

National Visa for IT-Specialists

1. General Information

As an IT-specialist with significant professional experience (at least 3 years professional experience in the last 7 years), you can be issued with a residence permit to engage in skilled employment in jobs in the field of information and communications technology even without completing a university degree or vocational qualification if the gross annual wage is at least 49,680 €.

As a rule, proof of German language skills at B1 level are required but exceptions can be made in duly substantiated cases, e.g. if the working language in the company is purely English.

The longer-term residence permit is issued exclusively by the relevant alien authority in Germany. At the German Embassy you apply for the national visa which is required in advance to enter German territory to work.

General information on the It-Specialist Visa can be found on the portal for qualified professionals www.make-it-in-germany.com.

Please note that your visa application must be made in person and will be accepted only if all required documents are submitted according to our regulations.

Appointments can be booked online (free of charge) here www.tallinn.diplo.de/Terminvergabe

Documents not in the German language must be submitted with a certified translation. A translation of the personal data page of the passport is, however, not required.

Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original and two copies. Your original documents will be returned to you on the day of your application.

The visa must be approved by the Federal Employment Agency and, where applicable, the competent foreigners authority in Germany. The visa can only be issued when this approval has been received.

Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please only book when you have received your visa.

The Embassy reserves the right to request further documents. Missing documentation delays the procedure and can result in your application being rejected.

Please do not contact the Embassy to check the status of your application during the normal processing period. Such inquiries are extremely time-consuming for the visa section and can thus not be answered.

2. Fees

The fee for processing the visa application is € 75,00. This amount has to be paid in cash or via credit card. This is a processing fee. Thus, a refund in case of withdrawal of the application or up-on denial is not possible.

3. Process

For the case a positive decision is taken on your visa application the visa can only be handed over to you if an evidence for an existing travel medical insurance is provided. This insurance has to cover the time period from your entry to Germany until the beginning of your employment. This does not apply if an evidence of a travel medical insurance already has been provided or you are covered by the Estonian Health Insurance.

4. Required documents

Please make sure that you provide a complete application form and all additional documents required. Incomplete applications will not be considered!

Each submitted document in original has to be accompanied **by two copies**. Documents in foreign languages have to be provided with a certified translation into German.

- 2 application forms** (and declaration in accordance with section 54 (2) No. 8 i.V.m. § 53 of the Residence Act) <https://tallinn.diplo.de/>
- 2** recent biometric passport photographs (45x35 mm)
- your national passport (validity of which has to exceed at least six months; issued not earlier than 10 years ago) (original + 2 copies of all pages with records)
- Estonian residence permit (e.g. visa / residence card), held for at least 3 months at the time of application and at least held for additional 2 months after your entry to Germany (original +2 copies)
- employment contract / binding job offer with information regarding your gross annual salary (2 copies)
- Additional form for Employment “Erklärung zum Beschäftigungsverhältnis”, original plus one copy - only in German. To be filled out by the employer (<https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/de/unternehmen/gezielt-rekrutieren/einreise-beschaeftigung-regeln/arbeitsmarktzugang/>)

https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/fileadmin/MiiG_Unternehmen/PDFs/Erklaerung_zum_Beschaefigungs_verhaeltnis_Stand_03-2020.pdf

- if necessary for the employment proof of knowledge of the German language, otherwise proof that understanding of the other language in question is sufficient (2 copies)
- if possible, proof of accommodation in Germany (e.g. tenancy agreement) (2 copies)
- health insurance valid in Germany covering the time period from your entry to Germany until the beginning of your employment (minimum coverage: 30.000 euros) (2 copies)
- Curriculum vitae with details regarding professional career and with the relevant certificates, diploma etc. (2 copies)
- Work contracts or reports confirming your experience in IT for at least 3 years in the past 7 years (original + 2 copies)
- Proof of relevant theoretical knowledge (training courses or examinations) (original and two (2) copies)

In individual cases it may be necessary to provide additional documents.

This fact sheet is regularly updated but makes no claim to be complete.