

Make it in Germany

Working in Germany: the official website for qualified professionals

Visa for language acquisition

Are you interested in taking an intensive language course for yourself and not as a preparatory measure for study purposes in Germany? This is possible with a visa for language acquisition in accordance with Section 16f (1) AufenthG (German Residence Act).

To find out whether you require a visa to enter Germany, see Who needs a visa?

What are the requirements to issue a visa for language acquisition?

- You've been admitted to an intensive German language course. An intensive German language course is generally a course in which German is taught daily for at least 20 hours per week. Evening or weekend courses are not sufficient.
- You are able to cover your costs of living for the duration of your stay. This can be proven by way of a blocked account or a declaration of commitment.

Do you fulfil these requirements? Learn about the procedure for the entry visa process.

What opportunities does a visa for language acquisition offer?

The visa or residence permit for language acquisition is issued for the duration of the language course and for a maximum of 12 months. During this time, you cannot obtain employment.

At a glance: Visa for language acquisition (PDF)

Information on the internet

Federal Foreign Office (FFO)

You can find out which visa you need in order to come to Germany with the Visa-Navigator. (German, English)

Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

Centre of Excellence for Asylum, Migration and Integration in Germany (German, English)