



The Juleica (Youth Leader Card):

Qualification, legitimisation, recognition

The Youth Leader Card (Juleica) is the nationwide standardised ID card for voluntary youth workers. It serves as legitimisation and proof of qualification for the holder. In addition, the Juleica is also intended to express social recognition for voluntary work.

Qualification

The Juleica vouches for quality: Every Juleica holder has completed a training according to fixed standards. In addition to the nationwide minimum requirements adopted by the Conference of Youth Ministers in 2009, each federal state has supplementary quality standards that regulate, for example, the duration of the training (nationwide at least 30 hours, in some federal states up to 50 hours).

The prescribed contents of the Juleica training include (resolution of the Conference of Youth Ministers 2009):

- Tasks and functions of the youth leader and ability to lead groups,
- Aims, methods and tasks of youth work,
- legal and organisational issues of youth work,
- Psychological and pedagogical basics for working with children and young people,
- endangering factors of adolescence and questions of child and youth protection.
- Furthermore, it is recommended to make current topics of adolescence and youth work such as participation, gender roles and gender mainstreaming, migration background and intercultural competence, international youth exchange and also association-specific topics part of training standards.

In addition, proof of participation in first aid training is required when applying for the Juleica.

For youth work, the Juleica is a high-quality training for volunteers - there is hardly any other area of voluntary work with a comparable qualification instrument for volunteers.

The application for the issuance of the Juleica must be examined and approved by the responsible body (youth association, youth ring or youth initiative). In the course of this examination, the sponsors must also ensure that the applicant has the necessary mental maturity to perform the responsible task well.

Youth leaders must be at least 16 years old.

Parents can therefore let their children take part in the various youth work activities with complete peace of mind if the youth leaders have the Juleica.

In most youth organisations in Germany, the Juleica (or at least participation in a Juleica training course) is a prerequisite for young people to be allowed to lead a youth group or supervise a holiday camp.

The Juleica is valid for a maximum of three years. Afterwards, it can be applied for again if the youth leader can prove that he/she has taken part in a further training course.

Legitimation

The Juleica also legitimises the holder vis-à-vis public bodies, such as information and advice centres, youth facilities, police and consulates. These institutions are called upon to support the voluntary youth leaders in emergency situations and in case of problems and to give them professional advice.

Social recognition & benefits

Youth leaders work on a voluntary basis: as a rule, they do not receive a cent for their work. As a small thank-you for their commitment, the Juleica also comes with some benefits. The benefits vary greatly from region to region. They range from free admission to the swimming pool to discounts on cinema tickets. Nationwide, there are currently about 2,700 benefits that have been registered on juleica.de.

Applying for the Juleica

Since 01.04.2009, the Juleica can be applied for online. The online application can be found at www.juleica.de.

Statistics

Nationwide, there are more than 100,000 volunteers in youth work who have a valid Juleica. Many more youth leaders have completed the training but have not applied for the Juleica. Most youth leaders (over 60%) are between 16 and 25 years old.

These youth leaders make more than 95% of all youth work possible: year after year they supervise more than 50,000 holiday camps, just as many seminars, countless group lessons and other activities. In this way, they make a significant contribution to ensuring that there are varied, non-commercial leisure and educational opportunities for children and young people throughout Germany.

Contact person:

Juleica.de - service point

Landesjugendring Niedersachsen e.V.

Björn Bertram (Youth Work and Youth Policy Officer)

Zeißstr. 13

30519 Hanover

Tel.: 0511/51 94 51 0

Fax: 0511/51 94 51 20

E-mail: info@juleica.de

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