

Information for refugees in Menden

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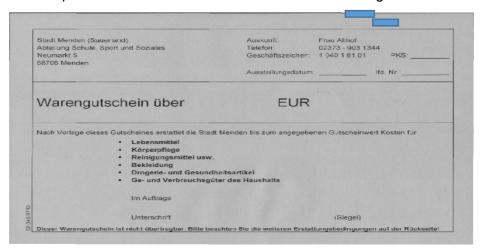
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# 1. First steps in Menden

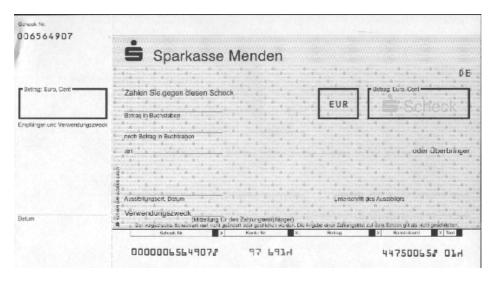
# 1.1 Product coupons

- On the day of your arrival in Menden you will initially be given product coupons by the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) of Menden City (City Hall (*Rathaus*), Neumarkt 5, 58706 Menden, Room A 118), so that you are able to buy groceries, sanitary items, clothing *etc*.
- Use the coupons at the cash register as you would cash; however, only 10% max. of the coupon value is able to be returned as change.
- The coupons are valid until the end of the month following their issue.



# 1.2 Cash cheques

- On the day of your arrival in Menden you will be issued and appointment for which you will need to return to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*). This appointment is usually one week following your arrival. At this appointment you will be given a cash cheque.
- In the following months you will receive cash cheques at the end of each previous month (usually on the last working day of the month). You will be informed of the exact day and time in advance.
- The cheque can be cashed at the teller counter of the *Sparkasse* bank (see map). You will then receive the value in cash.



## **Sparkasse Menden**

Address: Opening hours: Contact:

Sparkasse Menden Service: Telephone: 02373 1620

Papenhausenstr. 15 Monday 09:00-18:30 58706 Menden Tuesday 09:00-18:30

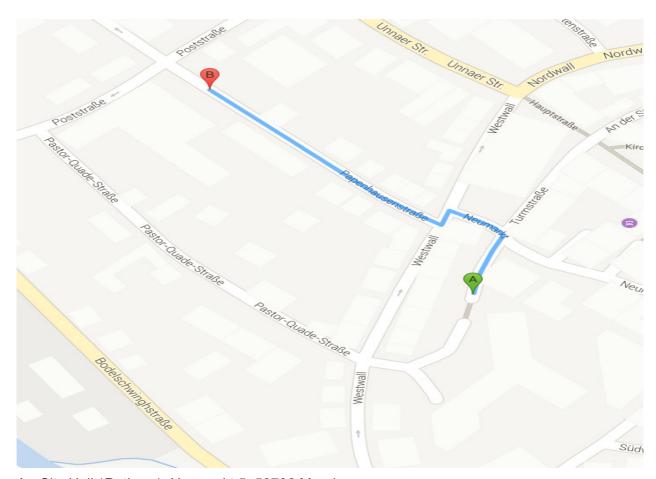
Wednesday 09:00-18:30

Thursday 09:00-18:30 Friday 09:00-16:00

<u>Automatic Teller Maschine (ATM):</u> Monday- Sunday 00:00-24:00

Cash cheque acceptance:

Before noon (12:00)



A= City Hall (Rathaus), Neumarkt 5, 58706 Menden

B= Sparkasse Menden, Papenhausenstraße 15, 58706 Menden

#### The total value of the cash cheques is comprised of the monthly social benefits.

#### These amount to:

RB 1 Single parent 354,00€ RB 2 Spouse 318,00€

RB 3 Adults that do not run a household on their own or together with a spouse, domestic partner, or in a relationship similar to a spousal or domestic partnership

284,00€

RB 4 Children 15-18 years old 276,00€
RB 5 Children 7-14 years old 242,00€
RB 6 Children 0-6 years old 214,00€

(RB=*Regelbedarfsstufe*) (As of 01.10.2017, changes are possible)

#### Important:

These cash benefits are primarily for:

- Electricity (for those in shared accommodation run by Menden City, this will be deducted directly by the Department of Social Services (Sozialamt))
- Groceries
- Household objects
- Sanitary items
- Clothing and shoes
- Personal needs
- Transport costs (recreational activities, shopping,...)

