

GERMANY

Residence permit and citizenship options



Germany

Brief information

Germany is a prosperous country with rich cultural heritage, unique natural attractions and a constant influx of tourists.

Germany is one of the EU's economic leaders.

357,600 SQ.M

Area

63rd in the world

84,600,000

Population

19th in the world

5.5 TN USD

GDP based on PPP

5th in the world

Largest cities

Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Cologne, Frankfurt am Main, Düsseldorf, Stuttgart, Dortmund, Essen, Leipzig

Capital - Berlin

Time zone - UTC+2

Benefits of a German residence permit



Residence permit for the entire family

Residence permit for the main applicant, their spouse and children under 18 years



Visa-free Schengen access

Visa-free travel within the Schengen area



Free education

Education of high quality in prestigious universities and colleges in Germany



European healthcare system

Germany is renowned for its well-developed, high-quality healthcare system



Available German residence permit options



**Work
Visa**

15,000 EURO

Legal support

1 to 2 MONTHS

Processing period

UP TO 4 YEARS

Validity period



**Opportunity Card
(Chancenkarte)**

15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 to 6 MONTHS

Processing period

1 YEAR

Validity period



**Blue
Card**

15,000 EURO

Legal support

1 MONTH

Processing period

1 YEAR

Validity period



**Freelance
Visa**

15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 - 4 MONTHS

Processing period

1 YEAR

Validity period

German residence permit

WORK VISA

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel within the Schengen zone
- Residence permit for the duration of a contract, but for a maximum of 4 years

Program participants

- Spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 y.o.

Requirements for obtaining a residence permit

- Diploma of secondary or higher education
- At least 2 years of professional work experience in the last 5 years
- Job offer in a non-regulated profession with a salary above the minimum threshold
- Work permit for Germany



FROM **15,000** EURO

Legal support

1 TO 2 MONTHS

Processing period

Citizenship after 5 years of permanent residence



German residence permit

INTERMARK
Global

WORK VISA

Work visa

This type of residence permit grants the right to work to professionals with a higher or secondary professional education.

For your visa application, you shall have your qualifications evaluated, which can be done online at the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB).

Job offer

It is necessary to submit a job offer **in a non-regulated profession** in Germany.

Non-regulated professions are professions that are not legally protected. It is necessary to check the website of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) for information about your profession to see if you are eligible for the program.



German residence permit

WORK VISA

Proof of employment for visa

You can provide the employment contract with your employer in Germany. In addition, a Declaration of Employment from your employer is usually required during the visa process.

40,770 EURO

Minimum annual salary

49,830 EURO

Minimum annual salary for applicants over 45

Residence permit validity period

The residence permit is issued for the duration of the contract with your employer and for a maximum period of 4 years, with the possibility of extension.



German residence permit

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WORK VISA



Education requirements

The qualification must correspond to at least level 6 of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)



Professional experience

It is necessary to provide proof of professional experience of at least 2 years in the last 5 years in a relevant field



Employment contract

It is necessary to provide an employment contract for at least 6 months with a minimum salary specified in it



Work permit

It is necessary to obtain a permit from the Employment Agency that will assess whether the terms of employment comply with the law and whether you have sufficient funds to live in the country

German residence permit

OPPORTUNITY CARD (CHANCENKARTE)

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel within the Schengen area
- Residence permit for 12 months for job search

Program participants

- Spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 years old

Requirements for obtaining a residence permit

- University diploma
- Minimum of 2 years of work experience in a relevant field
- Minimum of 12,000 euro in the bank account
- Approval under the points system



FROM 15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 TO 6 MONTHS

Processing period

Citizenship after 5 years of permanent residence



German residence permit

OPPORTUNITY CARD (CHANCENKARTE)

NEW PROGRAM

A new program from the Federal government, launched in spring 2024.

Program goals

Making it easier for specialists from non-EU countries to enter the German labor market.

The Opportunity Card allows you to come to Germany to search for a job or participate in re-training programs. While looking for a job, you will be able to take trial jobs with various employers in order to obtain employment as per applicant's qualification, apprenticeship or participate in qualification programs.

Program benefits

No employment contract or job offer is needed to obtain an Opportunity Card.

German residence permit

OPPORTUNITY CARD (CHANCENKARTE)

During job search

Part-time employment of up to 20 hours a week

Possibility to take a two-week trial job





German residence permit

OPPORTUNITY CARD (CHANCENKARTE)

Scoring points for participation in the program

AT LEAST **6** OUT OF **12** POINTS

Criteria

- Professional qualification
- Work experience
- German language proficiency
- Under 35 years of age
- Previous stay in Germany
- At least 12,000 euro in a bank account
- Tenancy agreement or real estate in Germany

German residence permit

BLUE CARD

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel within the Schengen area
- Residence permit for the duration of the contract, with a maximum of 4 years

Program participants

- Spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 years

Requirements for obtaining a residence permit

- University diploma (except for IT specialists)
- Employment contract with a company in Germany
- Minimum gross annual salary:
 - At least 4,025 euro per month
 - At least 3,646 euro per month for healthcare and IT professionals



FROM 15,000 EURO

Legal support

1 MONTH

Processing period

Citizenship after 5 years of permanent residence



German residence permit

BLUE CARD

BEST TERMS

A program for skilled professionals available in 25 EU countries. It is a special residence permit for foreign researchers and professionals in a number of fields seeking jobs in their field in Germany.

