

Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the IFC! In the following, we will give you a bit of helpful information for your application process.

If you want to know more about the IFC in general and its logistical requirements, please refer to the information flyer on the website.

We look for young people between 15-17 years who are interested in learning about and from different cultures. This might mean to step outside your own comfort zone and leave your friends and family behind for a year. You will share an apartment and life with a German host family (for 6-12 months) as well as a bit more about yourself and your culture, which will foster your intercultural skills and empower you for a future in a multicultural world. Family life might look different from yours at home, but we are sure that it will be beneficial to you if you engage with new rules and the German culture. Please note: this program is not designed as a gap year for future studies or permanent settlement in Germany.

Most of the lessons will be held in English, yet you will receive extra support in German as a foreign language. We appreciate applicants who already have basic German knowledge. The IFC is grade 10 in the German curriculum, for specifics see the information flyer. Please check with your school whether the year in Germany will be credited in your home country or if you have to repeat the year.

If you're interested in applying, please fill in the application form and submit it by **February 16, 2026** via email to ifc@fpgz.de. We also require your parents' and school's consent as well as a recommendation from a teacher.

After we've received your application, we'll send you an email confirmation by March. Please abstain from further inquiries after that.

By April/May we will have read your applications. Interviews with potential candidates will be held in May. Afterwards, you will hear from us whether we can offer you a place in next year's IFC or not.

If accepted, you're responsible to take care of a visa for Germany (if applicable) as well as organize your transport to Stuttgart.

We look forward to your application!