Checklist

Settlement Permit (Self - