Vocational Training in the Electronic and Metal Industry in Germany

Do you have a technical understanding and an interest in innovative technology? Then vocational training ("Ausbildung") in the electronic and metal industry is just the right thing for you!

On this page

- Electronic and metal industry: where skilled workers find opportunities
- In-demand vocational training professions in the electronic and metal industry
- Where can I complete vocational training?
- How much will I earn during my vocational training?
- Which requirements do I have to meet?
- Prospects after vocational training

Vocational training in the electronic and metal industry does not only open doors to diverse and exciting professions but also to impeccable career opportunities in Germany. Regardless of whether you wish to be an

electronics technician or an industrial mechanic, the options for vocational training in this field are wide-ranging and are a solid basis for a successful professional career.

Electronic and metal industry: where skilled workers find opportunities

Germany is one of the biggest manufacturers and users of metal products globally. The companies of the German metal industry work with light metals like aluminium, non-ferrous metals (e.g. copper), as well as precious metals and rare metals. In production, products for processing like sheet metals or poles and processed products, like tubes or tins, for example, are manufactured. Important customers of the metal industry are the vehicle industry, the electrical engineering industry, the construction industry, the aerospace industry, as well as the machinery and plant industry, amongst others.

With 870,000 employees and a revenue of almost 225.1 billion euros in 2025, the electrical engineering and electric industry in Germany are crucial industry branches. Only surpassed by the mechanical engineering industry, it is the second-biggest industry branch in terms of employees, and it even ranks higher than the automobile industry.

3.75 million

employees work in the industry in 2026.

1.39 tn

euros in revenue.

6.5 billion euros

Investments in continuing vocational education and training.

In-demand vocational training professions in the electronic and metal industry

About every eighth vocational training position remains vacant. Therefore, your chances of kicking of your career with vocational training in the electronic and metal industry are very good (Unfortunately, the following link to the individual professions are only available in German. We recommend using a translation tool).

Metal production, metal processing and metal construction

- Metal production
- Milling machine operating
- Toolmaking

Mechatronics engineering, automation technology

- Mechatronics engineer
- Electronics technician – specialising in automation and system technology

Plumbing, sanitary, heating and air conditioning systems

- Plant mechanic for sanitary, heating and air conditioning systems
- Plumbing

Video: vocational training as an electronics technician

Where can I complete vocational training?

In general, you complete vocational training in the electronic and metal industry within the **dual system**. This means that, aside from working in the company, you will go to **vocational school**, where you will acquire the required theoretical knowledge for your profession.Depending on the profession, vocational training takes 2 to 4 years to complete.

Typical workplaces in the metal and electronic industry are the following:

- Production halls
- Workshops
- Construction sites
- On-site commissions with customers

How much will I earn during my vocational training?

In Germany, you will receive a monthly allowance from your training company during your vocational training. The amount of this allowance depends on your chosen profession, the region, the company in question and the year of your vocational training.

You can find information on the amount of training allowance in the **electronic and metal industry** on teh Federal Employment Agency's **BERUFENET** website. Enter your chosen vocational training profession here and then select the relevant profile.

Here is what else you should know about the training allowance:

- You must pay **social security contributions** from your gross allowance, e.g., for statutory health insurance, pension insurance, and unemployment insurance. These contributions are automatically deducted before your net income is paid into your bank account.
- You will usually not have to pay income tax during your vocational training, as your income is likely to be below the **tax-free basic allowance**.

Your rights during your vocational training

As an apprentice, you have clear rights, such as the right to suitable equipment and to tasks that are genuinely part of your vocational training.

Any questions? '**Faire Integration**' offers free advice. You can also find a comprehensive overview of all the key regulations in the guide '**Information on vocational training in Germany**'.

What are determining factors for the training allowance?

The training allowance may depend on...

- ...the region in Germany, where you are trained.
- ...the company in which you are trained.
- ...the training year you are currently in. The allowance increases with each training year.

Which requirements do I have to meet?

For vocational training, you generally require a school-leaving certificate. For vocational training in the **dual system**, you do not need to have it recognised for the **visa**. For school-based vocational training, the recognition of the foreign school-leaving certificate may be necessary. Good German skills are very important for vocational training, for example for vocational school. There is also the option of completing a language course in Germany to prepare for vocational training. Learn more details on the general requirements for vocational training **here**.

In addition to the general requirements, the following **soft skills** are helpful for vocational training in the electronic and metal industry:

- Analytical thinking
- An interest in technical correlations
- Manual skills
- Desire for practical work
- Precise and careful work
- IT skills

Have you already learned or worked in a profession, or do you have an academic degree? No problem! You can additionally complete vocational training. It can even be an advantage, if your previous experience is related to the vocational training in the construction industry and finishing trade. Having your previous qualification recognised is not required.

Prospects after vocational training

After successfully completing vocational training, you have very good career prospects. The metal and electronic industry are motors of innovation and crucial for the Germany as an industry location. With your qualification, you have a good chance of concluding a work contract with your training company, because professionally qualified skilled workers are especially sought after by companies in Germany. During the course of your career, you can get further qualifications as specialist, technician or *Meister*, for example as **specialist in industry 4.0** or as Meister/Meisterin in **installing and heating engineering** or **metal construction**. Academic studies after vocational training are also an option!

To learn more about the general options after vocational training, please refer to the "**Prospects after vocational training**". On **BERUFENET**, you will find information on the job-specific options, depending on the vocational training.

Salary after vocational training

Similar to the training allowance, the salary as **skilled worker** in the electronic and metal industry depends on the company size or the **federal state**. The average **gross salary** in the electronic and metal industry ranges between €3,288 and €3,703 per month.

Gross or net? What you should know

The salaries are indicated as gross amounts. This means that taxes and social security contributions still have to be deducted, before knowing the net salary. You will find more information on that in the "**Salary, taxes and social security**" section.

Information on the web

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space – Praktisch unschlagbar!

Useful links on vocational training

Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB)

Profiles of several occupations requiring vocational training

NETZWERK Unternehmen integrieren Flüchtlinge

Vocabulary pamphlet for employees in the electronic industry (in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese)
Vocabulary pamphlet for employees in metal construction and mechatronics (various languages)

Print page

URL: https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/study-vocational-training/training-in-germany/in-demand/electronic-metal-industry
Date: 2026-10-26 21:07:01 GMT