

December 2024

## Vander Elst visa

### General information

According to EU-regulations concerning the free movement of service, companies based in a member state of the EU (e.g. Estonia) may send employees into other EU-member states (e.g. Germany) in order to render temporary service without having to acquire a working permit. Please note that transfers between branches of a company are not covered by this exception.

There is still the necessity of a visa application beforehand in case the citizen to be sent has no citizenship or citizenship, which requires a visa to enter Federal Republic of Germany. When granted, the visa will only be valid for rendering the service specified in the application.

A primary prerequisite for the free movement of service is a working contract between the employee and the sending company. Furthermore, the definition of the term “sending” requires a working stay in the country of application before entering the country in which the service are to be rendered. The employment of the third-country national with the service provider in the first EU member state must be proved as well the actual business activity.

In addition, just lending staff is not covered by the Vander Elst visa. Therefore, a specific project is required and the workers being sent must receive their commission/contract from the sending country. Failing to provide information to make the required circumstances credible will result a denial of the application.

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.

**Each submitted document in original has to be accompanied by 1 copy.** Printout of a PDF file is not considered original. Physical document with the original signatures of both parties and/or electronically signed document with certification are considered originals.

Documents in foreign languages have to be provided with a certified translation into German or English. Your original documents (certificates, diplomas, etc.) will be checked and returned to you.

Appointments can be booked online free of charge: [www.tallinn.diplo.de/Terminvergabe](http://www.tallinn.diplo.de/Terminvergabe)

The fee for processing the visa application is **75 Euro**. This amount has to be paid in **cash**. Thus, a refund in case of withdrawal the application or upon denial is not applicable.

## Required documents

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

Please sort your documents in following order:

- 1 filled-in and signed **visa application form**:  
<https://videx-national.diplo.de/videx/visum-erfassung/#/videx-langfristiger-aufenthalt>
- 1 recent passport photo (45x35 mm)
- your **national passport** (validity of which has to exceed at least 6 months; issued not earlier than 10 years ago), + 1 copy of **all pages with records**
- your **Estonian residence permit or visa**, valid long enough to allow your return from Germany to Estonia after rendering the services, + 1 copy
- your current **resident registration certificate from Estonian population register**
- **service contract** between your employer in Estonia and the third party in Germany, + 1 copy
- **employment agreement** between you and company registered in Estonia
- **project plan**
- **confirmation** from the employer containing the following details (an individual one for each applicant):
  - legal employment of the applicant (payroll, proof of social insurance)
  - planned begin and end of date of the deployment to Germany
  - place of deployment
  - short description of the service to be rendered
  - confirmation from your employer, that the minimum wages applicable in Germany will be paid for the duration of the posting
- translated **A1 certificate** in German as proof of proper employment
- your **bank account statements** of the last 3 months
- **proof of health insurance** valid in Estonia and Germany for the whole period of your stay

In individual cases it may be necessary to provide additional documents.  
This fact sheet is regularly updated but makes no claim to be complete.