

Germany's
SAARLAND

Life sciences
Your future business site



invest
trade
service

Welcome to Saarland

The most promising state for your investment

- **High-performing research and production location**
Attractive region at the heart of Europe with leading research institutes and a strong corporate and hospital landscape
- **Comprehensive support for innovation and startups**
including project management, investment promotion and a strong ecosystem for startups
- **Highly-qualified employees available**
with a background in the fields of research, production, logistics, technical and commercial expertise
- **Land and real estate**
available now and suitable for research and production
- **Exceptional connectivity**
and logistics links with direct access to European motorways and rail connections, enabling rapid access to the hubs of Europe

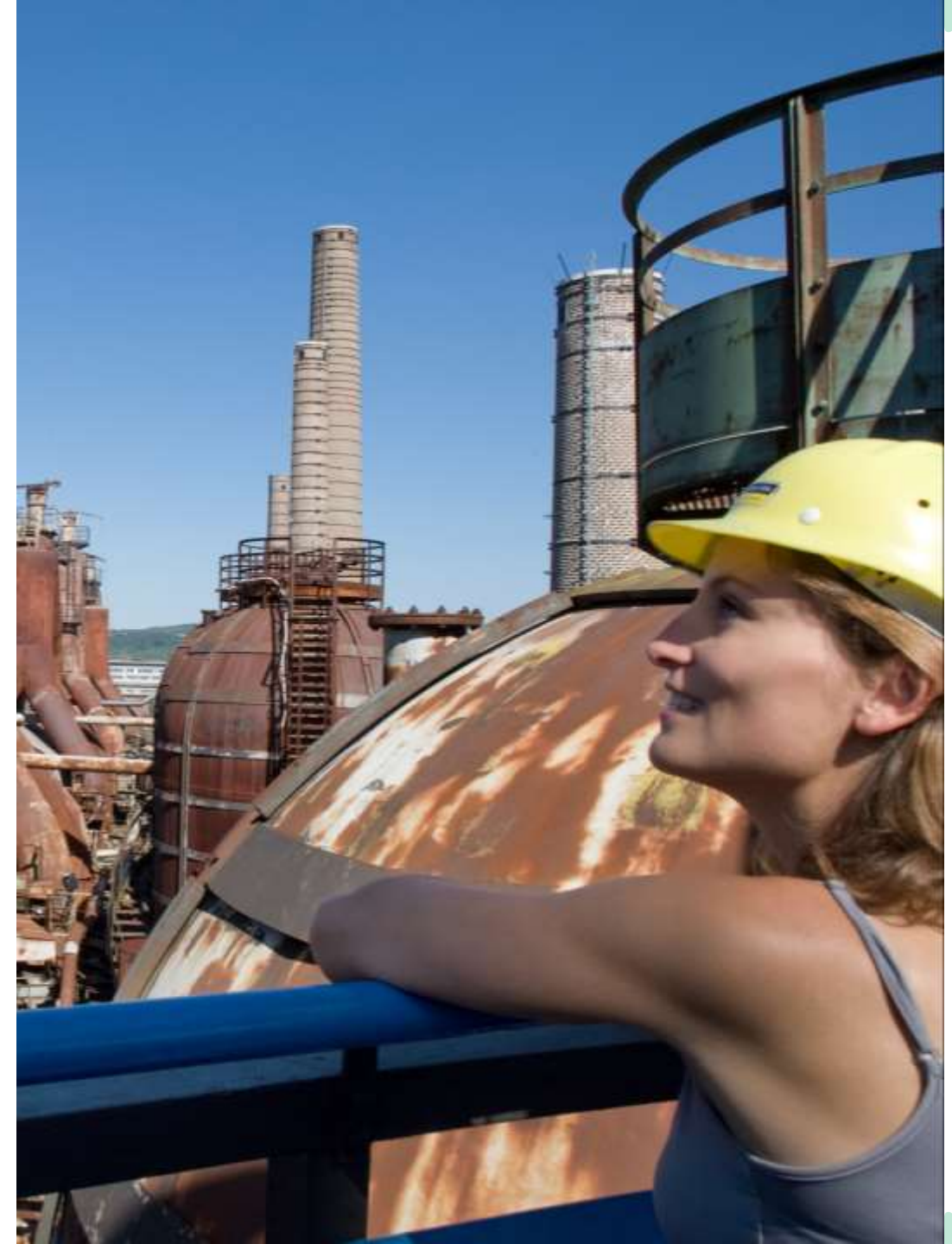
Truly transformative and business-friendly

