

## Visa for employment as a professional driver in the field of cargo transportation and bus driver

**This memo is compiled for professional drivers who:**

- already have a driving license of the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EWR) of category C1, CE1, C, CE, D1, D1E, D or DE and (accelerated) initial qualification in accordance with the Law on Initial Qualification and Advanced Training of Drivers of Certain Vehicles for the Carriage of Goods or Passengers by Road (The Law on the Professional Qualifications of Truck Drivers);
- for those professional drivers who need to obtain a driver's license and qualifications in Germany (see section 24a of the Employment Regulations).

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.

- [Printed completed visa application form \(original\)](#)  
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.
- **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 "do not attach" indication on the application) and bring a second photo with you.
- **Passport with 1 copy of the page with personal data.**  
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.
- **A general passport with 1 copy of the page with personal data and 1 copy of all pages with the information entered.**  
For citizens who do not own Russian citizenship – a temporary residence permit / residence permit in Russia with 1 copy.
- **A medical insurance policy issued in the EU, with 1 copy.** A medical insurance policy can be provided upon receipt of a visa. State health insurance begins to operate after registration at the place of residence in Germany and the beginning of employment according to an employment contract. Upon entry, before the beginning of the employment relationship and before the possibility of obtaining state medical insurance, it is necessary to purchase private medical insurance. We recommend to conclude medical 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.  
  
Only medical insurance issued in the EU countries are accepted for consideration.
- If you **already have a driver's license of the European Union or the European Economic Area**, you must provide:
  - original valid driver's license of the European Union or the European Economic Area with 1 copy;
  - confirmation of the availability of (accelerated) initial qualification – original with 1 copy;
  - employment contract with 1 copy;
  - the form "[Application for employment relations](#)" with 1 copy – this form must be filled out by the future employer.

- If you **do not already have a driver's license of the European Union or the European Economic Area**, you must provide:
  - an employment contract with 1 copy. It should specify the **mandatory conditions** for obtaining a driver's license of the European Union or the European Economic Area and (accelerated) initial qualification;
  - if during the course of professional training you are going to carry out other work activities (for example, to work in a warehouse, in a workshop, as a second driver), then the employment contract and the "[Statement of Employment relations](#)" should indicate that the working conditions for the period of training are such that the driver's license and qualifications, including including the issuance of the necessary documents, can be obtained **within 15 months**;
  - guaranteed offer of employment as a professional driver in the field of cargo transportation or a bus driver in the field of passenger transportation **from the same employer** after passing professional training with 1 copy;
  - the "[Application for Employment Relations](#)" form relating to this guaranteed employment offer – this form must be filled out by the future employer - with 1 copy;
  - information about the planned preparatory activities: for example, about the process of obtaining a driver's license and the necessary initial qualifications, taking a German language course and/or about the process of acquiring other professional skills by providing registration for the relevant courses, with 1 copy;
  - the original of a valid driver's license with a certified translation into German and with 1 copy.
- **Confirmation of knowledge of the German language at a level not lower than B1** with 1 copy;
- **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 certified translation into German.
- **For persons over 45 years of age:**

Specialists who are already 45 years old at the time of obtaining a residence permit must confirm income in the amount of 55% of the annual upper limit for calculating insurance premiums in general pension insurance (2025: 4.427,50 euros gross per month / 53.130 euros gross per year) or provide a corresponding pension insurance policy - with 1 copy.

**Important information:**

- Third-country nationals who have a German or recognized professional education abroad as professional drivers can obtain a visa for employment as a specialist with a professional education in accordance with Section 18a of the Law on the Stay of Foreigners. In this case, please read the memo "Visa for employment". The equivalence of foreign qualifications must be confirmed by providing a notification of the confirmation of foreign qualifications IHK Foreign Skills Approval ([IHK Fosa](#)).
- Employment activity, for which only a Class B driver's license is required and, if necessary, a passenger transportation permit, the Employment Provisions of section 24a do not apply.
- The age restrictions of 18 years and 21/23 years, respectively, apply to freight and passenger transport.
- 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.
- All documents drawn up 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 general and foreign passports, as well as medical insurance into German is **not** required.
- Documents issued by the 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.
- Additional documents not specified in this memo may be requested when applying for a national visa or during the processing of documents.
- Pay attention to the completeness of the submitted documents! An incomplete set of documents may cause a refusal to issue a national visa.
- General information about working and staying in Germany can be found here: <http://www.make-it-in-germany.ru/>.

- In the case of a planned relocation of a spouse/minor children, the following should be taken into account: You can submit documents **together** with the main applicant who plans to work. To collect documents, please use the memos "**Visa for reunification with a spouse who has citizenship or residence permit in Germany**" and "**Visa for reunification of a minor child with a person who has parental rights and has citizenship or residence permit in Germany**". It is not required to provide a certificate of registration at the place of residence or a copy of the residence permit of a person planning to carry out work.

### **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 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 at the time of submission of documents.

- 1 photo;
- a statement with a photo pasted on;
- health insurance issued in the EU;
- employment contract;
- form "Application for employment relations";
- driver's license of the European Union or the European Economic Area (if present);
- confirmation of initial qualification (if present);
- information regarding the planned professional training (if present);
- guaranteed offer of employment after professional training with the form "Application for employment relations";
- foreign driver's license (if present);
- confirmation of language knowledge;
- biography with a detailed description of professional activity;
- other confirmations (if present);
- civil passport + a copy of the page with personal data + copies of the pages with the information entered;
- 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.***