In the event of a pregnancy, additional financial assistance can be obtained. This requires the submission of a *Mutterpass* (obtainable from a gynaecologist) to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*).

### 1.3 Bank account

The payment of social benefits into a bank account is generally possible.

In order to open a bank account, you will need to submit to the bank: a residence permit for specific purposes (*Aufenthaltsgestattung*), permission to remain due to exceptional circumstances (*Duldung*) or a residence permit (*Aufenthaltserlaubnis*); as well as a current registration card (*Meldebescheinigung*).

After opening the bank account, you will need to submit your bank account details to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*), so that the benefits are able to be transferred in the following months.

It is important to sign the back of your bank card in the field provided.

For your safety, the pin number and bank card should not be stored together.

Depositing your money in a bank account is safer than storing it in a wallet or at home. It is therefore advisable to only withdraw the amount that is needed in the near future, rather than the total amount.

# 1.4 Living and accommodation

On the day of your arrival in Menden, you will be driven by the caretaker to the accommodation in which you will generally stay until a decision on your application for asylum is made. This is usually several months. You must remain at this accommodation during this time.

Menden City reserves the right to move you within the city of Menden.

#### Important:

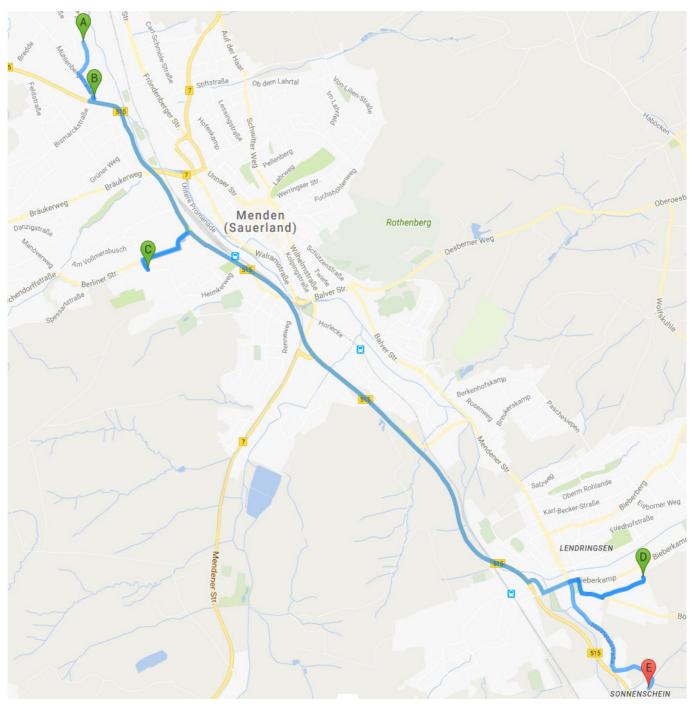
- House rules must be followed within shared accommodation e.g. a ban on smoking.
- Please also be advised that activities that disturb the peace between 22:00 and 06:00 are not permitted under law.
- Ensure that your name is legible on your letterbox so that your mail is able to be delivered to you. In shared accommodation run by Menden City your name will be fixed to the letterbox by the caretaker. In private accommodation this is your responsibility.

Visitation of relatives or friends within the state of North Rhine-Westphalia does not require permission from the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*), although the Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*) of the *Märkischen Kreises* should be informed. If you leave the state of North Rhine-Westphalia however, you will need permission from the Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*) of the *Märkischen Kreises*.

Additionally, the caretaker at your accommodation should also be informed of your planned absence.

If you would like to move to close family members within Germany, an application to relocate (*Antrag auf Umverteilung*) can be applied for at the Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*).

