

Visa for language courses

If you plan to study vocational training (*Berufsausbildung*) or study at a higher education institution (*Studium*) after completing your language course, this leaflet does not apply to you. Please refer to the leaflet "**Visa for a stay for the purpose of studying at a higher education institution** (or for vocational training)". This memo is intended for applying for the purpose of attending only isolated language courses without further study at a university.

It is strongly recommended to provide a complete set of documents in accordance with the list of requirements below in order to avoid delays in visa processing.

The decision to issue a visa is the responsibility of the (competent) German diplomatic or consular mission in Russia. Please note: The Diplomatic mission has the right to request additional or missing documents, which may increase the time for consideration of your application.

Applicants must have with them the originals of all necessary documents and their copies.

When applying for persons under the age of 18, please read the "**Minor Citizens**" memo on the VisaMetric website.

- **Printed completed visa application (original)**
One application for the issuance of a national visa filled out in German and signed with his own hand, including explanations in accordance with sections 53, 54 of the Law on Stay in the Territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. For minors, the visa application is signed by both parents or a legal representative-guardian. The signatures of both parents must be decrypted.
- **Contact form for the Consulate**
(see the Forms section)
- **2 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 application (despite the indication on the application "do not attach") and bring a second photo with you.
- **Foreign passport with 1 copy of the page with personal data.**
The foreign 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.
- **Internal passport with 1 copy of the page with personal data and 1 copy of all pages with marks.**
For citizens who do not own Russian citizenship – a residence permit in Russian Federation with 1 copy.
- **An invitation from the language school** indicating the location of the courses, the duration of the courses, the required level of language proficiency at the time of the start of the courses and the level of language proficiency that will be achieved at the end of the courses, indicating the number of hours/lessons per week (see section "Important information"), as well as confirmation of payment for courses for the entire period of stay in Germany with 1 copy.
Attention: for the purposes of this leaflet, the integration course is not a language course!
- **Confirmation of sufficient funding** for the entire period of the planned language course in the amount of 1.091,- euros per month (for example, with a planned stay of 6 months, it is necessary to confirm the amount of 6,546 euros, with a planned stay of 9 months, respectively, 9,819 euros) with 1 copy.
 - As part of the visa application process, you can confirm the availability of funds for life support by opening a **blocked account**. According to the information available to the Embassy and the General Consulates, there is currently no local bank in the Russian Federation, the opening of a blocked account in which could meet the requirements of the visa application procedure. You can choose your own service provider. A list of service providers that provide this service around the world can be found on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/sperrkonto/375488> . The above amount must be transferred to this account (not including the bank commission). It is allowed to withdraw funds from this account monthly in the amount of no more than 1.091 euros. Please find out in advance about the account closing procedure, which you may have to carry out later.

- **An official (!) declaration of commitment/guarantee (behördliche Verpflichtungserklärung)** in accordance with § 66-68 of the Law on Residence in the Territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. The application must be issued no earlier than 6 months ago at the time of submission of the documents and it must indicate the purpose of the stay – "language courses" ("Sprachkurs") and confirm the solvency of the person undertaking this obligation. This document is issued by the offices for Foreigners in Germany.
- **A biography** presented in the form of a table, without gaps between time intervals, indicating the full address and contact information with 1 copy. If you write a biography not in German, you must attach a notarized translation into German.
- **A self-written and signed motivation letter** in German, in you explain in detail the reasons why you want to take the planned language course, what you will do after completing the course, why you want to take a language course in Germany, how, where and how long you have been studying German – with 1 copy. If the letter is not written in German, it is necessary to provide a notarized translation into German.
- **Documents about previously received education:** about the last school **and** higher education (for example, a certificate of maturity, bachelor's degree, diploma) in the original with the notarized German translation with 1 copy.
- **If applicable:** confirmation from the employer that knowledge of the German language is necessary for your further professional development, indicating the reasons, period of employment, position and monthly income in the company in the original, with a translation into German and 1 copy.
- If necessary: confirmation of the employer that you will be able to continue to perform your work duties remotely during the entire language course or are released from work for the duration of the course, with a translation into German and 1 copy.
- If you already have knowledge of the German language: confirmation (language certificate, confirmation of participation in language courses, etc.) with 1 copy.
- **Medical insurance policy issued in the EU with 1 copy.**
Since, for stays longer than 90 days, a travel health insurance policy may exclude the coverage of certain insurance conditions, we recommend that you take out health insurance for foreigners entering the country (so-called "Incoming-Versicherung"). Medical insurance can be provided upon receipt of a visa. Only medical insurance issued in EU countries is accepted for consideration.
- If available: other documents supporting your application with the notarized German translation with 1 copy.

For applicants under the age of 18:

- **Notarized consent of persons with parental (guardianship) rights** to travel abroad unaccompanied and for a long (!) stay of the child in the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany with the notarized German translation with 1 copy;
- **The applicant's birth certificate with an apostille** and with the notarized German translation with 1 copy.

Important information:

- In accordance with paragraph 16f (paragraph 1) of the Residence Act, language courses mean exclusively intensive language courses. As a rule, classes should be held daily for at least 18 hours a week. Evening classes and weekend classes are not enough in this sense. The language courses should be aimed at acquiring a thorough knowledge of the German language and their duration should be limited in time from the very beginning.
- Having knowledge of the German language before the trip is not considered an absolutely mandatory condition. However, information about whether the applicant has made every effort to acquire at least basic knowledge of the German language within the framework of the opportunities available in his home country may play a role in verifying the validity of the specified purpose of stay.
- Language proficiency is confirmed by a recognized language certificate, for example, the Goethe Institute, the Austrian Cultural Forum, telc-GmbH, the Test-DaF Institute or ECL examination centers.
- Labor activity during the period of language courses is prohibited.
- After **successful** completion of the language courses, you can change the purpose of your stay if you intend to get an education or work at the end of the courses. In this case, when submitting a visa application, you must additionally inform about it.

- 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 translation into German. 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 internal and foreign passports, as well as medical insurance into German is **not** required.
- The 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 on the original document (and not on the copy). If there is an apostille, it must also be translated.
- All original documents and their translations must be provided with 1 copy. 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 used exclusively for self-control and preparation of documents for submission.

Please distribute all the documents attached to the application in the following order.

The set must contain all the originals (civil status documents, diplomas, passports, etc.) and copies of all documents in the following order. These originals will be returned to you immediately after their verification during the submission of documents.

- 1 photo;
- a statement with a photo pasted on;
- medical insurance policy issued in the EU;
- invitation to a language course;
- confirmation of financing;
- biography;
- motivation letter;
- confirmation of previous education;
- if available, a language certificate;
- if necessary, other confirmations;
- for persons under 18 years of age:
 - notarized parental consent;
 - birth certificate.
- internal passport + a copy of the page with personal data + copies of all pages with marks;
- a foreign passport + a copy of the page with personal data +, if necessary, a copy of a temporary residence permit or a residence permit in the Russian Federation.

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