

Checklist

Settlement Permit

The settlement permit is an unlimited residence permit and entitles the holder to pursue any gainful employment.

Guidance on meeting the requirements (§ 9 (2) AufenthG):

1. You have been in possession of a valid residence permit for at least five years (previous periods of training and study are credited at half)
2. You have acquired entitlements to benefits for sufficient old-age provision: At least 60 months of compulsory or voluntary contributions to the statutory pension insurance or comparable benefits
3. You have sufficient knowledge of German (B 1)
4. You have basic knowledge of the legal and social order in Germany
5. You meet the requirements for the extension of your current residence permit

The following deviating prerequisites apply (not conclusive):

- A. Family members of a German citizen (§ 28 (2) AufenthG):
 - after three years with sufficient knowledge of German (B 1)
 - the family partnership with spouse, child or parent with the German citizen in the federal territory continues to exist
- B. Spouses of a foreign professional with a settlement permit in accordance with § 18c AufenthG (§ 9 (3a) AufenthG):
 - after three years with sufficient knowledge of German (B 1)
 - gainful employment of at least 20 hours per week.

Required documentation for the application:

- National passport
- Sufficient pension provision
 - pension information or pension statement from the German Pension Insurance or
 - proof of entitlement to comparable benefits from another insurance or pension institution
- German language skills
 - language certificate from a certified language course provider (telc, Goethe Institut, ECL, ÖSD)
 - certificates from an integration course (if available)
- Knowledge of the legal and social order
 - Successful completion of the test "Living in Germany" or "Einbürgerungstest" (not applicable if you have attended a secondary school in Germany)
- Proof of continuous adequate health insurance coverage for all family members:
 - in case of a statutory health insurance: current insurance certificate
 - in case of private health insurance: confirmation of Annex 1 by the health insurance company*.
- Rental contract stating the current rental costs and the size of the apartment

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- Proof of income:
 - certificate of earnings of the last three months of the family members living in one household
 - freelance work: current profit calculation by tax advisor: form Information on gross/net income* and orders/contracts with several clients (if applicable)
- German university degree (if applicable)
- Current biometric photo (must only be presented at the appointment)**

*See Form on www.hamburg.com/welcome/forms/

** You can have your photo taken at a booth on site for a fee of 6 euros.

Please allow 15 minutes prior to your appointment for this.

Additional documents may be requested. The application is subject to a fee. Payment only in cash or with EC card. Credit card payment is not possible.

Application

Please use the [online service "Residence Permit Hamburg"](#) to apply for your settlement permit.