# **City accommodation**



A= Wunne 8,20,22,24,26,28

B= Mühlenbergstraße 161/ 163

C= Bischof-Henninghaus-Straße 37/39

D= Bieberkamp 44 a/ b

E= Steinhauser Weg 17

# 1.5 Registration at the citizen's centre (*Bürgerbüro*)

After your arrival you will be registered in Menden with the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) and the citizen's centre (*Bürgerbüro*). It is your responsibility to register your change of address with the citizen's centre (*Bürgerbüro*) if you move into a private residence in the future. This registered address is very important as it is accessed and used by other public authorities (such as the Federal Ministry of Migration und Refugees (*Bundesministeriums für Migration und Flüchtlinge*) or the Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*)) for sending post.

# 2. Point of contact and government agencies

### **Important:**

You should always bring your residence permit for specific purposes (*Aufenthaltsgestattung*) or registration as an asylum seeker (*Meldung als Asylsuchender*)/ permission to remain due to exceptional circumstances (*Duldung*) with you!

# 2.1 Department of Social Services (Sozialamt) of Menden City (in City Hall)

→ Social benefits

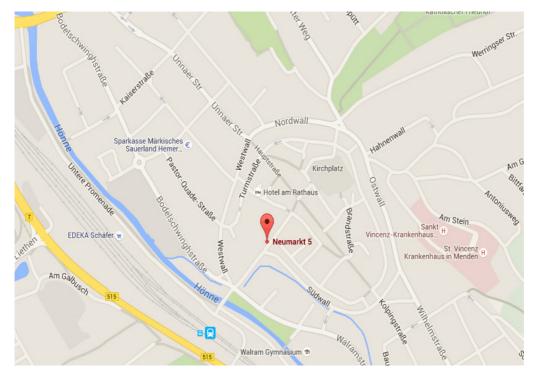
Address: Opening hours:

Rathaus Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Neumarkt 5 08:15 - 12:30

58706 Menden Thursday 14:30 - 17:30

Room A 118 As well as appointments by arrangement



### Contact:

Email: asyl@menden.de Herr Orban Frau Thal

Telephone: 02373 903-1400 Telephone: 02373 903-1368 Telephone: 02373 903 -1345 Fax: 02373 903-1386 Email: r.orban@menden.de Email: i.thal@menden.de

Frau Clemens Frau Schleep

Telephone: 02373 903 -1346 Telephone: 02373 903- 1344 Email: g.clemens@menden.de Email: m.schleep@menden.de

# 2.2 Integration officers and Social workers in Menden City

→ General questions relating to integration

→ Support with enrolment in language and integration courses

Herr Peters	Herr Lenze	Herr Nikodem
Integration officer	Social worker	Social worker
Social worker	Wunne 4-28,	Steinhauser Weg 17
Bischof-Henninghaus-Straße	Heidestraße 46,	Bieberkamp 44a + b
37 +39	Mühlenbergstraße 161,163	
Office:	Office:	Office:
Bischof-Henninghaus-Str. 39	Wunne 24 Ground floor on the left	Steinhauser Weg 17
58706 Menden	58706 Menden	58710 Menden
Telephone: 02373 903-1479	Telephone: 02373 9612757	Telephone: 02379 5988361
Mobile: 0151 58337054	Mobile: 0151 58337047	Mobile: 0151 58357135
Email: b.peters@menden.de	Email: d.lenze@menden.de	Email: p.nikodem@menden.de

<u>Frau Leimeier</u> <u>Frau Boss</u>

outreach work outreach work

in Menden, not including in Menden, not including

Lendringsen Lendringsen

Office: Office:

Neumarkt 5 Wunne 24 Ground floor on the left

58706 Menden 58706 Menden

Room A112

Telephone: 02373 903- 1332

Mobile: 0171 4603147 Mobile: 0160 97775708 Email: b.leimeier@menden.de Email: g.boss@menden.de

# 2.3 Citizen's centre/ Registration office

→ Registration of address/ change of address

Address: Opening hours: Rathaus Monday 07:30 - 17:00 Neumarkt 5 Tuesday 07:30 - 17:00 58706 Menden Wednesday 07:30 - 17:00 Ground Floor, Room Nr. 5 Thursday 07:30 - 19:00 Telephone: 02373 903-1550 Friday 07:30 - 13:00 Fax: 02373 903-10272 10:00 - 13:00 Saturday

