At a glance: EU Blue Card

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to the visa requirement

General prerequisites for granting residence titles (Section 5 Residence Act – AufenthG): passport, proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion

**Step 1**
Check the requirements
- Concrete job offer in Germany or valid employment contract: minimum gross salary of EUR 58,400 or EUR 45,552 in STEM professions (as of 2023)
- Equivalency or comparability of the foreign degree
- Licence to practice one’s profession, if need be

*Please note that as a rule, approval of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) will be obtained during the visa procedure (exception: EU Blue Card holders with a minimum annual gross salary of EUR 58,400).*

**Step 2**
Request an appointment at the German embassy
- Prepare the required documents, i.e., employment contract, passport, proof of the recognised degree, visa application form

*Please note that the German embassies will provide information on any waiting periods when requesting an appointment and additional documents that may be required on their respective websites.*

**Step 3**
Apply for a visa in the country of residence
- Bring all documents
- Fee: EUR 75 (in local currency)

*Please note that processing times may vary between a few days and several weeks.*

**Step 4**
Enter Germany
- Issuance of the entry visa to practice a qualified profession
- Book plane ticket/journey to Germany

*Please note that health insurance must be taken out prior to entering Germany.*

**Step 5**
Apply for a residence permit in Germany
- Make an appointment at the competent Foreigners’ Authority
- Request a list of the required documents at the Foreigners’ Authority and prepare them
- Apply for the EU Blue Card (Section 18 (2) Residence Act – AufenthG)
- Fees can amount up to EUR 100 (Section 45 et seq. Residence Ordinance – AufenthV)

*Please consider that the EU Blue Card must be applied for before the entry visa expires.*