

## Visa for vocational training

Last update: December 2025

You can do vocational training in Germany if you have a training place in a company and German language skills (B1 for qualified vocational training, otherwise as a rule at least A2). If you are less proficient in German, you can however also do a language course before starting your training. You can find more about living and working in Germany at [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com)

The application for the blue card is only possible online through the Consular Services Portal. Your application will then be checked for completeness. Communication regarding any additional information needed will be done directly through the Consular Services Portal. An appointment can only be booked afterwards.

Apply now online [here](#) and upload the following documents:

- Personally signed **passport** with at least two completely empty pages and sufficient validity
- Valid **residence permit** for Switzerland or Liechtenstein
- Completed **application form** (to be completed online on the Consular Service Portal)
- One passport sized **photo** – no older than three months, according to biometric standards
- Detailed **Letter of motivation**
- Original **training contract** (where applicable recognised by the Chamber of Industry and Commerce) signed by the employer and the trainee
- **Training plan**
- Proof of language **qualification** Proof of German language skills (at least B1 for qualified vocational training, otherwise as a rule at least A2) or proof of registration for a preparatory intensive language course
- Proof of adequate **financial means**:  
Proof of financing of at least 992 € gross per month for the first year. If an unpaid preparatory German language course is being completed or if the trainee wage is lower, provision of the monthly shortfall of funds must be proven separately, for example, in the form of a [blocked account](#)



- **Proof of health insurance** cover: If as a trainee you are subject to mandatory statutory health insurance, you must bear in mind that this insurance can only begin when you take up residence in Germany and begin your training. If you enter Germany beforehand, private health insurance must be taken out for the period prior to beginning your training and prior to being eligible for statutory health insurance. In its terms and conditions, travel health insurance can exclude protection if a long-term or permanent stay is planned. So-called incoming travel insurance can also contain such exclusions.
- Detailed **curriculum vitae** in German language
- Postage expenses of 7 Swiss Francs
- Visa fee of 75 Euro payable by cash in Swiss Francs, by Visa or MasterCard (information [here](#))

The German Embassy Bern reserve the right to ask for additional documents at any time during the processing of your application.

Appointment scheduling for the blue card is possible after your documents have been reviewed. You will then receive a link for booking an appointment. The application can only be submitted in person at your previously booked appointment at the visa section of the embassy (Willadingweg 78, 3006 Bern).

At your appointment, please present all original documents and your [biometric photos](#).

In this visa category, most applications are typically processed within 5 weeks. The processing time can be longer in special cases. Please do not contact the mission abroad to check the status of your application during the normal processing period. Such inquiries are extremely time-consuming for the visa department and cannot be answered. We will contact you by email as soon as the decision has been made.

The visa will be valid for 12 month and allows you to start working. You can travel in the entire Schengen area for 90 days per half year.

**Please note:** Although the information in this information sheet has been prepared with utmost care, we cannot accept any responsibility for inaccuracies contained herein.