

Visa Application

Citizens of the EU/EEA/EFTA

If you are a citizen of the EU/EEA/EFTA, you do not need a visa for studying in Germany.

Citizens of countries outside the EU/EEA/EFTA

There are a number of countries for which students can obtain their necessary residence permit for study purposes after their arrival. These include Australia, Israel, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States of America. It also includes the following countries, provided that you do not intend to work (internships might be included) in Germany before or after completing your studies: Andorra, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Monaco and San Marino.

If you are not a citizen of the EU/EEA/EFTA or one of the countries listed above, you must apply for a student visa before your arrival to Germany. Each visa application is reviewed individually. Therefore the requested documents might vary. Please refer to the closest German embassy or consulate for detailed information. The Embassy reserves the right to ask for additional documents at any time. The submission of the below-listed documents does not guarantee the issuance of a visa (in time). Submission of incomplete documentation will lead to a refusal of your visa. Once a visa has been issued, the purpose of the trip may not be altered. Urgent/express visa do not exist.

When applying for a student visa you need to schedule an appointment. There are long queues of students applying for visas, so you need to schedule the appointment well in advance. The university cannot do anything to schedule your appointment earlier.

It takes up to three months to receive your national visa in your country. You must apply for a student visa at your local German embassy.

As the documents needed for the visa application differ by country, it is recommended to inform yourself at your local German embassy.

In general, you'll need the following documents:

- Your valid passport
- Visa application forms
- the notice of admission from the university/**Letter of Admission** (for a student visa)
- Health insurance coverage
- Proof of adequate funds for living expenses (**proof of financial resources**): At least the living expenses for your first year in Germany must be fully financed. In general, around 10,332 euros of income or assets are required for the first year, which equals to 861 euros per month. But evidence of higher amounts may also be requested. The German embassy in your home country will provide more information on the proof that needs to be provided. In principle, the following types of proof are possible:

- Proof of parents' income and assets
- The Foreigners' Registration Offices receives confirmation that someone whose place of residence is in Germany commits to assume the costs for you
- A security sum on a blocked account
- Scholarship from a recognized scholarship foundation
- Funding in accordance with the German Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz (BAföG – Federal Education and Training Assistance Act).