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EU Blue Card (Blaue Karte EU)

If you have a university degree you can get an EU Blue Card to enable you to work in Germany. A certain minimum salary is necessary for this.

The EU Blue Card has several advantages compared with a residence permit for the purpose of employment. For example, it enables you to obtain the right of permanent residence more quickly. There is more information about the benefits in the "More information" section.

The EU Blue Card is valid for a maximum of 4 years. If you have a fixed-term employment contract, the EU Blue Card can also be valid for a shorter time. Normally it also lasts 3 months longer than your employment contract.

For the first two years of employment, approval from the Foreigners' Registration Office must be obtained before any change of job.

You have foreign family members in Berlin who also need a residence title?

Then please make an appointment together to apply for the EU Blue Card and the residence permits for your family members.

You can find the necessary documents for your family members in the service "**Residence permit for spouses and children of holders of an EU Blue Card**" (see section "More information").

Prerequisites

- **Specific university degree**

You have

- a degree from a German university or
- a degree from a foreign university which is recognised in Germany, or
- a different degree from a foreign university which is comparable to a German degree.

You can check the "anabin" database to see whether your foreign degree is recognised. You will find a link to this database in the "More information" section.

If your degree is not evaluated in this database, you can have a certificate assessment carried out specially for your degree. This will incur additional costs. You can find more about certificate assessment in the "More information" section.

- **Employment**

You already have an employment contract or a concrete offer.

- **Employment in Germany**

An employment relationship in Germany must be established. In addition, the employer must have a place of business in Germany.

- **Minimum salary**

You can only get the EU Blue Card if you earn enough. The amount you need to earn depends on your job. For the year 2023 the following applies:

- If you work in a shortage occupation, you need to earn EUR 3,796.00 gross per month or more. (This equates to EUR 45,552.00 per year.) Shortage occupations are specific occupations for which there are not

enough workers in Germany. These professions at present are: Scientists in natural science disciplines, mathematicians, architects, interior, urban and traffic planners, designers, engineers, scientific engineers, physicians (except dentists) and those with academic qualifications in information and communications technology.

- If you are working in another profession, you will need to earn EUR 4,866.67 gross per month or more. (This equates to 58,400.00 Euro per year.)
- Note: Success bonuses and other fully variable special payments are not taken into account.

- **Possibly: Approval of the German Federal Employment Agency (Bundesagentur für Arbeit)**

You need the approval of the Federal Employment Agency if you

- work in a shortage occupation and
- earn less than EUR 4,866.67 gross per month.

- **Depending on the profession: Occupation practice permit**

For some jobs you need a special permit, for example for human medicine. If you do not know whether you need this special permit, please ask your employer.

- **Health insurance**

You have health insurance in Germany, either in the statutory health insurance system or a comparable private health insurance. Foreign health insurance is not sufficient.

- **Main residence in Berlin**

You live in Berlin. A second residence in Berlin is not sufficient. More on the subject: [Anmeldung einer Wohnung](#).

- **Appearance in person**

Please make an appointment for this.

Documents required

- **Form "Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels" (filled out)**
only required on first application
- **For the approval of the Federal Employment Agency: additional form**
 - Form "Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis" (filled out by your employer)
- **Your passport**
- **Proof of your residence**
for example by
 - Certificate of registration at the main residence (Melde-Bestätigung) or
 - lease and written confirmation of occupancy from the landlord (Wohnungsgeber-Bestätigung)
- **Current biometric photo**
(https://www.berlin.de/labof/_assets/kraftfahrzeugwesen/foto-mustertafel.pdf)
35mm x 45mm, frontal shot with neutral facial expression and closed mouth, looking straight into the camera, light background
- **University or university college qualification (Original)**
- **If necessary: Zeugnisbewertung**
If your foreign degree is not evaluated in the "anabin" database, please submit a certificate assessment to the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB).

- **Your employment contract or job offer (Original)**

- **If necessary: Occupation practice permit**

- **Proof of your health insurance**

for statutory health insurance:

- electronic health card with photo
- up-to-date confirmation of health insurance

for private health insurance:

- Proof that you have paid your contributions, for example through account statements
- Certificate from the insurance company

The certificate must state the type, scope and duration of the insurance.

Please tell your insurance company that you need the certificate for a residence permit for the purpose of employment.