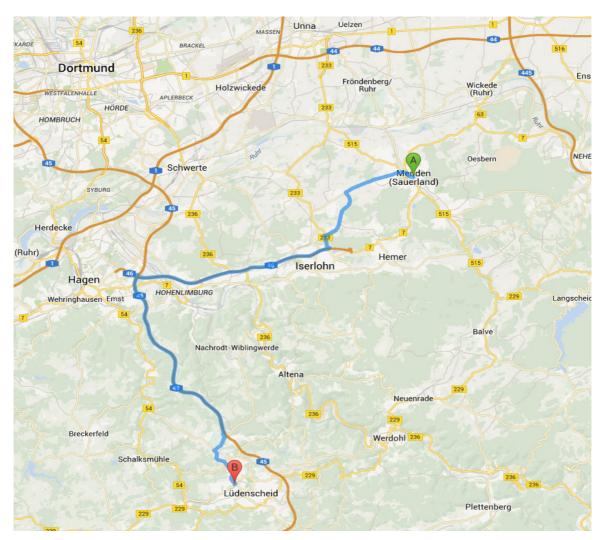
Email: buergerbuero@menden.de

# 2.4 Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*) of the *Märkischen Kreises*

- → Issuance, extension and amendment of the residence permit for specific purposes (Aufenthaltsgestattung) and permission to remain due to exceptional circumstances (Duldung)
- → Application to relocate to family members within Germany (*Antrag auf Umverteilung*)
- → Implementation of the legal consequences resulting from the asylum application process (such as the granting of a residence permit (*Aufenthaltserlaubnis*) or repatriation)

Passport photos may be required.

Address:	Opening hours:		Contact:
Kreishaus Lüdenscheid	Monday	08.30 - 12.00	Central telephone number:
Heedfelder Straße 45	Tuesday	closed	02351 / 966-60
58509 Lüdenscheid	Wednesday	08.30 - 12.00	Central fax number:
	Thursday	08.30 - 12.00	02351 / 6866
	+	- 13.30 - 15.30	Central Email address:
	Friday	08.30 - 12.00	info@maerkischer-kreis.de



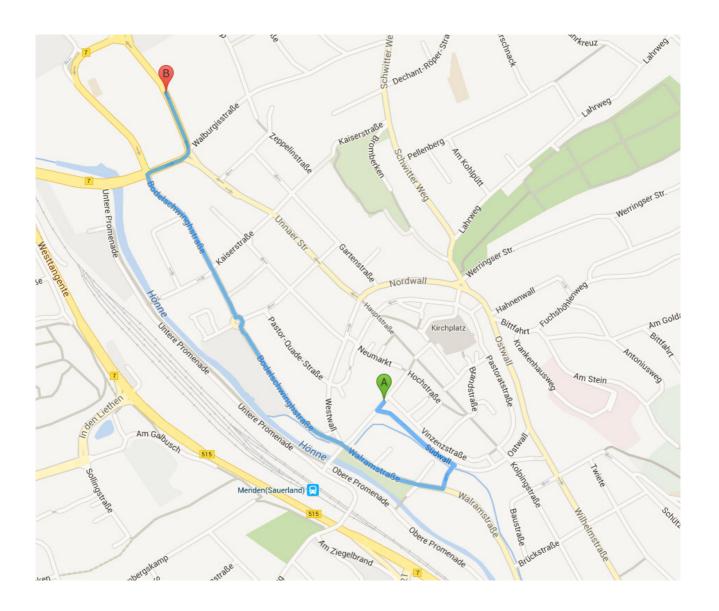
Office hours of the Department of Alien Affairs (Ausländerbehörde) in Menden:

Hönne Berufskolleg

Werler Str. 4

58706 Menden

Every Tuesday from 08:30 until 12:00



A= City Hall (Rathaus) Menden

B= Hönne Berufskolleg/ Office hours for the Department of Alien Affairs (Ausländerbehörde)

# 2.5 Branches of the Federal Ministry of Migration and Refugees (Bundesministeriums für Migration und Flüchtlinge)

- → Implementation of the asylum application process
  - Hearings of the asylum application process
  - o Decisions on the application for asylum

