Amgen Scholars Europe Programme

AMGEN® Foundation

Amgen Scholars Program

Student Guide

Amgen Scholars Programme
Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich

Undergraduate Summer Research 2026

European LMU Amgen Scholars Programme

From molecules to behavior
Undergraduate Summer Research 2026

Dear participants,
We are pleased to welcome you to the Amgen Scholars Programme 2026 as part of the International Munich Summer University (MISU) in Germany. We are confident that you will enjoy the programme and the extra-curricular activities, which are an integral part of your summer schedule.

We also encourage you to participate in the vibrant international student life on the campus of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) in Munich. The purpose of this guide is to provide you with a synopsis of important facts and information to make your stay as pleasant and productive as possible.

Please pack all important documents, including your passport, travel documents, and programme contact information in your carry-on luggage. We also recommend keeping one change of clothes in your carry-on. Please label your entire luggage with both your home address and the MISU programme office contact information:

First, we would like to introduce the professional and academic staff of the programme:

Amgen Scholars Programme Faculty Director:	Prof. Dr. Benedikt Grothe
Amgen Scholars Programme Coordination:	Dr. Raluca Goron
	Katrin Birner
MISU Accommodation Coordination:	Jasmin Puschner

Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns that may arise.

We look forward to meeting you in Munich and getting to know all of you over the summer. We wish you all the best and, perhaps more importantly, we hope you have a wonderful time during the weeks you are about to spend in Munich.

Best wishes,

Your coordination team, Raluca & Katrin

Before you leave

Please pack all important documents, including your passport, credit cards, travel documents, and programme contact information in your carry-on luggage. We also recommend keeping one change of clothes in your carry-on. Please label your entire luggage with both your home address and the MISU program office contact information:

[YOUR NAME]
AMGEN SCHOLARS PROGRAMME
LMU BIOCENTER
GROSSHADERNER STRASSE 2
82152 PLANEGG-MARTINSRIED, GERMANY

Checklist

- ☐ Valid passport*: If you need a visa, apply for it well in advance
- ☐ Prescriptions (optical and general); extra medication (recommended)
- ☐ Credit card (MasterCard/VISA), debit card (Maestro/EC)
- ☐ ISIC card (recommended, www.isic.de)
- ☐ Umbrella, weatherproof clothes and sturdy shoes for Opening Retreat and other activities
- ☐ Toiletry brands may differ from those in your home country, so you may want to bring your own
- ☐ Please bring your own towels, as they will not be provided for you during the month of August. Bed linen, sheets, blankets and kitchen utensils will be provided
- ☐ Photocopies of your passport and other important documents: Never carry your original passport with you unless you are travelling
- ☐ Keep copies of your credit card numbers and phone numbers in order to cancel cards in case they are lost or stolen. Keep this information separate from your wallet.

* Entry to the UK requires a valid passport. European ID cards are no longer sufficient.

Travel to/from the Programme (June 26th – September 5th)

You will need to organize your own trip **to and from** the programme.

Please send us your travel information (dates of travel, depart/arrival time, airline information) via email (amgenscholars@bio.lmu.de) as soon as you have booked your trips. Simplify your travel reimbursement by sending us your proof of payment before the programme starts.

ARRIVAL in Munich: You should plan to arrive at the Munich Airport no later than **1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26th**.The programme starts with the Opening Retreat in the Bavarian mountains (June 26th – June 29th).

You are welcome to arrange travel either earlier or later than the programme, but we cannot cover housing or any other benefits (transportation pass, insurance, etc.) before or after the official programme start/end. Accommodation for you is arranged from **June 26th to September 5th** (including Opening Retreat and Cambridge Symposium).

DEPARTURE from Munich: On August 31st, we will travel to Munich Airport and take the flight to London together. The trip to Cambridge is arranged and covered by the programme for all scholars. The programme ends with the Cambridge Symposium (September 2nd to September 5th, 2026).

DEPARTURE from Cambridge: Please book your return tickets to your home or study country from Cambridge for **September 5th.** Airport transfers **from** Cambridge **cannot** be arranged by the programme. Please make arrangements yourselves.

UK Entry: Starting April 2025, several nationalities, including EU citizens, need an electronic travel authorisation (ETA). Please check whether you are eligible or whether you are required to obtain a visa. We recommend applying for the ETA before travelling to Munich. The costs (20 GBP) can be reimbursed together with your travel award.

