You do not have to make additional payments for medicine.

To start a job and to find a suitable post, the recognition

If you are only granted parts of these benefits for any

A professional medical diagnosis can only be proposed by

You do not have to make additional payments for medicine.

The extent of provided medical care for asylum seekers in Germany is limited to suddenly occurring pain and diseases. A complete treatment of chronic illnesses is not intended. In special cases, the social welfare office can grant exceptions. Talk to the employees at the office. Prevention Treatments (that are recommended by your public health insurances) to be granted – including all vaccinations for children. Pregnant women and women in childbed have the right to full medical and nursing care through doctors and midwives. An application for first equipment for newborn children can be submitted to the social welfare office even before the birth. You will receive furniture for children and a stroller, addi-

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All children that live in Germany have to attend school (compulsory education). In Saxony-Anhalt, for children of asylum seekers this applies to the receipt of a certificate of their allocation to a municipality. Children start school in the year in which they turn 6 years old before June 30th. Older children and adolescents are assigned to a class and school-form according to their age and stage of development. There are special Language- and Facilitators. Additionally to the social welfare office you need to contact the state office of education. Ask your refugee manager about the contact or inquire at the social welfare office or the consulting offices.

If your children visit a school or a daycare centre you can request additional money at the social welfare office, for example to buy school materials, school trips or grants for food supply. Following the Asylum Seekers’ Benefit Act (AsylbLG). vocational training (for example to buy school materials, school trips or grants for food supply. Following the Asylum Seekers’ Benefit Act (AsylbLG).

If you are allocated to a certain district (unless it is the initial reception centre), you are permitted to move freely within that district.

Apart from this, if three months have passed since the date of issue of your BÜMA or your proof of arrival, you can move freely within the German boundaries. You are obligated, though, to take your permanent residence in the assigned district.

People from the States that are declared “Safe States of Origin” (Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Slovenia) have to stay in the initial reception centres until the decision about their application for asylum is made. The restriction of movement is not repealed from the corresponding district.

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First Information for Asylum Seekers

This flyer gives a first overview about the asylum process in Germany. It addresses newly arrived asylum seekers in Saxony-Anhalt and depicts the most important legal basics.

The federal state Saxony-Anhalt is responsible for the first accommodation. This takes place in the initial reception centre. The central reception centre (ZAS) is located in Halberstadt, but there are also other initial reception centres in Saxony-Anhalt. The branch office of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) is also located in Halberstadt. This is where the registration and processing of the application for asylum take place.

The APPLICATION FOR ASYLUM

If you arrive at a legal authority (police…) as asylum seeker, your stay is permitted at least until the asylum procedure is completed (legal stay). After the informal solicitation for asylum you need to formally apply for asylum in order to eventually gain the right of residence. This takes place in the branch office of the BAMF in Halberstadt at a separate appointment.

In the reception facility, the asylum seeker’s personal data is recorded, fingerprints are taken, the applicant is photographed and you receive the proof of arrival. This is not a residence permit, but a temporary residence permit. In the past you may have received a certificate called BfMA that confirms your report as asylum seeker. The BfMA was the precursor of the BAMF. The BAMF is responsible for the decision. As soon as you have applied for asylum you need to formally apply for asylum in order to eventually gain the right of residence.

The period of validity depends on the duration of the asylum process and is individually differentiated.

The asylum process can take any amount of time between a couple of days (fast process) and several months. This depends (among other things) on your home country.

All steps of the asylum procedure take place in the reception centre in Halberstadt: From the registration until the written notification about the result of your asylum (“Bescheid”).

The PERSONAL INTERVIEW

The second step is the personal interview with employees of the BAMF concerning the reasons for your flight. Possibly you will receive a separate appointment for which you will have to travel to Halberstadt.

An Employee of the BAMF will ask you in detail about the reasons of your flight and your flight route.

During this interview, repeated questions concerning your situation and your flight from political prosecution.

Concentrate on a detailed description of your personal situation and your flight from political prosecution.

Answer as many questions as you can in great detail. Make sure that you fully understand the questions. If you don’t understand something – don’t hesitate to ask.

IMPORTANT ADVICE concerning the interview:

The personal interview is the most important part of the asylum process. Attend this appointment at all costs and prepare yourself thoroughly! Afterwards there are only limited possibilities to correct or complement your statement.

Rights during the interview:

- You have the right to an interpreter. If you have concerns about the trustworthy or any communication problems, you have the right to a different interpreter.
- The interview is documented in a written protocol. The protocol has to be translated to you after the interview and corrected if necessary. Examine closely, if the protocol correctly and completely states your explanations before you sign the protocol at the end of the interview.
- If it is difficult for you to talk about certain events, report this to the employee of the BAMF. This has to be considered. Severe health problems and psychological traumatisations have to be confirmed by a doctor. Submit these confirmations to the BAMF.
- State special requests you might have concerning the interview to the BAMF.
- The interview is not public. Other people can be granted access on your request.
- Women can request to be interviewed by another woman.
- An Employee of the BAMF will ask you in detail about the reasons of your flight and your flight route.

The TEMPOORARY PERMISSON TO STAY

With the written decision dated by the BAMF (“Bescheid”), the temporary permission to stay ends. The BAMF has several possibilities for their decision:

- Positive Decision: If the right to asylum after article 16a GG or the refugee status by the Refugee Convention, the subsidiary protection or a national prohibition of deportation applies, you are permitted (initially limited) to stay in Germany. As a proof for this you will be issued a residence title by the responsible local Foreigner’s Authority.
- Negative Decision: If none of the above-mentioned reasons apply, your application will be denied. You can legally object to the decision of the BAMF and request legal protection in front of a German court. In this case you should get legal advice from a lawyer as soon as possible. Please note that there is a very limited time-window after the decision in which you can request legal protection. Check your mail daily while you wait for the decision – you have to act quickly.

The DECISION OF THE BAMF

You can also get information at the refugee council. The refugee council of Saxony-Anhalt (Flüchtlingsrat Sachsen-Anhalt e.V.) is involved in supporting the accommodation of refugees and the improvement of their living conditions. We are an organisation that is independent from political parties and the church and our main activity is to provide information and support to refugees and to further consulting centres and lawyers.

IMPORANT NOTE

This leaflet is supposed to give you a first overview and does not replace an individual consultation. We do not guarantee for completeness. The information is current as of July 2016. Please contact consulting centres and lawyers as soon as possible. Ask at the social welfare office or staff of your residence for further consulting centres and lawyers.

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