#### <u>e.g.</u>

Düsseldorf

Erkrather Straße 349

40231 Düsseldorf

Telephone: 0211 9863-0

Fax: 0211 9863-199

**Hearing Centre:** 

Graf-Recke-Str. 82

40239 Düsseldorf, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0211 9863-0

Fax: 0211 9863-199

**Burbach** 

Building: 30

Zur Eisenkaute 7

57299 Burbach, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0911 943-26102

Fax: 02736 2947868

**Bad Berleburg** 

Hermann-Böttger-Weg 7

57319 Bad Berleburg, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0911 943-26008

Fax: 02751 4119918

Bochum

Alleestr. 165

44793 Bochum, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0911 943-47676

Fax: 0231 9058-199

**Dortmund** 

Märkische Straße 109

44141 Dortmund, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0231 9058-755

Fax: 0231 91255890

Köln

Poller Kirchweg 101

51105 Köln, Nordrhein-Westfalen

Telephone: 0221 92426-0

Fax: 0221 92426-199

Unna

Lippestraße 37

59427 Unna, Nordrhein-Westfalen

# 2.6 Emergencies

# **Police**

Kolpingstraße 30, 58706 Menden

Telephone: 110 or 02373-90990

## **Emergency doctor, Fire Department und Ambulance**

Telephone: 112

# Support hotline: violence against women

Counselling in a number of languages, Telephone: 0800116016

# Support hotline: Pregnant with many questions

Counselling in a number of languages, Telephone: 08004040020

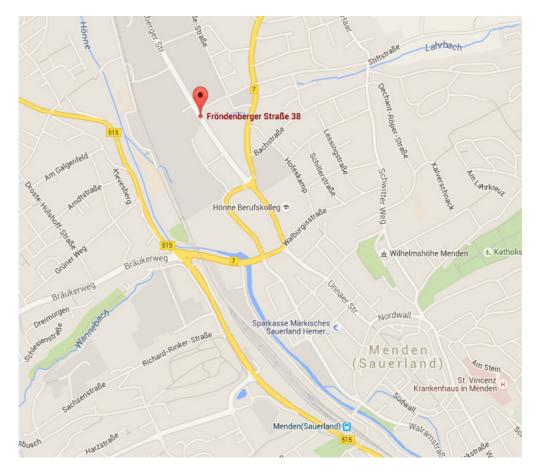
# 3. Other

# 3.1 Low-priced shopping

## **Social market**

#### Address:

Fröndenberger Straße 38 58706 Menden



### with the following services:

#### 1. De-Cent-Laden

- → Low-priced groceries
- → For holders of a buyer's card of the Catholic Organisation for Community Services (Kath. Verein für soziale Dienste Menden e.V. (SKM)) only

  The buyer's card is issued by the SKM at Pastoratstraße 20

### Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 14.00 – 17.00

Lendringsen: Meier-Frankenfeld-Str. 8, 58710 Menden

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 14.00-16.00

## 2. Clothing store

- → Second-hand clothing
  - Additionally reduced prices for holders of the buyer's card of the SKM

## Opening hours:

Monday 15.00 - 17.00

Wednesday 9.00 - 12.00

Thursday 15.00 - 17.00

Friday 15.00 - 17.00

Saturday 10.00 - 12.30

#### 3. Furniture store

## Opening hours:

Monday 15.00 – 17.00

Wednesday 9.00 - 12.00

Thursday 15.00 - 17.00

Friday 15.00 – 17.00

## 4. Help centre for universal social counselling

Social counselling is available to all, regardless of personal problems, descent, gender, or world view.

