

FAQs Admissions Process

How can I apply?

First of all, you need to register on our application portal with your personal email address. The portal provides you with detailed step-by-step information to help you to apply.

You do not have to complete the application at once; you have the possibility to log in several times and work on every step of your application until it is completed and ready for submission.

Is the Bachelor Degree in Mechanical Engineering (International) offered in English?

Yes, the Bachelor Degree in Mechanical Engineering (International) at Carl Benz School is completely taught in English.

Do I need to know German to apply or enroll?

No, you do not need to know German in order to apply or enroll at Carl Benz School of Engineering.

However, German lessons are offered for all Carl Benz School students to better settle in and to prepare for career in Germany.

When can I start applying?

You can start applying as soon as our application portal opens (beginning of December). However, there is no specific date to start with your application.

Most of the candidates start with the application before finishing the last term of High School. In this case, you will need to submit the official transcripts that show your performance over the past 2 school terms for the evaluation by the admission committee. Please make sure that your transcripts include a description of your grading system and the type of school leaving certificate.

What are the admission requirements?

- ✓ High School Degree
- ✓ Excellent grades in Mathematics & Physics
- ✓ SAT Test (Math, Evidence-Based Reading and Writing): at least 1200 points
- ✓ English Proficiency Test (TOEFL, IELTS or TOEIC)


Which documents do I need to attach to my application?

- ✓ Official SAT score
- ✓ High School Transcripts
- ✓ TOEFL/ IELTS/ TOIC Language Test
- ✓ Motivation Letter
- ✓ Further documents providing any additional qualification e.g. extracurricular activities like
 - Work experience (e.g. vocational or professional training)
 - Practical experience (e.g. internships)
 - Extra-Curricular activities and qualifications (e.g. awards or distinctions)

What is the SAT and how can I take the test?

The SAT is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States and international colleges. The test measures the skills and knowledge of students for the subjects of math, reading, writing and language. It was established in order to evaluate the readiness of students for studying at a college.

The minimum score required at Carl Benz School is 1200 points.

You can find more information about the SAT and test dates by visiting the [CollegeBoard website](#). 

I do not have my final grades yet. Can I still apply?

Yes, most students apply before they are finished with their last term of high school. Just send us the official transcripts that show your performance over the past 2 school terms. Please make sure that your transcripts include a description of your grading system and the type of school leaving qualification.

What is a motivation letter?

Your motivation letter should not exceed 2 pages and should contain the following topics:

1. Introduction and personal background
2. Interest and skills related to science and engineering
3. Motivation and reasons for choosing to study mechanical engineering
4. Personal goals for the Bachelor of Science degree
5. Future career goals

Do I need an English certificate in order to apply?

Yes, at Carl Benz School all courses are offered in English, which is why we require an English proficiency exam such as TOEFL (570 pb // 250 cb // 88 iBT), IELTS (Band score of 6.5), TOEIC (Score of 880).

If your mother tongue is English no test is needed. If English has been the language of instruction of your education, please include the [declaration of English proficiency](#) signed by your school stating how long you have been studying in English.

What is meant by additional qualifications?

At Carl Benz School practical experience and extra-curricular activities pay off. Such activities comprise work experience (e.g. vocational or professional training), internships, social engagements, participation in student associations, clubs, awards or distinctions. It is important that you include relevant certificates to your application to prove what you have achieved.

When is the application deadline?

We accept applications until April 30 of each year.

When do I receive an admission response?

Two to four weeks after the application deadline, you may expect the decision from the application committee (either direct admission, indirect admission or rejection).

In the case of indirect admission, you will get a preliminary letter of admission in order to apply for the student visa.

The two categories of admission and what they mean!

Depending on your secondary school leaving certificate you will either get a direct or an indirect admission. We will inform you about this.

1. Direct admission

(Direkte Hochschulzugangsberechtigung)

In order to get direct admission, you need a so called "Direkte Hochschulzugangsberechtigung", which is a higher education entrance qualification. It permits you to study at a German university, providing that the secondary school leaving certificate is recognized as higher education entrance qualification in Germany.

The following link will help you to find out if your High School certificate is recognized in Germany:

[DAAD database on admission requirements](#) 

2. Indirect admission & Pre-Semester

In case you are given indirect admission you will need to participate in our Pre-Semester to reach the level required to meet the higher education entrance qualification in Germany. The Pre-Semester (Start: August) is an eight-week preparatory course in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and English.

At the end of Pre-Semester, candidates who have not been admitted directly must pass the assessment of eligibility (entrance examination) in order to gain enrollment in the B.Sc. Program in Mechanical Engineering (International).

If I have been given direct admission can I still take part in the Pre-Semester?

Yes, the preparatory course in Mathematics, Sciences and English is highly recommended since it covers essential topics for Mechanical Engineering. It aims to prepare you and give you the knowledge to meet the challenges of studying Mechanical Engineering at a German university.

Please note: The participation in the Pre-Semester costs 4.500 EUR (for direct and indirect admission). The costs include the course fee, housing & accommodation, excursions, extra tutorials and teaching materials.

Can I apply via transfer?

If you are currently studying at a another university but want to transfer please note the following:

You need to apply as every other applicant thought the application portal.

Submit your high school transcripts (stating the grading system and school leaving certificate) and your university transcript.

Only after you have been formally admitted to our Bachelor of Science program, you can start applying for credit tranfers. Please note, there is no guarantee that your credits are transferable.


A committee at KIT, processes credit transfer applications and will ask for the following documents:

1. University transcript
2. Official detailed course descriptions from your previous university

When is the payment deadline?

Together with the official letter of admission, you will receive an invoice. Please be aware of the given payment deadline.

Do I need a visa for studying in Germany?

If you are not a citizen from the European Union or the EEA, you need to apply for a student visa. You can check the [website of the DAAD](#)  (German Academic Exchange Service) for more information.

When should I apply for a visa?

We recommend to apply for your visa as soon as you receive your admission letter since the process can take up to several months.

Important information for German citizens!

Did you attend a school abroad and obtain a school-leaving qualification there? Or did you study at an International School in Germany?

In this case, you need to get your transcript evaluated as equivalent to a school-leaving certificate of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

The approved document is required for admission at the Carl Benz School of Engineering/KIT. Please contact the Regional Council, the so-called „Regierungspräsidium“, in Stuttgart for further information [here](#). 