



## Information sheet: national visa

### Visa for skilled workers holding a university degree/ EU Blue Card (Section 18b (2) Residence Act)

#### Basic information

- Documents not in the English language must be submitted with a certified German translation. A translation of the personal data page of the passport is, however, not required.
- Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original. Your original documents will be returned to you once your application has been processed.
- The visa must, where applicable, be approved by the Federal Employment Agency and the competent foreigners authority. The visa can only be issued when these approvals have been received.
- **Processing time is as a rule ca. one week** but can take longer in individual cases.
- Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please only book when you have received your visa.
- The mission abroad reserves the right to request further documents.
- Missing documentation delays the procedure and can result in your application being rejected.
- **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 section and can thus not be answered.

#### General information

As a *skilled worker with a university degree recognised in Germany*, you will be issued with an EU Blue Card if the employment you want to take up matches your professional qualifications and you can present a contract of employment certifying a gross annual salary of at least 58,400 € in 2023 (for STEM occupations - scientists, mathematicians, engineers, doctors and IT specialists - at least 45,552 €).

Use the following checklist to make sure your application documents are complete. All documents listed here are to be submitted in the requested form and order.



### Visa application checklist

The following documents are to be submitted in full with every application.

	Missing
Two (2) fully completed and signed applications including declarations pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act	
Two (2) recent biometric passport photos (see specimen photos)	
Valid and personally signed passport with at least two completely empty pages	
Two (2) uncertified copies of the data page of your valid passport	
<p>Completed form signed by your employer: <a href="#">Declaration of employment</a> (original with two (2) copies)</p> <p>There is a minimum salary requirement for the EU Blue Card which is set once a year by the Federal Ministry of the Interior. In 2023, the minimum gross annual salary requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45,552 € for scientists, mathematicians, engineers, doctors and IT specialists (so-called STEM occupations) and</li> <li>• 58,400 € for all other occupations.</li> </ul>	
Proof of qualification: University qualification (all pages, original and two (2) copies)	
<p>Proof of <b>recognition of the qualification</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two (2) <b>printouts from the <a href="#">anabin database</a></b> on the qualification and on the institution</li> </ul> <p><i>or (if the qualification is not assessed as “entspricht” (comparable) or “gleichwertig” (equivalent) and/or the institution is not classified as “H+”)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Statement of Comparability</b> by the <a href="#">Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB)</a> (original with two (2) copies)</li> </ul> <p><i>or (in the case of regulated professions in which permission is required to exercise the profession, for example, doctors, engineers; complete list is available from the <a href="#">Federal Employment Agency</a> or the <a href="#">European Commission</a>)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Permission to exercise a profession</b> issued by the authority responsible for recognising qualifications or assurance of permission to exercise a profession (original and two (2) copies) (for example, for medical professions: decision of the licensing authority in the federal territory, i.e. assurance of permission to exercise a profession and/or issuing of medical licence)</li> </ul> <p>More information on recognition: <a href="http://www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de">www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de</a></p>	
<p>Proof of adequate health insurance cover</p> <p>If as an employee you are subject to mandatory statutory health insurance, you must bear in mind that this insurance can only begin when you take up residence in Germany and enter into employment. If you enter Germany beforehand, private health insurance must be taken out for the period prior to</p>	



	employment beginning and prior to being eligible for statutory health insurance. In its terms and conditions, travel health insurance can exclude protection if a long-term or permanent stay is planned. So-called incoming travel insurance can also contain such exclusions.	
<b>Applicant of a nationality other than South African</b>		
	Proof of habitual abode by South Africa	
<b>Fee</b>		
	Visa fee of 75 €. Payable in Rand.	
<b>Completeness of application</b>		
The application is complete: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, the information/documents indicated above are lacking.		
<b>Declaration when applications are not complete:</b> I have been informed that my application is not complete. I am aware that submitting an incomplete application can lead to the application being rejected. I would like to submit my application nevertheless.		
<hr/>		
place, date, signature		