

## National Visa for skilled workers seeking employment

(Section 20 Residence Act)

### General Information

The visa for seeking employment enables interested foreign skilled workers with vocational training or those holding a university degree recognized in Germany to come to Germany for a maximum of six months to find a job that their qualification enables them to perform. If you find an employer within half a year, you do not need to leave again but can apply for the obligatory residence permit at the respective Immigration Office. During your stay to seek employment, you are not allowed to take up gainful employment with the exception of work on a trial basis for up to 10 hours per week.

You can find out more about living and working in Germany here:

<https://www.make-it-in-germany.de>

### Visa application checklist

**Please use the following checklist to make sure that your documents are complete.**

**Please submit the documents listed below in according order.**

**Please do not staple any documents.**

**Incomplete documentation may result in the rejection of your application.**

Original required	Copy required	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fully completed and signed <a href="#">application</a> and <a href="#">signed declaration</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	One (1) recent biometric passport photo ( <a href="#">see specimen photos</a> )
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Signed passport meeting the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Its validity must exceed the duration of the intended stay in Germany by at least 3 months</li> <li>b. It must contain at least 2 blank pages</li> <li>c. It must have been issued (not extended!) within the past 10 years</li> </ol>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Residence permit in the U.S., e.g. Visa, Green Card, U.S. passport
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proof of address, e.g. valid driver's license, utility bill, lease
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Qualification  → Vocational training certificate or  → German university degree or  → Foreign university degree fulfilling information below (recognition of the qualification)  If your university degree does not state the courses you studied, please also submit your transcript.

→ more information on following page(s)

Original required	Copy required	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Proof of recognition of the qualification</p> <p>In the case of skilled workers with vocational training:</p> <p>→ Written notification of the agency in Germany responsible for recognition of vocational training</p> <p>In the case of skilled workers holding a university degree:</p> <p>→ Printout from the <a href="#">anabin database</a> on the qualification and on the institution or if the qualification is not assessed as “entspricht” (comparable) or “gleichwertig” (equivalent) and/or the institution is not classified as “H+”:</p> <p>→ Statement of Comparability by the <a href="#">Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB)</a> or in the case of regulated professions in which permission is required to exercise the profession, for example, doctors, engineers (complete list is available from the <a href="#">Federal Employment Agency</a> or the <a href="#">European Commission</a>):</p> <p>→ Permission to exercise a profession issued by the authority responsible for recognising qualifications or assurance of permission to exercise a profession (e.g. for medical professions: decision of the licensing authority in the federal territory, i.e. assurance of permission to exercise a profession and/or issuing of medical licence)</p> <p>More information on recognition: <a href="http://www.anererkennung-in-deutschland.de">www.anererkennung-in-deutschland.de</a></p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>In the case of skilled workers with recognized vocational training:</p> <p>→ Proof of German language skills at B1 level in the form of a recognized language diploma</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Curriculum vitae in tabular form indicating professional experience</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Letter of motivation for seeking employment</p> <p>It must be recognizable what fields of work and jobs interests you, where you want to apply and what accommodation you will use</p>

→ more information on following page(s)

Original required	Copy required	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of adequate financial means</b></p> <p>To stay in Germany the applicant must have at their disposal at least 1,027.00 EUR per month. Proof must be submitted with the application of financial means for at least 6 months and a total amount of 6,162.00 EUR (6 months x 1,027.00 EUR).</p> <p>In the case of financing in the form of a blocked account: Open the blocked account before you apply for a visa. When applying for a visa, only the official confirmation of the opening of the account including information on the amount paid in and the amount available per month will be accepted. A confirmation, which does not include this information, is not sufficient.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of adequate health insurance coverage</b></p> <p>Health insurance coverage is required at the time of entry into the Schengen area. Usually statutory health insurance coverage provided by the university or future employer only goes into effect when you take up residency and enter into employment/begin with your studies.</p> <p>If you enter before, an additional private (travel) health insurance in line with <a href="#">EU standards</a> (covering the entire Schengen area, minimum coverage of 30,000 EUR) must be purchased for the duration of time until you begin your employment/your studies and are covered through the statutory health insurance. Please ensure that your travel health insurance does not exclude protection if a long term or permanent stay is planned.</p>

### Visa application fees

**Processing fee:**

Payable in cash only.

Conversion into USD is made based on the exchange rate at the time of the application.

### Completeness of application

The application is complete:

Yes  No, the documents/information indicated above are lacking.

**Declaration when application is not complete:**

I have been informed that my application is not complete. I am aware that submitting an incomplete application can lead to the application being rejected.

I would like to submit my application nevertheless.

\_\_\_\_\_ place, date, signature

This information sheet has been prepared with utmost care. It is intended to provide a point of reference to our clients but may not be fully applicable to every individual case. If you have further, more specific questions which are not answered by the information contained here nor on our website [www.germany.info/visa](http://www.germany.info/visa), please contact the German Embassy/Consulate General serving your U.S. home state.