



## Employment Visa for skilled workers holding a university degree (Section 18b Residence Act)

### Basic information

- Please check all the basic the information first on our website.  
**Applications can only be submitted via the [Consular Services Portal](#).**
- The German mission is only competent should you have your permanent residence in Tanzania
- Documents not in the German language must be submitted with a certified German translation. A translation of the personal data page of the passport is, however, not required.
- Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original with apostille/legalisation.
- The visa must be approved by the Federal Employment Agency and, where applicable, the competent foreigners authority in Germany. The visa can only be issued when this approval has been received.
- **Processing time is generally six weeks** but can take longer in individual cases.
- Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please only book when you have received your visa.
- The mission abroad reserves the right to request further documents.
- Missing documentation delays the procedure and can result in your application being rejected.
- **Please do not contact the mission abroad to check the status of your application during the normal processing period.** Such inquiries are extremely time-consuming for the visa section and can thus not be answered.

### General information

To apply for a Visa for **skilled workers holding a university degree** you will need:

- a university degree comparable to German standards (*please note that there are university degrees that are recognised as vocational training in Germany*)
- qualified employment in Germany (not necessarily appropriate to the qualification, in case you work in a regulated profession, for instance health profession, a professional licence is mandatory)
- Specific job offer from an employer in Germany for a qualified position. Auxiliary tasks will not be sufficient.
- if you are 45 years or older and your annual gross salary is less than EUR 53.130,- (in 2025) you will need to prove adequate insurance for retirement

Use the following checklist to make sure your application documents are complete and bring a print out to your appointment. All documents listed here are to be submitted in the requested **form and order**.



Last updated: December 2024

### Visa application checklist

The following documents are to be submitted in full with every application also in the case of persons travelling together (e.g. spouses or children). You will need one appointment per applicant.

- One [fully completed and signed applications](#) including declarations pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
- One recent biometric passport photo (see specimen photos)
- Valid and personally signed passport with at least one completely empty pages, one year validity
- Proof of your residence in Tanzania (e.g. by water bill or gas bill)
- Concrete job offer - Please provide signed declaration
- Completed form signed by your employer: [Declaration of employment](#) (original with one copy). It is also helpful to additionally include the work contract.
- Job description - Your job description must contain the exact job profile and the requirements for you as an employee in German or English. You can usually obtain such a job description from the employer's HR department.
- Curriculum Vitae - Please provide us with your CV in English or German.
- Proof of qualification: University qualification/degree (all pages, original)
- Proof of **recognition of the qualification**:
  - > Proof of '[Statement of Comparability](#)' after [recognition of the qualification](#) issued by the competent authority within Germany. Please proceed via the [Service Centre for Professional Recognition \(ZBA\)](#)
  - > For a pre-check you can use the [anabin database](#) on the qualification and on the institution (*the qualification needs to be assessed as "entspricht" (comparable) or "gleichwertig" (equivalent) and the institution is classified as "H+"*)
- and (*in the case of regulated professions in which permission is required to exercise the profession, for example, doctors, engineers; complete list is available from the [Federal Employment Agency](#) or the [European Commission](#)*)
  - > **Permission to exercise a profession** issued by the authority responsible for recognizing qualifications or assurance of permission to exercise a profession (original and One Copy) (for example, for medical professions: decision of the licensing authority in the federal territory, i.e. assurance of permission to exercise a profession and/or issuing of medical license)
  - More information on recognition: [www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de](http://www.erkennung-in-deutschland.de)
- Signed declaration of 'Requirement to inform of any change of employer or employment status'
- Proof of health insurance  
Persons with statutory health insurance cover are adequately insured from the first day of work. Please provide proof of your statutory insurance cover.



Last updated: December 2024

If you arrive before the statutory health insurance cover begins, you must take out appropriate supplementary insurance.

If a long or permanent stay is planned, some travel health insurance policies may exclude insurance cover in their terms and conditions. This restriction may also apply to an "incoming" insurance policy, so please ensure that your supplementary insurance policy provides adequate cover.

- From the age of 45: **Proof of adequate provision for old age**  
(original and one copy (only if salary does not amount to at least 55% of the annual contribution assessment ceiling for the general pension insurance scheme – EUR 53.130,- (in 2025) gross/per annum/

#### **Applicant of a nationality other than Tanzania**

- Proof of residence permit for Tanzania

#### **Fee**

- Visa fee of 75 €. Payable in TZS.

#### **Completeness of application**

- The application is complete:  Yes  No, the information/documents indicated above are lacking.

**Declaration when applications are not complete:**  
I have been informed that my application is not complete. I am aware that submitting an incomplete application can lead to the application being rejected. I would like to submit my application nevertheless.

\_\_\_\_\_ place, date, signature

#### **Declaration for the fast-track procedure for skilled workers**

My future employer has launched a fast-track procedure for skilled workers in Germany to enable me to enter the country

- with \_\_\_\_\_ (enter relevant authority).  
 A fast-track procedure for skilled workers has not been launched.  
 A procedure for my entry as a skilled worker was launched in \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/year) with \_\_\_\_\_ (authority) and was  
concluded with legal effect as follows: \_\_\_\_\_.

Should my employer launch a fast-track procedure for skilled workers in Germany, I will inform the mission abroad on my own initiative. I am aware that in such a case visa proceedings can be suspended until a decision has been taken by the authority in Germany.