train driver (Eisenbahner/in im Betriebsdienst)

Eisenbahner im Betriebsdienst Lokführer und Transport / Eisenbahnerin im Betriebsdienst Lokführerin und Transport

You drive trains and shunt wagons to carry passengers and freight: a 3-year training, paid from the first year, in railway companies.



LEVEL	DURATION	GERMAN	PAY DURING TRAINING
Baccalaureate required	**3 years** 36 months	**B2** required level	**€1,256 to €1,392** gross / month, during the training

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

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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

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THE OCCUPATION IN 30 SECONDS

What a railway operator (train driver) does

They shunt wagons and vehicles, then drive traction units on regional, long-distance or freight lines, after checking the equipment and brakes.

Check equipment

Check traction units before and after the trip, including a brake test.

Shunt

Assemble and move wagons and vehicles in stations and marshalling yards.

Drive

Drive a passenger or freight train while following signals, the route and instructions.

This occupation is for you if...

- ✓ you stay alert for a long time and react quickly to signals
- ✓ you have a sense of responsibility for other people's safety
- ✓ you accept shift work, night work and weekends
- ✓ you are interested in how trains work technically

Less suitable if...

- – you cannot cope with night or weekend working hours
- – you dislike following very strict safety rules
- – you find it hard to stay focused for long hours

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE WORKSHOP

05:30 **Start of shift and briefing** : Reading the day's orders, speed restrictions and the traffic plan.

06:00 **Checking the locomotive** : Checking the equipment and testing the brakes before leaving the depot.

07:00 **Shunting wagons** : Assembling a train in the marshalling yard, with signals and radio exchanges.

09:00 **Driving on the line** : Driving the train while watching the track, the signals and the on-board instruments.

12:00 **Handling a disruption** : Reacting to an unexpected signal or delay by following operating procedures.

14:00 **End-of-shift report** : Recording observations on the equipment and talking to the control centre.

Driving traction units | Brake testing | Shunting wagons | Railway signalling | Handling disruptions | Radio communication | Alertness | Quick reactions | Composure | Sense of responsibility | Rigour

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 railway system

- Safety and railway rules
- Vehicles and infrastructure
- Signalling basics

Year 2

Operations

- Brake checks and testing
- Shunting and driving trains
- Exam in the 4th semester

Year 3

Disrupted operations

- Operating in disrupted conditions
- Freight and passenger transport
- Final exam

Exams and qualification

There is no intermediate exam: the final exam is spread over two parts. Part 1 takes place in the 4th semester (written test and a practical task followed by a technical discussion); part 2 takes place at the end of training. You obtain the Abschlusszeugnis of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK).

YOU ARE PAID DURING THE TRAINING

What you need to apply

- ✓ Baccalaureate level is required.
- ✓ The required level is B2. Good technical vocabulary for the trade is a real plus.
- ✓ Medical and psychological fitness is assessed by approved doctors and psychologists: eyesight, hearing, stress tolerance and motor skills. The work is done in shifts, including nights.

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

Shunting or train driver

Jobs in rail passenger or freight transport, in shunting or in driving.

WITH EXPERIENCE

Fachwirt für den Bahnbetrieb

Fortbildung as a railway operations specialist for organisational tasks.

LONGER TERM

Meister für Bahnverkehr

Fortbildung as a rail transport master to lead teams.

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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