
Information sheet: Temporary residence permit for employment

In case you already have a job offer from a company in Germany (§18 Para. 2 No. 1), you need to apply for a **residence permit for skilled workers holding a university degree** (§18b) or for the **EU Blue Card** (§18g AufenthG). The EU Blue Card is a special residence title for foreign academics and people with comparable qualifications who want to take up qualified employment in Germany.

Skilled workers holding a university degree: §18b AufenthG

Skilled workers holding a university degree may be granted a temporary residence permit to perform skilled work for which their training qualifies them.

The following requirements must be met:

- Successful completion of university degree
- If applicable, recognition of foreign university degree that is comparable to a German university degree
- Employment contract or concrete job offer

EU Blue Card: §18g AufenthG

The following requirements must be met for the EU Blue Card to be issued:

- German university degree /
Recognition of a foreign degree that is comparable to a German degree (please check yourself in the [Anabin](#) database or by [statement of comparability](#) by the ZaB)
Tertiary-level qualification that took at least three years to complete, corresponding to at least level 6 of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011) or level 6 of the European Qualifications Framework (Para. 1)
- Specific job offer from a company in Germany (Para. 3) that meets the conditions:
 - Period of employment of at least six months (Para. 3)
 - Job must match your qualification (degree or license to practice) (Para. 1)
 - Gross annual salary of your job in Germany of at least €45,300 (as of 2024) (Abs. 7), if you are employed in a [bottleneck profession](#), you can also obtain an EU Blue Card with a lower gross annual salary of at least €41,041.80 in 2024

Reason for stay:	What you are applying for:	Required documents:
Employment	Issuing / extension of residence permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form (issue of residence permit or change of condition) • Valid passport with visa or residence permit • Current biometric photo • Evidence of successful completion of university degree / vocational qualification • Proof of wage/salary for the last 3 months (for extensions) • Job offer or contract of employment with job description • Declaration of employment filled out by the employer • Certificate of health insurance, and in case of a private health insurance a confirmation in accordance with § 11 para. 1 – 3 SGB V • Rental agreement with information about living space or rental certificate signed by the owner in case of multiple tenants / subletting / missing information on the size of the flat or room • Completed declaration of consent for the use of the document pick-up box, original (German) version • Fees: 93,00€ to 113,00€ (incl. fiction 13,00€)
EU Blue Card	Issuing / extension of residence permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form • Valid passport with visa or residence permit • Current biometric photo • Evidence of successful completion of university degree / vocational qualification • Proof of wage/salary for the last 3 months (for extensions) • Job offer or contract of employment with job description, if applicable professional license • Declaration of employment filled out by the employer • Gross annual salary (see lower salary limit) • Certificate of health insurance, and in case of a private health insurance a confirmation in accordance with § 11 para. 1 – 3 SGB V • Rental agreement with information about living space or rental certificate signed by the owner in case of multiple tenants / subletting / missing information on the size of the flat or room • Completed declaration of consent for the use of the document pick-up box, original (German) version • Fees: 93,00€ to 113,00€ (incl. fiction 13,00€)
Self-employment	Issuing / extension of residence permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form (issue of residence permit or change of condition) • Valid passport with visa or residence permit • Current biometric photo • Evidence of vocational qualification • Concept, business idea, business registration/excerpt from the trade register

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For freelancers: fee contract for freelance work and if necessary further proof of security of living expenses • Certificate of health insurance, and in case of a private health insurance a confirmation in accordance with § 11 para. 1 – 3 SGB V • Rental agreement with information about living space or rental certificate signed by the owner in case of multiple tenants / subletting / missing information on the size of the flat or room • If applicable, evidence of retirement pension (from age of 45) • Completed declaration of consent for the use of the document pick-up box, original (German) version
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Note: This overview only provides assistance relating to regular cases and cannot replace individual case-related advice. Furthermore, the Foreigners' Office reserves the right to request the submission of additional documents in order to check the entitlement to a residence title.

Applications for a residence permit for the purpose of working as a skilled worker (with vocational or academic training) or for the EU Blue Card are made exclusively through [online applications](#). These can be found on the website of the Magdeburg Foreigners' Office.

Please apply for a permit for self-employment by e-mail to Erwerbstaetigkeit@ewo.magdeburg.de and submit all required documents in PDF format no larger than 1,000 GB.

The signed declaration of consent to use the document pick-up box must be submitted by post in original (German version).