

At a Glance: Visa for Seeking a Vocational Training Place

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to visa obligation.
General entitlement requirements (Section 5 of the Residence Act [AufenthG]): passport,
proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion.

CHECK THE REQUIREMENTS

Step

1

- Foreign school-leaving certificate permitting access to higher education in Germany or the country of origin or school-leaving certificate of a German school abroad.
- Proof of German language skills: at least level B1 (CEFR).
- Secure financial means (scholarship, blocked account with at least €1,091 per month (as of 2025) or Declaration of Commitment).
- Age limit: 35 years of age.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT THE GERMAN EMBASSY

Step

2

- Prepare the required documents: e.g. passport, proof of school-leaving certificate, proof of financial means, proof of German language skills, visa application form.

i Please consider: on their websites, the German embassies and consulates provide information about possible waiting times for appointments and any additional documents that may be required.

APPLY FOR A VISA IN THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Step

3

- Bring documents in their entirety.
 - Fees: €75 (in local currency).
- i** Please consider: processing times may strongly vary depending on the mission abroad and processing workload. Please find further information on the website of the competent embassy.

ENTER GERMANY

Step

4

- Issuance of the entry visa for seeking a training place.
- Book flight / plan journey to Germany.

i Please consider: in order for an entry visa to be issued, proof of valid health insurance coverage must be presented. After entering Germany, new health insurance must be taken out.

APPLY FOR RESIDENCE PERMIT IN GERMANY AFTER SUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR A VOCATIONAL TRAINING PLACE

Step

5

- Register your home address in Germany at the Residents' Registration Office.
- Book an appointment at the competent foreigners authority.
- Ask the foreigners authority for a list of the required documents and start the preparation.
- Apply for residence permit for the purpose of vocational training (Section 16a of the Residence Act [AufenthG]).
- Fees may add up to €100 (Sections 45 ff. of the Residence Ordinance [AufenthV]).

i Please consider: the application for the residence permit must be submitted before the entry visa expires.

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.