



Language course and school attendance

as per § 16f residence act
Last update: February 2025

Swiss nationals do not require visas or residence permits for a language course stays not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period - if they do not pursue any economic activity. This privilege also applies to all other nationals holding a valid residence permit L, B or C in Switzerland or Liechtenstein.

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
- One passport sized **photo** – no older than three months, according to biometric standards
- **Proof of admission** to the intensive language course (intensive = every working day with min. 18 hours per week) or school with one copy
- Proof of **financial means** with one copy: To stay in Germany, each individual applicant must have at their disposal **at least 947 €** per month (12 month). Proof of these means ([blocked account](#) or [a formal obligation](#) by a third person in Germany
- Confirmation of **health insurance** cover commensurate with the level of statutory German public health insurance.
- Detailed **motivation letter** in German or English language with one copy
- Detailed **curriculum vitae** in German or English language 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](#))

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 3 months. 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.



Botschaft
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Bern

The visa will be valid for max. 3 months and allows you to go to school. You can travel in the entire Schengen area for 90 days.

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