REFUND of travel costs: We will refund travel expenses to and from the programme up to €350 (except for the airport transfer from Cambridge). All travel expenses, including visa fees, can only be refunded with submission of **original receipts (proof of payment) and boarding passes**. Finalize all travel arrangements before coming to Munich, as we must receive all travel receipts by the second week of the programme.

How to get to LMU Munich on June 26th, 2026

Arrival by airplane:

Please take the S-Bahn (S8 or S1) from the airport, which departs every 10 minutes. You will have to buy a ticket (either in the MVV app, at ticket machines, or the S-Bahn help desk at the airport) and be sure to validate it before boarding. To validate a paper ticket, you have to insert it into the blue box located at the entrances to the platform. Do not enter the platform or train without validating the ticket first. Online tickets are pre- validated. At "Marienplatz" change to subway U6 in direction "Garching Forschungszentrum" or U3 in direction "Moosach". Exit at the station "Universität".

Fare: € 15,10 (Zones M - 5)

Arrival by train:

Please take the S-Bahn from the main train station ("Hauptbahnhof") to the station "Marienplatz" (many S-Bahn choices). From there take the subway U6 in direction "Garching Forschungszentrum" or U3 in direction "Moosach". Exit at the station "Universität".

Fare: € 4,20 (single ticket, zone M)

Arrival by bus at ZOB (Central bus station):

At the central bus station (ZOB) you can take any "S-Bahn" in direction "Hauptbahnhof". At "Marienplatz" change to subway U6 in direction "Garching Forschungszentrum" or U3 in direction "Moosach". Exit at the station "Universität".

Fare: € 4,20 (single ticket, zone M)

Subway website:

www.mvv-muenchen.de/en/homepage/index.html

S-Bahn and U-Bahn route map:

www.mvv-muenchen.de/en/network-stations/network-maps/index.html
Under Network Maps, select "**Urban rail network**"

Meeting point

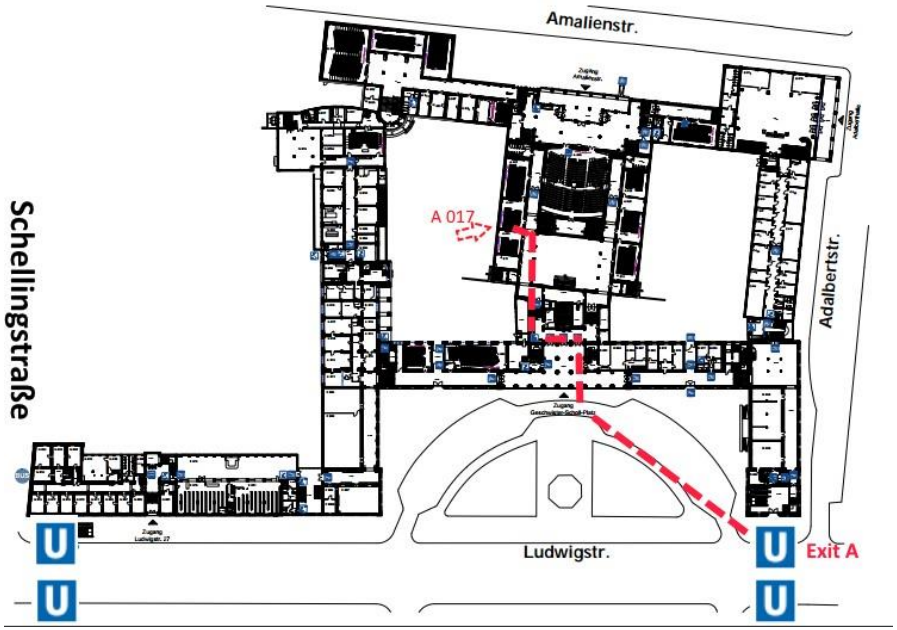
Programme staff will meet you on June 26th, 2026 between 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the LMU Main Building. If you wish, you can leave your luggage there and explore the surroundings until it is time to depart for the Opening Retreat.

Time: June 26th, between 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Address: Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1
Subway U3/6, subway stop "Universität" (Exit A to "Geschwister-Scholl-Platz")

Location: Lecture Room A 017, University Main Building
https://www.lmu.de/raumfinder/index.html#/building/bw0000/map?room=000000117

Note: If you arrive late due to any plane/train/bus delay, please call Katrin at +49 (0) 1511-5421269.