## Opening hours:

Monday / Tuesday / Friday 10:00 until 12:00

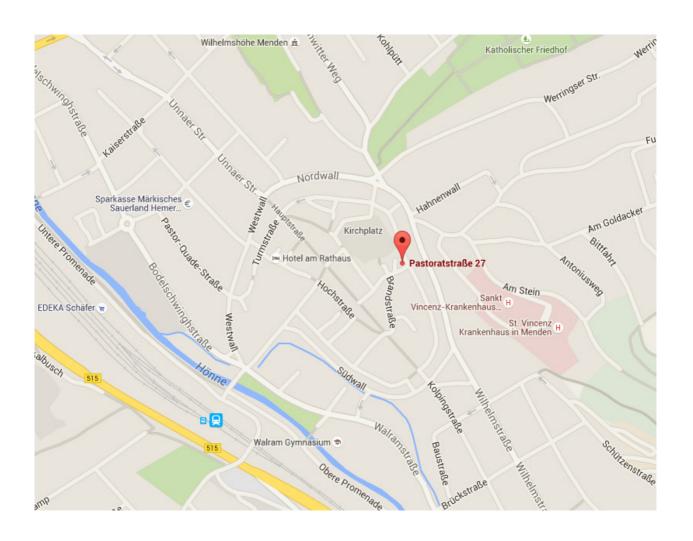
Monday / Wednesday / Thursday 15:00 until 17:00

## Children's store "Ringelsocke"

- → Second-hand baby and children's clothing, sleeping bags, prams, changing mats, baby beds, bed linen, play pens, car and bicycle seats, back packs, toys, children's books...
- → Additionally reduced prices for holders of the buyer's card of the SKM

Address: Opening hours:

Pastoratstr. 27 Tuesday – Friday 9.30 – 12.30 58706 Menden Tuesday and Friday 15.00 – 17.00



# 3.2 Illness/ medical assistance

Important: for all doctor's appointments and in hospitals you are likely to require a translator!

### 1. Illness

If you are ill you can visit a general practitioner, family practitioner, gynaecologist *etc.* Present your residence permit for specific purposes (*Aufenthaltsgestattung*)/ registration as an asylum seeker (*Meldung als Asylsuchender*)/ permission to remain due to exceptional circumstances (*Duldung*).

In case of inquiries, the doctor's practice may telephone the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*).

If possible, bring an interpreter.

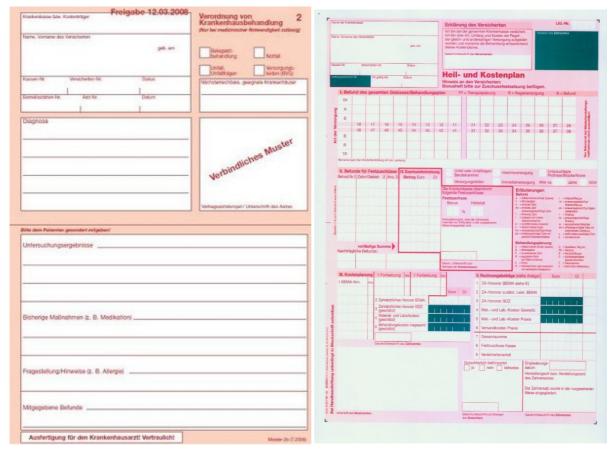
Menden City covers costs associated with necessary treatment regarding acute illness and pain.

#### 2. Prescriptions (hospital treatment, therapies, prostheses etc.)

If the doctor considers, for example, hospital treatment, therapy, a prosthesis *etc.* essential, he/she will issue a "prescription of aids" (*Verordnung von Hilfsmitteln*), "prescription for hospital treatment" (*Verordnung einer Krankenhausbehandlung*) or a "treatment and cost plan" (*Heil- und Kostenplan*). Submit these documents to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) will send the documents to the responsible public medical officer for verification of necessity. You will be notified in writing of the decision of the public medical officer (denial or approval).

## Example Verordnung

## Example Heil- und Kostenplan



### **Example Prescription**



## **Exceptions:**

A "prescription for hospital treatment"(*Verordnung einer Krankenhausbehandlung*) will be issued by your doctor if he/she considers hospital treatment to be necessary (see above). If, however, the doctor checks "emergency"(*Notfall*), you may go directly to hospital with the prescription.

Only in emergencies are you able to go directly to hospital without a "prescription for hospital treatment"(*Verordnung einer Krankenhausbehandlung*) and without approval from the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*); if possible, take a taxi. If this is not possible, you can reach emergency services by telephone: 112.

#### 3. Medication

If you a prescribed prescription medication, it will be provided at no charge. Costs for prescription-free medication are your responsibility.

