

August 2024

Chancenkarte/Opportunity card (§ 20a Residence Act)

Online Visa application

You want to submit an application for a Chancenkarte / Opportunity card? In this case you can apply for the visa online via the Consular Services Portal of the Federal Foreign Office. After you have uploaded the application form and the necessary documents, your documents will be checked in advance to ensure they are complete and questions can be clarified via the portal before the actual appointment at the embassy. During the appointment at the embassy, only your identity will be verified, you will have to submit your biometric data (fingerprints and photo) and the visa fee will have to be paid.

You can apply for an opportunity card if you ensure your livelihood including health insurance and - have a foreign professional or academic qualification that is fully recognized in Germany.

Alternatively, you have acquired your university or professional qualification in Germany (skilled professionals pathway).

or

- Obtain at least 6 points in a points system based on language skills, professional experience, age and connection to Germany (**points-based pathway**).

APPLY ONLINE NOW

Chancenkarten (Opportunity cards) are issued initially for a maximum of one year. The opportunity card allows you to look for gainful employment in Germany, i.e. you can seek employment or take part in additional training for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications in Germany. During your time looking for a job in Germany, you can complete work trials or engage in secondary employment for a maximum of 20 hours per week. The aim of the work trials must be either to obtain qualified employment, an apprenticeship or a qualification programme.

You can find out more about the opportunity card on the website Make it in Germany.

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.