# Handbook for SCBRM Double Degree Students

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# Welcome to the Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany and Jinan University, China

Welcome to the Double-degree Master program in Molecular and Developmental Stem Cell Biology from Ruhr University Bochum and Regenerative Medicine from Jinan University, Guangzhou. Congratulations on making both an excellent and successful choice for your further studies!

### **Double degree master Program**

Double degree master's program combines two master's programs from Ruhr University Bochum in Molecular and Developmental stem cell Biology and from Jinan University, Guangzhou in Regenerative medicine.

The prerequisites for the admittance into the double degree master's program are; Admission in master's program in Molecular and Developmental stem cell biology at Ruhr University Bochum. After the admission has been gained at Ruhr University Bochum, a separate application has to be made to the double degree master's program. The details will be provided by Prof. Beate Brand-Saberi upon request, ideally to all students interested at the same time (look out for announcements or seek for an appointment). Further detailed information can be obtained from the iSTEM website.

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### 1) Applying for student visa in Germany

Before starting your awesome journey to China, you need to apply for the student visa (X1 visa). Please make sure that you have applied for the correct type of visa as changing of visa type in China after your arrival is a tiresome process and you need to provide additional documents for the change. In order to apply for student visa, you need to prepare the following documents beforehand;

- 1. Passport
- 2. Proof of legal status in Germany (only for non-German students)
- 3. Admission letter from Jinan university (It will be provided to you after you have been accepted to the double degree program)
- 4. JW202 form from Jinan university (will be provided to you after you have been accepted to the program)
- 5. Application form (this can be filled online at <a href="www.visaforChina.org">www.visaforChina.org</a>)
- 6. Color passport photo (bare-head, full face) against a light background (size: 48mm x 33mm)
- 7. Application fees (Depending on your nationality; Please visit embassy website for up-to-date fee structure)

Once all the documents are in hand, please visit <a href="www.visaforChina.org">www.visaforChina.org</a> and schedule an appointment. You can submit your application at Chinese consulate at Dusseldorf or at Chinese consulate at Frankfurt. After you submit your application at the consulate, you will be given an appointment for fingerprinting procedure for a later date (fingerprints are taken at the Frankfurt consulate only)

### 2) Applying for accommodation at Jinan University

If you want to stay on-campus, after you have been admitted to the program you can apply for the accommodation at Jinan University by sending an email to <a href="mailto:oscb@jnu.edu.cn">oscb@jnu.edu.cn</a> mentioning your student id number (can be found in your admission letter). The fee structure for the international student dorm is 4000 CNY for one academic year. You will pay your water and electricity bill monthly. No single rooms are provided. You will have to share the room one other student. You can make a request in your email if you have any preferences, but please make a note that your request may not be considered. If you want to stay off-campus many numbers of apartments are available around the university. Information regarding the apartments can be found at the real estate offices. Please note that number of people speaking

English in the real estate offices are minimum, so please take a Chinese person along with you to have a smooth conversation. The rent for the apartment varies from place to place, but please note that rent is higher around the university.

### 3) Installing WeChat application

Before coming to China please install WeChat app on your smartphone. The application can be found on both google play store and apple store. WeChat is an important application that will become a part of your life in China. All most all the communications with your professors, supervisors and your lab mates will be through WeChat. Just think WeChat as a Chinese counterpart of WhatsApp, but it is way more than a messaging platform. After you open your bank account, you can link your bank account to your WeChat and can be used to pay for almost everything in China. You can even use it to book a cab, train or flight.

### 4) Arrival in Guangzhou

After you have your student visa, please send a message to Dr. Shanshan Feng, program coordinator at Jinan University about your arrival date in Guangzhou either by email or by WeChat. She will try her best to send someone to pick you up from the airport. However, if you want to arrive to the university by yourself, you can come to the university by taking a cab, which costs around 100-200 CNY. You can also take a metro if you want to enjoy the Guangzhou metro. From airport you have to take the line 3 metro to Tiyu Xilu metro station. In Tiyu Xilu you need to change to another line to Gangding metro stop. From Gangding metro, it is a 15-minute walk to the university. The metro costs around 10CNY from airport.

### 5) Registration procedures at Jinan University

After your arrival at the Jinan University, you need to report your arrival to the university by going to the room 101 in the college of life science building. If you have arrived at a later date please go to the room 420 of Administrative building to finish your reporting formalities. It should be noted that registration at the university can only be completed if the tuition is paid. But do not worry, tuition is waived for the double degree students. So, please inform Prof. Shanshan Feng regarding this in advance because special documents are required for waiving the tuition fees. You will be given the student ID card only if the registration is completed.

