

My internship experience with DAAD and Nokia in Stuttgart was by far the best internship I have ever had. The DAAD staff was very helpful and did everything they could to take care of us and make things as easy as possible for us. I really enjoyed my 3-month stay in Germany in general and Stuttgart in particular as I got the chance to explore several cities in Germany such as Berlin, Frankfurt, and Heidelberg as well as travelling to other European cities in Italy such as Rome, Milan, Florence, and Venice.

I had the pleasure of working for Nokia – Bell Labs in Stuttgart for three months. The research project that I worked on was very interesting to me and related to my PhD research in the United States. As an Electrical engineering student specializing in the field of communication, working for a company such as Nokia is really beneficial to my future career opportunities. My working day consists of running several simulations of probabilistically shaped constellations for fiber optical communication systems and report the results so the team can compare them to experimental results produced in the lab. My supervisor was very friendly and supportive as he helped me understand some of the things that I am not very knowledgeable about.

Applying for a German VISA was a pretty straight forward process and everything is explained well in your local German embassy or consulate. The biggest challenge for me and for most of the other interns was finding accommodation at reasonable price and this is especially the case for Stuttgart. Both DAAD and Nokia provided me with some links for housing applications but I ended up using Airbnb to find my apartment. The apartment was very nice and the landlord was extremely helpful. I recommend using Airbnb for anyone who doesn't speak German and doesn't know have any contact in Germany that can show him/her around.

The highlight of my experience was our meeting in Heidelberg with other DAAD scholarship holders from all over the world. I had a lot of fun and got to make new friends in addition to having the honor of meeting the DAAD staff who worked hard to make all of that happen.

In the end, I had a lot of fun during my stay in Germany, I learned many new things, and gained valuable experience that will open many doors for me in the future and help me in my future career. I highly recommend any student to take the time and apply for the DAAD program because the experience is definitely worth it.

“I agree that my report and accompanying pictures may be used by the DAAD in printed materials, presentations, and on websites in order to inform funding organizations, sponsors, and students about the RISE program.”

Ahmed Redissi