Vocational training in Germany (Ausbildung)

Ceramicist (Keramiker/in)

Keramiker / Keramikerin

You shape, decorate and fire clay objects, from tableware to stove tiles: a 3-year training in a craft workshop, with classes at a vocational school.

LEVEL	DURATION	GERMAN	PAY DURING TRAINING
Baccalaureate required	**3 years** 36 months	**B2** required level	**€850 to €1,300** 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

View the full sheet online

THE OCCUPATION IN 30 SECONDS

What a ceramicist does

They prepare the clay body, shape the piece on the wheel or in a plaster mould, glaze it and fire it in the kiln until it becomes the finished object.

Shape

Throw round forms on the wheel, model sculptures or cast clay in plaster moulds for repeat pieces.

Decorate

Paint, glaze and decorate raw or bisque-fired pieces from a design, often created by the ceramicist.

Fire and check

Run the firings, monitor the drying and spot defects before the pieces are sold.

This occupation is for you if…

- ✓ you have manual dexterity and good hand-eye coordination
- ✓ you enjoy drawing and imagining shapes and decorations
- ✓ you are careful and patient, right down to the details
- ✓ you are fine with workshop work and the heat of the kiln

Less suitable if…

- – you cope badly with clay dust and paint fumes
- – you want an office job with no manual work
- – you dislike repetitive, meticulous tasks

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE WORKSHOP

07:30 **Preparing the clay body** : Weigh the materials, mix the clay body and get it ready for shaping.

09:00 **Throwing pieces** : Form cups, bowls or vases on the wheel, keeping the measurements consistent.

11:00 **Finishing and assembly** : Attach handles, trim raw pieces and correct small flaws.

13:00 **Glazing and decoration** : Apply glazes and patterns to pieces that have already been bisque-fired.

15:00 **Loading and firing** : Load the kiln, set the temperature rise and follow the firing.

16:30 **Checking and tidying** : Examine pieces from the kiln, note any defects and clean the workshop.

Throwing and modelling | Clay body preparation | Glazes and slips | Surface decoration | Kiln operation | Drawing and design | Quality control | Eye for detail | Manual dexterity | Creativity | Patience | Aesthetic sense

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

- Safety, tools, organisation
- Preparing clay bodies
- Shaping simple blanks

Year 2

Surfaces and firing

- Glazes, slips and decoration
- Drying and firing pieces
- Intermediate exam

Year 3

Specialisation

- Two options of your choice
- Quality control of pieces
- Journeyman's exam

Exams and qualification

An intermediate exam (Zwischenprüfung) towards the end of the second year, then the journeyman's exam (Gesellenprüfung): making a product, producing blanks, technology and design, economics and social studies. You obtain the Gesellenbrief, issued under the authority of the Chamber of Crafts (HWK).

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.
- ✓ The work is done in a workshop, sometimes in heat, with paint fumes and clay dust. Heat-resistant gloves, goggles and sometimes a mask are worn, and shift work is possible.

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 ceramicist

Work in a craft ceramics workshop: tableware, stove tiles, decorative objects.

WITH EXPERIENCE

Master ceramicist

Take the Meister (master craftsman) exam to run a workshop and train apprentices.

LONGER TERM

Studies or own workshop

With the required entry level, study ceramics or open your own workshop.

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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