



Working Holiday

To whom does this leaflet apply?

The Working Holiday Visa Program is based on bilateral agreements between Germany and **Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the SAR Hong Kong, Taiwan and Uruguay**, as well as a Youth Mobility agreement with **Canada**.

The Working Holiday Programme aims at enabling young people to gain insight into culture and daily life in Germany. The intention is to promote increased mutual understanding and your primary aim should be to visit Germany. Employment is permitted throughout the validity of the visa but should remain of temporary character in order to facilitate additional financial means to your holiday travel intentions in Germany. Conditions regarding **length and type of employment** are governed by the individual bilateral agreement.

To be eligible for a **Working Holiday** you must be at least 18 years of age but have not turned 31 (35 for Canada) yet when filing your application and not be accompanied by dependent family members (e.g. children) during your stay.

Citizens of **Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan and New Zealand** may apply for their working holiday residence permit with the local immigration office ("Ausländerbehörde") after arrival in Germany and without having obtained a visa prior to travelling to Germany. Citizens of **Argentina, Chile and Uruguay** require a visa prior to travel to Germany and may apply at any German mission abroad. Other nationals should contact the German mission in their home country.

Citizens of **Argentina** and **Chile** may only get a working holiday visa for Germany once and must be in good health.

Citizens of **Argentina** may work for a total of six months only. Both fulltime and part-time for the same or several employers are allowed. Self-employment or freelance work is not permitted. It is, however, allowed to attend one or more basic and advanced training courses lasting up to six months in total.

Citizens of **Chile** may work for up to six months with the same employer. After that, employment may be continued for a different or several other employers for the remaining time. Both fulltime and part-time for the same or several employers are allowed. Self-employment or freelance work is permitted, but it is allowed to attend one or more basic and advanced training courses.

Citizens of **Uruguay** may work for up to six months with the same employer. After that, employment may be continued for a different or several other employers for the remaining time. Both fulltime and part-time for the same or several employers are allowed. Self-employment or freelance work is permitted.

1. Please read the following information and the list of documents carefully.
2. Prepare the required documents for the application.
3. Book an [appointment](#) in the category “Working Holiday Visa”.
4. Please sort your documents in the given order.

Please note:

- Due to the high workload and in order to ensure equal treatment of all applicants, the visa section can only accept applications for processing in the requested form.
- Submitting incomplete documents can lead to the rejection of the application.
- The interview (submission of documents) can only take place in the following languages: German, Latvian, English and Russian. If necessary, you need to bring a translator.
- Submitted documents that are sent unrequested cannot be assigned to your application.
- All documents, leaflets and application forms provided by the Embassy are free of charge.
- All information concerning the processing of the application can be found on our [website](#)
- Please refrain from inquiries about the status of the application. Status inquiries do not speed up the visa process.

What kind of documents need to be submitted?

1	Visa application form	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed either in German or English	You can find the visa application form free of charge on our website. We recommend to use the VIDEX-System in order to fill out the form online: https://videx.diplo.de/videx/visum-erfassung/videx-langfristiger-aufenthalt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional information on availability and representation	You find the form on our website .
2	Travel document	
<input type="checkbox"/>	passport <u>AND</u> one non-certified copy of all pages with entries of your passport	The passport must provide at least two empty pages and must have been issued within the previous ten years. The passport does not remain at the Embassy during the visa application procedure. It only needs to be presented at the time of application and later on in order for the visa to be affixed.
3	Legal residence in the Schengen area	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Original document and one non-certified copy of a valid residence permit for a Schengen country <u>OR</u> Proof (stamp in passport), that you have entered the Schengen area less than 90 days ago.	
4	Passport picture	
<input type="checkbox"/>	one up-to-date biometric passport picture	The photo must meet certain requirements . Please do not glue the photo to the application form.
5	Letter of Motivation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	individualized and signed letter of motivation	The letter of motivation must indicate that you primarily intend to spend your vacation in Germany and only seek temporary employment in order to facilitate additional financial means to travels in Germany.

6	Curriculum vitae	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete curriculum vitae in tabular form in German or English	In your CV, please summarize all previous activities, trainings and qualifications up to the current application date in one table.
7	Financing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1.350 € (450 € monthly for the first three months) PLUS 1.000 € (for the return ticket) PLUS covering of all costs of accommodation (for the first three months)	The actual funds (min. 2,350 €) must be in your own account (not from a third party!) and must have been in your account for at least 90 days prior to the application. As proof of own funds, we can only accept bank statements for the last three months prior to the application (if necessary with the equivalent euro value and translation, if not in German or English) or a German blocked account or a declaration of commitment according to §§ 66-68 AufenthG. The availability of funds for the costs of accommodation can also be proven by bank statements or by a German blocked account , a declaration of commitment or a signed letter of invitation that confirms, that you may live free of charge for a specified period of time. When booking e. g. a hotel for the first three months, either confirmation of the payment already made or proof of the financial means to be able to pay for the accommodation after arrival must be presented.
8	Criminal record	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal record (original document and one non-certified copy)	Applies to Argentinian nationals only. For the time spent in Argentina, you can apply for your criminal record online at this address . The criminal record must cover the last three years.
9	Accident and health insurance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of valid accident and health insurance (original document with one non-certified copy)	The insurance should cover hospital treatment and repatriation in the event of illness or death and should be valid for the entire intended period of your stay in Germany. Please provide proof of cost coverage by submitting the insurance conditions.
10	Proof of housing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of housing in Germany for the initial time including full address (e. g. rental agreement, hotel reservation, letter of invitation)	In case of a letter of invitation (signed by the inviter), please also provide a copy of the identity card (front and back) or passport including the inviter's confirmation of registration. For non-German passports, please also attach a copy of the German residence permit.
11	Visa fee	
<input type="checkbox"/>	75,00 € to be paid by credit card (Mastercard / Visa) or in cash	
Please note that the Embassy might request additional documents in individual cases.		

If **all** necessary documents have been provided, the processing time is between one to two weeks, in individual cases shorter or longer

If the Embassy has questions in the course of the visa procedure or you need to submit additional documents have, we will contact you directly.