Saarland has a long tradition as an industrial state, shaped in particular by the coal and steel industries. Structural change has transformed the state into a key automotive location – with strong suppliers and notable production and automation expertise.

Saarland is now a home for innovative companies characterized by high-tech products and new technologies. The state government focuses on industry promotion and reinforcement for companies, creates investment incentives and actively supports research and development projects.

Ideal conditions for investment:

- Highly-qualified employees
- Targeted support from the state government
- Competitiveness boosted by application-oriented research



Your business location at the heart of Europe

Saarland boasts a central location on the border with Luxembourg and France, as well as excellent logistics links to European markets.

Ideal conditions for pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors:

- A strong research and hospital landscape
- Close collaboration between science and industry
- Exceptional production opportunities
- Targeted support for companies



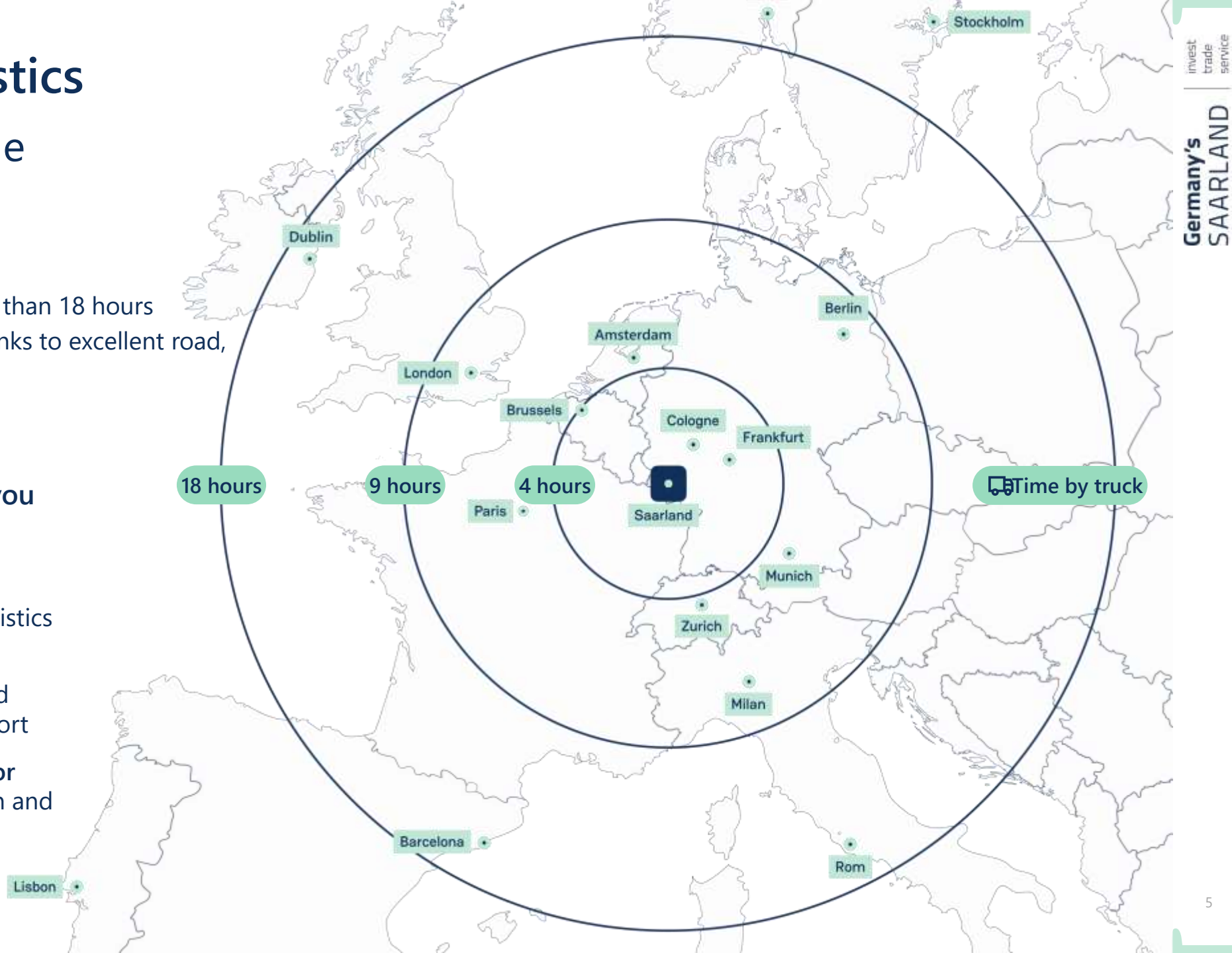
Transport & logistics

Fast, efficient, reliable

The majority of Europe is no more than 18 hours away from Saarland by truck – thanks to excellent road, rail and air links.

The benefits of Saarland for you

- **Experienced partners**
Reliable support for sales, warehousing and specialist logistics
- **Specialist logistics services**
Cold chains, cryo-transport and temperature-controlled transport
- **Well-positioned logistics sector**
Perfect for industry, production and medtech applications



SaarLorLux Greater Region

Regional players and new investment

The region around Saarland is one of the most dynamic life sciences clusters in Europe. Leading companies and new investment within a 300km radius are creating a strong network and ideal opportunities for growth and innovation.

New investment

- **Sanofi**
New production facility for insulin
- **Lilly**
New production facility for injectable drugs
- **Merck**
New launch and technology center for small-molecule active substances



Corporate landscape

Strong stakeholders, partners and service providers

As a modern corporate location with a longstanding industrial tradition, Saarland offers the ideal conditions for companies seeking a dynamic and future-oriented environment.

