

## Visa for the reunification of a minor child with his family

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

- 2 national visa applications completed in German and signed by all persons with parental rights, as well as 2 explanations signed by all persons with parental rights 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/>).

If a person with parental rights is not able to sign the application, they must declare their consent to the visa application in writing in a free form. In this case, you must attach 2 copies of the page with the personal data of the identity document (for example, a foreign passport, an identity card, a general civil passport) of the person who has parental rights and is not able to sign the application.

- 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.
- if the child is already 14 years old: a general civil passport with 2 copies of the page with personal data and 2 copies of the page with the stamp of registration at the place of residence. For citizens who do not hold Russian citizenship – a residence permit in Russia with 2 copies.
- a document certifying the identity of the person with parental rights with whom you plan to reunite (for example, a foreign passport, an identity card, a general civil passport) with 2 copies of the page with personal data.
- a free-form invitation from a person who has parental rights and with whom you plan to reunite, to live together in Germany, with a free-form statement of readiness to bear the costs of maintaining the child moving to Germany, drawn up in German or English, with 2 copies.

**If available**, proof of residence (for example, a lease agreement, a document of ownership or a similar document indicating the future address of residence) with 2 copies.
- birth certificate with apostille and certified translation into German with 2 copies
  - If only one parent is listed on the birth certificate, this is sufficient proof that they have sole parental authority.
  - If changes were made to the birth certificate, for example, striking out, changing the name, you should provide an extract from the registry office's registration book 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. 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.

#### **In the case of the sole parental right of one of the parents with whom the reunion takes place:**

- the decision of the Russian court on the deprivation of parental rights or the death certificate of another person who had parental rights, with a certified translation into German with 2 copies.

#### **In the case of joint parental rights and when reuniting with only one of the parents:**

- a notarized, indefinite statement of consent of a person with parental rights remaining in Russia to leave and permanently (!) stay the child in the Federal Republic of Germany until he reaches the age of majority, with a certified translation into German and 2 copies.
- 2 copies of the internal Russian passport of the person remaining in Russia who has parental rights.

#### **Important information**

- The main condition for applying for a visa is the following: the applicant must be a minor (under 18 years of age), and he must not be married.
- If a person who remains in the Russian Federation with parental rights does not have the opportunity to express his / her will in the near future or in the future (for example, to issue an application for consent to the departure of the child for the purpose of permanent residence in the Federal Republic of Germany), the person who has parental rights and with whom reunification is planned, **before** submitting the application, must contact the German foreign mission in the Russian Federation by e-mail in accordance with its consular district.
- 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 person with parental rights to whom the reunion is taking place,
- a copy of the passport of the person who has parental rights,
- birth certificate,
- confirmation of the sole parental right or notarized consent to the departure of the child from the parent remaining in Russia,
- if available, a lease agreement, a certificate of ownership, etc.,
- if available, other confirmations,
- if you have a general civil passport + a 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.**