At a glance: Work visa for qualified professionals

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 requirements

- Job offer in Germany or valid employment contract
- Equivalence or comparability of the foreign qualification (academic or vocational qualification)
- If applicable: license to exercise profession
- For EU Blue Card holders: minimum gross annual salary of EUR 55,200 or EUR 43,056 for MINT professions (year 2020)
- Individuals over 45 years of age without EU Blue Card: check current minimum salaries on „Make it in Germany“ or provide proof of adequate pension provision

Please consider: As a rule, the approval of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) is obtained as part of the visa procedure (exception: EU Blue Card holders with minimum gross annual salary of EUR 55,200).

### Step 2: Make an appointment at the German embassy

- Preparation of necessary documents: e.g. employment contract, passport, proof of recognised academic or vocational qualification, 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 3: Apply for visa in 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 work visa for qualified professionals
- Book flight/journey to Germany

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

### Step 5: Apply for residence permit

- Make appointment with foreigners authority
- Apply for residence permit for the purpose of taking up employment (Sections 18a, 18b para. 1 Act on the Residence - AufenthG), (holder of an 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 et seq. Residence Ordinance - AufenthV)

Please consider: Residence permit must be applied for before the expiry of the entry visa.

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](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com).

Date: March 2020

© Make it Germany; Federal Ministry of Economics & Energy