

Make it in Germany

Working in Germany: the official website for qualified professionals

## The way into the German labour market

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to visa obligation

Purpose of the journey	Admission requirements  General requirements: Passport + Proof of financial means + No existing reason for expulsion	Application process abroad  Clarification of intergovernmental agreements and special agreements	Application process in Germany	Application for residence permit after entering the country  The residence permit corresponds to the purpose of entry stated in the visa
Work	<ul> <li>Job offer in Germany / Employment contract</li> <li>Recognised or comparable qualification</li> <li>Approval for employment by the Federal Employment Agency (BA) required</li> <li>If applicable: professional licence</li> <li>Take minimum salary limit (e.g. persons over 45 years: EUR 45,540 in 2020) into account</li> </ul>			Sections 18 para. 2, 18a, 18b para. 1 Act on the Residence - AufenthG or section  19c Act on the Residence - AufenthG  Residence permit for taking up qualified employment
Work (EU Blue Card)	<ul> <li>Job offer in Germany / employment contract</li> <li>Recognised or comparable academic degree</li> <li>If applicable: professional licence</li> <li>minimum salary (year 2020) of at least 55 200 € or 43 056 € for STEM professions</li> <li>Approval for employment by the Federal Employment Agency (BA) required, if applicable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Appointment request is free of charge</li> <li>The German embassies provide information about possible waiting times for appointments on their websites.</li> </ul>	It is mandatory to have sufficient health insurance coverage prior to entering Germany.	Section 18b para. 2 Act of the Residence - AufenthG Eu Blue Card  Section 16d Act on the Residence -
Recognition of qualification	<ul> <li>Recognition certificate</li> <li>German language skills level A2 (CEFR)</li> <li>Proof of enrolment in a qualifying training programme</li> <li>Proof of financial means</li> </ul>			AufenthG Residence permit for the purpose of recognition of foreign professional qualifications
Job search	<ul> <li>Equivalence or comparability of the foreign qualification (academic or vocational qualification)</li> <li>Proof of financial means</li> <li>German language skills: level B2 (CEFR); only for people with vocational qualifications</li> </ul>	Make an appointment at the German embassy  Apply for a visa	Enter Apply for a residence permit	Section 20 para. 1 & 2 Act on the Residence - AufenthG After successful job search Section 18 para. 2, 18a Act on the Residence - AufenthG Residence permit for taking up qualified employment
Research	<ul> <li>Hosting contract or agreement with a research organization</li> <li>If required, other proof of financial support         (e.g. research funds)</li> </ul>	Application form is free of charge	Request the list of the required documents	Section 18d Act on the Residence - AufenthG Residence permit for the
Self-employment –	<ul> <li>Commercial, craft or industrial activity</li> <li>Proof of economic interest in Germany</li> <li>Positive impact of the business project on the German economy</li> <li>Secure financial means (equity capital or loan commitment)</li> <li>Individuals over 45 years of age: proof of adequate pension provision</li> <li>Self-employed activity</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>fees: EUR 75</li> <li>Processing time varies between a few days and several months</li> <li>In case of rejection: re-application possible</li> </ul>	from the foreigners authority  General requirements: Passport + Proof of financial means + No existing reason for expulsion  The amount of the fee varies according to the region, purpose and duration of stay	Section 21 Act on the Residence - AufenthG Residence permit for the exercise of a self-employed or freelance activity
	<ul> <li>Professional licence</li> <li>Proof of financial capability</li> <li>Means to support yourself</li> <li>Individuals over 45 years of age: proof of adequate pension provision</li> <li>Spouse, children or parents with valid residence permit in Germany</li> </ul>		• The fee can be up to EUR 100	Section 29 Act on the Residence - AufenthG  Residence permit for the purpose of family reunification of foreigners  Section 30 Act on the Residence - AufenthG
Family reunification	German skills of spouse at level A1 (CEFR) (does not apply to: spouses and children of EU Blue Card holders, spouses of residence permit-holders under Sections 18c para. 3 to 19c and Section 21 Act on the Residence - AufenthG)			Immigration of spouses  Section 32 Act on the Residence -  AufenthG  Immigration of children