

VISA AND ENTRY PROCESS FOR IMMIGRANTS WITH VISA REQUIREMENT FOR LONG-TERM STAY

Preconsideration: Reasons for entry

You can apply for an entry visa e.g. for the following reasons: Studies / conferral of a doctorate, work, job search, apprenticeship, internship, research, family reunification, self-employment.

Visa application

Please submit all required documents and apply for a visa at the German Mission abroad. The processing time of your application can take up to several months. You can find more information about visa regulations at the website of the [Federal Foreign Office](#).

Entry

You travel to Germany with a valid visa.

Apply for a residence permit

If you have submitted all the required documents to your Foreigners Office and fulfill the general issuing conditions, you will receive a residence permit.

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Appointment request (German Mission Abroad)

Please make an appointment for the visa application at [the German Mission Abroad](#) in your home country. They will inform you about the requirements for the visa and entry process.

Decision (German Mission Abroad)

Issuing a visa for up to six months or refusal of visa (for example, because of missing documents).

Option: In principle another application is possible.

Appointment request (Foreigners Office)

After your entry in Germany please make an appointment with your [Foreigners Office](#) to apply for a residence permit. Which Foreigners Office is relevant for you depends on your registered address. Please ask there which documents are required for the application.

Note: Some Foreigners Offices don't work with appointments. Please check whether you need to book an appointment for the application or not.

General issuing conditions are e.g.:

- Valid entry visa
- Passport
- Secured livelihood
- No reason for deportation