### 6) Visit to the accommodation office

After the registration procedures are completed at the university, you need to visit the dormitory office which is located at the ground floor of dormitory building 16. Please show them your passport and your admission letter. They will allot you a student dorm and provide you with two letters; one letter you should take and visit the mentioned dormitory building and give the letter to the caretaker. They will note down your details and provide you with your room key. The other letter is required when you visit the police center for the registration. If they give you only one letter please tell them you need a letter for registering with the police.

**Note:** It is not allowed to cook in the dormitory. But many numbers of students still do this. So, if you want to cook, do this at your own risk as if the management finds out about this, they will take all the cooking stuff and you may be fined also. You have to arrive to your dorm room before 12 midnight. If you arrive after this time you need to report to the caretaker of the dormitory to get access to the building as the building will be locked after 12.

### 7) Campus card or student ID card

Once the registration formalities are completed you need to go to the campus office which is located next to the ICBC bank in the campus. Student ID card is used for several purposes, such as access to the labs, student dorm, paying at the canteen and supermarket in the university.

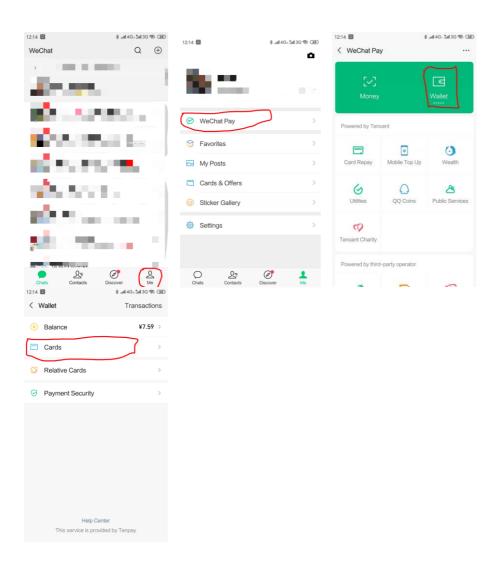
You need to bring your admission letter and one passport size photo to the campus office. If you are not sure about the directions please ask any Chinese student and they will help you without any problem. When you are getting your campus card, please mention your student dormitory building number to them. They will input this in the system and you will have unrestricted access to your dormitory.

**Note:** Student card is only provided when the registration is completed.

### 8) Opening a bank account

For your everyday life in China, having a bank account will make it easy. In order to open a bank account, you need to bring your passport to the bank. There is an ICBC bank in the campus (you can open a bank account in one of the other banks mentioned below which are located outside the university; Bank of China, ICBC, China Construction Bank and Agricultural Bank of China are the big four banks). The bank is located in between the campus office and sunshine supermarket. Please visit the bank and provide them your passport and mention to open a bank account. It is very straight forward process. They will input all your details and give you your debit card on the spot. It is very wise to bring a Chinese student along

with you as the number of people who speak English is very minimum. You have to withdraw money directly from your German bank account and deposit the money in your Chinese bank account at the ATM machines. Once everything is in order you can link your bank account to your WeChat account. So, every time, you need to pay something, open your smartphone, and scan the barcode or provide the barcode to scan. The money will be deducted directly from your bank account. It is very easy right! Please follow the instructions below on how to link your bank account to WeChat.



### 9) Police Registration Formalities

Once you arrive in China, you have 24 hours to report to the police station about your arrival in China. For this you need to bring your passport, passport photos and accommodation confirmation from the university (you will get it from the dormitory office) or from the land lord if you live off-campus. But they are lenient about your reporting time. But it is best to report as early as possible once you have the accommodation confirmation letter. You have to

visit the reporting center which is located at the Longkouxi Road, Regal court building at the 6<sup>th</sup> floor. The people at the center can speak fluent English, so you don't have to worry about the language barrier. If you walk from the university, it will take around 30 minutes by walk or if you want to take a cab it will cost you around 30CNY and will take around 15-20 minutes (depending on the traffic).

### 10) Medical examination

Before applying for residence permit, you need to undertake a medical examination at the International Travel Healthcare Center of Guangdong Exit and Entry Inspection & Quarantine Bureau. The center opens at 8AM from Monday to Friday. You should arrive at the center without taking the breakfast. After your arrival please report to the reception. You will then be provided with an application from. Please fill the form accordingly and take a token and wait for your turn. You need to provide the application form, your passport and its photocopies, 4 passport photos and other university documents if needed (admission letter, accommodation letter and police registration letter). After the documents are checked you will be asked to pay the fees which is around 500CNY. Once the fees are paid, you will be asked to go to the second floor of hospital building which in right in front of the center. A series of tests will be conducted and it will take around 45 - 50 minutes (including waiting time). After all the tests were completed please make sure to ask the nurse if anything needs to be done and if everything is good you will be given a document. please keep the letter safe in order to pick up your medical certificate on the date mentioned. Please note that if you lose this document, you need to start everything again. So, please be very careful. Everyone at the center and in the hospital speaks English, so you don't have to worry. The address for the medical center is No.207 Longkouxilu, Tianhe District, Guangzhou. You can reach the center by walk and it takes about 30 minutes or by cab which takes around 15 to 20 minutes.