Opening Retreat

Make sure you are in room A 017 at 3:45 p.m. at the latest. At 4:00 p.m. programme staff will direct you to the bus that will take you to the Opening Retreat (June 26th to 29th), held in the south of Munich in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

Accommodation is arranged at:

DJH Jugendherberge Garmisch-Partenkirchen
Jochstraße 10
82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen
https://www.jugendherberge.de/en/youth-hostels/garmisch-partenkirchen/portrait/

Departure by bus: 26th June, 4:00 p.m.

The schedule for the Opening Retreat will be sent to you by email in June.

On June 29th, we will arrive in Munich late in the afternoon and the bus will take you to your accommodation.

Before the return trip from Garmisch, our staff will hand out the University Mensa (cafeteria) Card and the first instalment of the scholarship in cash, which is € 300. The 2nd and 3rd instalments will follow via bank transfer on July 20th and August 5th. You will also receive a programme tote including information about Munich.

Start in the lab

On June 30th, you will start with your laboratory projects. You will be expected by your lab supervisors by 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise instructed by your supervisor). **Since your monthly transportation pass only starts July 1st, you will need to buy a ticket (two single tickets) to get to the lab and back to your accommodation on June 30th.**

Scholars should be prepared to begin lab work immediately, so please complete your literature review and background preparations before leaving for Germany!

Programme Activities

Online Programme Calendar

Dates, locations, and details for all activities can always be found in our programme calendar.

View the ASP calendar: bit.ly/view-asp-lmu

Subscribe to the ASP calendar: bit.ly/subscribe-asp-lmu

Please note: We strongly recommend subscribing to the calendar, as details for some events can change on short notice. It also helps us know that everyone has an up-to-date overview of events, including reminders.

Scholar research project presentations (weekly, July 15th – August 12th)

Scholars will meet once a week to discuss their research projects with one another. In these sessions, groups of 3-4 scholars will give a short (10 min.) presentation on their research project hypothesis(-ses), methods/techniques utilized, and current challenges faced. Each presentation will be followed by a short Q&A. The seminars, called Slice of Science, will be catered with pizza. We highly recommend you to invite your mentors/tutors and lab colleagues to these sessions, and ask that they RSVP to amgenscholars@bio.lmu.de at least 2 days beforehand for planning purposes.

Academic Workshops

Scholars participate in several workshops: Short Presentations, Poster Design & Presentation, Data Analysis with Python, How to Apply for a Graduate Position, and Good Scientific Practice.

Insight into the Biotech Industry

To gain insight into the Biotech industry, scholars will visit the high-tech laboratories of the Amgen Research Munich GmbH, as well as the IZB Martinsried, a hotspot for Life Science Start-Ups.

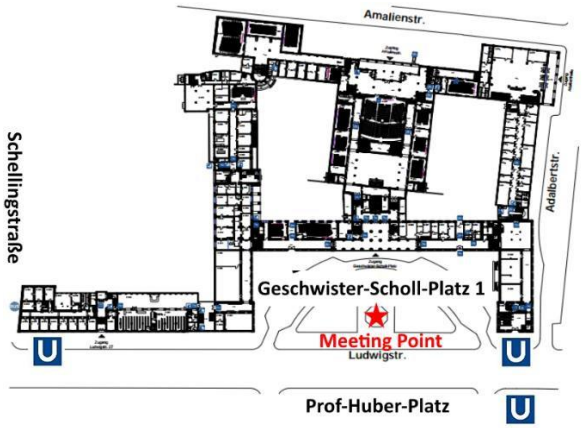
Munich Closing Poster Session (Friday, August 28th)

Scholars will present their project posters to the Munich academic community, allowing an opportunity to prepare for the Cambridge Symposium. The event is followed by programme closing remarks by organisers and guests, and lunch. Dress code is smart.

Cambridge Symposium (September 2nd – September 5th)

Travel to the symposium, as well as board and activities are arranged and covered by the programme. Individual scholars are responsible for obtaining proper UK travel visas, if necessary. Scholars will present their project poster to other Amgen scholars from Cambridge, Karolinska, Pasteur, and ETH, as well as participating faculty and professionals. Dress code is smart for the symposium and formal for the closing dinner.

Excursions / Extracurricular Activities



Munich Sightseeing Tour on foot

Meeting Point: LMU Main Building, Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1,
at the fountain, U3/U6 subway station "Universität"
When: July 4th, 11:00 a.m.
Tour name: City Tour Munich

Trip to castle Neuschwanstein by bus

Meeting Point: LMU Main Building, Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1,
at the fountain, U3/U6 subway station Universität
Departure: July 19th, 8:00 a.m.

