



Au Pair Visa

Last update: December 2025

The Federal Employment Office informs on their homepage with regard to au pair stays and the rights and obligations of the host families and the au pair involved with these stays:

<https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/unternehmen/arbeitskraefte/au-pair>

The requirements for the approval for an au pair stay are (Basic law: § 19c Abs. 1 AufenthG i.V.m. § 12 BeschV):

- You need be between 18 and 26 years of age at the time of application.
- You should to have [basic](#) German language skills; to be assessed on application interview
- The host family must communicate in German as first language
- You cannot apply as Au-Pair to relate family
- Residence permit for an Au-Pair is issued for one year only
- Duration of employment minimum of 6 months but no more than 12 months

Applications can be submitted in person, with prior [appointment](#) and the following application documents:

- Personally signed **passport** (original with one copy of the passport data page), with at least two completely empty pages and sufficient validity
- Valid **Swiss residence** permit with one copy
- **Application form** fully completed and signed including declaration to section 54 residence Act: [application form](#) with one copy
- Confirmation of receipt of the [booklet for Au Pair](#) from the Federal Employment Agency
- One passport sized [photo](#) – no older than three months, according to biometric standards
- Original signed **Au Pair** contract with one copy
- Copy of **passport** from the host parents
- Au Pair **questionnaire** with one copy
- **Invitation letter** from the host family with one copy
- **German language skills** level A1
- Detailed **curriculum vitae** and motivation letter in German or English language with one copy
- Au Pair **health insurance** for one year with a minimum coverage of 30.000 EUR with one copy
- Postage expenses of 7 Swiss Francs
- Visa fee of 75 Euro payable by cash in Swiss Francs, by Visa or MasterCard (information [here](#))

The interview will be in German language to prove your german language skills (level A1).

Please prepare the Originals with **one set** of copies of all the indicated documents. Original documents will be return to you while a copy per set will be required. Missing documentation delays the procedure and can result in your application being rejected.

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

In this visa category, most applications are typically processed within 5 weeks. 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 work as an Au Pair. 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.