One of the most desired options for relocation to Germany with many benefits. For instance, the Blue Card provides an opportunity **to obtain permanent residency on a fast-track basis**.

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German residence permit

BLUE CARD



November 18, 2023

Changes to the Skilled Immigration Act which simplify obtaining a Blue Card



Lower salary threshold

At least 4,025 euro (as of 2025) for professionals with a university degree



Attracting young professionals

Those who graduated less than 3 years ago
Salary of at least 3,646 euro per month



Expanding the list of professions

Project managers in various industries, dentists, pharmacists, veterinarians, school teachers



Bonus for IT specialists

No relevant qualification required, must have at least 3 years of relevant work experience in the last 7 years

German residence permit. Requirements

BLUE CARD



Specialists with a university degree

University degree recognized in Germany

Employment contract in Germany

43,860 EURO | YEAR

Minimum gross salary (for healthcare professionals)

48,300 EURO | YEAR

Minimum gross salary (everyone else)



Skilled workers with higher education

Diploma of higher education equivalent to a university degree

Employment contract in Germany

43,860 EURO | YEAR

Minimum gross salary (for healthcare professionals)

48,300 EURO | YEAR

Minimum gross salary (everyone else)



IT specialists

At least 3 years of relevant work experience in the last 7 years

Employment contract in the IT industry in Germany

43,800 EURO | YEAR

Minimum gross salary

German residence permit

FREELANCE VISA

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel within the Schengen area
- Residence permit for 1 to 3 years

Program participants

- Spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 years

Requirements for obtaining a residence permit

- University diploma
- Proof of work experience
- Letters of commitment from German and international companies in Germany, valid contracts with German companies
- At least 11,840 euro in a bank account (for the main applicant)



FROM 15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 TO 6 MONTHS

Processing period

Citizenship after 5 years of permanent residence



German residence permit

FREELANCE VISA

Visa for individuals in liberal professions

In Germany, a freelancer is a person who **has practiced** their profession **independently for more than 3 months**. Such activity is different from sole entrepreneurship, partnership and contractual employment.

This type of residence permit is issued to persons whose profession or business will have a positive impact on the culture and/or economy of the country.

Eligible professions

Creative professions: artists, architects, designers, musicians, film directors, as well as independent specialists or consultants: engineers, accountants, doctors, foreign language teachers, translators, lawyers, business coaches, psychologists, etc.

German residence permit

FREELANCE VISA

Obtaining period: up to 6 months depending on the application country

Work: profession and experience suitable for Freiberufler

Savings: 11,840 euro per adult and 5,920 euro per child

Experience: portfolio and letters of recommendation

Contract: only German clients

Education: university diploma



German residence permit

FREELANCE VISA

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Validity period



Issued for 1 to 3 years depending on the business plan and financial stability

Permanent residency after 3 years



Opportunity to apply for permanent residency after 3 years of successful freelance activity and gaining German language proficiency



Moving with the entire family

Opportunity to move with the entire family provided all family members have sufficient financial stability



Flexible working hours

Flexibility in choosing projects and clients

German residence permit

FREELANCE VISA



RESIDENCE PERMIT PROCESS



**Permanent residency
in Germany**

Permanent Residency of Germany

NO INVESTMENTS IN THE COUNTRY'S
ECONOMY REQUIRED

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel within the Schengen Area
- No need to renew the status

Program participants

- spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 years

Requirements for obtaining permanent residency

5 years of residence in Germany with a residence permit



FROM 15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 TO 6 MONTHS

Processing period

Citizenship after 5 years of permanent residence

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Obtaining a permanent residency in Germany

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German Permanent Residence is an unlimited permit to reside in Germany for foreigner nationals.

Two types of German permanent residence permits

Settlement permit - Niederlassungserlaubnis

EU long-term residence permit - Erlaubnis zum Daueraufen

Key requirement

5 years of residence with a residence permit; in some cases, this period is reduced or the condition is not applicable

Benefits of permanent residency in Germany



Unlimited validity

No need to renew your status, unlike temporary residence permits



Right to work

Right to official employment without any limitations



Long stay abroad

Your status remains as it is if you stay abroad for a long time



Moving to other EU countries

Moving to other EU jurisdictions under simplified conditions (for EU long-term residence permit)



German citizenship

German citizenship

NO INVESTMENTS IN THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY REQUIRED

Program benefits

- Visa-free travel to 159 countries worldwide
- No need to renew the status

Program participants

- Spouse of the main applicant
- Children under 18 years

Requirements for obtaining citizenship

- Having a permanent residence permit in Germany, an EU Blue Card or a temporary residence permit
- Passing the test consisting of questions about the German legal system, structure of society and way of life
- Living in Germany for 5 years before applying



FROM 15,000 EURO

Legal support

3 TO 6 MONTHS

Processing period

No need to reside in Germany

Visa-free access to 150+ countries



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