The life sciences in particular benefit from a strong network of innovative companies and leading stakeholders.

Companies can draw on a high-performance ecosystem of specialist partners and service providers across the entire value chain, from research and development through to specialized transport.

Local expertise:

Research & development

Highly specialist services for biologics and synthetic compounds



Production & analysis

Expertise in production and quality testing



Distribution

High-performance partners with excellent cold chain capacity – a clear benefit for complex logistics requirements



Research & development

Highly specialist services
for biologics, active substance development & preclinical research



Analytical & preclinical studies to ensure that pharmaceuticals are safe and effective.



Release and stability testing for small and large molecules.



Manufacturing high-quality test and reference substances for diagnostics and drug research.



Pharmaceutical contract research specializing in formulation development, analytical services and in-vitro testing for efficacy and safety assessments.



Developing a platform technology for broad-spectrum antivirals.



Manufacturing high-quality pharmaceutical active substances including analysis and stability testing.



Provider of GMP analysis, pharmaceutical quality control, stability studies and tailored consulting.

Pharmaceutical production

Highly specialized production of active substances, bioprocesses and finished pharmaceutical products incl. aseptic filling



Producing highly concentrated omega-3 fatty acids as an active substance for pharmaceuticals and an ingredient for dietary supplements.



Pharmaceutical contract manufacturing with a broad portfolio for various forms of delivery.



Developing and manufacturing pharmaceuticals, specializing in ophthalmology and general medicine.



End-to-end development, manufacturing and innovative products for biotech and pharma.



Manufacturing natural care products and homeopathic medicines.



Developing and manufacturing high-quality dietary supplements for the health market.



CDMO specializing in aseptic fill and finish services.



CDMO specializing in the sterile manufacture of pharmaceuticals.

Medtech production

Innovative medtech products and specialist manufacturing solutions, from equipment and catheters to consumables and wound care.



