

VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOLS (BERUFSBILDENDE SCHULEN)

Entrance requirements (Eingangsvoraussetzung)	Educational track / type of school				Qualification / entitlement
	1	2	3	4	
Conclusion of a vocational training contract under the 'dual system'	Vocational school (Berufsschule) (2 – 3 ½ years) under the 'dual system'				Vocational qualification combined with: → lower secondary / <i>Hauptschule</i> school-leaving certificate → <i>Realschule</i> school-leaving certificate → extended junior secondary level school-leaving certificate → general technical college / university of applied sciences entrance qualification (<i>allgemeine Fachhochschulreife</i> ¹)
Generally no school-leaving certificate	Introductory vocational school (Berufseinstiegsschule) (1 year) (Pre-vocational training year, introductory vocational year) Preparing pupils for vocational training programmes				(If applicable) <i>Hauptschule</i> school-leaving certificate
School-leaving certificate from a lower secondary school (<i>Hauptschule</i>) or from an intermediate secondary school (<i>Realschule</i>)	a) Specialist vocational school (Berufsfachschule) (1 or 2 years) providing training in one or more different vocational fields b) Berufsfachschule (2 – 3 years) leading to a vocational qualification				→ <i>Realschule</i> school-leaving certificate → Extended junior secondary level school-leaving certificate → b) Additionally: vocational qualification
Transfer to university preparatory level (<i>gymnasiale Oberstufe</i>) of upper secondary school (<i>Gymnasium</i>) or extended junior secondary level school-leaving certificate	Vocational upper secondary school (berufliches Gymnasium) (3 years)				General higher-education entrance qualification (<i>allgemeine Hochschulreife</i>)
After <i>Berufsschule</i> with vocational training under the 'dual system', or <i>Berufsfachschule</i> with a vocational qualification, students can obtain:					
<i>Berufsschule</i> qualification, vocational qualification and <i>Realschule</i> school-leaving qualification ²	Vocational school at upper secondary level (Fachoberschule), Year 12 (1 year)				General qualification entitling holder to study at a <i>Fachhochschule</i> (<i>allgemeine Fachhochschulreife</i>)
<i>Berufsschule</i> qualification, vocational qualification and <i>Realschule</i> school-leaving qualification, as well as (generally) work experience	Vocational school at upper secondary level (Berufsoberschule), Year 13 (1 year)				→ Subject-specific higher-education entrance qualification (<i>fachgebundene Hochschulreife</i>) or → general higher-education entrance qualification (<i>allgemeine Hochschulreife</i>)
<i>Berufsschule</i> qualification, vocational qualification and <i>Realschule</i> school-leaving qualification, as well as (generally) work experience	Fachschule (1 – 2 years) Vocational school providing continuing in-depth vocational training				→ Higher-level vocational qualification → <i>allgemeine Fachhochschulreife</i>

¹ In combination with a complementary course (*Ergänzungsbildungsgang*)

² Students without a *Berufsschule* qualification can also attend **Year 11 at Fachoberschule**; in this case transition to *Berufsoberschule* is not possible