## 4. Hospitals in Menden and surrounds

## St.-Vincenz-Krankenhaus Menden



### Address:

Am Stein 24 58706 Menden

Telephone: 02373 168-0

# St. Elisabeth Hospital Iserlohn



### Address:

Hochstr. 63 58638 Iserlohn

Telephone: 02371 78-0

## Ev. Krankenhaus Bethanien Iserlohn



# Address:

Hugo-Fuchs-Allee 3 58644 Iserlohn

Telephone: 02371 212-0

# <u>Hans-Prinzhorn-Klinik Hemer (Psychiatry)</u>



## Address:

Frönsberger Str. 71 58675 Hemer

Telephone: 02372 861-0

### **Lungenklinik Hemer**



#### Address:

Theo-Funccius-Str. 1

58675 Hemer

Telephone: 02372 908-0

## Paracelsus-Klinik Hemer



## Address:

Breddestraße 22 58675 Hemer

Telephone: 02372 903-0

# 3.3 School and Kindergarten

To enrol your child/ children you may contact an Integration Officer of Menden City (see above) or enrol your children directly.

## **Enrolment Kindergarten**

Address:

Frau Hennecke

Rathaus

Neumarkt 5

58706 Menden

Room: B236

Telephone: 02373 903-1492

Fax: 02373 903-101492

Email: m.hennecke@menden.de

## **Enrolment School**

Address:

Frau Werny

Rathaus

Neumarkt 5

58706 Menden

Room: B 231

Telephone: 02373 903-1477

Fax: 02373 903-1386

Email: d.werny@menden.de

## Student bus tickets

Address:

Frau Schneider

Rathaus

Neumarkt 5

58706 Menden

Room: B 234

Telephone: 02373 903-1472

Fax: 02373 903-101472

Email: I.schneider@menden.de

## Additionally:

Application for monetary assistance for education and participation through the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*):

- 1. Students receive 70,00 € assistance if they begin at the start of the school year (August), or 30,00 € if they begin in the middle of the school year (February), for the purchase of school materials (school bag, pens, notebooks, *etc.*).
- → A certificate of enrolment (*Schulbescheinigung*), obtainable from the school secretariat, must be submitted to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) for this purpose
- 2. The cost of lunch provided in school or kindergarten can be covered in part. The legal guardian must pay 1€ per meal, the remainder can be covered.
- → An application, along with a certificate obtainable either from the school secretariat or kindergarten, must be submitted to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*).
- 3. Costs associated with school excursions (covering one or more days) can also be covered, along with other school activities that incur costs.
- → An application, along with a certificate obtainable from the school secretariat, must be submitted to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*).
- 4. Assistance with costs of tutoring is also available.
- → An application must be submitted to the Department of Social Services (Sozialamt).
- 5. Likewise, costs resulting from participation in club activities for children can also be partly covered (e.g. membership fees for sport and/or music clubs).
- → An application, along with proof of membership, must be submitted to the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*).

# 3.4 Language courses for adults

Information regarding language courses can be obtained from, for example, the *Volkshochschule* Menden (VHS).

Volkshochschule Menden-Hemer-Balve

Untere Promenade 28, Room 16

58706 Menden

Monday 13:00-15:00 + Tuesday 09:00-12:00

# 3.5 Drinking water

Tap water in Menden does not pose a risk to health and can be used for drinking water.

# 3.6 Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in public buildings and housing (City Hall (*Rathaus*), shared accommodation *etc*.).

# 3.7 Transport costs

Transport costs are generally your responsibility.

Transport costs associated with attendance of a German-language or integration course run by an approved provider (e.g. VHS) can, under some circumstances and with the provision of a certificate of attendance (*Teilnahmebescheinigung*), be partly covered by the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*). Likewise, transport costs incurred in carrying out requirements of the asylum application process (*Asylverfahren*), e.g. hearings, can be covered by the Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) under some circumstances.

You should discuss this with the department in advance.

# 3.8 Bus services in Menden

Be advised: no travel without a ticket!

# **Summary of fares:**



In order to travel within Menden on a valid ticket, you will generally require a ticket from the column marked with an arrow.