Leading global product and service provider specializing in dialyzers, dialysis solutions and accompanying medical products for kidney treatment.



Manufacturer of contrast agent injectors and associated medical consumables for radiology.



Products, services and treatments for surgery, histotechnology, cardiovascular technologies and infusion.



Manufacturing plastic disposable medical items.



Developing and manufacturing specialist catheter solutions for anesthesia and internal medicine departments, intensive care, emergency medicine, cardiology and pneumology.



Developing high-tech medical products for clinical applications.



Manufacturing for modern wound care and compression therapy.



End-to-end provider of pharmaceutical liquid packaging with a wide range of films, tubes and compounds for ports.

Distribution

Logistics and wholesale solutions for pharmaceutical products with temperature-controlled storage and supply chain management.



Pharmaceutical wholesale cooperative supplying pharmacies across Germany.



Innovative supply chain solutions and distribution services for the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical product and diagnosis industries.



Pharmaceutical wholesale cooperative that supplies pharmacies jointly, optimizes procurement strategies and offers a comprehensive range of services.



Specialist in pharmaceutical imports and parallel trade, especially for hard-to-find medicines.



Provider of temperature-controlled transport for sensitive pharmaceutical products.



Pharmaceutical wholesale, specializing in procuring pharmaceuticals that are exclusive or hard to find.



Short, medium and long-term cryopreservation and logistics services.



Selling a wide range of products, from classic generic drugs to original products, self-medication products and medical devices.

Digital health and AI

Digital solutions and AI applications for diagnostics, telemedicine, data management and intelligent delivery systems in healthcare.



Ultra-secure service computer center specializing in storing and handling particularly sensitive data.



Developing AI-assisted systems for language-based early diagnosis and diagnostic support.



Medical documentation and telemedicine using intelligent AI solutions.



Language interfaces for healthcare applications to efficiently support clinical workflows.



UX and gamification solutions for digital healthcare management.



Automated warehouse for pharmacies, optimized inventory management and logistics processes.



Developing state-of-the-art microfluidic devices paired with AI for blood testing and hematological analysis.

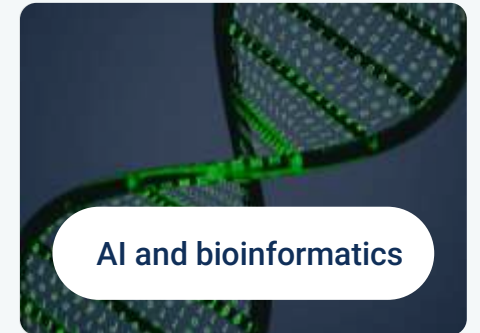
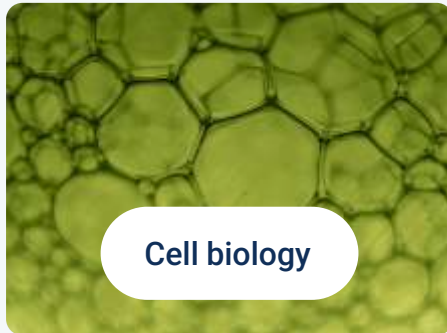
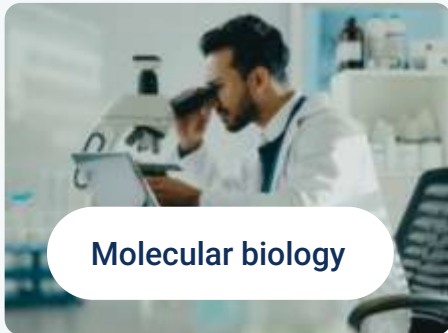
Saarland research landscape

Life sciences & high-tech innovation

Saarland is a high-performing research location with a clear focus on the life sciences, artificial intelligence and bioinformatics. The state impresses with compact structure, highly specialist institutes, and state-of-the-art research infrastructure that provides targeted promotion for innovation and international collaboration.

