



Family reunion

Spouses, parents and minor, unmarried children may migrate to Germany to join their family members in order to protect the institution of marriage and the family.

As a matter of principle, the conditions vary according to whether you wish to come to Germany to join a German national, an EU citizen or a third-country national.

Family members coming to Germany for the purpose of family reunification are allowed to work in Germany.

Please read this leaflet and the application form carefully. You can positively influence and shorten the procedure with good preparation.

Please book one appointment per person.

Required documents: *Please make sure to prepare a complete set of the following documents (collated in the order as listed below with a legible, unstapled copy in DinA4 format) to submit during your appointment:*

- fully completed and signed application including declaration pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
- 1 recent biometric passport photo (see specimen photos)
- Valid passport with at least two completely empty pages. Please keep in mind that the validity of the passport and the validity of the visa must exceed by at least 3 months. Danish aliens' passports or travel documents for refugees (convention passports) must be valid for at least 6 months longer than the validity of the visa.
- 1 uncertified copies of the data page of your valid passport/ travel document
- Danish residence permit (card) -original + 1 copy (front and back)
- Proof of address in Denmark: yellow Danish health card (sygesikring) or bopælsattest (not older than 2 months) – original + 1 copy
- Letter from the Danish Aliens Registration Office stating under which ordinance the residence permit was issued – original + 1 copy
- Health insurance: [Wichtige Hinweise zum Abschluss einer Krankenversicherung - Auswärtiges Amt \(diplo.de\)](#)

Additionally in the case of family reunification with the spouse:

- International Marriage Certificate – Original + 1 copy
- If the marriage was not concluded in an EU member state or if there is no international marriage certificate in English, the marriage certificate must be translated into German by a sworn translator. In addition, the document must be legalized/authenticated

(legalization/Hague Apostille) by the embassy or the competent office of the issuing country. You can find more information on this on the website of the German diplomatic mission in the country where the marriage was concluded. If the legalization has been suspended in relation to the state concerned, a verification of the document may become necessary.

Original + 1 copy

- Basic knowledge of German “Start Deutsch 1”** must be proven by a current language certificate (not older than 18 months) after passing an ALTE-certified language test (e.g. at the Goethe Institute or telc GmbH). , original + 1 copy
- More information on language certificates and exemptions from submitting them can be found here: [Proof of knowledge of basic German](#)

- Documents of the spouse already living in Germany**
- Copy of the passport/identity card of the spouse living in Germany – if the spouse living in Germany is not a citizen of a European Union country, a copy of the German residence permit in the passport is also required.
- Copy of the registration certificate
- Copy of the tenancy agreement (not necessary if you join your German spouse)
- Copy of proof of income (e.g. tax return or employment contract showing monthly earnings, does not apply if you join your German spouse)

Additionally in the case of family reunification with the parent:

- Original child's international birth certificate + 1 copy
- If the birth certificate is not in German or English, please bring a German translation made by a sworn translator with you – original + 1 copy. If the document was not issued by an EU member state, the document must be legalized/authenticated (legalization/Hague Apostille) by the responsible embassy or office of the issuing state. You can find more information on this on the website of the German diplomatic mission in the country in question. If the legalization has been suspended in relation to the state concerned, a verification of the document may become necessary.
- International marriage certificate of the parents/acknowledgment of paternity plus proof of custody, possibly with translation and legalization – original + 1 copy
- Possibly current notarial declaration of consent (not older than 6 months) from the parent remaining abroad for permanent residence of the child in Germany (with apostille and notarized translation of the document and the apostille + 1 copy
1 copy of the identity card or passport of the parent living in Germany, as well as 1 copy of their residence permit for Germany.
- Proof of language proficiency for children aged 16 and over
If children aged 16 and over, a C1 language certificate must be presented. – Original + 1 copy. This does not apply if they enter the country together with both parents or with one parent who has sole custody.
The parent resident in Germany must submit proof of secure subsistence to the competent German aliens authority.

Additionally in the case of family reunification with a minor German child:

- Child's birth certificate
- Original of the international birth certificate with apostille and a certified German translation of the certificate and the apostille + 1 copy (the apostille is not required for a German birth certificate or from another EU member state).

- Proof of German citizenship of the child – original + 1 copy – by presenting a certificate of citizenship or a copy of the German passport.
- If applicable, proof that the parent who is moving to Germany has sole custody of the German child – original + 1 copy
- If the child does not yet live in Germany and you intend to move together to Germany - 1 copy of the passport or identity card of the parent living in Germany and their proof of place of residence (1 copy) or proof of the planned place of residence and the original letter of invitation from the parent living in Germany.
- If the child is not yet born, but will acquire German citizenship by birth - additionally: Current medical certificate about the pregnancy and the expected date of birth with translation - original + 1 copy and proof of the child's future German citizenship, for example by the parents' marriage certificate or by an effective acknowledgment of paternity - original + 1 copy

Fees

The visa application for family reunification with a German citizen or an EU citizen is free of charge.

Visa applications for family reunification with foreign nationals are subject to fees of €75 for adults and €37.50 for minors, payable by Visa/Mastercard or in cash in Danish kroner, approximately DKK 560/DKK 280 (depending on the exchange rate).

Important instructions

Incomplete documents delay the process and can lead to rejection.

Additional documents not mentioned here may be requested in individual cases when applying or during the visa process.

The visa requires the approval of the responsible foreigners' registration authority. The visa can only be issued after receipt of these consents.

The standard processing time is approx. 3 - 4 months, in individual cases longer.

Please refrain from inquiries about the status during the normal processing time. Such inquiries are extremely time-consuming for the visa section and can thus not be answered.

Once your application is approved, the embassy will issue a national visa. The final residence permit is issued after entry by the competent immigration authorities.

All data contained herein are based on the knowledge and experience of the Embassy at the time of drafting this information sheet. However, no liability can be assumed for the completeness and accuracy.