

## 1. Language Levels

Our school offers German language classes and exams that correspond to the levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). You can find more information about the language levels of the CEFR here (<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/table-2-cefr-3.3-common-reference-levels-self-assessment-grid>). The table describes the requirements for each skill (listening, reading, speaking and writing) at the different levels (from A1 beginner, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2 fluent/native). More detailed information is available at the CEFR web page: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/home>

Depending on the time and effort of the student, it takes usually about 2 years to advance from one language level to the next at our school.

Language level testing (A1 to C1) for students age 18 and younger is free of charge at our school. These testing options might be interesting especially for teens, who want to study in Germany. German institutions of higher education usually require certified language level skills of B1 and higher.

In most cases (it varies for each German university, please research), students with a B1 language certificate will be allowed to enter the Studienkolleg, a preparatory college style one year class to prepare for their entry to a German university.

Students with a C1 language certificate have in most cases the German language skills that gives option to start directly at a German university (it varies for each German university, please research).

To test your current language level to get an estimate about your listening, reading and writing skills, please try out: <https://learngerman.dw.com/de/placementDashboard>

## 2. Exams

NONE of the exams, we offer at The German School of Dallas are required. Students can choose to be tested and acquire certificates. We offer 2 types of tests at The German School of Dallas. There are similarities and differences (please see table).

Test	National German Exam	Language Level Tests
Sponsor	AATG = <b>American Association of Teachers of German</b>	ZfA = <b>Zentralinstitut für Auslandsschulwesen</b>
Sponsor country	American organization	Germany - an organization assigned to the Minister for Culture and Education in Germany
Recognition	US – nation wide (ranking)	Europe (in particular Austria, Germany, Switzerland)
Aim Group	High school students AND adults	High school students
Fee	\$8	Free
Test Type	Computerized / Timed	Pen & paper / Timed
Skill Areas	listening, reading	listening, reading, speaking and writing
Test Levels	1, 2, 3, 4 (corresponds to high school grade 9, 10, 11 , 12)	A1, A2, DSD1 (A2/B1), DSD2 (B2/C1)
Usual time to move up to the next level	1 year	2 years
Certificate /Documentation	Certificate, Medal	Certificate
Test times at our school	Jan and Apr, each year	A1-B1 Mar & Apr B2-C1 Dec &Jan

More detailed information regarding the DSD exams is available here:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deutsches\\_Sprachdiplom\\_Stufe\\_I\\_and\\_II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deutsches_Sprachdiplom_Stufe_I_and_II)

More detailed information regarding the National German Exam is available here:  
<https://www.nge.aatg.org/>

Language level (currently A1 to B2) tests for adults are available for a fee through the Goethe Institut. You can contact / get more information here:  
<https://dallasgoethecenter.org/learn/goethe-institute-exams/>

If you have further questions, please contact: [info@germanschooldallas.com](mailto:info@germanschooldallas.com)