- **Strong research infrastructure**
Core facilities for bioanalytics, clinical support and research resources
- **Institutes of excellence**
Such as the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS), which is developing new anti-infectives and innovative drug delivery systems
- **Pooling and networking**
Saarbrücken as a hub – with close connections between science, hospitals and industry

Research and innovation priorities



Research institutes

Focuses and expertise

Pharma & active substance development

- Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS):
Developing innovative anti-infectives and innovative drug delivery
- Saarland University incl. Homburg University Hospital:
Molecular medicine & pharmaceutical development
- José Carreras Center:
Hematology and leukemia, cell transplant and cell therapy

Biotechnology & medical technology

- Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering (IBMT):
Biotechnology, minimally invasive procedures & stem cell research
- Center for Molecular Signaling (PZMS):
Cellular signaling pathways for new preclinical treatments



Materials science & biomaterials

- Leibniz Institute for New Materials (INM):
Hydrogels, biohybrid & biomedical materials and equipment
- Korea Institute of Science and Technology Europe (KIST Europe):
Biomaterials & biosensors for medical applications

Cross-sectional technologies

- Fraunhofer Institute for Nondestructive Testing (IZFP):
Sensors & material diagnostics for medtech applications

Computer science & AI

enabling life sciences in Saarland

Max Planck Institute for Software Systems

Driving progress in algorithms, machine learning and computational biology, thus supporting new approaches in pharmaceutical research and biotechnology.

Max Planck Institute for Informatics

Outstanding research in computational biology and machine learning, supplying tools for biotechnology and medical technology.

Saarland University – Computer Science division

Top training and research in AI, algorithms, cybersecurity and bioinformatics for life sciences projects.



German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)

Develops AI applications for smart diagnostics, robotics in medical technology and bioinformatics.

Helmholtz Center for Information Security (CISPA)

Research in cybersecurity, data protection and cryptography for medical and pharmaceutical applications.

Health.AI

Interdisciplinary innovation network for research, business and healthcare, promoting AI-based solutions for medical care.

Health.AI

AI innovations for healthcare provision

Health.AI is an interdisciplinary network for research, business and healthcare in Saarland and draws on the potential of AI for healthcare sector solutions:

- **Broad partner and innovation network**
More than 180 partners from universities, hospitals, companies and research institutions
- **Focus on AI applications**
Early diagnosis, treatment optimization, digital healthcare solutions
- **Funding & scaling**
Supported by around €14 million in funding
- **Real-world laboratories & multidisciplinary research environments**
Open development spaces for prototypes and practical applications
- **Data ethics & security**
Secure, ethically sound handling of healthcare data

Innovation and collaboration projects (selection)

Blood-IQC

Using AI for the quality testing of blood reserves to determine their individual shelf life.



ChatPatientsCare

Using humanoid robots and AI chatbots to reduce the burden on hospital staff and create more time for direct patient care.



Cluster board

Using AI and cancer registry data to identify patient groups with similar disease progression and speed up treatment decisions.



Cognipanion

Research project to improve human-vehicle interaction via contactless physiological driver monitoring.



Hospital landscape

Key hospitals in Saarland

Saarland has an exceptional hospital landscape with Saarland University Hospital and Klinikum Saarbrücken (two of Germany's leading hospitals), as well as numerous other renowned institutions.

The state boasts one of the highest concentrations of hospital beds and medical care centers in Germany, ensuring above-average access to healthcare provision.

Companies that run clinical studies can benefit from this broad access to patients and medical expertise.

Source: Statista "World's best hospitals 2024"

Key hospitals in Saarland (selection):		
Saarland University Hospital (UKS), Homburg		1,500
Klinikum Saarbrücken		600
SHG Kliniken Völklingen		400
CaritasKlinikum Saarbrücken		400
Knappschaftsklinikum Saarbrücken		300
Diakonie Klinikum Neunkirchen		300



Medical expertise

Hospitals that are setting standards

Saarland's hospitals enjoy an excellent reputation for their outstanding treatment expertise and their highest medical standards for patient care.

