

Information sheet: National visa

Visa for research stay (Section 18d Residence Act)

Basic information

- For general information please see our website <https://lusaka.diplo.de/zm-en/service> and our Visa Navigator <https://visa.diplo.de/en/#/vib>
- Documents not in the German/ English language must be submitted with a certified German translation. A translation of the personal data page of the passport is not required.
- All documents must be presented as original, certificates must be presented with apostille/legalisation. Your original documents will be returned to you once your application has been processed.
- **Processing time is approx. 4-8 weeks** but can take longer in individual cases.
- Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please book your flights only 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.

General information

Researchers are third-country nationals who

1. have a doctoral degree or a suitable university degree that allows access to doctorate programmes and
2. have been selected by a research institute and are allowed in the national territory of a member state
3. in order to engage in research for which such a qualification is normally required.

Note: This includes doctorate students unless they are enrolled at a German university to complete a full-time study programme leading to a doctoral degree as their primary activity.

If you are taking part in a full-time study programme, please read the information sheet Visa for doctorate students.

Use the following checklist to make sure your application documents are complete. All documents listed here are to be submitted in the requested **form and order**.



Visa application checklist

The following documents are to be submitted in full with every application.

| | Missing |
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| Two (2) fully completed and signed applications including declarations pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act | |
| Where applicable, two (2) declarations fully completed and signed regarding contact details and power of attorney | |
| Two (2) recent biometric passport photos (see specimen photos) | |
| Valid passport (personally signed and with at least 2 completely empty pages) | |
| Two (2) uncertified copies of the data page of your valid passport | |
| Signed research agreement or relevant contract with a German research institute (original and two (2) copies) The research agreement/relevant contract needs to contain certain information. You can find a specimen here . | |
| Proof of qualification: Proof of doctoral degree or university degree that allows access to doctorate programmes (all pages, original and two (2) copies) | |
| Written commitment to cover costs emerging for public agencies up to six months after the end of the admission agreement (original and two (2) copies) – <i>this is not required if the work of the research institute is primarily public funded or if there is a specific public interest</i> | |
| Proof of adequate financial means <u>Financing</u> To stay in Germany the applicant must have at their disposal at least 939 € (as of 2021: 947 €) per month if they are not entering into a contract of employment. Proof of these financial means can be provided through the admission agreement/relevant contract. If a contract of employment is planned, proof of the statutory minimum wage of disposal at least 9,35 € per hour (as of 2021: 9,50 € per hour) must be provided. When submitting an application, proof must be provided of financial means for the entire duration of the stay. <u>In the case of financing in the form of a blocked account:</u> Open the blocked account in good time BEFORE you apply for a visa. When applying for a visa, only the official confirmation of the opening of the account including information on the amount paid in and the amount available per month will be accepted. A confirmation which does not include this information is not sufficient. | |
| Proof of adequate health insurance cover If as an employee you are subject to mandatory statutory health insurance, you must bear in mind that this insurance can only begin when you take up residence in Germany and enter into employment. If you enter Germany beforehand, private health insurance must be taken out for the period prior to employment beginning and prior to being eligible for statutory health insurance. In its terms and conditions, travel health insurance can exclude protection if a long-term or permanent stay is planned. So-called incoming travel insurance can also contain such exclusions. | |

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| Applicant of a nationality other than Zambian | | |
| | Zambian residence permit | |
| Fee | | |
| | Visa fee of 75 €. Payable in ZMW and cash only. | |
| Completeness of application | | |
| The application is complete: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, the information/documents indicated above are lacking. | | |
| <p>Declaration when applications are not complete: I have been informed that my application is not complete. I am aware that submitting an incomplete application can lead to the application being rejected. I would like to submit my application nevertheless.</p> <p>_____ place, date, signature</p> | | |