



OBTAINING A GERMAN FAIR-VISA FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS



HOW TO OBTAIN A GERMAN FAIR-VISA AS A FOREIGN CITIZEN

The Federal Republic of Germany is the world's largest venue for trade exhibitions. Two thirds of the world's leading trade events take place here. The country hosts more than 100,000 foreigners per year who enter the country solely to visit trade fairs and exhibitions, while a further 20,000 come to the country as exhibitors and trade fair participants.

This guide provides a comprehensive step-by-step guide for foreign nationals interested in obtaining a German fair-visa. The fair-visa allows applicants to take part in a trade fair or exhibition in Germany as a participant or visitor for a limited period of time.

To ensure a smooth application process, it is crucial to understand the specific requirements of the German embassy or consulate in your region. This guide not only provides an overview of the essential steps, but also emphasises the key elements that are important for a successful application process. From the qualification check to making an appointment and finally obtaining a visa, all the necessary steps are explained in detail to facilitate your path to a German fair-visa.

It is advisable to check the information regularly as requirements may change. Careful preparation and adherence to the specified procedures are the key to successfully obtaining a visa and lay the foundation for a promising professional future in Germany.

RESEARCH AND PREPARATION:

1 comprehensively research the requirements and prerequisites:

Before you set out to apply for a German fair- visa, it is crucial to conduct thorough research into the specific prerequisites and requirements. This step lays the foundation for a successful application process and minimises potential delays or problems.

A Visit the official website of the German embassy or consulate:

Navigate to the official website of the German embassy or consulate responsible for your place of residence. This website provides a comprehensive guide specifically tailored to the needs of fair-visa applicants.



B Identify the relevant information:

Search specifically for information on the requirements that must be met in order for your application to be considered. This may include financial means and other specific criteria.

C Ensure the information is up to date:

Because visa requirements can change, it is critical to ensure that you have the most up-to-date information on the website. Check regularly for updates or changes to the regulations to ensure your application complies with the latest guidelines.

C Use contact options:

If you have specific questions or are unsure, use the contact options provided on the website to connect directly with visa specialists at the embassy or consulate. Clear communication in advance can avoid possible misunderstandings.

E Check alternative sources of information:

In addition to the official website, you can also consult alternative sources of information such as forums or testimonials from people who have already applied for a Job Seeker visa. This offers first-hand insights and can provide practical tips.



2 Proof Of Sufficient Financial Resources:

Ensuring sufficient financial resources is a crucial aspect of preparing your fair-visa application for Germany. These funds should ensure your livelihood during your job search in Germany and serve as a measure to demonstrate financial stability.

3 Take Out Valid Health Insurance:

Ensuring you have comprehensive health insurance is an essential part of your preparation for a German fair-visa. In Germany, health insurance is mandatory and serves to protect your health during your stay.

A Check the scope of cover:

Make sure that your health insurance offers sufficient cover for medical services in Germany. This includes visits to the doctor, medication, hospitalisation and, if necessary, dental treatment.

B Take out health insurance before entering the country:

Timely planning:

Start planning and taking out health insurance well in advance of your arrival in Germany. This can be done online or through local insurance providers.

Ensure validity period:

Make sure that your health insurance is already valid before you start your stay in Germany. This is particularly important to ensure cover from the outset.

C Provision of documents:

Insurance policy:

Have your insurance policy and all relevant documents ready to present to the German authorities if required.

Insurance card:

If you are issued with an insurance card, always carry it with you. The card facilitates access to medical services.

D Ensure continuous cover during your stay:

Update on extension:

If your stay in Germany is extended, make sure that your health insurance is continuously valid. Update the insurance accordingly if necessary.

Make any necessary adjustments:

If your circumstances change (e.g. change from a student visa to a fair-visa), adjust your health insurance accordingly.

Timely and thorough health insurance coverage is not only a prerequisite for the fair-visa, but also an essential contribution to your well-being during your stay in Germany. By choosing a suitable health insurance policy and keeping it up to date, you ensure that you have access to high-quality medical care when you need it.

4 Application And Collection Of All Necessary Documents:

Applying for a German fair-visa requires careful preparation and compiling comprehensive documentation. Compliance with the requirements and accurate fulfilment of the visa application form are crucial for a successful application process.

A Visa application form:

Download from the official website:

Visit the official website of the German embassy or consulate to download the current visa application form. These forms are usually available in the "Visa" or "Visa Application" section.

Fill in carefully:

Complete the visa application form carefully and follow the instructions on the form exactly. Avoid mistakes, as incomplete or incorrect information can delay the application process.

Print and sign:

Print out the completed form and sign it in the spaces provided. Note that some documents may need to be submitted as originals or certified copies.



