

National Visa for Employment
skilled workers with vocational training qualification
 [Section 18a Residence Act]

General Information

As a skilled worker with vocational training qualification, you can be issued a residence permit to engage in skilled employment.

Please note that some university degrees from foreign universities are classified as vocational training qualifications in Germany.

You can find out more about living and working in Germany at www.make-it-in-germany.com

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 and signed declaration
<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: 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"/>	Completed form signed by your employer: Declaration of employment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Notification of recognition of foreign vocational training: → Written notification of the agency responsible for recognition of vocations in Germany or in the case of regulated professions in which permission is required to exercise the profession, for example, in the care sector; complete list is available from the Federal Employment Agency or the European Commission → Permission to exercise a profession issued by the authority responsible for recognizing qualifications or assurance of permission to exercise a profession (for example, for medical professions) More information on recognition: www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de

→ more information on following page(s)

Original required	Copy required	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proof of qualification, for example, diplomas, certificates, work log with translation and proof of completion
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For applicants aged 45 and above: Proof of adequate provision for old age, only if salary does not amount to at least 55% of the annual contribution assessment ceiling for the general pension insurance scheme - 2026: 55,770.00 EUR gross/per annum
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proof of adequate health insurance coverage 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. 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.

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, please contact the German Embassy/Consulate General serving your U.S. home state.