

FISHER GLOBAL CONSULTING: START-UP SAGE CORPS QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR BERLIN

Fisher students have an incredible opportunity to take part in the Sage Corps Start!, a startup consulting program in Berlin. This is a chance to move beyond the classroom and work directly on real projects with startups. Over just two weeks, you'll gain practical business and consulting experience, sharpen skills employers are looking for, and develop a global perspective that will stand out in future internships and job interviews.

And all of this happens in Berlin, one of the world's most dynamic and historically rich cities. From the Berlin Wall and Cold War landmarks to world-class museums and a thriving art scene, every corner offers something to discover. Berlin is also known for being affordable and easy to navigate with excellent public transportation - not to mention its famous street food. Have you tried a döner kebab? Many of our students love them so much they eat one (or two!) every day.

STARTUP PROJECTS

In Berlin, Sage Corps students typically work with early-stage startups. These companies are fast-moving and looking forward to your insight so you have the chance to make a real impact in a short amount of time and cover industries from Technology & Software, Marketing and Communications and Sustainability and Social Impact.

Every startup has unique needs, so the project scopes can vary. However, some “typical” deliverables include:

- Market research reports and competitor analyses
- Marketing campaigns and social media strategy documents
- Pitch decks, financial models, or investor materials
- Data collection, visualization, or process improvement recommendations

By the end of the two weeks, you will have completed a tangible deliverable that the company can use moving forward, while also building teamwork, problem-solving, and cross-cultural communication skills.



TYPICAL WORKWEEK

You will be working on your projects with your team about 40 hours per week. This includes three meetings throughout the program with your project supervisor. You will have one initial meeting, one check-in meeting and then your final presentations. You will be working on your project in a co-working space at your housing.

For your commute time to your three meetings, the times can vary depending on where your company is located, but most students can expect a range of 40–60 minutes each way. Berlin has an excellent and accessible public transportation system, including U-Bahn (subway), S-Bahn (train), trams, and buses. You will only need to do this commute for three days out of your two week program.

HOUSING OVERVIEW

During the program, students will stay at a co-living space about thirty minutes north of the city center. You will be in your own room with an attached bathroom. There is a small kitchenette in the room, but you will also have access to a large communal kitchen, lounge spaces, and co-working space. There is also a cafe on-site.

All units include baseline guaranteed amenities such as:

- A full bathroom
- Towels and linens
- Access to a shared kitchen space with utensils and ovens
- Pay-to-use laundry facilities

This setup is designed to provide a comfortable, community-oriented living space during your time in Berlin. Since it is an apartment style housing you will need to take out your trash, provide your own trash bags, and cleaning supplies will be provided for you to use. The housing does not have air-conditioning, but with Berlin's average temperature around 66°F, it's rarely missed.

COST ESTIMATES

Berlin is considered one of Europe's more affordable capital cities, offering reasonably priced food, housing, and cultural experiences compared to places like London or Paris. With low-cost street food, discounted student tickets for museums, and budget-friendly grocery options, students can enjoy the city without overspending. A travel pass will be included in the cost of the program as well for you to go off and explore!

- Meal (casual): €6–10
- Sit-down meal (mid-range): €15–25 per person
- Grocery staples (bread, milk, eggs, chicken, produce) will be comparable to US prices.
- Laundry (wash + dry): €4 for a washer and €4 for a dryer which includes access to an iron and washing detergent.



PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

What happens after being accepted into the program?

- After you are accepted by Fisher, you will meet with your Program Manager at Sage Corps. We will be your main point of contact moving forward. We will give you access to a platform with courses for you to upskill and prepare for your upcoming project and where you will also find:
 - Housing information
 - Information on how to book your flights (and recommendations to arrive within the airport transfer window)
 - Immigration requirements
 - Information on Berlin, public transport, accessing funds, phone plans, packing lists, etc.
 - Emergency contact details
 - Traveling with medication
 - Health & Safety forms
- After you are assigned your team and project, you will have one meeting with your Startup project supervisor to gain a general overview of the project scope.
- We will also host a pre-departure session prior to your arrival in Berlin where we will go into more details about what to pack, what to do when you land at the airport, etc. and where you can meet other students on the program!