

Compulsory School Attendance §34 SchulG

In Germany there is a compulsory school attendance law. This law is applicable for children from six years of age onwards, which is stipulated in Paragraph 34 SchulG (School laws). This law remains in effect over the next 10 years of a child's life.

QSI International School of Münster is currently recognized as an Ergänzungsschule §116 SchulG (Unrecognized supplementary school according to article 116 School laws). Thus, students will not fulfill the attendance law by attending QSI International School of Münster.

Kindergarten (3 – 5 years old): Students 6 years and below will not need this letter of exemption.

Primary level (6 – 9 years old): Private families wishing to send their children to QSI will have to get in contact with Schulamt (Education Authority) based on your district (i.e. Kreis Steinfurt, Kreis Coesfeld etc.) or Stadt Münster (registered residential address in Münster) to apply for an exemption from this law (Ausnahmegenehmigung §34 Abs. 5 SchulG).

Secondary level (10 years and older): Please inquire with *Bezirksregierung Münster, Dezernat 48, 48128 Münster*.

Upon receiving confirmation of exemption, please send a copy to the school at munster@qsi.org.

Private families with children in primary level

Only families who fulfill the following criterion will be given this letter of exemption.

- Children who are not living permanently or long term in Germany
- The duration that children are living in Germany does not exceed two years

If you are currently not yet in Germany, you can get in touch with Stadt Münster to have them check if you qualify to apply for this exemption. Please find contact at the end of this letter.

These are the documents that you will need to submit as part of the application:

- Employment contract that states the period of your employment in Germany
- Photocopies of the children's passports

Private families with children in secondary level

You can send in an application for the exemption, even before you arrive in Germany. Please get in touch with the Bezirksregierung Münster. The final decision will only be made after you are physically in Germany and have registered your address.

Military families

For military families, we will need a certificate of employment from the military. The following details must be specified in this document:

- Employer is military
- Duration of your stay in Germany

Once you received the document of military employment, please send a copy to munster@qsi.org. Due to the cooperation between states, military families are exempted from this law. Therefore, we will only need a document of proof so QSI International School of Münster can pass the letter on to the government.

The process of contacting the local government for permission to attend QSI International School of Münster is the responsibility of the family. If you have any questions on the process, please contact the school.

We have attached a flyer explaining the compulsory attendance law with this letter.

Application for letter of exemption (Ausnahmegenehmigung §34 Abs. 5 SchulG)

When applying for the letter of exemption, an important reason cannot be seen solely in the desire to attend a school in a foreign (at the border) country or a foreign or international school. Rather, the public interest in fulfilling compulsory school attendance by attending a German school must be weighed against the individual interest in an exemption from the attendance law and the disadvantageous consequences if the application is rejected.

In cases in which an unrecognized foreign or unrecognized international supplementary school or a school abroad is to be attended, there must be particularly important reasons given for students at the primary level.

Particularly important reasons are e.g. to be assumed in the following cases:

3.4.1 The child moves in from abroad, where he or she has previously attended an equivalent school, and the child only stays temporarily in the federal territory (e.g. if it can be proven that the child is about to move abroad, etc.) or integration into the German school system is not possible.

3.4.2 After moving from a foreign country close to the border, the family's life remains rooted in the previously lived local culture (social contacts, family, childcare after school, professional and cultural orientation).

3.4.3 The child will have the focus of his or her life relationships abroad at the latest after two years and this will be made credible (e.g. through a certificate from the employer).

3.4.4 It can be proven that one of the parents (Section 123 SchulG) should either complete a specialist training or work for a limited period, for a maximum of six years. Exceeding this period is only permissible if the training or temporary activity must be extended without this being foreseeable in advance. The exemption is usually to be granted for a limited period; Every two years it must be checked whether the requirements for the exemption are still met.

3.4.5 Special personal circumstances, taking into consideration of a German school offer, justify attending a school abroad (see no. 1.4). It is e.g. to be taken into account whether German is the language of instruction, whether there is a German-speaking environment or there are regulations for the recognition of school-based educational qualifications and entitlements so that the integration requirement is satisfied.

When issuing a special permit to attend a foreign or international supplementary school or a school abroad, the parents must be instructed in writing that the qualifications required by the German school system cannot be achieved at this school and that a later transition to German schools can be achieved is difficult due to different curricula and learning content. The same applies to the recognition of qualifications in relation to university entrance qualifications.

Exceptions can only be granted for the schools listed under numbers 1.1 to 1.4 and provided that the school authority of the foreign or international school has declared in writing that it is ready to be admitted.

The circular of the Ministry for Schools, Youth and Children of June 16, 2005 (BASS 12-51 No. 4) is repealed.

Source: <https://bass.schul-welt.de/16409.htm>

Contact:

Primarstufe/Primary level (9 years and below)



Amt für Schule und Weiterbildung

Friedrich-Ebert-Str. 110
48153 Münster

Postanschrift:
48127 Münster

Sprechzeiten/ Öffnungszeiten:
Montag bis Freitag: 8 - 12 Uhr
Donnerstag auch: 15 - 18 Uhr

Telefon: 02 51/4 92-40 01
Fax: 02 51/4 92-77 23

 [bildung\(at\)stadt-muenster.de](mailto:bildung(at)stadt-muenster.de)
 www.stadt-muenster.de/schulamt

Sekundarstufe/Secondary level (10 years and above)

Bezirksregierung Münster

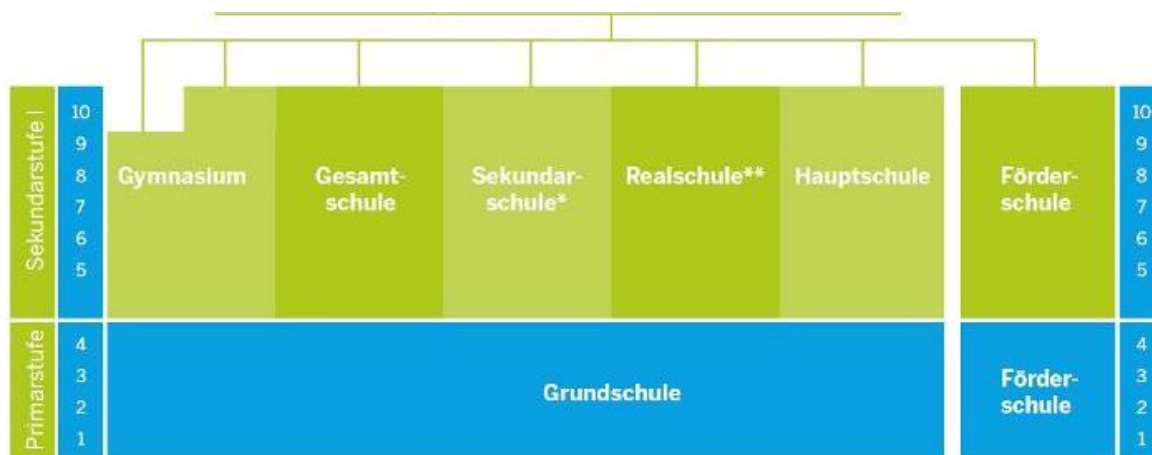
Zentrale

Telefon: 0251 411-0
Telefax: 0251 411-82525

Address: Dezernat 48
48128 Münster

Primary & Secondary levels in Germany

Klasse 1 begins with 6/7 years old.



I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to the terms of this document relating to the local attendance law and the application for the exemption of the attendance law, in order for my child/children to attend QSI International School of Münster.

Parent's name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____