

Visa Application - Visa Issuance

You want to enter Germany and apply for a visa for this purpose?

Competent Department

- [Auswärtiges Amt](#)
- [Migrationsamt](#)
- [Aufenthalt](#)

Basic information

Foreigners who are subject to the so-called visa requirement need a visa to enter Germany.

Requirements

Nationals of a country who are subject to the visa requirement need a visa for entry.

A list of countries subject to visa requirements is available on the homepage of the German Foreign Office.

Depending on the intended purpose of stay in Germany, different requirements have to be proven. Further information is also available on the homepage of the respective German mission abroad.

Procedure

The embassies and consulates general (foreign missions) of the Federal Republic of Germany are responsible for issuing visas.

The diplomatic mission or consular post in whose district the applicant has his or her habitual residence or domicile is responsible for issuing visas.

In principle, the visa application must be submitted by the applicant in person to the diplomatic mission or consular post at his or her place of residence, together with all the necessary documents.

Legal bases

- [Gesetz über den Aufenthalt, die Erwerbstätigkeit und die Integration von Ausländern im Bundesgebiet \(AufenthG\)](#)

- [Verordnung \(EG\) Nr. 810/2009 des europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 13.07.2009 über einen Visakodex der Gemeinschaft \(Visakodex\)](#)

How long does it take to process

2 days

1 week As a rule, diplomatic missions and consular posts need between 2 and 10 working days to decide on an application for a short-stay visa.

In the case of an application for a visa entitling the holder to a longer-term stay or to take up employment, a processing time of several months must be expected.