

# At a Glance: Visa for Employment Within the Framework of a Recognition Partnership

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to visa obligation. General entitlement requirements (Section 5 of the Residence Act [AufenthG]): passport, proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion.

## CHECK THE REQUIREMENTS

Step

1

- **Qualification:**
    - State-recognized (in regard to the country of origin) higher education qualification or vocational qualification (in case of vocational qualification: minimum vocational training duration of 2 years).
    - Submit application for information from the Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) for this purpose.
  - Concrete job offer or valid employment contract in the aspired profession.
  - Written agreement between employer and skilled worker on carrying out the aspired recognition partnership.
  - Proof of German language skills: at least level A2 (CEFR).
- i Please consider:** during the visa procedure, approval of the Federal Employment Agency (BA) is generally obtained. This includes the assessment of whether the employer is suited for vocational or further training.

## MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AT THE GERMAN EMBASSY

- Prepare the required documents: e.g. employment contract, passport, proof of higher education qualification or vocational qualification, proof of German language skills, visa application form; if necessary: "Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis" (Declaration of Employment) form filled out by the employer including the annex.
- i Please consider:** on their websites, the German embassies and consulates provide information about possible waiting times for appointments and any additional documents that may be required.

Step

2

## APPLY FOR A VISA IN THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Step

3

- Bring documents in their entirety.
  - Fees: €75 (in local currency).
- i Please consider:** processing times may strongly vary depending on the mission abroad and processing workload. Please find further information on the website of the competent embassy.

## ENTER GERMANY

- Issuance of the entry visa for the purpose of employment within the framework of a recognition partnership.
  - Book flight / plan journey to Germany.
- i Please consider:** in order for an entry visa to be issued, proof of valid health insurance coverage must be presented. After entering Germany, new health insurance must be taken out.

Step

4

## APPLY FOR RESIDENCE PERMIT IN GERMANY

Step

5

- Register your home address in Germany at the Residents' Registration Office.
  - Book an appointment at the competent foreigners authority.
  - Ask the foreigners authority for a list of the required documents and start the preparation.
  - Apply for residence permit for the purpose of a recognition partnership (Section 16d (3) of the Residence Act [AufenthG]).
  - Fees may add up to €100 (Sections 45 ff. of the Residence Ordinance [AufenthV]).
- i Please consider:** the application for the residence permit must be submitted before the entry visa expires.

This overview is a simplified representation of the visa procedure. The steps described are solely for the purpose of clarifying the application procedure for residence permits. Further details on the visa application procedure and information on important points of contact can be found at [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com).