Treatment expertise

Robotic surgery



- German DaVinci Center (DDVZ) at Saarland University Hospital (UKS), urology department
- The most comprehensive range of robot-assisted urological procedures in Germany
- First robot-assisted kidney transplant performed at UKS in Homburg

Cardiology



- Saarland University Hospital (UKS)
- Prof. Dr. Michael Böhm, director of the cardiology, angiology and internal medicine department, honored as one of the most cited researchers in the world
- Prof. Bruno Schüller, cardiologist and pioneer in using drug-coated balloons to treat coronary heart disease, received the International Clinical Research Excellence Award

Ophthalmology



- Augenklinik Sulzbach, part of Knappschaftsklinikum Saar
- Dr. Peter Szurmann is one of Germany's leading ophthalmologists
- The department is one of Germany's largest macula centers and performs around 10,000 operations a year

Radiology



- CaritasKlinikum Saarbrücken
- Central competence center for renowned CT and MRI equipment manufacturers such as GE Healthcare and Dedalus Healthcare
- Member of "radiology quality ring", guaranteeing outstanding professional quality for radiologists

Startup ecosystem

Support for innovation and startups

Saarland helps startups successfully put innovative ideas into practice by providing comprehensive promotion, a strong network and a dynamic environment.

- **Comprehensive promotion:** Financial and structural support for foundation, support and sustainable development
- **Innovation hubs:** Specialist centers, including in the life sciences, to provide networking and support for startups
- **Lively scene:** Discussion, collaboration and networking between entrepreneurs, researchers and investors
- **SouthwestX – The Bridge to Innovation:** This project is an accredited state startup factory that promotes networking between research and industry. 33.5 million euros of funding are available for further development over the next five years
- **Ideal conditions:** A dynamic environment where visions come to life and long-term success is secured



Workforce

to secure your growth

Saarland, with its approximately 500,000 employed individuals, is strongly industrial and production-oriented – acceptance of shift work is high and staff turnover is low. Companies also have access to a cross-border labor market.

Production, processing and energy	27%
Commercial and other services	31%
Trade and hospitality	14%
Housing, finance and insurance	10%
Logistics and transport	9%
Civil service	8%
Agriculture and forestry	1%

Source: 2022 census, published 24/06/2024



Approx. 1,647,000 people
of working age
in the cross-border labor
market



Approx. 500,000
employees
in Saarland

Universities as talent factories

Saarland University and htw saar offering wide range of courses



Saarbrücken Uni Campus
16,600 students (2024)

Life sciences courses:

- Bioinformatics
- Biology
- Biophysics
- Chemistry
- Human and molecular biology
- Medicine



Goebenstraße 40, Saarbrücken
6,072 students (2023)

Life sciences courses:

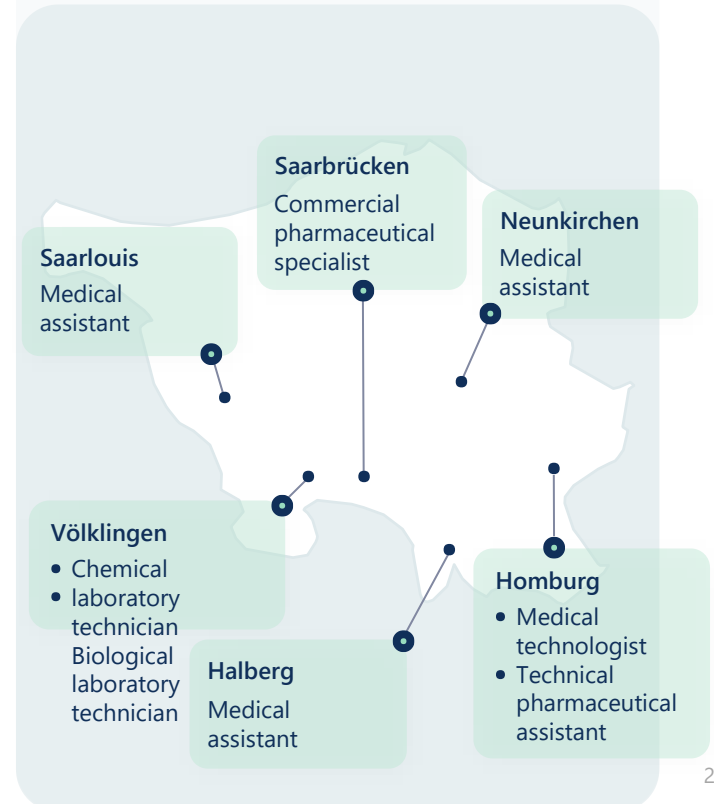
- Applied health sciences
- Biomedical technology
- Medical physics
- Neural technology

