

General rules on visa requirements



Legal and administrative regulations apply to the recruitment of international qualified professionals. One important point which you need to take into account as an employer recruiting international qualified professionals concerns the visa requirements. Whether or not your future foreign employee needs a visa to enter and work in Germany depends on their country of origin.

Nationals of EU/EFTA states

Anyone from EU member states and the states known as EFTA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) is entitled to enter Germany and work here without a visa.

Nationals of non-EU/EFTA states

People from non-EU and non-EFTA states, referred to as Third country, generally need a visa or Residence permit to enter and take up employment in Germany.

Nationals of Australia, Israel, Japan, Canada, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and the USA are excepted. They may enter Germany without a visa and apply for a Residence permit once in the country.

Information on the web

Federal Employment Agency (BA)

Information on admission to the labour market