

National Visa for doctorate students

General Information

Foreign doctorate students who have been accepted at a German university for a doctorate or a doctorate program on a full-time basis can apply for a visa for doctorate students in Germany. If the doctorate is being completed as part of a contract of employment or a research agreement with a German university or research institute, you can apply for a visa for a research stay.

→ During your studies, you can take up student jobs to help cover your expenses.

→ Upon completing your studies, you will have the opportunity to look for a job.

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 application including declaration pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	One (1) recent biometric passport photo (see specimen photos)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Signed passport meeting the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Its validity must exceed the duration of the intended stay in Germany by at least 3 months b. It must contain at least 2 blank pages c. It must have been issued (not extended!) within the past 10 years
<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Notification of admittance to study for a doctorate or for a doctorate program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → German university degree or → Foreign university degree fulfilling information below (recognition of the qualification) <p>If your university degree does not state the courses you studied, please also submit your transcript.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proof of recognition of the qualification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Printout from the anabin database 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+" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Statement of Comparability by the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) or

→ 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 regulated professions in which permission is required to exercise the profession, for example, doctors, engineers; complete list is available from the Federal Employment Agency or the European Commission)</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: www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>→ Statement of Comparability by the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) or</p> <p>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 Federal Employment Agency or the European Commission)</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: www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Curriculum vitae
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter of motivation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Proof of adequate financial means</p> <p>To stay in Germany the applicant must have at their disposal at least 934.00 EUR per month. Proof of these financial means can be provided through the admission agreement/relevant contract. Proof must be submitted with the application of financial means for at least one year and a total amount of 11,208.00 EUR (12 months x 934.00 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>

→ more information on following page(s)

Original required	Copy required	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Proof of adequate health insurance coverage</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 EU standards (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
<p><u>Processing fee:</u></p> <p>Payable in cash only.</p> <p>Conversion into USD is made based on the exchange rate at the time of the application.</p>

Completeness of application
<p>The application is complete:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, the documents/information indicated above are lacking.</p>
<p>Declaration when application is not complete:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>I would like to submit my application nevertheless.</p> <p>_____ place, date, signature</p>
<p>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, please contact the German Embassy/Consulate General serving your U.S. home state.</p>