

BLUE CARD AND ACCOMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Professionals with an academic background in mathematics, IT, the natural sciences or technology as well as medical doctors may qualify for a Blue Card with a remuneration starting at €44,304 (2021 threshold).

Visa-free travel

British citizens may apply for their residence permits with the local immigration office (“Ausländerbehörde”) after arrival in Germany and without having obtained a visa prior to travelling to Germany.

Please note that you need to register your new residence (“Anmeldung”) with the authorities (“Meldebehörde”) within 2 weeks of having moved in and apply for your residence permit with the local immigration office (“Ausländerbehörde”) within the first 90 days of stay in Germany.

This privilege is also extended to citizens of Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Korea (Republic) and the United States of America. It is important to note that you may only take up employment once you have been issued a residence permit explicitly authorising such employment. British and other citizens privileged as above may also choose to apply for a visa prior to travel, effectively permitting employment from the first day of visa validity.

All other nationalities require a visa prior to travel to Germany.

General information

The Blue Card visa category requires you to hold a German, a recognised or a comparable foreign academic degree.

If you hold a foreign degree, please check whether both your degree and the awarding academic institution are listed as comparable in the official [Anabin database](#). If either is not listed please have the degree formally assessed through a “Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications” issued by the [Central Office for Foreign Education \(ZAB\)](#).

Some regulated professions such as medical doctors, nurses, teachers, architects, auditors, tax advisors and more require a formal license to practise their profession in Germany. Please consult the [database](#) on recognition in regulated professions.

List of documents

Please ensure that **2 photocopies of each document** are provided for your visa application.

Printed Visa Application form (original)

*Print the form including the barcodes **twice** and sign both copies (application forms are required for each applicant separately; all children require separate forms).*

Valid passport signed by the holder

Issued within the last 10 years and valid for at least 3 months beyond the validity of the visa applied for. The passport needs to have at least 2 subsequent blank pages.

2 photocopies of the passport biodata page

- Current UK residence permit (BRP)/ visa** (foreign residents only)
- 2 photocopies of the permit/ visa**
- 2 fully biometric passport photos**
35 x 45 mm, no older than three months, on white or off-white background. Digitally altered passport photos cannot be accepted.
- Employer's declaration** ("Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis")
- to be completed by your employer (download form [here](#)) in 2 copies
- Academic Degree** + 2 photocopies of the original/ certified copy and translation
*We will need to sight the original degree certificate or a copy either notarised by a notary public or certified by the issuing academic institution.
Any document in a language other than German, English or French needs to be translated into one of these languages by a certified or sworn translator.*
- Print-outs from the official database** - in 2 copies
showing that both the qualification as well as the academic institution are listed as comparable
OR "Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications",
issued by the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) in original, plus 2 photocopies of the ZAB statement
- Academic/ professional curriculum vitae** – in 2 copies

Accompanying family members

Additional documents required for spouse/ parent/ adult child:

- Separate application form for each family member in **2 copies**
- Original passport of the family member(s) and 2 copies of biodata page of the passport(s).
- Current UK residence permit (BRP)/ visa (foreign residents only) - **in 2 copies**
- 2 fully biometric passport photos
- Marriage/ birth certificate original and 2 copies (with translation)

*If this document was issued outside the EU and is not in English or German, then it should be **translated by a certified translator.***

Additional information

Accompanying spouses of Blue Card holders are usually exempt from the requirement regarding basic German language proficiency.

If your application is successful, you will be issued a limited validity entry visa - similar to a UK entry clearance. Once you have arrived in Germany please register your new residence with the local authorities ("Meldebehörde") within 2 weeks of having moved in and apply for your Electronic Residence Permit with your local immigration office ("Ausländerbehörde").

Further information on living and working in Germany is available [here](#).