At a glance: Visa for research

Visa and entry procedure for immigrants from third countries subject to visa obligation

General entitlement requirements (Section 5 Act on the Residence - AufenthG): passport, proof of financial means, no existing reason for expulsion

**Step 1**
Check requirements
- Hosting agreement or contract with a research organization in Germany
- If necessary, secure further financial means (e.g. scholarship)

Please consider: Requirements may vary when working in a publicly funded research institution.

**Step 2**
Make an appointment at the German embassy
- Preparation of necessary documents: e.g. passport, hosting agreement with a research institution, proof of financial means, visa application form

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 3**
Apply for visa in 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 4**
Enter Germany
- Issuance of visa for research in Germany
- Book flight/journey to Germany

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

**Step 5**
Apply for residence permit
- Make appointment with foreigners authority
- Apply for residence permit for research in Germany (Section 18 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: Residence permit must be applied for before the expiry of the entry visa.

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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