

Checklist for German visa applications

The following documents must be provided with your application:

- A fully completed application form that has been personally signed by the applicant. These forms can be downloaded from the website of the relevant embassy.
- A biometric passport photo that meets the criteria in the Visa Code. (E.g. color photo, 35 by 45 mm, light background.)
- A recognized and valid passport (valid for at least six months after arriving in Germany)
- Proof that your living costs will be covered either by yourself or by a third party, as stated in a formal obligation (from your host in Germany, for example)
- Proof of travel health insurance that is valid for the entire Schengen area and, if required, covers residence for the purpose of gainful employment
- Depending on the type of visa, additional documentation may be required. For example:
 - Letter of invitation
 - Work contract
 - Proof of scholarships, study programs, etc.
 - Booking confirmation for flights
 - Membership of an artists' association
 - Marriage certificates, children's birth certificates, property deeds and any other proof that the applicant is a permanent resident of their country of origin.

Tips and additional advice

- Can you apply for the visa online?
- Does the relevant embassy offer the option of booking appointments online?
- Is there an information office or more information online about visa applications?
- Please read all the relevant information on the embassy website!
- Start applying for your visa well in advance to allow for long processing times!