Before arrival

- Prepare suitable clothes (winter jacket, water resistant shoes, umbrella etc). From September on the temperatures can drop down fast and rain can come unexpectedly.

- Check if you are using the right power plugs. In Germany the power plugs are of type F. The standard voltage is 230V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. Buy a travel adapter if needed.

- Note that in Germany it is not always possible to pay by credit card. Be sure to have some Euros when you arrive.

- Prepare your documents (passport, visa if you need one, documents for the enrollment, other relevant documents).

- Check available means of transport from to airport to Aachen. You can buy a train ticket online when you arrive at the airport in case you arrive later than expected. For this as well as checking the timetable you can download the apps of DB (German railways) and ASEAG (Aachen bus company) in advance. Most German, Belgian and Dutch airports have Wi-Fi access. You will find more information here. Ask your airline if they cooperate with DB (German railways) so you can directly book a train which fits your flight through the „Rail&Fly“ option.

After arrival

- Register in the City of Aachen. Make sure you have this form signed by your landlord. You have two weeks to do so after arrival.

- Register for the broadcast contribution fee - GEZ. Please note that the broadcast contribution fee is paid per household and not per person. Therefore, if you move into a shared apartment clarify if the costs are already being paid. Even if the costs in the apartment are already being paid for, you will still need to register your name online.

- Buy a pre-paid SIM card. All SIM cards in Germany have to be registered. You can do this either via an App or in the shop where you buy the SIM card.

- Clarify if you need a local public or private health insurance. In case you have a private insurance or in case you are insured in your home country, get a confirmation for this in a German public health insurance company (you will need it for the enrollment), then enroll at the University.

- Open a bank account for students.

- Install useful apps (transportation apps such as DB app and ASEAG app, RWTHapp, Jodel etc.)

- Take part in events organized by our student clubs.

- You can get city maps for sightseeing, cycling or hiking maps of the surroundings of Aachen as well as other tourist information in the Tourist Service Center of Aachen, next to Elisenbrunnen.

- Still got more questions? Need help with a particular problem? Come to the Info Service Center or have a look at this page!