The MORE Program – Klagenfurt University (AT)

MORE started in the winter semester of 2015/16 as a pilot project at some universities to give people with a refugee background access to public universities and thus to a reality away from reception camps. All 22 Austrian universities quickly took part in the initiative by making a certain number of places available in selected lectures and courses or by offering their own courses for applicants with a refugee background. Around 3,500 MORE students have used this wide range of services over the course of five years.

Student applicants were and are also financially supported through so-called semester packages.

Demand has now reduced - in the best case, the first integration steps of the original target group have already been successfully implemented. The way in which applicants with refugee backgrounds are dealt with has now become more differentiated and universities have each found their own way of dealing with it. The universities' current offers for people with a refugee background, such as courses, scholarships or support through buddy systems, can be found under Offers.

Brief description / scope of activity / tools

Asylum seekers and recognized refugees have the possibility to attend university courses, expand their knowledge and improve their language skills. Through the MORE Project Austrian universities hope to open access to higher education and future perspectives to people with migration background as well as benefit from mutual exchange.

Asylum seekers and recognized refugees can attend in principle all courses at the University of Klagenfurt. The non-bureaucratic admission procedure allows MORE students to be enrolled as non-degree seeking students, they are exempt from tuition fees, they have access to the library and can take exams at the end of the courses they attended. The goal of the project is to include MORE students in the university as quickly as possible, recognize their strengths and build upon them.

Purpose of action and results

Who can take part in the MORE programme?

- Asylum seekers in possession of an "*Aufenthaltsberechtigungskarte*" (residence permit) according to § 51 of the Austrian Asylum Act
- Recognized refugees [*if the person is currently receiving "bedarfsorientierte Mindestsicherung", he / she has to ask the "Arbeitsmarktservice" about possible financial consequences before signing up for the MORE programme*]
- "Subsidiär Schutzberechtigte" according to § 52 of the Austrian Asylum Act
- "Geduldete" (individuals with a tolerance permit) according to § 46a para. 1 no. 1 or no. 3 of the Austrian "Fremdenpolizeigesetz" in the federal territory
- Displaced persons from Ukraine according to § 62 para. 1 Asylum Act 2005 – Displaced Persons Ordinance of 11.03.2022

Further requirements:

- As the language of instruction is either German or English, the applicant needs to have good knowledge of English and/or German (*level B1 in accordance with the CEFR, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*)

Plan and schedule

First steps to the MORE Programme:

- **Who?** Asylum seekers and recognized refugees

- **Requirements**: good knowledge of English and/or German
- **Pre-registration** with name, nationality, date of birth and address per email to more-initiative@aau.at
- **Registration deadlines**: 31 December for the summer semester, 31 July for the winter semester

Methodology (if applicable)

Basically, there are 5 steps to become a more student at the Klagenfurt University:

1. Pre-register via email to more-initiative@aau.at by submitting the following information:
   - personal data (name, nationality, date of birth, address)
   - picture/scan of the "Aufenthaltsberechtigungskarte" (white card)
   - further information on documents/confirmations to be submitted will be provided to MORE applicants during the pre-registration
2. Check the email account regularly since it will be scheduled an appointment for the interview at the International Office
3. Be present for the interview and online registration at the International Office of the University of Klagenfurt
4. Enroll as a MORE student at the Admissions Office ("Studien- und Prüfungsabteilung")
5. Have a look at the course list, select courses and register for them online using the AAU student account.

Success criteria

What does the MORE programme offer?

- enrolment as a non-degree seeking (extra-curricular) student [*MORE students are not enrolled in a specific degree programme, but can choose from a range of courses in the various fields of study at AAU*]
- no tuition fees and no ÖH fee
- possibility to attend courses at the AAU (*as long as the course requirements are met*)
- full access to the AAU's library and its resources
- possibility to take exams at the end of the semester (*if passed successfully, the grades will be listed on your certificate of academic performance*)

Attachments

- MORE_evaluierung_DE
- MORE_evaluation_ENG
- AAU MORE

References

University Klagenfurt: https://www.aau.at/en/international/studying-in-klagenfurt/more/

Pictures