



## Visa to study and for seeking a university place in Germany

### § 16b residence act

Last update: December 2025

**Studying in Germany:** Successful studies in Germany open up many opportunities and career prospects on the German and international job market. At [Make it in Germany](#), you will find information about opportunities, costs, financing, etc.

#### Scholarship:

Students can apply for scholarships from various organizations in Germany to finance their studies. The German Academic Exchange Service ([DAAD](#)) provides an overview of various funding opportunities. Whether a scholarship is recognized in Germany can only be decided after the relevant documentation has been submitted.

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

- **Passport** with a copy of the data page and any visas entered.  
The passport must be valid for a sufficient period and have at least two blank pages.
- Your valid **residence permit** for Switzerland or Liechtenstein
- Completed **application form** (to be filled out online on the Consular Service Portal)
- One passport sized photo – no older than three months, according to biometric standards
- **Evidence of admission** to university/ exchange semester/ degree course/ PhD program
- Proof of qualification: **high school diploma**/[APS certificate](#)
- Proof of **financial means**: To stay in Germany, each individual applicant must have at their disposal **at least 992 €** per month (12 month). Proof of these means ([blocked account](#) , [a formal obligation](#) by a third person in Germany or prove of **scholarship**)
- **Health insurance** in line with EU standards (covering the entire Schengen area, minimum coverage of 30,000 €, valid from the day of entry for 12 months)
- Detailed **motivation letter** in German or English language
- Detailed **curriculum vitae** in German or English 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 this type of visa 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](#).



Botschaft  
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland  
Bern

The visa will be valid for max. 12 month and allows you to start your studies. In general, students holding a visa so study are permitted to work part-time to support themselves, up to 120 days or 240 half-days per year. Students at a preparatory college may not work during their first year of residence, except during holidays. You can travel in the entire Schengen area for 90 days per half year. The visa will be valid for 3 months and allows you to work. 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.