The costs for the bus and tickets for the activities are covered by the programme. You are responsible for your food and beverages. Always bring weatherproof clothing and proper shoes with you. Since we will be travelling by bus, you can always leave personal belongings on the bus.

Accommodation

Accommodation in Munich is very competitive. Due to the extremely tight student-housing situation in Munich and the semester overlapping in July, scholars will live in two separate locations over the summer.

July

In July, scholars will be accommodated in "Apartmenthaus International München" – an apartment complex located close to Olympia Park and a subway station with various grocery stores and one of Munich's largest shopping malls in the vicinity.

You will reside in an apartment of your own with a small kitchen corner, a bathroom with shower and a bedroom with working space. You will be provided with towels and sheets. Laundry can be washed and dried/ironed in the laundry room located in the basement (for a fee). Kitchen utensils (silverware, plates, cups, bowls, and pots) are also provided. Wi-Fi is included and you will have access to the in-house gym.

You can address any issue to the reception or to your programme coordinator.

August

In August scholars will stay in the student residence "Olympiadorf (Olympic Village)", close to the subway station "Olympiazentrum" (Subway U3).

You will live in an apartment equipped with a bathroom and a small kitchen where you can prepare meals. You will be provided with dishes (very basic equipment, please plan to buy some more second hand, for example), as well as bedding (sheets and blankets), which can be cleaned at the laundry facilities close to the building. **Towels will not be provided.** Please note that the rooms are tailored to students' needs and financial means. Therefore, please do not expect luxurious facilities.

Keys to your apartments

Each student will receive one key/a set of keys for their apartment. If you lose the key, it will cost you approx. € 150.

Never leave your room without a key because the door shuts easily and can only be opened with a key.

In case you get locked out during the day, you can call the dorm supervisor. Should this happen during the evening or night, please do not call a locksmith yourself! You might also stay in a colleague's room and ask the dorm supervisor to assist you the following morning.

Notes on accommodation

Check-out from apartment house international

The move is scheduled for August 2nd early in the morning. MISU staff will pick up your luggage and transport it to Olympiadorf. Students can travel there by bus or subway (approx. 20 minutes). Further details will be provided closer to the date.

Check-out from Olympiadorf

You have to leave the rooms on August 31st in the morning, before traveling to the airport. A bus will pick you up at approx. 9:00 a.m. and take you to the airport.

Students are expected to leave their rooms in a clean condition and remember to return the key to the MISU staff on site. More information regarding dorm check-out will be provided in Munich.

It is prohibited to pass your room to someone else or to sub-let it.

In Munich, tap water is drinkable and of very good quality.

Recycling is highly encouraged in Germany and therefore glass and plastic bottles, as well as metal drink cans come with a deposit (called "Pfand") that you can get back by returning the bottles/cans. Generally, garbage should be sorted into waste, paper, glass/metal, and plastic. There are collection points close to both accommodation locations. Here is some info about garbage disposal in the Olympic village.

Electricity

In Germany, electronic devices run at 220– 230V with a frequency of 50 Hz. Please make sure that your plugs fit a type C or type F socket or consider purchasing an electronic adapter before your arrival.

You will need an adapter for the UK, as well. Make sure to purchase one in advance.

Public Transportation – The "Deutschlandticket"

Monthly transportation passes for the duration of the programme will be reimbursed to you as part of the benefits. The "Deutschlandticket" (D-Ticket) costs €63/month and is valid on all local and regional public transport (exception: ICE / EC trains) throughout Germany. This means you can travel throughout Germany as often as you wish (including some locations near the borders, such as Salzburg).

The D-Ticket is only purchasable individually via credit/debit card as an online pass for your smartphone. It is provided as subscription-model only but can be cancelled on a monthly basis. You will therefore need to install the app, purchase the ticket (needed for July and August) and then **cancel your subscription no later than August 10th**. Your travel refund will include the additional costs for the 2 months use of the D-Ticket (max. €350 + €126). **More information at the Opening Retreat.**

More information and FAQ on the Deutschlandticket in general:

https://www.mvv-muenchen.de/en/tickets-and-fares/frequent-travellers/deutschland-ticket-d-ticket/index.html

We would recommend the MVV-App for purchasing the D-Ticket:

https://www.mvv-muenchen.de/en/journey-planer/mobile-services/mvv-app/index.html

Insurance

Health, Travel, Liability, and Accident Insurance is provided by the programme and also covers your UK trip to the Cambridge Symposium. You have already received an electronic copy of your policy. You will receive a printed copy of the original policy after your arrival in Munich, as you will need a copy of this whenever you should visit a doctor.

