



Visa for Recognition of the foreign educational qualification

§ 16d residence act

Last update: December 2025

To take up employment in regulated professions in Germany, permission from the competent authorities is required. At the following links [recognition of foreign professional qualifications](#), [Make it in Germany](#) and on the website of the [Federal Employment Agency](#) you get further information.

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)
- Signed information as per § 18 (2) no. 4 and § 82 (1) sentence 6 residence act
- One passport sized **photo** – no older than three months, according to biometric standards
- **Decision from the relevant recognition authority** in Germany
 - If already issued: Partial recognition notice
 - Proof of existing deficiencies for recognition: If specified in the deficiency notice, additionally: Registration for theoretical courses, operational qualification measures (with a training plan), or exam preparation courses
 - training contract** (where applicable recognized by the Chamber of Industry and Commerce) signed by the employer and the trainee with one copy
- Proof of German **language qualification**: You can find out which language skills you are required to demonstrate [here](#). Information about recognized institutes can be found [here](#).
- Proof of **financial means** with one copy: 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](#) or [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 the duration of the training
- Detailed **curriculum vitae** in German language
- **Motivation letter**
- 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. The original documents must be presented on the day of the 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.



Botschaft
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Bern

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.