

Visa for reuniting with your spouse

This information also applies to applying for a visa to reunite with a same-sex registered civil partner.

To apply for a visa, you will need the following documents:

- 2 applications for the issuance of a national visa, completed in German and signed with your own hand, including explanations in accordance with sections 53, 54 of the Law on Stay in the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany <https://videx-national.diplo.de/>
- Contact form for the Consulate (see the Forms section).
- 3 up-to-date biometric passport-format photos taken no earlier than 6 months ago at the time of application submission, on a white background, 45x35 mm in size.
 - Please attach one photo to each application (despite the "do not paste" notice on the application) and bring a third photo with you.
- passport with 2 copies of the page with personal data and 2 copies of all pages with marks.
 - The passport must be signed and contain at least 3 free pages. Must be valid for at least 9 months from the start date of the trip.
- passport with 2 copies of the page with personal data and 2 copies of all pages with marks. For citizens who do not hold Russian citizenship – a residence permit in Russia with 2 copies.
- marriage certificate with apostille and certified translation into German with 2 copies.
- in the case of previous marriages of the applicant and / or the spouse with whom the reunification is planned: all certificates issued by the civil Registry office on previous marriages, divorce certificates/court decisions on divorce with a note on the entry into force of the court decision, death certificates, certificates of name change in the original with an apostille and with a certified translation into German with 2 copies.
- if available, a lease agreement, a document of ownership or a similar document indicating the future address of residence with 2 copies.
- a free-form invitation from the spouse with whom you plan to reunite for cohabitation in Germany, with a free-form statement of readiness to bear the costs of maintaining the spouse moving to Germany, and drawn up in German or English, with 2 copies.
- medical insurance policy with 2 copies. In the case of family reunification, the state health insurance becomes effective from the moment the applicant is included in the family insurance. As a rule, this is possible after entering Germany and registering at the place of residence. In case of reunification with a foreign citizen working in Germany, state health insurance it is effective from the beginning of the employment relationship. Before the applicant is included in the family state health insurance, it is necessary to purchase a private health insurance policy. We recommend that you conclude health insurance for foreign citizens entering the country (the so-called "Incoming-Versicherung"). Health insurance policies for travelers may exclude insurance coverage in the event of a planned long stay in the country.
- if necessary: other documents with 2 copies.

Important information

- A visa for reunification with a spouse can only be issued if both spouses are over 18 years old.
- Additional documents not specified in this memo may be requested when applying for a national visa or during the processing of documents.
- All documents written in a language other than German must be provided with a German translation. Translations made by a translator in the Russian Federation must be notarized. For translations made by a sworn translator in Germany, notarization is not required.
- Translation of general and foreign passports, as well as medical insurance into German is **not** required.
- Documents issued by the Civil Registry Office or the court must have an apostille. This rule does not apply to German documents and, as a rule, documents from other EU countries. Please note that the apostille must be placed on the original document (not on copies). If there is an apostille, it must also be translated.
- All original documents and their translations must be provided with 2 copies. Notarization of copies of documents is **not** required.
- Pay attention to the completeness of the submitted documents! An incomplete set of documents may cause a refusal to issue a national visa.

Checklist

This checklist is intended solely for self-control and preparation of documents for submission.

Please distribute all the documents attached to the application in the following order into 2 complete sets.

The third set must contain all the originals (civil status documents, diplomas, passports, etc.) in the following order. These originals will be returned to you as soon as they are checked by the visa department.

- 1 photo (only in the third set);
- a statement with a photo pasted on (only in the first and second sets);
- health insurance;
- invitation of the spouse/ - and;
- marriage certificate;
- if necessary, certificates and documents about previous marriages;
- if available, a lease agreement, a document of ownership;
- if available, other confirmations,
- general civil passport + copy of the page with personal data + copies of the pages with the entered information;
- foreign passport + a copy of the passport with personal data + if necessary, a copy of the temporary residence permit or residence permit in the Russian Federation.

This memo is updated if necessary and does not claim to be complete.