At a glance: Visa for the purpose of language acquisition

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
- Admission to an intensive German course in Germany (at least 18 hours/week; integration courses excluded)
- Securing the financing of livelihood in Germany

Please consider: Requirements may vary due to intergovernmental agreements and special arrangements.

**Step 2**
Make an appointment at the German embassy
- Preparation of necessary documents: e.g. visa application, passport, registration confirmation for German course, proof of financial means, proof of payment for language course in Germany

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 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 4**
Enter Germany
- Issuance of visa for the purpose of language acquisition
- Book flight/journey to Germany

Please consider: Sufficient health insurance cover mandatory upon arrival in Germany.

**Step 5**
Apply for a residence permit in Germany
- Make appointment with foreigners authority
- Apply for residence permit for the purpose of language acquisition (Section 16f 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.

*Please consider: Additional documents may be required depending on the country of origin and individual circumstances.

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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