Note: The insurance is valid from June 26th until September 5th. If you plan to arrive earlier or stay longer, please make sure to extend your insurance.

Phone

Check with your current cell phone provider what the exact conditions for calling or using the internet abroad are and whether it is financially feasible to change your contract accordingly.

Prepaid Cards: You might also consider purchasing a SIM-card, which has a German number and costs approx. €10.00 to charge. You can use them with your own cell phone. Such cards can be bought at supermarkets and will make it easier for you to communicate with each other.

Please note: Most of the SIM-cards are not automatically micro SIM-cards (you need them for iPhone, e.g.)

Internet

At the Opening Retreat

You will receive Wifi access information at check-in.

At the apartmenthaus international

All apartments in the complex have Wifi access.

At the Olympic Village

All rooms in the student residence are equipped for internet access by Ethernet cable. **Please bring your own Ethernet cable with you and an adapter in case your laptop does not have a LAN socket** to be able to get internet access. Wifi is not provided, but there are solutions you can take into consideration, such as: https://dorfbladl.com/internet-faq-teil-1-wlan-router-einrichten/

In the lab

Your working place will also have internet access; details will be provided by your labs here in Munich.

In university buildings

eduroam (education roaming) is an international roaming service for users in research and higher education. It provides researchers, teachers and students easy and secure network access when visiting another institution. You do not have to pay for using eduroam. **Students will receive a registration email from the wifi provider eduroam. Please make sure you register directly once you receive this email (closer to your arrival in Munich).**

Information: www.eduroam.org

You can also use **M-WLAN** and **@BayernWLAN**, two free Wi-Fi networks in Munich open spaces. For more information please visit:

https://www.wlan-bayern.de/#/

http://www.muenchen.de/int/en/tourism/

Eating & Refreshments on Campus

You will have access to various cafeterias, according to your lab location:

Campus Großhadern

https://www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/en/canteen/locations-and-opening-hours/martinsried-grosshadern/

https://www.biochem.mpg.de/6693170/Canteen_Cafeteria

Campus City Center

https://www.studentenwerk-muenchen.de/en/canteen/locations-and-opening-hours/munich/

https://www.psych.mpg.de/2623808/fuer-patienten-und-besucher

Neuherberg Campus – Helmholtz

More information will be provided by the host lab.

Mensa Card

You will receive a "Mensa Card" (i.e. Cafeteria Card), a chip-based electronic purchase system that you can use to pay for meals and coffee breaks at the mensa (no cash). The Mensa Card will be handed out during the Opening Retreat and needs to be returned to the Infopoints on campus before our trip to Cambridge.

In the cafeterias managed by the Student Union or "Studierendenwerk" you can only pay with your Mensa Card. Credit can be transferred to your cards at terminals called "Aufwerter", located at the entrance of each cafeteria (operating with bills).

For the Max-Planck-Institute and Helmholtz cafeterias, you will need to pay cash.

Sports Activities

In Munich the sport locations of the university are restricted to long-term students of the LMU. We can recommend you some possibilities open to the public. Please note that in July you have access to the gym in the apartment complex.

Outdoor activities: Munich has many large parks, such as the English Garden, the Olympic Park or Luitpold Park. These green areas are great for jogging, playing soccer or other outdoor activities.

Biking: Munich is an excellent city for biking. Bikes can be rented for day trips (Radverleih i. HBf., Hauptbahnhof) or at any time when using services such as "MyRadl". You can find out more info regarding biking in Munich here: https://www.myradl.de/de/

If you are planning on a more regular use of a bike, https://swapfiets.de/ might be a good option.

Swimming: There are a variety of excellent public indoor and outdoor swimming pools all around Munich, for example the Olympic Swimming Pool (Coubertinplatz 1). Please look at the SWM Munich website for a full listing: www.swm.de/english/m-baeder.html

Sauna: The swimming pools are usually combined with a sauna facility. Please look at the SWM Munich website for a full listing: www.swm.de/english/m-baeder/sauna.html

Tennis: One possibility to play tennis is at the courts of Olympic Centre (Spiridon-Louis-Ring 21), where tennis rackets may also be rented. The prices vary depending on the timeslot and day of the week. You should make a reservation beforehand by calling 089/30 67 - 2689: www.olympiapark.de/en/sport-leisure/outdoor/tennis

Gym: For most gyms, membership of several months is required. Some centres offer passes in sets of ten sessions, which can be shared by several students.

