



Working in Germany: the official website for qualified professionals

At a glance: Visa for jobseekers

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to visa obligation General entitlement requirements (Section 5 Act on the Residence - AufenthG): passport, proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion



Step 1

Check the requirements

- Equivalence or comparability of the foreign qualification (academic or vocational qualification)
- Secure financial means (blocked account or declaration of commitment)
- Proof of German language competence: minimum requirement is level B1 (CEFR) (compulsory for people with vocational training)



Step 3

Apply for a visa in the country of residence

- · Bring documents in their entirety
- Fees: EUR 75 (in local currency)

Please consider: Processing time ranges from a few days to several weeks



Step 5

Apply for a residence permit in Germany after successful job search

- Make appointment with foreigners authority
- Apply for residence permit for taking up employment (Sections 18a, 18b para. 1 Act on the Residence - AufenthG); for the EU Blue Card: Section 18b para. 2 Act on the Residence - AufenthG
- Request a list of the required documents from the foreigners authority and prepare them
- Handling fees can be up to EUR 100 (Section 45 Residence Ordinance - AufenthV)

Please consider: The residence permit must be applied for before the entry visa expires.

Step 2



Make an appointment at the German embassy

 Preparation of necessary documents: e.g. passport, proof of recognised academic or vocational qualification, proof of financial means, proof of German language competence, visa application form

Please consider: The German embassies provide information about possible waiting times for appointments and any additional documents that may be required on their websites.

Step 4



Enter Germany

- Issuance of visa for jobseekers
- · Book flight/journey to Germany

Please consider: It is mandatory to have sufficient health insurance coverage prior to entering Germany.

This overview is a simplified representation of the visa procedure. The steps described are solely for the purpose of clarifying the application procedure for residence permits. Further details on the visa application procedure and information on important points of contact can be found at www.make-it-in-germany.com.

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