FAQs: German Apprenticeship Connect Program

1. **What is an apprenticeship?**
   An apprenticeship is a structured training program that combines on-the-job training with classroom instruction. It allows individuals to learn a specific trade or profession while earning a wage.

2. **How long does an apprenticeship typically last?**
   The duration of an apprenticeship can vary depending on the trade or profession. It can last anywhere from one (1) to three (3) years.

3. **Will I get paid during my apprenticeship?**
   Yes, apprentices are paid for their work. The wages are typically lower than that of a fully skilled worker but increase as the apprentice develops their skills and gains experience.

4. **What are the qualification requirements for an apprenticeship?**
   - Must be a Namibian Citizen
   - Must be between the ages of 18 and 25
   - Must have a minimum pass in grades 10
   - Is available to study, work and live in Germany

NIPDB
Namibia Investment Promotion & Development Board
Office of the President

GerAppConnect

GOETHE INSTITUT

5. **How do I find apprenticeship opportunities?**
   Available apprenticeship opportunities will be published on the GerAppConnect website at www.gerappconnect.com/application.

6. **What industries offer apprenticeships?**
   Aprenticeships are available in a wide range of industries:

Mechanical and Industrial:
- Industrial Mechanic
- Plant Mechanic
- Process Mechanic
- Tension Mechanic
- Mechatronics Technician

Chemical and Laboratory:
- Chemical Laboratory Technician
- Chemical Technician

Electronics and Electrical:
- Electronics Technician for Industrial Engineering
- Electrical System Fitter
- Electronics Technician
- Automation Technician

IT and Systems:
- IT Specialist for System Integration
- IT Systems & Electronics
- Healthcare:
- Nursing
- Geriatric Nursing

Hospitality and Culinary:
- Hospitality
- Cook

Logistics and Transportation:
- Business Administration (Retail)
- Warehouse Logistics
- Professional Driver

7. **What can I expect in terms of work hours and schedule?**
   Work hours and schedules can vary. Some apprenticeships may have standard 9–5 hours, while others may require evening or weekend work. These hours will depend on the industry and employer.

8. **How is classroom instruction handled during an apprenticeship?**
   Classroom instruction is typically provided by a technical/vocational school, a community college or a training centre affiliated with the apprenticeship program.

9. **Will I receive a certification or license upon completion of my apprenticeship?**
   Yes, many apprenticeship programs lead to a recognised German certification or a journeyman's license, which will allow the apprentice to work as a professional in the field.

10. **What is the pay progression like during an apprenticeship?**
    The pay may increase at specific milestones, such as completing a certain number of hours or passing required exams. The specific pay structure varies by program.

11. **Can I switch trades or industries during my apprenticeship?**
    While it is possible to change apprenticeships, it may require starting over in the new field since the skills and knowledge may not directly transfer. One will have to reapply for another apprenticeship opportunity on the website.

12. **Do apprenticeships lead to job placement after completion?**
    Yes. Many apprenticeships have a high job placement rate after completion. Employers often hire apprentices as full-time employees, given their skills and experience.

13. **Is there financial assistance or support available for apprentices?**
    Yes. Some apprenticeships offer financial assistance, grants or scholarships to help cover the cost of tuition and tools.

14. **What are the advantages of choosing an apprenticeship over traditional education?**
    Apprenticeships offer hands-on experience, the opportunity to earn while you learn and a direct path to a specific career. They can be a practical alternative to traditional education for certain career paths.

15. **How can I apply for an apprenticeship program?**
    You can access the application portal on the application section of the official GerAppConnect website at www.gerappconnect.com/application.