
EURO MED JOBS · FREE GUIDE

What doctors actually earn *in* *Germany.*

Real numbers, by level — and what you actually keep.

By **Dr Ganz** · euromedjobs.com

THE NUMBER THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

My first month's pay was more than a consultant earns *back home*.

I hadn't become a better doctor overnight. I'd changed the country I was standing in.

The salary isn't the whole story — the *life* is what actually changes you. But let's be honest: the money is real, it's transparent, and for most doctors from back home, it's life-changing. So here are the actual numbers.

THE NUMBERS, BY LEVEL

Fixed, transparent, and *rising every year*.

German hospital pay is set by collective scales (the Marburger Bund), so you always know what's coming — and it climbs automatically with experience. Nationality makes no difference: same role, same pay.

LEVEL	ROLE	GROSS / MONTH	TAKE-HOME
Resident	Assistenzarzt	~€5,000–5,500	~€3,000
Specialist	Facharzt	~€6,700	~€3,900
Senior physician	Oberarzt	~€8,400	~€4,700
Chief physician	Chefarzt	€10,000–30,000+	varies

Take-home is roughly 59% of gross as a single person, ~65% if married on a single income. Figures are approximate, set by collective pay scales that update, and vary by region and year. You start as a resident and climb — and your residency is your paid specialist training, ending in the Facharzt title.

BEYOND THE BASE

The base salary isn't *all of it*.

- **Extra shifts are the biggest booster.** Nights and Sundays pay extra (around +€8/hour), and public holidays can pay up to +130%. Many doctors add a meaningful amount this way.
- **Kindergeld:** the state pays ~€250 per child, per month.
- **Family health insurance included** — your spouse and children are covered inside the contributions already coming out of your salary. No separate scramble for cover.
- **~40-hour week and ~30 vacation days.** Time to actually live.

And the part no table shows: free, **paid** specialist training with no NEET-PG lottery, real respect on the ward, and weekends with your family.

THE BOTTOM LINE

The salary gets the attention. *The life is what keeps you.*

Residency in Germany is free and paid, the training is world-class, and the country is short tens of thousands of doctors — so once you're licensed, the jobs are there.

The two years it takes pass either way. You can spend them in the same hospital on the same pay — or becoming a registered doctor in Germany, on these numbers, building a future for your children.

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I had nobody to guide me. Luckily, you have me. — Dr Ganz