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Residence permit for the purpose of freelance or self-employment - extension

Extension of a residence permit granted for a self-employed or freelance activity

Prerequisites

- **Residence permit for the purpose of freelance or self-employment**

The residence permit must still be valid and issued in accordance with section 21 AufenthG.

- **Adequate pension plan (only if you have already completed the 45th year of life)**

The following applies to applications in 2022:

Perspectively, at the age of 67, you must have

- either a monthly pension of 1,340.47 euros (for at least 12 years)
- or an asset amount of 195,104.00 euros.

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 settlement permit - regardless of age or nationality.)

- **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**

(https://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/kraftfahrzeugwesen/foto-mustertafel.pdf)

35mm x 45mm, frontal shot with neutral facial expression and closed mouth, looking straight into the camera, light background

- **Entrepreneurs and self-employed (residence permit in accordance with section 21 para. 1 or para. 2a AufenthG): form**

"Prüfungsbericht" (Audit report form)

- The audit report form must be prepared by a tax consultant, auditor or a lawyer with relevant professional experience (e.g. a specialist lawyer for tax law).
- It should bear an official stamp.
- Together with the documents mentioned in the audit report form

- **Freelancers (residence permit in accordance with section 21 para. 5 AufenthG): Proof of a secure livelihood**

Freelancers (e.g. artists or language instructors) are not required to provide an audit report form, but need to provide proof of a secure livelihood through their occupation with other documents:

- Tax assessments,
- Net profit determination of a tax consultant,
- Bank account statements that show a regular inflow and
- Invoices, e.g. from galleries and auction houses and the like.

Please put the documents in original and sorted.

- **Lease or proof of home ownership**

Original

- **Rental cost / expenses for property**

Proof of the monthly rental costs (current account statement) or cost of the inhabited property; each 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".

- **Adequate pension plan (only if you have already completed the 45th year of life)**

You can provide evidence of adequate retirement benefits (see section "Prerequisites") by:

- a private pension or life insurance,
- own assets,
- acquired pension rights or
- operating assets

- **Proof of main residence in Berlin**

- Certificate of registration at the main residence or
- lease and written confirmation of occupancy from the landlord

More on the topic in the section "More information".

Forms

- **Audit report form ("Prüfungsbericht") for entrepreneurs and self-employed persons**

(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_asets/pruefungsbericht_bis.docx)

Fees

- 96.00 euros

Turkish citizens:

- From the age of 24 years: 37.00 euros
- Until the age of 24 years: 22.80 euros

Legal basis

- **Aufenthaltsgesetz (AufenthG) § 21**

(https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0621)

Average time to process request

Around 5–6 weeks

A personal visit four to six weeks before the existing temporary residence title expires is best. If possible you should book an appointment for this.

More information

- **Leaflet "Health insurance"**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f131960-labo_4326_merkblatt_krankenversicherungsschutz_05.13__engl__.__pdf)
- **Permanent settlement permit for self-employed persons**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/326564/standort/121885/en/>)
- **Permanent settlement permit for freelancers**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/121864/standort/121885/en/>)
- **Certificate of registration at the main residence (Meldebestätigung)**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/120686/>)
- **Example: confirmation of occupancy from the landlord**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zentrale-einwohnerangelegenheiten/_assets/mdb-f402544-20161102_wohnungsgeberbestaetigung.pdf)

Responsible authorities

This service can only be taken advantage of in the Berlin Immigration Office (Landesamt für Einwanderung – LEA) at Friedrich-Krause-Ufer.