Make it in Germany

Working in Germany: the official website for qualified professionals

At a glance: Visa for self-employment



Apply for a visa in the country of residence

- · Bring documents in their entirety
- Fees: EUR 75 (in local currency)

Please consider: Processing time ranges from a few days to several weeks.

Step 5

Apply for a residence permit in Germany

- · Make appointment with foreigners authority
- · Apply for residence permit for self-employment (Section 21 Act on the Residence - AufenthG)
- · Request a list of the required documents from the foreigners authority and prepare them
- · Handling fees can be up to EUR 100 (Section 45 Residence Ordinance - AufenthV)

Please consider: The residence permit must be applied for before the entry visa expires.

Step 2

Make an appointment at the German embassy

· Preparation of necessary documents: e.g. passport, business plan, proof of financial means, visa

Please consider: The German embassies provide information about possible waiting times for appointments and any additional documents that may be required on their websites.

Step 4

Enter Germany

- · Issuance of visa for self-employment in Germany
- · Book flight/journey to Germany

Please consider: It is mandatory to have sufficient health insurance coverage prior to entering Germany.

This overview is a simplified representation of the visa procedure. The steps described are solely for the purpose of clarifying the application procedure for residence permits. Further details on the visa application procedure and information on important points of contact can be found at www.make-it-in-germany.com.

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