**Note:** The crowd will be more in the late morning and it is advised to visit at the earlier time. The earlier you arrive earlier you can leave.

### 11) Applying for residence permit

After you arrive in China you have 30 days in order to apply for residence permit. The procedure for applying residence permit involves couple of steps;

### Step 1:

You need to visit a photo studio that is present in the first floor of sunshine supermarket and tell them that you need the photos for the residence permit. They will provide you with passport photos and a document with a barcode on it. Please keep this document safe.

### Step 2:

You need to go room 127 on the ground floor of administrative building with the following documents; passport, admission letter, JW202 form, photos and document with the barcode, police registration letter, medical certificate and accommodation letter from the dorm office. Please take a token and wait for your turn. They will check all the documents and fill the application form on your behalf and provide you with an appointment.

### Step 3:

With the above-mentioned documents, you need to visit Division of Exit and Entry Administration of Guangzhou Public Security Bureau which is located at No.155 Jiefang South Road, Guangzhou at the appointment time mentioned. The office is located at Haizhu square. You can reach there by taxi from university which takes around 40 minutes and costs you around 60-100 CNY. Once you arrive at the office please go to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and take a token and wait for your turn. They will check all the documents and if everything is in order, they will send you to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor during which they take your documents and your passport and provide you with a document as a proof of your identity and the time when you can collect your passport. On the mentioned date you need to visit the office and collect your passport on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and pay the fees of around 500 CNY.

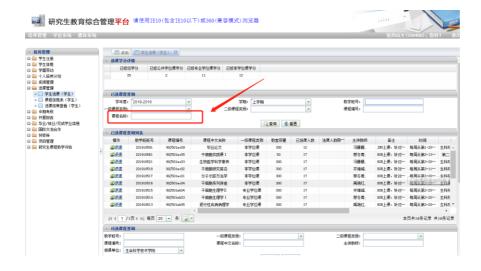




### 12) Registering for courses at Jinan University

Albeit you are a double degree student, you still have to register for the courses at Jinan university separately using their online platform. You should be aware that the website is in in Chinese and you definitely need help from a Chinese student in order to help for registering courses. Normally, the courses will be inputted in the online platform by the faculty for double degree students. But some courses like introduction to traditional Chinese culture, Tissue engineering etc., need to be inputted by yourself. So please visit the following website and login with your credentials. After the login is successful, please follow the instructions mentioned below.





In the above field you need to input the course code and click the add button to add the course to you file.

### 13) Internet access at Jinan University

After your arrival in China you will definitely feel different about accessing to the internet. Most of the websites that are used are blocked in China. Some of the websites which are blocked are Facebook, Google, YouTube and apps such as WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter and many more. However, if you are in the university you are able to freely access to the google, but of course there are some limitations. To overcome this problem, many numbers of international students use VPN to access to the blocked websites. Some of the VPN apps are Express VPN, Nord VPN and you can find some free VPNs as well. But please be aware there are still some restrictions in order to use these. If you live in the student dorm at the university you have two kinds of internet packages to choose; one is 15CNY and one is 30CNY. For 30CNY package you can use internet on 2 devices and for 15CNY you can use internet on one device. You can recharge your internet account using the pay stations that are located at the dormitory buildings or at different canteens. First you need to top-up your student card and use this to pay for everything. The login details for your internet access is your student id number (login ID) and password are last 6 digits of your passport number or last 6 digits of student id number. You have to try both to find out which one works. If you still have problems accessing to the internet you have to visit the internet services office with your student card and passport which is located on the second floor of ICT building which is located next to the college of social science building.

### 14) Paying accommodation and health insurance fees

You have to pay your accommodation fees of 4000CNY and health insurance fees of 600CNY as soon as possible after your room has been allotted to you. You can pay for your accommodation and health insurance by visiting the ICBC bank which is located in the campus. But for this you need a Chinese person's help. The easier way to pay the fees is to visit the following website <a href="https://fee.jnu.edu.cn/">https://fee.jnu.edu.cn/</a> and login with your credentials. You need to either have an Alipay or WeChat account in order to pay for this. If you don't have either have this you can ask your Chinese friend to pay using their account. Once the login is successful follow the instructions as specified below.

1)



2)



3)



4)



5)



6)



# 7)



## 8)

