ZIB - Zentrum für Integration und Bildung GmbH

ZIB is a private vocational training centre in the western part of Germany and offers professional counselling, training and job placement for vulnerable people wanting to access the labor market. This includes the long-term unemployed, job returners, migrants and elderly people. Besides that, ZIB acts as a service provider for the application and administration of EU funded qualification courses.

ZIB has been operating since 2004, and there are local branches in the cities of Solingen, Wuppertal, Leverkusen and Marburg.

ZIB's work supports people who are dependent on social benefits on their journey towards professional qualifications and employment. Accordingly we offer:



- preparation courses for the successful completion of advanced vocational training for young people
- individual counselling and job placement for unemployed people
- IT-related qualification courses for those seeking further education
- language courses and courses including literacy skills for migrants
- training courses for woman returning to work following maternity leave
- counselling, training and job placement for unemployed people over 50 years old

Each client bringing their unique individual needs becomes the central focus of our work, while our partners are contracting bodies such as the federal Employment Agency, local JobCentres, state governmental departments, EU administration bodies and private companies.

Advanced Training



To return to the job, to find a new job, to maintain or improve their professional skills these are in general the needs of our clients and participants of our vocational training courses. This is also the reason why we combine vocational training with professional counselling and job placement via company internships.

For many years now, ZIB has engaged in the support and promotion of the so called "part time apprenticeship" - in Germany

known as "Teilzeitausbildung". This form of advanced vocational training enables single parents and young mothers and fathers to undergo formal qualification training and to integrate into the labor market without neglecting the needs of their family.

Successful training courses like "FiT" and "MiTa" which are now in their fifth year of delivery reflect the satisfaction of clients and customers alike.

Furthermore we offer evening and weekend courses to prepare for the successful completion of advanced vocational training for young people in businesses such as administration, logistics, metal working and wood processing. In addition, IT-related qualification courses are offered to those seeking further education while being employed.

Returning to the job

To find the right job, is not an easy business. This is especially true for those who want to combine parenthood with a formal qualification. To undergo further training in a "part time apprenticeship" is one way to ensure that parenthood and further education can work together for the benefit of all.

Similarly, when woman and men want to return to their previous job after a phase of caring for the family and the children, there is no easy way back into the labor market. Acquired professional skills lose their value very quickly these days. However the readiness to react to the changing requirements of the labor market and to improve acquired skills and knowledge remains a priority for us. ZIB



therefore offers refresher training courses in professional skills combined with an internship in a company. And due to our good contacts with enterprises and employers in the region, in most cases the goal of returning to the job is achieved.

Language and Integration



A new living environment and opportunities open up through the acquisition of language and communication - a fact which was neglected in Germany for a long time. Even though Germany has been a destination for immigration since the early 60s, obligatory language course were not introduced until 2005. From this time on, ZIB has participated in offering so called "integration courses" which usually last for six months and lead to an examination at B1-level.

Our language courses help participants to

manage everyday activities like going shopping, searching for a home for rent, taking part in school activities, looking for a job and communicating with colleagues in the work place.

For migrants coming from a different culture and unfamiliar with our Latin-based script, ZIB offers special language courses that incorporate reading and writing. These courses usually last for nine months.

Building Europe

ZIB strongly believes in the idea of "building Europe" and has taken part in co-operation projects with schools and other vocational training centres throughout Europe for many years. Successful Lifelong Learning projects like ASK which was selected as an example of "good practice" by the German National Agency and WIN reflect the productive work done here. More can be learnt from ZIB's website.

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