- **Lease or proof of home ownership**

Original

- **Rental cost / expenses for property**

Supporting documents proving monthly rent costs (e.g. a current account statement) or the costs of the occupied property (original)

Forms

- **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/_asets/lea-agen1-antrag_engl_frz_ital-112021.pdf)

- **Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit) - in German, Greek, Turkish, Vietnamese**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_asets/lea-agen2-antrag_griech_tuerk_viet-112021.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/_asets/lea-agen3-antrag_span_port_russ-112021.pdf)

- **Antrag auf Erteilung eines Aufenthaltstitels (Application for Issuance of a Residence Permit) - in German, Serbian, Bosnian**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_asets/lea-agen4_-antrag_serb_bos-112021_final.pdf)

- **Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis (job description)**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis/?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_asets/mdb-f50329-stellenbeschreibung_2017.pdf)

Fees

- For the first issuance: 100.00 euros
- For an extension by up to three months: 96.00 euros
- For an extension by more than three months: 93.00 euros

Turkish nationals (for first issuance as well as for extension)

- Up to the age of 24 years: 22.80 euros

- From the age of 24 years: 37.00 euros

If you need a qualification evaluation, you will have to pay additional costs.

Legal basis

- **Section 18b para. 2 Aufenthaltsgesetz - AufenthG**
(https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_aufenthg/englisch_aufenthg.html#p0403)

Average time to process request

Around 5-6 weeks

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

More information

- **Information of the Berlin Immigration Office about the EU Blue Card**
(<https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/aufenthalt/erwerbstaetigkeit/artikel.874035.php#BKEU>)
- **Information portal of the German government for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications**
(<https://www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/en/index.php>)
- **Online database "anabin" by the Central Office for Foreign Education Affairs**
(<https://anabin.kmk.org/anabin.html>)
- **Certificate evaluation for foreign university qualifications**
(<https://www.kmk.org/zab/zentralstelle-fuer-auslaendisches-bildungswesen/zueugnisbewertung.html>)
- **Information on adequate health insurance**
(https://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis?formular=/labo/zuwanderung/_assets/mdb-f131960-labo_4326_merkblatt_krankenversicherungsschutz_05.13__engl_.pdf)
- **Certificate of registration at the main residence (Meldebestätigung)**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/120686/>)
- **Example: confirmation of occupancy from the landlord (Wohnungsgeber-Bestätigung)**
(http://www.berlin.de/formularverzeichnis?formular=/labo/zentrale-einwohnerangelegenheiten/_assets/mdb-f402544-20161102_wohnungsgeberbestaetigung.pdf)
- **Residence permit for spouses and children of holders of an EU Blue Card**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/328188/en/>)
- **Foto-Mustertafel der Bundesdruckerei**
(https://www.berlin.de/labo/_assets/kraftfahrzeugwesen/foto-mustertafel.pdf)

Responsible authority

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

Information on this location

LEA, Zum Business Immigration Service (BIS)

Address

Fasanenstraße 85
10623 Berlin

Mailing address

Friedrich-Krause-Ufer 24
13353 Berlin

Contact

Telephone: (030) 90269-5900

Fax: (030) 9028-3468

Internet:

<https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/service/business-immigration-service/>

Contact form:

<https://www.berlin.de/einwanderung/service/business-immigration-service/online-formulare-des-bis/>

Information on the address of this location

The postal address differs from the address of the location.

Therefore, please always send letters to: Landesamt für Einwanderung, Friedrich-Krause-Ufer 24, 13353 Berlin.

Barrier-free access



[Explanation of symbols](#)

Payment options

Payment is not provided.

Public transportation

S-Bahn

0.2km [S+U Zoologischer Garten Bhf](#)

S3, S5, S7, S9

U-Bahn

0.3km [S+U Zoologischer Garten Bhf](#)

U9, U2

Bus

0.2km [S+U Zoologischer Garten/Jebensstr.](#)

245, M45, 100, 200, N2, N9

0.2km [Theater des Westens](#)

M49, X34

0.2km [Uhlandstr./Kantstr.](#)

M49

0.3km [Steinplatz](#)

245, M45, N2

0.3km [S+U Zoologischer Garten Bhf](#)

EV1, 109, 110, N10, N7X, X10, M49, N9, X34, 100, 200, N2, 204, 245, 249,
M45, M46, N1, N26, A05

0.3km [Hertzeallee](#)

100, 109, 110, 200, 204, 245, 249, M45, M46, M49, N1, N10, N2, N26, N9,
X10, X34

Train

0.3km [S+U Zoologischer Garten Bhf](#)

FEX, RB23, RE1, RE2, RE7, RE8