

# Job Seeker's visa

This is a visa for qualified professionals/ skilled personnel from countries outside the EU which enables them to come to Germany **for up to six months** for the purpose of seeking employment commensurate with their qualifications. For this type of residency the applicant has to possess a German or comparable recognised foreign university degree/ professional qualification. Applicants do need to have sufficient German language skills for their professional purpose.

You can check whether your foreign university degree is recognised or comparable by consulting the <u>ANABIN</u> <u>database</u>. In order to find out if your professional qualification is recognised and comparable to a German professional qualification, you will need to go through a recognition procedure. Your professional qualification might also get partially recognised, meaning you need to do some professional or language training in order to make up for deficits; this you may do in Germany. For more information contact your locally responsible recognition office, which you can find <u>here</u>. If you plan to work in a so-called regulated profession, you will additionally need an authorisation to practice. The recognition procedure may be initiated by yourself or through your future employer.

General information on graduate immigration is available on the portal for qualified professionals <u>www.make-it-in-germany.com</u>

## Where and how to apply

Your visa application must be submitted in person. You are required to make an online visa appointment in the section for long-term visa which may be booked as early as 6 months in advance of your travel date. Please schedule your appointment free of charge <u>here</u>. Once you have made the visa appointment you will receive a confirmation email showing the date and time. Please note that your appointment will be cancelled if you miss your assigned slot.

#### **Required documents** (all supporting documents are to be presented in duplicate):

**Only complete applications with original documents** <u>and</u> **two (2) copies of all documents can be accepted!** Submitting a complete application file does not necessarily mean that the visa will be granted. Each applicant has to furnish his/her own complete application file with all relevant documents and copies. The following must be presented with the application and <u>the Embassy reserves the right to ask for further supporting</u> <u>documents and/or information</u>:

- two completed and signed application forms. Please find the relevant forms here.
- valid Passport. The passport has to have at least two empty pages available. Please include previous passports, either valid or cancelled.
- copy of all previously issued Schengen visas, including the pages with the entry and exit stamps from the Schengen area
- two recent and biometric passport sized photographs. Please do <u>not attach</u> to the application form and check the requirements for photographs <u>here</u>.
- German university degree or recognised foreign degree comparable to a German degree/ German professional qualification or recognition assessment of your foreign professional qualification ("Anerkennungsbescheid", "Defizitbescheid")

Address:	Mail:	Telephone:	Fax:	info@kingston.diplo.de	Öpening hours:
10 Waterloo Road	P.O.Box 444	++1 876 926 6728/9	++1 876 620 5457		Monday - Friday
Kingston 10	Kingston 10	++1 876 631 7935/6		www.kingston.diplo.de	8.30 a.m 11.30 a.m.
Jamaica W.I.	Jamaica W.I.	consular phone hours:			
		Mo, Fr: 7:30 am - 8	:30 am; We, Th: 12	2:00 pm – 1:00 pm	

- in regulated professions, authorisation to practice ("Berufszulassung")
- Curriculum vitae of professional career, specifying the certificates, diplomas, etc. you have obtained
- Letter of motivation providing information on the planned course of action to secure a job (sector, region, intended place of residence/accommodation etc.)
- Any additional evidence of your preparations to secure a job that can already be provided.
- Evidence of sufficient funds to support yourself while living in Germany which means a minimum of € 5,682.- for six months. If you have a sponsor in Germany, you have to submit the original of a Formal Obligation ("Verpflichtungserklärung") from the person sponsoring you as well as a copy of the sponsor's valid passport and (if applicable) his/her valid resident permit for Germany. This document has to be obtained from the Alien Authority in the city of residence of the host in Germany. It must state that funds for your stay to seek employment have been proven ("Bonität nachgewiesen" / "Arbeitsplatzsuche"). If the host/sponsor resides outside of Germany, the Formal Obligation has to be obtained from the relevant German Embassy in that country (for details please contact the relevant Embassy directly.)

Once a positive decision has been made, you will be required, if you haven't done so already, to hand in a valid travel health insurance before the visa is issued.

# Visa Fees

Visa fees are non-refundable and payable ONLY

- **in US-Dollars cash** according to the exchange rate of the Embassy
- OR
- by credit card which is billed in Euros (Mastercard or Visa only). The card holder must be present.

**Visa fees** are calculated from  $\notin$ 75.00 for applicants who are 18 years or older and  $\notin$ 37.50 for children under the age of 18. Visa Fees are waived for spouses and children of German or other EU-citizens and parents of German or other EU minors. In these cases, please include a copy of the marriage or birth certificate and the German or EU-passport of the relevant person.

The Embassy does **not accept** US\$50.00 or US\$100.00 bills. The bills accepted cannot be older than 2000 and have to be in good condition, not torn or damaged in any way.

## **Processing time**

The processing time is approximately 6-8 weeks but may be longer in individual cases. Please note that the German Embassy has no influence on this process.

The applicant is obliged to provide all information to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. If he/she knowingly furnishes false or incomplete information and/or provides false or falsified documents, the visa application will be refused.

Mail: P.O.Box 444 Kingston 10 Jamaica W.I.