



At a glance: documents you should bring with you

If you and your family are moving to Germany temporarily, we recommend you to bring certified copies and originals of the following documents (including certified translations if applicable) with you in order to facilitate the completion of the bureaucratic steps necessary upon your arrival.

Passport/ID—issued within the last ten years and with at least three months validity left after the planned date of departure from Passau.

Biometric passport pictures—required for visa or residence permit applications. It is advisable to bring along four to six passport pictures of you and the family members travelling with you. Of course, you can have pictures taken in Passau, too.

Visa—Submit your visa application as early as possible, since the process takes at least four to six weeks, and sometimes even longer than a year.

Credit/debit card—For your first days in Germany, you may need an international credit/debit card to withdraw money—make sure it will work in Germany. Otherwise, make sure you have enough cash to cover your expenses during your first few days in Passau (i.e. until you are able to open a local bank account).

Birth certificate—sometimes required to register with the Immigrations Office in Passau, also required for the family members accompanying you.

Marriage certificate—required to register with the Immigrations Office, also required for your spouse's residence permit (if applicable).

Proof of funding for your stay—required for visa or residence permit applications (e.g. employment contract, salary slip, scholarship certificate).

Written confirmation from a professor that he/she is willing to supervise your thesis project. This is required for visa or residence permit applications and when you enrol as a doctoral student.

University entrance qualification (original copy and certified English/German translation if applicable). This is required for enrolling as a doctoral student or when signing an employment contract.

Degree certificates (original copies and certified English/German translations if applicable). This is required for enrolling as a doctoral student or when signing an employment contract.

Proof of admission to doctoral study—required when applying for a visa or residence permit.

(Travel) health insurance certificate—required when applying for a visa or residence permit.

Copy of your medical records—sometimes required by health insurance companies.

International certificate of vaccination or prophylaxis—you can find a list of vaccines that are required to enter Germany on the World Health Organization [website](#). Talk to your doctor in your home country and get vaccinated at least four to six weeks before departure, if required. Some vaccines require more than one dose, make sure there is enough time for you to get them before you travel to Germany. Once in Passau, we recommend you to get a vaccination against TBE (in German: FSME), a disease transmitted by ticks.

International driving permit—the driving licence from your home country will be valid for six months. Afterwards you will need to convert it into a German licence.