



Auszug aus dem Bericht eines Stipendiaten

The Maria Ladenburger Stiftung helped me immensely in my completion of my Master's degree. Before receiving this financial support, I was struggling greatly with finances in the last semester of my studies. Before this, I was lent student loans from my home country's government infrastructure. This unfortunately expired after four semesters, and where my degree was five, I was left wondering what I could do to complete the degree I had worked so hard on until this point. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic hitting the year before I was due to complete my studies, my parents were not able to support me for my final semester as my mother had to close her bakery's doors in March 2020. This Stiftung came at a time when I desperately needed assistance due to my financial emergency which was of no fault of my own.

With the Maria-Ladenburger-Stiftung, I was able to shift my focus from financial concerns back to my studies, and back to the development of my Master's thesis. With the certainty of the financial assistance every month, I no longer had to worry about where my rent and grocery money would come from at the beginning of the month so I could better spend my time researching and writing and pursuing the thing I came to Germany to do: my studies. I was able to maintain my high grade point average with the help of the Maria Ladenburger Stiftung, receiving a 1.4 overall average for my entire degree with a 1.5 on my Master's thesis and oral examination. Without the guarantee of this monthly support, I would have had to leave my Master's programme for the time being until I could work and save enough to support myself for the final semester of my degree program.

As an international student with very little knowledge of the German language, studying in Germany has been an enormous financial burden with very little opportunities to work in English. Although I pursued this degree knowing well that I would not be able to find work easily, it is important that there are resources available for students who are in tough financial positions like myself, or those who are worse off but who wish to continue with their studies and complete the degrees they worked so hard for. I am extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to complete my studies and better adjust to life in Germany through the support of the Maria-Ladenburger-Stiftung.