



Chancenkarte/Opportunity card (§§ 20a + b Residence Act)

Chancenkarten (Opportunity cards) are issued initially for a maximum of one year. The opportunity card allows you to look for gainful employment in Germany, i.e. you can seek employment or take part in additional training for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications in Germany. During your time looking for a job in Germany, you can complete work trials or engage in secondary employment for a maximum of 20 hours per week. The aim of the work trials must be either to obtain qualified employment, an apprenticeship or a qualification programme.

You can find out more about the opportunity card on the website [Make it in Germany](#).

You can apply for an opportunity card if you ensure your livelihood including health insurance and

- have a foreign professional or academic qualification that is fully recognized in Germany.

Alternatively, you have acquired your university or professional qualification in Germany (**skilled professionals pathway**).

or

- Obtain at least 6 points in a points system based on language skills, professional experience, age and connection to Germany (**points-based pathway**).

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:

- filled and signed application forms incl. declaration acc. 54 AufenthG
- Valid passport, providing a minimum of 2 blank pages + 1 copy of the passport's data page
- 1 Passport sized photo – no older than 6 months, must meet biometric standards
- 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
- **Signed Letter of motivation:** It should be clear which areas of work and positions in Germany you are interested in, where you want to apply and where in Germany you want to stay (including information about accommodation and other living expenses). And – if applicable – what measures you are planning to take to recognize your foreign professional qualifications in Germany.
- **Curriculum vitae** in tabular form indicating professional experience to date (in German or English)
- **Proof of adequate financial means:**
You can cover your living costs in Germany with your own funds or a formal declaration of commitment. In addition, if you have concrete plans, a part-time job permitted under the Opportunity Card scheme can be taken into account. Please provide evidence of this, if applicable in your case, as follows:

- **Own funds in a bank account:** For the stay in Germany, each applicant must generally have at least €1,027 per month available (2024), which is a total of €12,324 given the Opportunity Card's standard validity period of 12 months. You can prove this through bank statements of your own Danish or German account/-s for the last 3 months.
- **Blocked account:** Please open the blocked account in good time before applying for a visa. When applying for a visa, only the bank's official opening confirmation stating the total amount deposited and the monthly available amount will be accepted. A confirmation without mentioning these amounts is not sufficient; Likewise, the deposit or transfer receipt is not sufficient without confirmation from the bank. More information is available on the website of the [Federal Foreign Office](#).
- **Part-time employment:** If you already have a specific part-time job in Germany, you can prove this with an employment contract or a binding job offer that shows the weekly working hours and monthly earnings.
- **Formal Obligation (Verpflichtungserklärung):** Proof based on a formal declaration of commitment in accordance with Sections 66, 68 of the Residence Act, in which a third person residing in Germany undertakes in writing to the German immigration authorities to cover the costs (original + copy)
- **Health insurance** in line with EU standards (covering the entire Schengen area, minimum coverage of 30,000 €, valid from the day of entry for the entire stay; proof to be provided at the latest when collecting the visa!

skilled professionals' pathway

Do you have German vocational training or a German university degree? Or foreign vocational training or a foreign university degree, each of which is recognized in Germany? Then you are a 'skilled worker' within the meaning of Section 18 III Residence Act and do not have to collect any points to receive the opportunity card. Please provide proof of your specialist qualifications by:

- German Vocational training qualification (original + copy) OR
- German University degree in Germany (original + copy)
- OR
- Recognition of the equivalence of the foreign professional qualification by the respective body responsible for recognition (original + copy)
- OR
- Recognition of the equivalence of the foreign university degree (printout from the [anabin database](#) for your university degree)
- o OR (if the degree is not "equivalent" or "equivalent" in the anabin database and/or the university is not rated "H+")
- Certificate evaluation by the '[Central Office for Foreign Education](#)' (ZAB) (original + copy)
- or (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 recognising qualifications or assurance of permission to exercise a profession (original and 1 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 licence)
- More information on recognition: www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de

points-based pathway

Please carry out the self-check on [Make it in Germany](#) and bring a printed result with you to the appointment.

If you are not a skilled professional (see definition above), you must meet and provide evidence of the following requirements:

- foreign vocational training qualification (original + copy) AND
Certificate (original + copy) from the 'Central Office for Foreign Education' ZAB about your foreign professional qualification (state recognition, at least 2 years of training) OR
- Partial recognition notice/deficit notice for your professional qualification (original + copy)
OR
- foreign university degree (original + copy) AND
Proof of state recognition of the university degree - either by
- Determination of the (conditional) comparability of the foreign university degree (printout from the [anabin database](#) for your university degree and your university)
OR (if the degree is not “equivalent” or “equivalent” in the anabin database and/or the university is not rated “H+”)
- Certificate evaluation by the '[Central Office for Foreign Education \(ZAB\)](#)' (original + copy)
OR
- Professional qualification from a German Chamber of Foreign Trade with corresponding confirmation from the '[Federal Institute for Vocational Training' BIBB](#) (originals + copy)
- Linguistic proficiency (Test results may not be older than one year):
- Certificate (original + copy) of your proficiency in German – at least A1!
- AND / OR
- Certificate (original + copy) of your proficiency in English – at least B2! The issuers of the certificate must be certified by the '[Association of Language Testers in Europe' \(ALTE\)](#); Alternatively, the 'Test of English as a Foreign Language' (TOEFL) is also accepted.

Note: The above documents are also relevant for calculating the score for the opportunity card! You can receive points for German and English skills at certain levels, as well as for partial recognition of your foreign professional qualifications.

You can also collect points for the opportunity card (details on the points you can achieve can be found on '[Make it in Germany](#)') with the following evidence:

- Evidence of your professional experience in the last 5 or 7 years, provided it relates to your professional qualifications: job references, employer certificates, etc. (originals + copy)
- If you have legally resided in Germany for at least 6 months without interruption within the past 5 years (short stays under Schengen law do not count!), please provide proof of this with suitable documents, e.g.
 - - untermiated rental agreements
 - - Employment relationships, service contracts, etc.
 - - Passports with visas and entry stamps
- Would your spouse/partner also want to apply for a Chance Card – or already has one – and then enter Germany with you? If yes, then one of you can collect 1 additional point for the opportunity card. If applicable, please also provide relevant proof of your spouse/partner's Opportunity Card application.

Fees:

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

Additional information:

The embassy is responsible for deciding on your visa application. The processing time depends on the individual case and is expected to take approximately two weeks. As soon as your application can be granted, the embassy will issue a national visa.

Please ensure that your application documents are complete! Incomplete applications may result in rejection of the visa application.

This information is regularly updated but makes no claim to be complete. In individual cases provision of additional documents may be necessary.

*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.*

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