



## Work Visa

### General information:

All persons who wish to seek gainful employment in Germany are required to obtain a residence permit in the form of a visa. A work permit will be included in the visa issued for this purpose. You need to have a serious job offer and contract in order to apply for a work visa.

Once all required documents have been submitted to the Embassy/Consulate General, the application and supporting documents will be forwarded to the appropriate German authorities at the applicant's intended place of residence and employment during his/her stay in Germany. The processing can take up to 12 weeks. As soon as the application has been approved by the German authorities, the Embassy/Consulate will issue a national visa for the first 6 months of the intended stay. A final residence permit for a longer period/the whole duration of the stay will be issued upon arrival in Germany by the Aliens' Authority.

Although the work visa is called a "national visa", please note that it does also entitle its holder to enter other Schengen countries for a stay of up to 90 days for tourism purposes.

This visa category also applies to scientists who do not hold a research agreement according to Art. 20 of the German Residence Act (Aufnahmevereinbarung) and are therefore not considered a "researcher" according to German residence law. Please see information sheet "Research Visa" for further information.

### Required documents:

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Valid passport</b> – issued within the past 10 years, providing a minimum of 2 blank pages.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Application form</a> – duly and fully completed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Declaration of accuracy of information</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Passport sized photos</b> – no older than three months, must meet <a href="#">biometric standards</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copies of the <b>passport's data page</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Residence permit in the U.S.</b> , e.g. Visa, Green Card, US passport
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Proof of address</b> , e.g. valid driver's license, utility bill, lease
<input type="checkbox"/>	- Copy of your <b>employment contract</b> or letter of intent from your future employer in Germany, including details about <b>salary</b> and <b>working hours</b> as well as <b>full address</b> of the employer <b>OR</b> - For <b>self-employment</b> : Copy of all information regarding the company and financing (e.g. location offer, business plan, credit and financial information, business contacts in Germany)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Detailed job description</b> from your future employer



<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of qualification or university degree, original</b> and copy, AND if applicable: official translation into German or English. <i>Please note:</i> German law requires the foreign university degree to be fully recognized in Germany for the following employment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Skilled work/qualified employment for graduates of foreign universities (§ 18 IV German Residence Act)</li><li>- Blue Card (§ 19a German Residence Act)*</li><li>- Jobseeker (§ 18c German Residence Act)</li></ul> <p>If this applies to your case, proof that your foreign university degree is recognized in Germany must be submitted along with your visa application. Please follow the instructions on the <a href="#">ANABIN website</a> in order to print out this confirmation. If your degree certificate does not state your subject, additional documents such as transcripts are required.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of housing in Germany</b> 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)</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Proof of <b>travel health insurance</b> for the first 90 days of your stay with a minimum coverage of 30.000 EUR (see <a href="#">here</a> for detailed requirements).</p>

The German missions in the US reserve the right to ask for **additional documents** at any time during the processing of your application whenever deemed appropriate. Presenting the aforementioned documents does not guarantee that a visa will be granted.

\*Blue Card (§ 19a German Residence Act)

The EU Blue Card allows third-country nationals with a recognized university degree and a gross salary of 53,600 EUR or more (41,808 EUR for scientists, mathematicians, medical doctors and IT specialists) to take up employment in Germany commensurate with their qualifications. The Embassy/Consulate General will determine based on your application and documentation presented if you qualify for the EU Blue Card. General information is available from the [Federal Office for Migration and Refugees website](#) and from the portal for qualified professionals "[Make it in Germany](#)".

Fees:

The visa fee amounts to 75 EUR and is payable in USD in cash only. Conversion into USD is made based on the exchange rate at the time of application.

Additional information:

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

*The German missions in the U.S. cannot accept any responsibility for inaccuracies contained in this information sheet.*