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Requirements for residence and taking up work in Germany

Statutory provisions:

Persons who want to enter Germany newly to work there generally must **apply for a visa (residence title) from the relevant German representation abroad in their country of origin (embassy, consulate) for starting work**. Nationals of the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA) are exempt from this, however.

Access to the German labor market shall be according to the provisions of the residence act (Aufenthaltsgesetz; AufenthG) and the regulation passed on this regarding employment of foreigners (employment regulation; Beschäftigungsverordnung; BeschV). The permission for starting employment will be issued with the residence title by the foreigners' authority if the Bundesagentur für Arbeit has consented to the employment. This consent is collected in an authority-internal procedure.

This procedure applies to new immigrants as well as to persons who already have their place of residence of common abode in Germany.

In order to exercise the professions of **physician, dentist, pharmacist, psychological psychotherapist** or **children's and youth psychotherapist** in Germany, you require a separate professional license – approbation (or professional permit), which is issued by the state examination office for health-care professions in Saxony-Anhalt.

If you want to use a **professional designation** in a **health care specialization** (e.g. health care worker and nurse), you also require the consent of the state examination office for health care professions.

Please observe the **required German language** skills that you must document in the scope of filing your application with the state examination office!

You do not need this professional license for a stay in the scope of **work shadowing**. The residence title is sufficient for this.

Please **apply for** the above professional licenses **as early as possible** or at least in parallel to the application proceedings for your residence title, since all processes may take several weeks to months and your residence title for gainful employment in regulated professions will only be issued after recognition of your professional qualification has been completed.

In order to work as a (guest) scientist in the university hospital, you need no authority recognition of your qualification in addition to the residence title.

Foreign university degrees that do not lead to any **regulated profession**, (e.g. mathematicians, biologists), are reviewed in internal proceedings at the UMMD.

However, it is possible to apply for an **individual certificate evaluation** e.g. at the **Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen** (ZAB) in advance. This may be helpful in order to make your foreign qualifications more comprehensible to employers and companies and to accelerate the employment process.

Once you arrive in Germany, you should first go to the **local registration office**. If you move into an apartment, you must register with the registration office for your new place of residence within two weeks. Without the **confirmation of registration** at the relevant registration office, application for your residence title will be delayed. The registration office in charge of Magdeburg is the **Bürgerservice, Bürgerbüro Mitte**.

German Embassy:

Foreigners who want to stay in Germany for more than 90 days or who want to work in Germany generally require a visa.

This does not apply to citizens from the following states with the right to free movement: Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Great Britain, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovakia, Switzerland, Slovenia, Spain, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Cyprus. They are not obligated to apply for the corresponding residence title after entering the country. After their arrival and settlement in Germany, they only are subject to the general registration obligation with the relevant citizens' registration offices.

Nationals of Australia, Israel, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States of America can also acquire their required residence title **after they enter the country**.

All other nationals not named above must apply for a visa with the relevant German representation abroad before entering Germany.

Information and contact data on the respective German representation abroad are available from the **Foreign Office** under the following link:

► http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/DE/Laenderinformationen/DtAuslandsvertretungenA-Z-Laenderauswahlseite_node.html

Citizens' office:

If you remain in Magdeburg for more than three months, you need to register your place of residence in Magdeburg with the registration office in the citizens' office as soon as you have accommodation. You must schedule an appointment for visiting the citizens' office.

Contact:

Citizens' service, BürgerBüro Mitte Leiterstraße 2a
D-39104 Magdeburg

Phone: (0391) 540 43 02

Fax: (0391) 540 43 59

Email: bbm@buengerbuero.magdeburg.de

Website:

► <http://www.magdeburg.de/Start/B%C3%BCrger-Stadt/Verwaltung-Service/B%C3%BCrgerService/B%C3%BCrgerB%C3%BCros/index.php?NavID=37.702&ModID=9&object=tx%7c37.6876.1&FID=37.2233.1>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08:00 - 15:00 hours

Tuesday: 09:00 - 18:00 hours

Wednesday: 12:00 - 15:00 hours (closed on the 1st Wed. in the month)

Friday: 08:00 - 12:00 hours

Saturday: 08:00 - 12:00 hours

Foreigners' authority:

Gainful employment is only permitted pursuant to § 4 para. 2 sentence 1 AufenthG if it is permitted by law or if the residence title expressly permits it. The decision on the residence and execution of gainful employment is issued to the foreigner consistently by the foreigners' authority.

