

## Residence permit for the purpose of self-employment - Issuance -

A residence permit for a self-employed occupation *may* be issued for

- \* Founder of a company,
- \* Sole proprietor and
- \* Managing directors and legal representatives of partnerships and corporations, if they have entrepreneurial responsibility.

\*Note\*: For freelancers different requirements apply:

[[[https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/328332/en/Residence permit for a freelance employment - Issuance](https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/328332/en/Residence%20permit%20for%20a%20freelance%20employment%20-%20Issuance)]]

### Prerequisites

- Economic interest of the state of Berlin
  - A foreigner may be granted a residence permit for the pursuit of a self-employed occupation if
    - \* an economic interest or a regional need exists,
    - \* the occupation is expected to have a positive impact on the economy and
    - \* the implementation is financed by equity or a loan commitment.
  - \*Exception:\* different standards apply to university graduates, researchers and scientists.
- For university graduates, researchers and scientists
  - Another examination standard applies to foreigners who
    - \* have successfully completed a course of study in Germany at a state, state-recognised or comparable training institution, or
    - \* work as a researcher or scientist in Germany and hold a residence permit.
  - The intended self-employed occupation must have a connection with the knowledge acquired during the studies or the occupation as a researcher or scientist.
- Main residence in Berlin
- A personal interview is required
  - The interview should, if possible, take place by appointment.

### Documents required

- Valid passport
- 1 current biometric photo
  - 35mm x 45mm, frontal shot with neutral facial expression and closed mouth, looking straight into the camera, light background
  - [http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/kraftfahrzeugwesen/foto-mustertafel.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/kraftfahrzeugwesen/foto-mustertafel.pdf)
- The form "Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels" (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit)
  - Only required for first-time application
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### Company profile

- For university graduates: A statement by the university  
Alternative to the company profile:  
A statement by the university regarding the knowledge acquired in higher education and the connection to the business idea
- For researchers and scientists: A statement of the previous employer  
Alternative to the company profile:  
A statement of the previous employer (e.g. research institution) on the connection between the occupation as researcher/scientist and the business idea
- Businessplan
- Business concept
- Capital requirement plan
- Financing plan
- Revenue forecast
- Curriculum vitae  
Details of professional career, qualification certificates, diploma, references/sponsors
- For university graduates: Degree from a state-recognised university or comparable training institution in Germany  
Original
- Excerpt from the Trade Register  
However, at least the application for registration in the commercial register via a notary public; in the original
- Business registration (Gewerbeanmeldung)  
Only if no entry in the commercial register is required; in the original
- Health insurance  
Proof of a secure livelihood must also include sufficient health insurance. Those with statutory health insurance are sufficiently insured. Those with private health insurance must consider the type and extent of their health insurance. For more information, please read the leaflet "Information on adequate health insurance".
- Lease or proof of home ownership
- Rental cost / expenses for property  
Proof of the monthly rental costs (e.g. current account statement) or costs of the inhabited property; in each case in original form
- Adequate pension plan  
Only if you are above the age of 45:  
  
An offer from a private pension or life insurer must be submitted which guarantees  
\* a monthly pension of 1,188.92 euros after the age of 67 (for at least 12 years)  
\* or guarantees an asset amount of 175,068 euros.  
Alternatively, evidence can also be provided from currently available assets.

Proof of a pension plan is not required for these nationalities: Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Turkey and the United States of America

\*Note:\* An adequate pension is always necessary for the issuance of a permanent residence permit - regardless of age or nationality.

- Proof of main residence in Berlin
  - \* Certificate of registration at the main residence \*or\*
  - \* lease and written confirmation of occupancy from the landlord

## Forms

- Information on adequate health insurance  
[https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/\\_assets/mdb-f131960-labo\\_4326\\_merkblatt\\_krankenversicherungsschutz\\_05.13\\_engl\\_.pdf](https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f131960-labo_4326_merkblatt_krankenversicherungsschutz_05.13_engl_.pdf)
- ?Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit) - in German, English, French, Italian  
[https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/\\_assets/mdb-f72301-labo\\_agen1\\_\\_antrag\\_engl\\_frz\\_ital\\_03\\_2017.pdf](https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f72301-labo_agen1__antrag_engl_frz_ital_03_2017.pdf)
- ?Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit - in German, Greek, Turkish, Serbo-Croatian  
[https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/\\_assets/mdb-f72304-labo\\_agen2\\_\\_antrag\\_griech\\_tuerk\\_sk\\_03\\_2017.pdf](https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f72304-labo_agen2__antrag_griech_tuerk_sk_03_2017.pdf)
- ?Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit - in German, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian  
[https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/\\_assets/mdb-f72307-labo\\_agen3\\_\\_antrag\\_span\\_port\\_russ\\_03\\_2017.pdf](https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f72307-labo_agen3__antrag_span_port_russ_03_2017.pdf)
- Company profile  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/firmenprofil.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/firmenprofil.pdf)
- Business concept  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/geschaeftskonzept.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/geschaeftskonzept.pdf)
- Capital requirement plan  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/kapitalbedarfsplan.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/kapitalbedarfsplan.pdf)
- Financing plan  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/finanzierungsplan.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/finanzierungsplan.pdf)
- Revenue forecast  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/ertragsvorschau.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/ertragsvorschau.pdf)
- Businessplan  
[http://www.berlin.de/labo/\\_assets/zuwanderung/businessplan.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/zuwanderung/businessplan.pdf)

## Fees

- \* 56.00 to 100.00 euros (depending on the technical effort)
- \* A maximum of 28.80 euro for Turkish citizens

## Legal basis

- Section 21 para 1 or 2a Aufenthaltsgesetz - AufenthG  
[http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch\\_aufenthg/englisch\\_aufenthg.html#p0518](http://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0518)

## Average time to process request

The residence permit will generally be issued as an adhesive label in your passport. Electronic residence permits can at the moment only be issued in exceptional circumstances.

## More information

- Starting a Business in Berlin - A Beginner's Guide by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Berlin  
[https://www.ihk-berlin.de/English/en/s\\_987416/Starting\\_a\\_business\\_in\\_berlin/Getting\\_started/3298302](https://www.ihk-berlin.de/English/en/s_987416/Starting_a_business_in_berlin/Getting_started/3298302)
- Certificate of registration at the main residence (Meldebestätigung)  
<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/120686/>
- Example: confirmation of occupancy from the landlord  
[http://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zentrale-einwohnerangelegenheiten/\\_assets/mdb-f402544-20161102\\_wohnungsgeberbestaetigung.pdf](http://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zentrale-einwohnerangelegenheiten/_assets/mdb-f402544-20161102_wohnungsgeberbestaetigung.pdf)
- Permanent settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) for self-employed persons  
<http://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/326564/standort/121885/>