

## Sprachnachweis A1

Basic knowledge of the German language is knowledge of the German language at Competence level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for languages. This includes you being able to understand and use common, everyday expressions and very simple sentences (e. g. asking for directions, shopping, etc). You should be able to introduce yourself and others and answer questions about personal details or other people such as where you live or what people you know. Of course, the person you are talking to must speak clearly and be prepared to help.

You should also have basic German writing skills, e.g. you should be able to enter your name, address, nationality, etc. on forms.

Normally, you must demonstrate the language skills before entering the country when applying for the visa for subsequent immigration of a spouse at the German embassy or consulate general. For this you must enclose with your application a certificate relating to a standardised language exam that complies with the "standards of the Association of Language Testers in Europe" (ALTE). At present the following certificates are ALTE-compliant: "Start Deutsch 1" issued by the Goethe-Institut or by telc GmbH, "Grundstufe Deutsch 1" issued by the Österreichisches Sprachdiplom (ÖSD) and "TestDaF" issued by the TestDaF-Institut e.V.

Please note that only the German diplomatic mission processing your visa application can rule on the validity of your language certificate.

If during the personal interview in the embassy or consulate general it becomes evident beyond any doubt that you have the required knowledge of the German language, no separate proof is required. Information on how you have to demonstrate a basic knowledge of German is also available on the websites of the visa departments of German embassies and consulates general. The latter will advise you individually when applying for the visa.