#### Validating your bus ticket:

#### - BarTickets (see table)

Some tickets will need to be validated at the beginning of the journey (in particular single tickets or 4-person tickets (*Einzeltickets* or *4er-Tickets*)). These tickets are specially marked and have a validation field on the narrow side.

Ticket validation machines can be found in the bus near the front door. Insert your ticket with the validation field facing up, until the stop position in the machine is reached.

#### - ZeitTickets (see table)

ZeitTickets (tickets covering a certain period of time) are connected to a particular identity card (Ausweis). It is important to fill out your name and address, and sign the ticket.

## Travelling without a valid bus ticket:

Should you be caught travelling on the bus without a valid bus ticket, a fine (called *"erhöhte Beförderungsentgelt*") of 60,00 € applies. The fine can be paid using the bank account details attached to the request for payment.

Payment of the fine is also possible at the following locations:

Service Centre	Service Centre	tre Head Office	
Konrad-Adenauer-Ring 15 58636 Iserlohn (Centre) Tel. 02371 6909-69	Knapper Str. 19 58507 Lüdenscheid Tel. 02351 1801-0	Wehberger Str. 80 58507 Lüdenscheid Tel. 02351 1801-0	
Opening hours: Monday - Friday 09.00 until 17.30 Saturday 09.00 until 14.30	Opening hours: Monday - Friday 09.00 until 17.30 Saturday 09.00 until 14.30	Opening hours: Monday - Friday 08.00 until 16.00	

# 3.9 GEZ-fees

Asylum seekers are exempt from the GEZ-fees (contributions to the broadcasters ARD, ZDF, *etc.*). The Department of Social Services (*Sozialamt*) will confirm the receipt of benefits under the AsylbLG in writing. This confirmation must then be submitted to the citizen's centre (*Bürgerbüro*).

# 3.10 Contracts (e.g. Mobile or Internet purchases)

Written and verbal contracts are generally binding in Germany.

Take note of – before you sign a contract!- the conditions of the contract, such as period of validity or price rises. Ensure that you have understood the contents of the contract in its entirety.

Many people enter contracts, e.g. mobile contracts, that they are not able to afford.

In such situations, the creditor can obtain a court order for a bank account to be blocked or an attachment order.

Some have mobile phones but are unable to afford food due to the high mobile phone fees.

# 3.11 Waste separation



The following waste belongs in the grey/ black bins:

- Food waste
- Cigarette butts (cold)
- Sanitary products, e.g. nappies
- Old personal effects, pots and pans, hair brushes, etc.
- Old clothing, shoes, rags (favour charitable donation!)
- Heavily soiled waste
- Ceramic / porcelain / stoneware



#### The following waste belongs in the yellow bins:

- **Plastic** packaging, such as: dishwashing liquid, washing liquid and cosmetic care bottles; yoghurt, margarine and quark containers; carry bags; plastic wrap; foam packaging (*e.g.* Styrofoam); single-use cutlery
- **Composite** packaging, such as: juice and milk cartons; vacuum packaging; lined cartons from frozen foods
- Metal packaging, such as: aluminium foil and containers; tin cans and beverage cans; screw-tops und crown seals



The following waste belongs in the containers:

- Paper and cardboard
- Glass

# 3.11 Public holidays in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia

# Public holidays 2017/2018:

German Unity Day:	03.10.2017
Reformation Day:	31.10.2017
All Saint's Day:	01.11.2017
Christmas Day:	25.12.2017
Boxing Day:	26.12.2017
New Year's Day:	01.01.2018
Good Friday:	30.03.2018
Easter Monday:	02.04.2018
Labour Day:	01.05.2018
Ascension Day:	10.05.2018
Whit Monday:	21.05.2018
Corpus Christi:	31.05.2018
German Unity Day:	03.10.2018
Reformation Day:	31.10.2018
All Saint's Day:	01.11.2018
Christmas Day:	25.12.2018
Boxing Day:	26.12.2018

# Important:

Doctor's surgeries, public offices (City Hall (*Rathaus*), Department of Alien Affairs (*Ausländerbehörde*), Federal Ministry of Migration und Refugees (*Bundesministeriums für Migration und Flüchtlinge*) *etc.*), as well as most shops, are closed on public holidays.