



**PRÜFUNGSZENTRUM  
GOETHE-INSTITUT**



## **Angewandte Linguistik**

ILC Institute of  
Language Competence  
Prüfungscentrum Goethe-Institut

**Sekretariat**  
Goethe.daf@zhaw.ch

Theaterstrasse 17  
8401 Winterthur

Tel. Sekretariat +41 58 934 61 85  
[www.zhaw.ch/goethe](http://www.zhaw.ch/goethe)

# **Goethe-Institut Examination Centre Frequently asked questions regarding the Goethe examinations (FAQ)**

## **EXAMINATION PROCEDURE**

### **When do the Goethe certificate examinations take place?**

Goethe certificate examinations are held regularly at the Goethe examination centre at the ZHAW. You will find an overview of the examination dates and registration deadlines on our homepage: [www.zhaw.ch/goethe](http://www.zhaw.ch/goethe)

### **Will the written and oral examinations take place on the same day?**

Yes. You will take the full exam on the same day. Normally, the written examination modules and parts take place in the morning and the oral exam in the afternoon.

## **REGISTRATION**

### **How do I register for an exam?**

You register online at [www.zhaw.ch/goethe](http://www.zhaw.ch/goethe). Registration is binding. We do not accept registrations by telephone.

### **What are the next steps after I have registered?**

Once you have registered on our website, you will immediately receive a confirmation of registration by e-mail. After the registration deadline, you will receive the invoice for the examination fees. The invoice must be paid within 10 days. Approximately 10 days before your examination date, we provide you by post with all the information about the examination (including examination times and location) as well as a map of the examination venue.

## **EXAMINATION RESULT**

### **When will I receive my exam results?**

You will receive your exam results by post no later than one month after your exam date. We do not provide information about examination results by telephone. It is not possible to receive the result earlier, also not for an additional fee.



**PRÜFUNGSZENTRUM  
GOETHE-INSTITUT**

Zürcher Fachhochschule

**I need the examination result for admission to the ETH, a university or a university of applied sciences. Can you provide the result by a certain date?**

If this is the case, please register for one of the examination dates marked accordingly on our website. On the registration form, note the e-mail address of the admissions office or the person concerned and the latest date by which the institution requires the result. We will then endeavour to send the result on time to the specified university, university of applied sciences or ETH.

## REPEATING THE EXAMINATION

### **How often can an examination be repeated?**

The examination as a whole can be repeated as often as you wish. The details, including those regarding possible partial retakes, are regulated in the regulations for the respective examination (see [www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de)).

### **Can I repeat individual modules of the B1, B2 and C2 examinations?**

The B1, B2 and C2 examinations are modular examinations. This means that you can register for individual modules and also repeat them. The modules are reading, listening, writing and speaking.

### **Can I repeat individual parts of the C1 examination?**

Partial repetitions for the Goethe-Zertifikat C1 are possible at the Zurich/Winterthur examination centre. Partial repetitions are permitted for persons who have already passed only one part of an examination at the same level. This means that only the failed part - either the oral examination (speaking) or the entire written examination (reading, listening, writing) - will then be repeated. Partial retakes are possible once within one year after taking the entire examination at the examination venue Zurich/Winterthur.

### **Can I repeat the examination if I am ill?**

In any case, please send us a written notice of cancellation by e-mail. If we receive a medical certificate within 10 days of your cancellation proving that you were ill on the day of the examination, you may take the examination on one of the next two examination dates. You will need to register yourself online for a new date. On the new registration form, please note in the REMARKS field: free retake from ... according to medical certificate. A refund of the examination fee is not possible.

## CERTIFICATE

### **Have you lost your certificate?**

As a rule, no duplicate certificate will be issued. However, if the examination was taken no more than 10 years ago, the examination centre where you took the examination can issue a replacement certificate for a fee.

### **How can I get a certified copy of my certificate?**

Please contact a notary's office. The Goethe Examination Centre cannot issue notarised copies.

### **Can I get a new certificate if I change my name?**

The certificate is issued on the basis of the information you provided when registering for the examination. No new certificate or replacement certificate will be



issued in the event of a name change (for example, marriage, adoption, divorce or similar). A change of name can be proven by the relevant official document (birth certificate, marriage certificate or similar) or by a certified copy.

**How long is the certificate of my examination valid?**

The certificates A1 to C2 of the Goethe-Institut are valid for an unlimited period of time. However, institutions and employers sometimes require a certificate that is no more than two years old.

## EXAM PREPARATION

**Can I sit a Goethe examination without having taken a preparation course?**

Yes. Taking the exam is not tied to attending a specific language or preparatory course, nor to having obtained a certificate at a lower level.

In order for you to familiarise yourself with the language requirements and the examination format, we recommend that you attend a preparatory course offered by the Goethe Examination Centre at the ZHAW. Please contact [info.daf@zhaw.ch](mailto:info.daf@zhaw.ch).

**Where can I find material to prepare for the Goethe examinations?**

On our website you will find links to the mock examinations for levels A1 to C2 of the Goethe-Institut.

**What spelling is used in the examinations?**

In all examinations of the Goethe-Institut, the orthography used in the written examination is the one that has been in use since August 2006. This is based on «DUDEN- Die deutsche Rechtschreibung» from 24th edition 2006 and «WAHRIG- Die deutsche Rechtschreibung» from 2006.

February 2022