Make it in Germany

Working in Germany: the official website for qualified professionals

At a glance: Work visa for qualified professionals

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to the visa requirement General prerequisites for granting residence titles (Section 5 Residence Act – AufenthG): passport, proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion

Check the requirements

- · Concrete job offer in Germany or valid employment contract
- Pay attention to the minimum salary for people over the age of 45: annual gross salary of at least EUR 48,180 (as of 2023)

Step 1

- or provide proof of adequate provision for retirementEquivalency or comparability of the foreign degree or
- vocational qualification • Licence to practice one's profession, if need be

Please note that as a rule, approval of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) will be obtained during the visa procedure.

Step 3

Apply for a visa in the country of residence

- Bring all documents
- Fee: EUR 75 (in local currency)

Please note that processing times may vary between a few days and several weeks.

Step 5

Apply for a residence permit in Germany

- · Make an appointment at the competent Foreigners' Authority
- Request a list of the required documents at the Foreigners' Authority and prepare them
- Apply for the residence permit to perform skilled work (Sections 18a, 18b (1) Residence Act AufenthG)
- Fees can amount up to EUR 100 (Section 45 et seq. Residence Ordinance AufenthV)

Please consider that the residence permit must be applied for before the entry visa expires.

Step 2



Prepare the required documents, i. a. employment contract, passport proof of the recognised degree or vocational quali-

passport, proof of the recognised degree or vocational qualification, visa application form

Please note that the German embassies will provide information on any waiting periods when requesting an appointment and additional documents that may be required on their respective websites.

Step 4

Enter Germany

Issuance of the entry visa to practice a qualified profession
Book plane ticket/journey to Germany

Please note that health insurance must be taken out prior to entering Germany.

This overview is a simplified representation of the visa procedure. The steps described are solely for the purpose of clarifying the application procedure for residence permits. Further details on the visa application procedure and information on important points of contact can be found at www.make-it-in-germany.com.

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