

At a Glance: Visa for Seeking a Place in University

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

CHECK THE REQUIREMENTS

Step

1

- Foreign school-leaving certificate permitting access to university.
- Language requirement of the desired study programme (if the language of the study programme is German, generally level B2 [CEFR]).
- Secure financial means (scholarship, blocked account with at least **€1,091** per month (as of 2026) or Declaration of Commitment).

SUBMIT THE DIGITAL VISA APPLICATION

- Create a user account on the [Consular Services Portal](#) and apply for your visa online.
 - Prepare the required documents: e.g. passport, proof of school leaving certificate, proof of financial means, proof of German language skills.
- i Please consider:** if online visa applications are not yet available in your country, please contact the [competent German mission abroad](#) for further information on the visa procedure.

Step

2

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT THE GERMAN EMBASSY

Step

3

- Bring the original documents in their entirety.
 - Pay the visa fees: €75 (in local currency).
- i Please consider:** there may be waiting times when requesting an appointment. Processing times may strongly vary depending on the mission abroad and processing workload. Please refer to the competent embassy for further information.

ENTER GERMANY

- Issuance of the entry visa for seeking a place in university.
 - Book flight / plan journey to Germany.
- i Please consider:** in order for an entry visa to be issued, proof of valid health insurance coverage must be presented. After entering Germany, new health insurance must be taken out.

Step

4

APPLY FOR A RESIDENCE PERMIT IN GERMANY AFTER FINDING A PLACE IN UNIVERSITY

Step

5

- [Register your home address in Germany at the Residents' Registration Office.](#)
 - Book an appointment at the competent foreigners authority.
 - Ask the foreigners authority for a list of the required documents and start the preparation.
 - Apply for the residence permit for studying (Section 16b of the Residence Act [AufenthG]).
 - Fees may add up to €100 (Sections 45 ff. of the Residence Ordinance [AufenthV]).
- i Please consider:** the application for the residence permit must be submitted before the entry visa expires.

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.