

# BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG-STIPENDIUM FOR STUDENTS

## PERSONAL REPORT

Please upload your personal report to BWS-World, the online portal of the *Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM*, at the latest four weeks after your scholarship stay has ended. Note that the International Office of your university may request the report already earlier.

Please use the box labelled "personal report" in the documents section of your personal profile. You can upload the report in Word or PDF format. The file size should not exceed 4 MB.

If you have any questions, please contact the International Office of your university or write to <a href="mailto:studierende@bw-stipendium.de">studierende@bw-stipendium.de</a>.

Name: Seoyoung Jang

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Home university: Inha University

Host university: DHBW Stuttgart

Period of the exchange Start of your scholarship until End of the scholarship

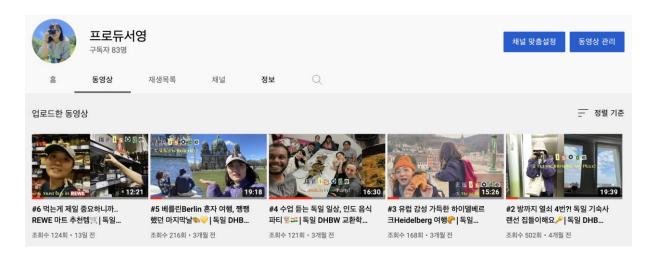
from - until:

Creation date: Click here to enter a date.

☑ I hereby agree to my report being published on the websites of the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM
(www.bw-stipendium.de) and of the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung (www.bwstiftung.de) as well as on
BWS-World, the portal of the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM.



# **Notes on Writing the Personal Report**



I have created an YouTube channel of my own, and shared my life in Stuttgart, Germany. I got less than 100 subscribers but the thing that I created 6 videos during the stay is important. My contents contain about dormitory, my flat mates or traveling. I'm planning to make few more videos until end of my stay. The videos are made in Korean, but the link is below.

Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVHFcOC28ogw5Gy73TcTafQ/featured

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE STAY ABROAD

How did you find out about the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM?

I already knew there was a foundation about Baden-Württenberg-STIPENDIUM. But I couldn't imagine that I can be a scholar of this program. I was so excited and glad to be one of them. BW-STIPENDIUM provides scholars network, events, and many useful things not just than scholarship.

Did you have contact with other scholarship holders of the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM before you left or abroad? Did you participate in an event (e.g. summer festival or annual meeting) of the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM before or during your stay?

I would really love to participate in any program or events but I couldn't. Sadly because I had always my own plan on the date given. I regret this point. Because communicating with other students from Stuttgart or Baden-Württenberg looks so useful and fun.

#### STUDYING AT THE HOST UNIVERSITY

At which host university did you spend your semester abroad? Why did you choose this university in this country? I studied in DHBW Stuttgart. I chose to study in Germany because when I traveled Germany before, I like the system, vibe oft he country and found this country is perfect for living. And to be honest, I was not familiar with the Stuttgart. But as I searched, I found out that it's very big city, hometown of many well-known cars so I decided to spend my semester here. And especially the point that DHBW provides many courses to international students was also attractive for me.

#### Were there any major differences compared to your home university? What were they?

The major difference I found is that how professor and student communicate during the class. In Korea, we barely communicate with professor but just listen to what is being taught. But as I studied here, I felt that asking and answering inside the class is very common. I found this kind of culture very productive and right way of learning. Especially in the intercultural class, I had so much fun talking with other students, professor about different cultures of our own country and Germany. I hope our home university also have lecture in this way.

#### How did you prepare for your stay abroad?

The most important thing was to earn my budget. It cost a lot to spend almost 6 months in foreign country including my expense for travel, rent, insurance fee and everything. So I had to save money more than 3 years to come abroad.

In this matter, the scholarship from the foundation was so much help for me, I was able to explore more in Germany and Europe. And it made my stay much happier and more meaningful.

## Would you recommend the host university to other students? Why or why not?

Yes, I surely recommend my host university. And actually the some students coming to DHBW Stuttgart next semester, they saw my Blog(Korean) and decided to study in this university. They found my life in this university quite good, and they want it too.

DHBW Stuttgart pay so much attention to all the international students and makes me feel that I'm protected and cared by them. Especially for Korean students, they helped almost everything regarding our Visa, anmeldung, insurance which made us to adopt in Germany much more easier when we first arrived.

#### LIFE IN YOUR HOST COUNTRY

## Was it difficult to find your way in the host country? What surprised you the most?

It was not difficult, but interesting to find my way in Germany. All the cultures were very interesting. I was kind of surprised with the 'Pfand' system of Germany, which I find very environmentally friendly system and want to adapt in Korea either. Also mensa provide reusable container as pfand. I find this system really good.

#### Which experience do you remember particularly well?

I remember when I had food party with my flat mates. I always expected to have some food exchange with flat mates and this day fulfilled my expectation. I had Indian flat mate, and my exchange students were Indians too. So I organized home party and invited to my flat. So around 9 people, including my German flat mate and Korean friend all gathered and shared food. This night was totally an experience I can only get as an exchange student, so I specially can't forget this day.

## What advice would you give other scholarship holders coming to this host country?

I recommend future scholars to archive their stay in as much as they can. By videos, blog, picture or every way they can. Because this is how they can prove and recall their stay at any time. For me I put effort in this, so I took so many pictures, shared them in my SNS channel and it was helpful for many people too.

## PERSONAL CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

### What did you expect from studying abroad? Were these expectations met?

I expected to explore world and people. I fulfilled this for sure because I traveled a lot, inside and outside of Germany so many times. And I met so many foreign friends from all over the world and shared many talks with them. They became my all-time friend, and I would never forget them and cultures they have taught me.

#### In hindsight, what were the most important lessons learned for life during your stay abroad?

I learned that the world is so wide and there are still so much to explore. And once I survived in my own in Germany already, I got courage to live anywhere. So with this experience, I will surely come back to Europe and settle and live here. I hope I can settle in Baden-Württemberg especially, because I have so good reputation of here.

# Would you recommend the Baden-Württemberg-STIPENDIUM?

Yes, for sure. Baden-Württenberg-STIPENDIUM was very helpful for my short-long stay in this country. And since I couldn't communicate with other scholars that much, I recommend future scholars to do so. Thank you so much for reading!