Shopping Facilities

Opening hours / General

Opening hours are usually 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., although smaller shops, such as bakeries, often close earlier. **Please note that all shops and supermarkets are closed on Sundays and holidays (e.g. 15th August)**, with the exception of some shops at the main train stations ("Hauptbahnhof" and "Ostbahnhof") or large gas stations. Some bakeries are open on Sunday before mid-day.

Shopping Malls

The best option for shopping is the pedestrian zone in the city center between Marienplatz and Karlsplatz. Munich has some shopping malls outside of the city center, such as the "Olympia-Einkaufszentrum" (U3 > Olympia-Einkaufszentrum; www.olympia-einkaufszentrum.de), "Riem Arcaden" (U2 > Messestadt-West; riemarcaden.de), Einkaufs-Center Neuperlach - pep (U5 > Neuperlach Zentrum; www.einkaufscenter-neuperlach.de), "Pasing Arcaden" (S-Bahn > Pasing; www.pasing-arcaden.de).

Mail / Postal Service

If you would like to receive mail or packages, please ONLY use the following address:

[Your name]
Amgen Scholars Programme
LMU BioCenter
Großhaderner Straße 2
82152 Planegg-Martinsried, Germany

Useful Telephone Numbers

Emergencies

Police	110
Fire Brigade/ Emergency Medical Aid	112
Emergency Services: Rapid Medical Assistance	116 117
Emergency Dental Service	+49 (0)89 7233093
Lost Maestro- or credit cards	116 116

Others

Taxi	+49 (0) 89 21610

Miscellaneous

The Amgen Scholars Programme Coordination Office

Dr. Raluca Goron (Programme Director)
Katrin Birner (Programme Coordinator)
Office tel.: +49 (0)89 2180-74243
amgenscholars@bio.lmu.de
www.amgenscholars.mcn.lmu.de

Emergency numbers:
+49 (0) 1573-1665747 (Raluca)
+49 (0) 1511-5421269 (Katrin)
Please only use the emergency numbers in case of a real emergency!

MISU Office:

service@lmu-misu.de
Emergency number (housing):
+49 (0) 176 666 82778 (Jasmin)

Please only use the emergency number if it is a real emergency!
(This number is for programme students only).

Medical Care Services

Travel insurance has been arranged for you.

Please read the information document about your insurance very carefully. You will receive it at the opening retreat. **It has important information about doctor's visits.**

Emergency Medical Service (for minor injuries and acute illness)

KVB-Bereitschaftspraxis Elisenhof
Prielmayerstr.3 (Elisenhof) Main Train Station
80335 München
Tel. +49 (0)89 116 117

Mo, Tue, Thu: 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Wed, Fri: 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sat, Sun: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

https://www.kvb.de/service/patienten/aerztlicher-bereitschaftsdienst/bereitschaftspraxen/muenchen/elisenhof/

Klinikum Schwabing (24 hours, for major injuries/issues – waiting time might be 4 hours or more if it isn't an emergency)

Klinikum München
Kölner Platz 1
80804 München

Telefon: 089/ 3068 - 0
Telefax: 089/ 3068-3770

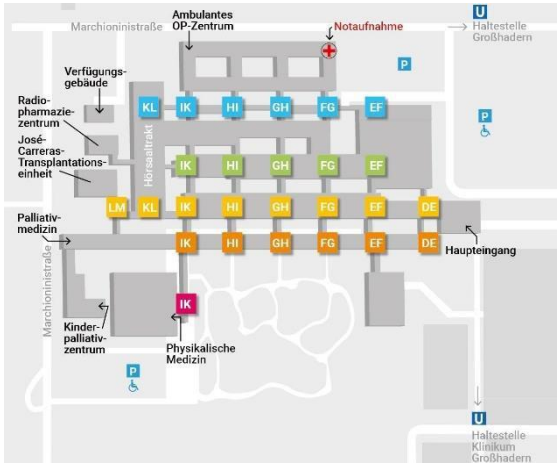
Internet:
https://www.klinikum-muenchen.de/schwabing/

Klinikum Großhadern (24 hours, for major injuries/issues – waiting time might be 4 hours or more if it isn't an emergency)

Campus Großhadern
Marchioninistraße 15
81377 München

Telefon: +49 89 7095-0

Internet:
http://www.klinikum.uni-muenchen.de/



Note: When visiting a doctor during your stay in Munich, always show your insurance policy and make sure to ask the practice staff to handle payments directly with your insurer. **Please DO NOT pay invoices directly!**