

Visa for doctorate students

General information

You apply for a visa **in person at the Embassy in Stockholm**, with all documents stated below. Applications are accepted by appointment only, which is to be booked **online, via the link on our homepage**. Please note that the processing of your application usually takes several weeks. You need to present your original passport when you apply.

Basic information

- Documents not in the German language must be submitted with a certified German translation. A translation of the personal data page of the passport is, however, not required.
- Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original with apostille/legalisation. Your original documents will be returned to you once your application has been processed.
- As a rule, visa applications must be approved by the relevant foreigners authority in Germany. The visa can only be issued when this approval has been received.
- **Processing time is as a rule ca. 4 – 6 weeks** but can take longer in individual cases.
- Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please only book 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

Foreign doctorate students who have been accepted at a German university for a doctorate or a doctorate programme on a full-time basis can apply for a visa for doctorate students in Germany. If the doctorate is being completed as part of a contract of employment or a research agreement with a German university or research institute, you can apply for a visa for a research stay.

→ During your studies, you can take up student jobs to help cover your expenses.

→ Upon completing your studies, you will have the opportunity to look for a job.

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**.



Last updated: November 2024

Visa application checklist

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

- One fully completed and signed applications including declarations pursuant to Section 54 Residence Act
- One recent biometric passport photo (see specimen photos)
- Valid passport (personally signed and with at least two (2) completely empty pages)
- One uncertified copy of the data page of your valid passport
- A valid Swedish residence permit (original + 1 copy): *Uppehållstillstånd*-card
- Extract of the population register *Personbevis (familjebevis)* in English, issued, sealed and signed by the Swedish tax authority *Skatteverket*
- Application fee, at the moment **860,- SEK**, depending on exchange rate (originally **€ 75,-**). The fee can be paid with credit/debit card (MasterCard/VISA only) or in cash (Swedish kronor only)
- Postage fee 140,- SEK for registered mail return of your passport when the visa has been issued.
- Notification of admittance to study for a doctorate or for a doctorate programme (original and one copy)
- University qualification (original and one copy)
- Curriculum vitae with one extra copy
- Letter of motivation with one extra copy
- Proof of adequate financial means
Financing
To stay in Germany the applicant must have at their disposal **at least 992¹ € per month**. Proof must be submitted with the application of financial means for at least one year, that is at least 11.904 € (for example, in the form of a blocked account or a formal undertaking by a third person to cover all costs).
In the case of financing in the form of a blocked account: 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.
Information about opening a blocked account you will find here [➔](#)
- Proof of adequate health insurance cover
If as a student you want to take out statutory health insurance, you must bear in mind that this insurance can only begin when you take up residence in Germany and after enrolment. If you enter Germany beforehand, private health insurance must be taken out for the period prior to enrolment and registering for statutory health insurance. In its terms and conditions, travel health insurance can exclude protection if a long-term or

¹ Increased amount due to changes of BAföG (German Federal Student's Assistance Act) with expected effect from 1st September 2024



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permanent stay is planned. So-called incoming travel insurance can also contain such exclusions.



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Please note: The embassy reserves the right to ask for additional documents or information deemed necessary for processing your application at any time during the process and assumes no responsibility for applications submitted too close to your planned departure. Submission of the above-mentioned documents does **not** guarantee that a visa is granted.

Please note: The Visa Section is not able to **provide individual advice** or **pre-screening** of documents. In case of further **inquiries that are not being answered on our website**, you may contact the **Visa Section via** Email at visa@stoc.diplo.de