

September 2023

## Visa for the purpose of self-employment (Section 21 Residence Act)

A residence permit for a self-employed occupation may be issued for

- Founders of a company,
- Sole proprietors and
- Managing directors and legal representatives of partnerships and corporations, if they have entrepreneurial responsibility.

A foreigner may be granted a residence permit for the pursuit of a self-employed occupation if

- an economic interest or a regional need applies,
- the occupation is expected to have a positive impact on the economy and
- the implementation is financed by equity or a loan commitment.

You can find out more about living and working in Germany at [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com)

***Required documents:*** Please make sure to prepare a complete set of the following documents (collated in the order as listed below with a legible, unstapled copy in DinA4 format) to submit during your appointment:

- fully completed and signed applications including declarations pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
- 1 recent biometric passport photo (see specimen photos)
- Valid passport with at least two completely empty pages
- 1 uncertified copy of the data page of your valid passport
- Danish residence permit (card) – original + 1 copy (front and back)
- Proof of address in Denmark: yellow Danish health card (sygesikring) or bopælsattest (not older than 2 months) – original + 1 copy
- Businessplan – original + 1 copy  
You can find tips for creating your business plan, for example, on the start-up portal of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action - BMWK (<https://www.existenzgruender.de/EN/Home/inhalt.html> ).
- Financing plan – original + 1 copy, see section "Forms" on the website of the city of Berlin: <https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/305249/en/>

- Resume / Curriculum vitae with details of professional career, qualification certificates, diploma, references/sponsors
- Excerpt from the German Trade Register – original + 1 copy  
or at least the application for registration in the commercial register via a notary public; in the original + 1 copy
- Trade registration (Gewerbeanmeldung) – original + 1 copy  
Only if no entry in the commercial register is required; in the original
- Lease or proof of home ownership or Rental cost / expenses for property  
Proof of the monthly rental costs (e.g. current account statement) or costs of the inhabited property; in each case in original form + 1 copy
- Adequate pension plan (only if you have already completed the 45th year of life) – original + 1 copy –  
You can provide evidence of adequate retirement benefits (see section "Prerequisites") by:
  - an offer from a private pension or life insurer,
  - own assets,
  - acquired pension rights or
  - operating assets

For more information, please refer to:

<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/305249/en/>

- Proof of qualification: University qualification incl. transcript of grades/mark sheets (all pages), with certified German translation, if not in English – original + 1 copy
- Proof of adequate health insurance cover  
If as an employee you are subject to mandatory statutory health insurance, you must bear in mind that this insurance can only begin when you take up residence in Germany and enter into employment. If you enter Germany beforehand, private health insurance must be taken out for the period prior to employment beginning and prior to being eligible for statutory health insurance. In its terms and conditions, travel health insurance can exclude protection if a long-term or permanent stay is planned. So-called incoming travel insurance can also contain such exclusions.

#### ***Fees:***

75 €, payable either by Visa/Mastercard or in cash in DKK (approximately 560 DKK, depending on the exchange rate)

#### ***Important information:***

The embassy reserves the right to request further documents.

Only complete applications can be processed

**The processing time** is generally 12 weeks, but can take longer in individual cases. As soon as your application has been approved, a national visa will be issued.

*All data contained herein are based on the knowledge and experience of the Embassy at the time of drafting this information sheet.  
However, no liability can be assumed for the completeness and accuracy.*