



## Information Sheet and Checklist Blue Card EU (Section 18b (2) German Residence Act)

### General information

- General processing time for a complete application is about 4 weeks; in specific cases e.g. upon request of German authorities it might take longer.
- The visa can only be issued upon approval of the Federal Employment Agency and the competent aliens authority in Germany if applicable.
- Please take note that some authorities in Germany may require documents translated into German and with proof of authenticity (for Canada: legalization).
- No flight reservation is required at the time of your appointment; please book your trip only after having received your passport including visa.
- All holders of a national visa are by law required to register with the local registration office within 2 weeks after moving in. Please refer to the requirements on the website of your local registration office for further information.
- A visa to obtain the Blue Card EU is a national visa, which entitles you to enter countries in the Schengen zone for a stay of up to 90 days within 180 days.
- **Please refrain from inquiries about the state of processing during the regular processing time, as the visa section is not able to answer these.**
- **Further information regarding living and working in Germany is available at [www.make-it-in-germany.com](http://www.make-it-in-germany.com).**

The Blue Card EU provides an accelerated pathway to permanent residence.

The scheme is geared at qualified academic professionals being employed for at least one year by a company in Germany in an field which is appropriate to their qualification and with a designated minimum remuneration (2023 threshold: **58.400 EUR per annum**). Approval by the Federal Employment Agency is not required.

Professionals with a background in mathematics, IT, the natural sciences or technology as well as medical doctors (STEM occupations) may qualify for a Blue Card EU with a remuneration starting at **45.552 EUR per annum** (2023 threshold). Approval by the Federal Employment Agency is required.

Applicants need to demonstrate that they hold a German or a recognized or a comparable academic degree.

Please note that some **professions are regulated** (e.g. human medicine) which means that a separate permission and, depending on the type of profession, a certain command of German language is required in order to exercise the specific profession. Further information is available [here](#). To find out whether any **formal requirements** have to be met in order to exercise your profession in Germany, you need to check whether the profession you wish to exercise is regulated or not.

Please prepare **1 set** of **application documents** with **all** of the following documents in the order indicated below and **submit with a print-out of the list**.

Original documents will be returned to you while a copy per set will be required.

**Please not that incomplete applications will be decided based on the documents submitted and may result in the rejection of your application.**

**Please check all documents you submit:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Valid passport, signed by the passport holder</b> (issued within the last 10 years and valid for at least 6 months upon entry with at least 2 subsequent blank pages)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>Application form</u></b> completed including declaration Section 54 (2) 8, <b>duly signed</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b><u>Declaration “Use of mail services”</u></b> , <b>duly signed</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Biometrical Passport size picture, stamped</b> , not older than 3 months with a bright background and frontal view of the face (please do not fix the picture to the application form). <b>Digitally-altered passport pictures will not be accepted.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of your valid <b>passport’s data page</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of your <b>Canadian residence permit</b> , e.g. PR card, work permit, study permit, etc. – if applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original and copy of <b>pre-approval from the German labour agency</b> (for faster processing), OR</li> <li>• Original and copy of the <b><u>“Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis”</u></b> (Declaration of employment form) completed and signed by the employer</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Original and copy of <b>proof of qualifications with transcripts</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a German University degree OR</li> <li>• a recognized foreign university degree OR</li> <li>• a university degree which is comparable with a German university degree</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Proof of recognition of the foreign qualification</b> <b>One print out each</b> from the <b>anabin</b> database for the degree <b>AND</b> the university: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can inquire on the database <b><u>“ANABIN”</u></b> (only in German) if your <b>foreign degree</b> of higher education is comparable <b>AND</b> if the <b>institution</b> of higher education is <b>recognized</b>.</li> <li>• If your degree is not evaluated in this database you will need to apply for an individual evaluation of your degree in order to obtain a <b><u>“Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications”</u></b>.</li> <li>• If you wish to exercise a regulated profession, you will need to have your <b><u>degree recognized</u></b> for Germany; by checking <b><u>this website</u></b> with information on recognition of degrees and qualifications, you will learn whether in addition a permission to exercise the profession and, case given, knowledge of German is required.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	If applicable: <b>occupation practice permit</b> – depending on the profession
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Proof of housing</b> in Germany with <b>full address</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Prepaid self-addressed Xpresspost envelope</b> (Canada Post only), <b>Regional Standard</b> to Ontario or <b>National Standard</b> to all other provinces (shipment to a Canadian address only)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Visa fee</b> (please check our website)
<b>To be provided prior to final approval of the visa application:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Flight dates</b> according to itinerary
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Proof of sufficient health insurance coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you are subject to compulsory insurance under the statutory health insurance scheme as an employee, please note that this only applies once you have taken up residence in Germany and commenced employment.</li> <li>• If you enter Germany before taking up employment, Proof of <b>travel health insurance</b> (Canadian or German) valid from the day of entering Germany until beginning of employment is required; the insurance must cover the entire Schengen zone with a minimum coverage of 30.000 EUR (approx. 50,000 CAD). The proof of insurance must include the following details: name of insured person, length of coverage, insurance sum and repatriation coverage.</li> <li>• Please note that health insurance coverage by <b>credit card</b> is <u>not valid</u> unless you present a letter from the credit card company with details of coverage of your trip.</li> </ul>

**Please note** that the German Consulate reserves the right to ask for additional documents or information deemed necessary for processing your application at any time during processing and assumes no responsibility for applications submitted too close to your planned departure. Submission of the above-mentioned documents does **not** guarantee that a visa is granted.

For further information such as **passport and photo requirements** please visit our **website** [www.canada.diplo.de/longstay](http://www.canada.diplo.de/longstay) and visa-related [FaQ](#).

Please note: The Visa Section is not able to **provide individual advice** or **pre-screening** of documents. In case of further **inquiries not answered on our website/ FaQ**, you may contact the Visa Section via email at [visa@toro.diplo.de](mailto:visa@toro.diplo.de).