B Required documents:

DOCUMENTS FOR THE VISA APPLICATION FOR GERMANY

The first documents that the applicant must always present are those that prove their identity and other basic information about the applicant. These are the documents that are generally required for all types of visas:

Application form - fully completed, printed twice and signed at the end in both copies. Note that the information in the application form must match the information in the other documents.

Two identical pictures - taken in the last three months in accordance with the strict picture requirements in this article.

Declaration of the accuracy of the information

Valid national passport - Please note that your passport must not be older than 10 years and must be valid for at least three months after your intended stay in Germany and the entire Schengen area and in compliance with the other passport requirements.



A COPY OF THE DATA PAGE OF YOUR PASSPORT (A4 COPY)

Old passport - If you have an older passport at home with visa stamps and stickers on its pages, you should also submit these to the embassy. If you have more than one old passport at home, submit them all, but do not staple the passport. Instead, simply tie them together with a rubber band.

Incoming travel health insurance - a document confirming that you have travel health insurance that covers not only the territory of Germany but the entire Schengen area and provides cover for emergency treatment or hospitalisation of at least 30,000 euros.

Proof of financial means:

If employed: Salary slips for the last three months / employment contract

If self-employed: certificate of ownership or other proof of ownership (proof of ownership, proof of income from farming (sales form), etc.)

Personal bank statement for the last three months with sufficient funds

Income tax return (ITR) or Form 16 (income tax return deducted at source)

Means of subsistence - Proof that the applicant has the means to cover expenses throughout their stay in Germany.

Proof of accommodation - This can either be a hotel booking or a letter of invitation from a friend or family member confirming that you will be staying with them throughout your stay in Germany and that the host has enough room for you.

Flight itinerary - includes flight reservations, train tickets or other means of transport you plan to use to travel to Germany. You can use visa counselling services like this one or find one online.

Specific visa requirements for participation in trade fairs and exhibitions

On the other hand, the applicant must also submit some other documents that show the reason for travelling to Germany:

DOCUMENTS PROVING

THE PURPOSE OF THE APPLICANT'S PLANNED TRIP:

An invoice of paid receipt for participation in the trade fair - for a trade fair exhibitor

The official invitation as a visitor or a paid admission ticket as a visitor to the trade fair

Marketing material of the trade fair to be visited - with information about the applicant's involvement in such an event

Documents proving the relationship between the company profile and the theme of the fair/exhibition (i.e. products/services of the company related to this theme)

Cover letter from the host stating the reason for the trip and the detailed itinerary

A document stating whether the company is authorised to do business (trade licence).

IF THE APPLICANT IS AN EMPLOYEE, THEY MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

Bank statements for the last 6 months

The employment contract (with detailed information on duration, job, salary level)

Income tax return of the salary

An authorised leave of absence from the employer, which must be signed and stamped and contain the leave of absence dates

A letter of commitment from the employer to cover the applicant's expenses

If the applicant is the owner of a company/employer, he/she must submit the following documents:

Bank statements from the company for the last 3 months showing the applicant's right and limits to withdraw money from this account

Certificate of ownership - showing that the candidate is the owner

Certificate of ownership of real estate in his home country

Profit tax return of the company

Application procedure for the visa



You should apply for a visa to attend trade fairs and exhibitions in Germany at the German embassy or consulate in your home country. In some countries there are visa application centres that accept visa applications.c. Completeness check:

Check all documentation:

Make sure that you have prepared all the required documents completely and correctly. Comprehensive documentation makes it easier for the authorities to process your application.

Organisation of the documents:

Organise your documents carefully according to the requirements of the application documents. A clear structure will make it easier for the processing authorities to check your information.

Make copies:

Make copies of all documents for your own records. This will make it easier to deal with any losses or queries during the application process.

Careful preparation and submission of all required documents are crucial steps on the road to successfully applying for a Job Seeker visa for Germany. By ensuring that your documents comply with the applicable requirements, you will make a significant contribution to ensuring that your visa application runs smoothly.

5 Making An Appointment To Submit Your Application:

Making an appointment at the German embassy or consulate in good time is a crucial step in submitting your Job Seeker visa application in person. Making an appointment in advance allows for orderly processing and helps to make the application process efficient.

A Online Appointment Booking:

Visit the official website:

Visit the official website of the German embassy or consulate responsible for your place of residence. Appointments are usually made via the "Visa" or "Appointment" section.

Log in or register:

If required, log in or register on the website to gain access to the appointment booking section. Follow the instructions for creating a user account.

Select visa type:

Select the appropriate visa type, in this case the Job Seeker visa, from the list of available options.

Check availability:

Check the availability of appointments for application submission. Appointments may be limited depending on demand and processing capacity.



