



FAMILY REUNION IN GERMANY

Spouses, fiancé(e)s, minor children of, and parents of minor - including yet to be born - Germans or foreigners residing in Germany are required to obtain a national visa (single entry) to reside in Germany. Upon arrival in Germany, you are required to register with the competent local Alien Authority in order to receive the corresponding residence permit.

Where and how to apply

Your visa application must be submitted in person. You are required to make an online visa appointment. Please book 2 consecutive appointment slots (e.g. 8:30-9:00 and the second appointment for 9:00-9:30). Please schedule your appointment free of charge [here](#). 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 (in original, where applicable, plus 2 photocopies):

Only complete applications with original documents and 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 on application and **the Embassy reserves the right to ask for further supporting documents and/or information:**

- **Two (2)** 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
- passport of the spouse, fiancé(e), child or parent in Germany, in case of non-EU citizens also residence permit
- current "Meldebestätigung" of the spouse, fiancé(e), child or parent in Germany (Confirmation of Residence)
- two recent and biometric passport size photographs. Please do not attach to the application form and check the requirements for photographs [here](#).

Additional documents for specific cases (in original, where applicable, plus 2 photocopies):

For spouses of German nationals or foreigners residing in Germany:

- marriage certificate
- evidence of basic knowledge of the German language (see information below)

For parents of minors – including yet to be born - residing in Germany:

- birth certificate of the child or proof of pregnancy incl. calculated delivery date (e.g. "Mutterpass")
- marriage certificate or acknowledgement of paternity
- custody order or bilateral custody agreement (only if child was born out of wedlock and both parents have not already agreed upon shared custody in the document with which acknowledgement of paternity has been declared)
- unofficial invitation letter from the child's parent who is already residing in Germany
- passport of the child's parent who is already residing in Germany, in case of non-EU citizens also residence permit

For minors under the age of 16 who wish to live with their parents in Germany:

- birth certificate
- court order for sole custody of the child in case that both parents are mentioned on the birth certificate. If one parent has been legally granted liberal access to the child, a certified declaration of consent that the child can migrate to Germany and a copy of the parent's valid picture-ID have to be submitted in addition.
- unofficial invitation letter plus one photocopy from the parent who lives in Germany
- passport of the child's parent who is already residing in Germany incl. his/her resident permit for Germany

- if one of the child's legal guardians is not present when submitting the visa application, a certified declaration of consent that another person will submit the visa application on their behalf is required and the authorized person needs to provide a valid picture ID.

For fiancé(e)s who wish to get married to a German or foreign citizen residing in Germany and take up permanent residence afterwards:

- birth certificate
- written confirmation of the competent Registrar's office in Germany that all necessary requirements for the marriage to take place have been met ("Bescheinigung über die Anmeldung der Eheschließung"). The confirmation has to be issued in the past six months and should mention the scheduled marriage date.
- certificate of non impediment, issued within the past six months. In Jamaica this document will be issued either by the Ministry of Justice or by the Registrar General's Department (RGD).
- evidence of basic knowledge of the German language (see information below)
- proof of a valid travel health insurance up to the date of marriage
- unofficial invitation letter signed by the fiancé(e).

Non-German documents and certificates

All birth certificates, marriage certificates, court orders and/or certificates of non-impediment, that have **not** been issued in Germany, require either Legalisation or an Apostille:

- ⇒ Jamaican documents have to be authenticated first by the Jamaican Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (21 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5, Tel.: 001 876 926 4220-8, the fee is approx. Jamaican Dollars 1.000,-). Then they can be legalised by the German Embassy.
- ⇒ Documents from the Cayman Islands or the Turks and Caicos Islands require an Apostille from the respective Governor General's Office.

Evidence of basic knowledge of the German language

In the cases mentioned above, you must demonstrate basic knowledge of German when applying for your visa by providing a Language Certificate A1 („Start Deutsch 1“) from the Goethe Institute or any other language certificate issued by the “Association of Language Testers in Europe” (ALTE). In Kingston, German language courses and tests are being offered by the Jamaican-German Society (JGS). The JGS in collaboration with the Goethe Institute in Mexico City is the only organisation in Jamaica authorized to conduct the “A1 – Start Deutsch 1” test. You do not have to do courses with the JGS to be able to take the test in Jamaica. Please contact their office directly for further details and information: Jamaican-German-Society, 5 East Avenue, Kingston 8, Tel. +1 876 925-1052, jamger@cwjamaica.com.

Visa Fees and Fees for Legalisation of documents

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 €75.00 for applicants who are 18 years or older and €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.

Legalization fees are calculated from €25.00 for each Jamaican Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate or Certificate of No-Impediment; or from €45.00 for each Jamaican Court Order (or any other official document).

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

Visa applications for permanent residence have an average processing time of **approximately 8 weeks**, since they have to be forwarded for approval to the Alien Authority (Ausländerbehörde) competent for your intended place of residence in Germany. Please note that the German Embassy in Kingston has no influence on the processing time of these applications.

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.

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Opening hours of the visa section are
Mondays to Fridays
8.30 am – 11.30 am