

## Visa for IT specialists with professional experience (Section 19c para 2 Residence Act)

### General information

As an *IT specialist with significant professional experience* (at least 3 years professional experience in the last 7 years), you can be issued with a residence permit to engage in skilled employment in jobs in the field of information and communications technology even without completing a university degree or vocational qualification if the gross annual wage is at least 51,120 €. As a rule, proof of German language skills at B1 level are required but exceptions can be made in duly substantiated cases.

You can find out more about living and working in Germany at [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com)

Use the following checklist to make sure your application documents are complete. Please make sure to prepare **two complete sets** of the following documents **collated in the order listed below** and bring them to your appointment. Incomplete documentation may result in the rejection of your application.

### Visa application checklist

The following documents are to be submitted in full with every application.

- Two (2) fully completed and signed [applications](#) including [declarations](#) pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
  - Two (2) recent biometric passport photos ([see specimen photos](#))
  - Valid and personally signed passport – issued within the last 10 years, with at least 2 blank (visa) pages
  - Two (2) uncertified copies of the data page of your valid passport
  - Residence permit in the U.S., e.g. Visa, Green Card, U.S. passport
  - Proof of address, e.g. valid driver's license, utility bill, lease
  - Completed form signed by your employer: [Declaration of employment](#) as an IT specialist (original with two (2) copies)
- The necessary minimum wage is set by the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community once a year. For 2021, the minimum gross wage is 4260 € monthly or 51,120 € per annum.
- Proof of German language skills (B1, original and two (2) copies) – exceptions can be made
  - Proof of professional experience in the IT sphere (at least three years in the last seven years) (original and two (2) copies)
  - Proof of relevant theoretical knowledge (training courses or examinations) (original and two (2) copies)
  - Proof of housing in Germany incl. full address (e.g. rental agreement, hotel reservation or invitation letter in case of private accommodation with name, full address and passport copy of the inviting person)



Last updated: January 2021

Proof of adequate health insurance cover

Health insurance coverage is required at the time of entry into Germany. 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.

If you enter before, an additional private (travel) health insurance in line with [EU standards](#) (covering the entire Schengen area, minimum coverage of 30,000 €) 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

**Fee**

- [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 information/documents indicated above are lacking.

**Declaration when applications are 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.