Practical training

for pharmaceutical research and production

Multifaceted training in core laboratory and hospital professions ensures the availability of qualified experts in the life sciences sector.

Training	Training locations	Professional field
Medical assistant	Halberg, Neunkirchen, Saarlouis	Support point-of-care institutions with administrative and clinical activities
Biological laboratory technician	BBZ Völklingen	- Support biological, biochemical and biotechnological research in laboratories - Run experiments, analyze biological samples, ensure smooth processes
Chemical laboratory technician	BBZ Völklingen	- Conducting laboratory experiments with a focus on chemistry (e.g. chemical synthesis, analytics etc.) - Supporting activities: research, development, quality control, production processes
Medical technologist	UKS Schulzentrum Homburg	- Key areas: function diagnostics (MTF), laboratory analysis (MTL), radiological diagnostics (MTR) - Support with analytical activities, testing and manufacturing pharmaceuticals
Technical pharmaceutical assistant		
Commercial pharmaceutical specialist	Saarbrücken	Particularly assisting pharmacies with administrative, commercial and organizational tasks



HR support and specialist recruitment in Saarland

Targeted support for companies

The state government promotes structural change via attractive measures for employers, provides the right points of contact (including across borders), and opens up access to the entire labor market in the SaarLorLux Greater Region and beyond.

Partners & services



Ministry for Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization and Energy

- Coordination and one-stop shop
- Interface with network and their support services
- Establishing synergies between relevant Saarland stakeholders



Federal Employment Agency – Rhineland-Palatinate-Saarland regional office

- Comprehensive employer service
- Company-specific consulting and mediation processes
- Qualification and promotion opportunities
- Access to the Greater Region labor market



SaarWork International

- One-stop agency for international specialists
- Help with recruitment, recognition, consulting and integration
- Establishing synergies between relevant Saarland stakeholders
- Reducing workload and complexity for companies

gwSaar is your partner for land, real estate and much more

As a project developer with our own considerable real estate portfolio, we know what really matters when it comes to site selection. Whether you need office premises, land or an industrial hall – we are your implementation partner.

From the first point of contact, we offer you comprehensive support. Our all-round service ranges from the first consultation to the turnkey construction of your dream property and beyond.

Our role

- Developing industrial sites and commercial properties
- Providing and administering industrial sites and production facilities
- Developing and supplying financial implementation models
- Support throughout the entire relocation process



Testimonial

Brownfield development for the pharmaceutical industry

The site of a former automotive facility in Saarlouis is gradually gaining a state-of-the-art production plant for the aseptic filling of pharmaceuticals.

gwSaar is responsible for the purchase, development and preparation of the plot.

Our role

- Tailored search for suitable industrial sites
- Purchase and provision of a suitable brownfield site
- Site development planning and infrastructure planning
- Demolition (incl. site remediation)
- Earthworks incl. cable laying
- Development implementation
- Sale of industrial site



Strong network

Comprehensive support to ensure an easy start in Saarland

Companies in Saarland benefit from direct, reliable and solution-oriented exchange at all levels. They have access to strong structures and comprehensive implementation expertise.



Our strong network of companies, partners and institutions allows us to provide targeted support for your move to Saarland.

Research/science



Networking for research



Clinical studies

Site/subsidiary



Land and real estate



Promotion



GxP approvals



Legal advice



Clean room



Quality control

Education & training



University, higher education institution



Schools



IHK

Germany's SAARLAND

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