

## Opportunity Card

The opportunity card enables non-EU country nationals to enter Germany in order to search for qualified, gainful employment. It is issued for a maximum period of 1 year to candidates recognized as skilled workers or to applicants who score at least 6 points in the points-system.

While you are looking for gainful employment in Germany, you are allowed to have one or more part-time jobs (for 20 hours a week). You may also do job trials for a maximum period of two weeks per employer as part of your job search. The aim of the job trial must be to obtain qualified employment, an apprenticeship or participation in a qualification program.

You can find out more information about the Opportunity Card and about living and working in Germany here: <https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/de/>

Please also consult the opportunity card [self-check](#)

### Important information:

- Documents that are not in German, must be submitted with a certified German translation. Exceptions: Documents in English, passports and Dutch residence permits.
- Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original. In some cases, an apostille/legalisation is required. Your original documents will be returned to you once your application has been processed. You can find additional information here: [International recognition/Legalisation of documents](#)
- Please submit the original documents plus one additional copy per document. Please prepare two separate sets:
  - Set 1: original documents (if required)
  - Set 2: copy of all required documents
- The Consulate General reserves the right to request additional documents.
- Visa applications with complete documentation have the best chance of success. Incomplete applications can be rejected with reference to your obligation to cooperate in accordance with Section 82 of the Residence Act.
- Expect processing times of several weeks. The Consulate General cannot decide on your visa application without feedback of the internal German authorities involved in the procedure. It further cannot influence processing times in Germany. As a result, requests for information on the status of the application cannot be answered.
- You can find additional information under [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com)

**Please turn →**

## Checklist

### Opportunity Card

*Please bring the following documents to the appointment at the Consulate General. Bring originals plus one copy per document. Print copies one-sided, not back-to-back, do not staple. If documents contain more than one page, please use paper clips to keep the document together.*

#### **General requirements (for all applicants)**

- fully completed and personally signed [Videx application form](#). The intended place of stay and your reference person /organization must be in Germany.
- personally signed [declaration pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act](#)
- one recent **biometric passport photo**, 35 x 45 mm, not glued or pinned, no older than six months, light background, no white clothing.
- valid passport** (original & copy) with at least 2 completely blank pages. The 2 blank pages must be next to each other. Copy of the passport data page as well as any pages containing data, visas or stamps
- valid Dutch residence permit** (original & copy)
- curriculum vitae** with information on your previous professional career in German or English
- intended place of stay/accommodation** (private/with acquaintances or relatives, holiday apartment, rental contract? NO hotel booking)
- Financial means:** You can provide proof your ability to cover living costs in Germany with a blocked account or sponsorship guarantee. Additionally, concrete prospects for part-time work position in Germany can be taken into account.
  - *Blocked account:* Blocking confirmation over an amount of min. € 1.091,- per month (= € 13,092,- for 1 year).
  - *Part-time job* in Germany: Job contract or binding job offer indicating monthly salary and working hours per week.
  - *Sponsorship guarantee:* Formal guarantee pursuant Sections 66, 68 Residence Act with which a sponsor enters a binding obligation to cover the costs for an applicant (original + copy). The sponsor must be resident in Germany.
- proof of sufficient German health insurance:** Your Dutch health insurance is no longer valid the day you take up residence in Germany. You must, therefore, submit a German health insurance.
- visa fee:** € 75,- in cash or by credit card (Mastercard or Visa only); to be paid during the appointment

### **Pathway 1**

#### **(For applicants with a qualification obtained in Germany or a qualification obtained abroad that is fully recognized in Germany)**

In addition to the general requirements on page 1, applicants under pathway 1 must submit the documents listed below.

Note: The points-system does not apply to applicants under pathway 1.

- **Vocational training certificate or academic degree** (original & copy)
- **Recognition of the qualification** (only if the degree/certificate has been obtained abroad):
  - *For applicants who completed vocational training:* Recognition by competent authority in Germany
  - *For university/higher education graduates:* Excerpt from [Anabin database](#) for the university/college and the specific degree (e.g. MSc Physics). For the university the excerpts must note H+. For the degree the excerpts must state that the degree 'corresponds.' If you cannot find either university or degree on Anabin, you have to apply for a statement of comparability at the [ZAB](#).
  - *For applicants with a qualification in a regulated professions* (e.g. doctors, engineers): Permission to exercise the profession issued by the German authority competent for recognizing qualifications in your professional field. More information [here](#). The complete list of regulated professionals is available at the [Federal Employment Agency](#) or the [European Commission](#)

Please check [www.anererkennung-in-deutschland.de](http://www.anererkennung-in-deutschland.de) for additional information on recognition.

## **Pathway 2**

### ***(For applicants with academic degrees or vocational training NOT fully recognized in Germany)***

In addition to the general requirements on page 1, applicants under pathway 2 must meet the requirements below **and** score at least 6 points in the points-system.

To determine your score in the points-system please use the [self-check](#)

### **Required Documents (all applicants under pathway 2)**

- **Vocational training certificate or academic degree** (original & copy)
- **Partial recognition / comparability of qualification in Germany:**
  - *For applicants who completed vocational training:* Either one of the following documents: (i) Statement on a Foreign Vocational Qualification from the [ZAB](#) or (ii) deficit notice / statement of partial recognition from the authority in Germany competent for the recognition of qualifications in your professional field. You can find more information [here](#)
  - *For university/higher education graduates:* Excerpt from [Anabin](#) database for partial recognition of university/college and the specific degree. If you cannot find either university or your specific degree on Anabin, you have to apply for a Statement of Comparability at the [ZAB](#)
  - *For applicants who completed vocational training at the German Chamber of Commerce Abroad (AHK):* Certificate and confirmation of positive result from [Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training \(BIBB\)](#)
- **Language skills:** Please submit proof of either German or English language skills
  - *German language skills:* A 1 or higher language certificate [recognized in visa procedures](#) (original & copy) or
  - *English language skills:* B 2 or higher language certificate issued by a full member of the [Association of Language Testers in Europe](#) (ALTE) or 'Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

Additional documents may be required depending on your individual situation.

### **The points-system (for applicants under pathway 2)**

In addition to the general requirements on page 1 and the requirements for all applicants under pathway 2, you must score at least 6 points in the pointing system. The number of points you can gain can vary. For example, the more professional experience you have the more points you gain.

To determine your score in the points-system please use the [self-check](#)