Upon an internal review procedure in cooperation with the Bundesagentur für Arbeit, the foreigners' authority will then issue or refuse the requested residence title or the employment permit.

contact:

Citizens' service, foreigners' authority (Bürgerservice, Ausländerbehörde)
Breiter Weg 222
D - 39104 Magdeburg

Phone: (0391) 540 43 89 (not during the opening hours)
(Authority hotline: -115)

Email: Abh@ewo.magdeburg.de

Website:

► <http://www.magdeburg.de/index.php?NavID=37.367&object=adr%7C37.161.1>

Opening hours:

Monday: 08.00 - 12.00 hours

Tuesday: 09.00 - 12.00 hours, 14.00 - 17.30 hours

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: 09.00 - 12.00 hours

Friday: 08.00 - 12.00 hours

State examination office for health professions Halle:

Approbation:

Approbation as a physician means the state permit for independently exercising the physician's profession in Germany subject to one's own responsibility. Approbation is issued without limitation in time or scope. Additionally, it entitles to independent work (registered doctor). After completing training abroad, it requires an equivalent training standard and personal aptitude for the profession.

Professional license:

A temporary professional license as a doctor is usually issued for up to two years and can only be extended in individual exceptional cases. In contrast to the approbation, a professional license is limited to work in the state of Saxony-Anhalt or in a specific facility of the state of Saxony-Anhalt. The professional license contains no recognition of your professional qualification acquired abroad. You can only apply for approbation with a temporary professional license.

If you have acquired your degree in a member state of the European Union, the European Economic Area or Switzerland, a temporary professional license can only be issued in exceptional cases. Holders of such degrees usually should apply for approbation directly.

Permit to use professional designations:

If you want to work without limitation in one of the following professions in Germany, you need a state permit. This will entitle you to use the corresponding professional designation of the respective health care specialization:

Health care worker and nurse	MTA lab
Health care worker and pediatric nurse	MTA radiology
Nursing assistant	MTA functional diagnosis
Midwife/male midwife	Veterinary MTA
Pharmaceutically-technical assistant	Orthoptist
Surgical-technical assistant	Occupational therapist
Nutritional assistant	Podiatrist
Speech therapist	Geriatric nurse
Physiotherapist	Rescue assistant
Masseur and medical pool attendant	Emergency medic

In the scope of recognition proceedings, the relevant office will review whether your degree is equivalent to the corresponding German degree. The applicant must document that he has the aptitude for exercising the respective profession in terms of health and that he has not engaged in any behavior that would make exercising of the profession inadmissible.

Contact:

Department 607
Landesprüfungsamt für Gesundheitsberufe
Maxim-Gorki-Straße 7
D-06114 Halle (Saale)

Office hours of the department (on the phone and in person):

Monday: 09:00 to 12:00 hours
Tuesday: 09:00 to 12:00 hours and 13:00 to 15:30 hours
Thursday: 09:00 to 12:00 hours and 13:00 to 15:30 hours

Website:

► <https://lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de/das-lvwa/landespruefungsamt-fuer-gesundheitsberufe/landespruefungsamt-fuer-gesundheitsberufe/>

Contact for physicians/ dentists/ pharmacists:

Ms Baumgärtner

Phone: +49 345 514-3107

Dinah.Baumgaertner@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Ms Glocke

Phone: +49 345 514-3047

Jana.Glocke@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Mr Teutloff

Phone: +49 345 514-3055

Maik.teutloff@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Ms Kreitz

Phone: +49 345 514-3150

Michaela.Kreitz@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Ms Cieselski

Phone: +49 345 514-3269

Baerbel.cieselski@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Contact for psychological psychotherapists/ child and youth psychotherapists:

Ms Schönian

Phone: +49 345 514-3264

Kerstin.Schoenian@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Contact for foreign vocational degrees:

Ms Kaiser

Phone: +49 345 514-3067

Jana.Kaiser@lvwa.sachsen-anhalt.de

Required language skills:

In the scope of the examination proceedings for your foreign qualification, you must be able to document comprehensive German skills in your application for using a professional designation as well as in your application for approbation/ professional licensing.

For exercising the professions of health care specializations, you require proof for completion of the language course „German“ (GER-B2) with a **recognized language institute** (recognized language institutes offer certificates on „telc level“, e.g. the Goethe-Institut, TEst- DaF, IHK, VHS, Abendakademie, DAA).

Issuing of a professional license as a physician/dentist or pharmacist requires documentation of comprehensive knowledge of the German language based on a **certificate GER-B2 and a German language test** before the respective relevant chamber.

Issuing of a professional license as a psychotherapist requires a language certificate at least at the level of „C2“ as documentation of sufficient German skills, which must not be any older than three years.