B Appointment details and confirmation:

Select preferred appointment date:

Select an appointment that fits your schedule and note the details, including the date, time and location.

Confirming the appointment:

Confirm the selected appointment and review all instructions associated with making the appointment. A confirmation email or printout of the appointment may be helpful

C Preparing for the appointment:

Completing the paperwork:

Make sure all required paperwork is prepared and complete according to the instructions on the website.

Punctuality and professionalism:

Show up on time for the scheduled appointment and dress appropriately. A professional appearance emphasises the seriousness of your application.

Make a note of any fees:

Be aware of any visa fees that may need to be paid when submitting your application. Clarify the payment options in advance.

D Use alternative contact options:

Telephone appointment:

If it is not possible to make an appointment online, enquire about alternative options, such as making an appointment by telephone. You can find the contact details on the website of the embassy or consulate.

Personal visit:

In some cases, it may be possible to visit the embassy or consulate in person to make an appointment.

Making and keeping a precise appointment are essential steps in submitting your Job Seeker visa application in Germany. By utilising the resources available online and following the embassy or consulate's instructions to the letter, you will help to ensure that your application process runs smoothly.

6 Preparing for the visa interview:

A visa interview is often an important part of the fair-visa application process. The face-to-face interaction allows the authorities to get to know you better and ensure that you fulfil the requirements for the visa. Here are some steps for successful preparation:

A Know about the visa application:

Go through your application:

Be prepared to talk about the purpose of your stay in Germany.

Understand the requirements:

Make sure you understand the specific requirements of the fair-visa.

B Behaviour and etiquette tips:

Polite and respectful behaviour:

Be polite and respectful to interviewers. Adhering to etiquette is crucial to making a positive impression.

Clear and concise answers:

Answer questions clearly and concisely. Avoid ambiguity and be prepared to provide further clarification if necessary.

C Practise the interview:

Simulate the interview:

Practise the interview with a friend or family member. This will help you prepare for possible questions and refine your answers.

Get feedback:

Get constructive feedback to improve your presentation and communication.

Successful preparation for the visa interview requires a thorough knowledge of your own application details and clear communication of your plans and qualifications. Through focused preparation, you can appear confident and convincing during the interview and increase the chances of your Job Seeker visa being approved.



7 Fee Payment And Visa Process:

A Fee Payment:

Determine the visa fees:

Find out the current visa fees for the Job Seeker visa. Fees may vary depending on the type of visa and individual circumstances.

Available payment options:

Check the available payment options accepted by the embassy or consulate. This may include cash, credit card or other electronic payment methods.

Timing of fee payment:

Pay the visa fees well in advance of your application submission date. Make sure that the payment is confirmed before the appointment.

B Application review and decision:

Wait for the review process:

Once your application has been submitted, the embassy will conduct a thorough review. This may take several weeks, depending on the processing time and workload.

Possible queries:

Be prepared that you may be contacted by the authorities during the review process if additional information or clarification is required.

Application status tracking:

Regularly check the status of your visa application if the embassy or consulate offers an online tracking system.

Notification of decision:

Once the review process is complete, you will receive a notification of the decision by email or post. This notification will inform you of the approval or rejection of your visa application.



C Visa collection:

Pick up in person:

If your visa has been approved, make an appointment to collect it in person. This enables a smooth handover and provides an opportunity for any queries.

Use the shipping service:

Alternatively, if offered, you can use the embassy or consulate's mailing service to conveniently receive your visa by post.

Bring the required documents:

Bring all required documents, including your proof of identity and confirmation of fee payment, to collect your visa.

Visa in your passport:

Your visa will be affixed to your passport. Check all entries and ensure that all information is correct.

D Further steps after the visa has been issued:

Make travel arrangements:

Start making preparations for your trip to Germany. This includes booking flights, organising accommodation and other logistical details.

Exchange information with employers:

If you already have contact with potential employers in Germany, get in touch with them to discuss your planned arrival date and other details.

Check health care:

Check health care for your stay and clarify any other medical requirements if necessary. The successful payment of fees, the application review process and the collection of your visa mark the completion of your application process. By carefully following the instructions and preparing well in advance, you will help to ensure that your stay in Germany runs smoothly and successfully.

Additional support and resources:

Legal advice on fiverr and affiliate links:

If you would like additional legal advice regarding your Job Seeker visa, you can seek professional assistance from me on Fiverr. I am an experienced lawyer and can clarify individual questions and provide specific guidance. Click here for legal advice on fiverr: <https://go.fiverr.com/visit/?bta=413948&brand=fiverrcpa&landingPage=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fiverr.com%2Flegaladvisorger%2Fbe-your-legal-expert-on-german-immigration-and-work-visa-laws>

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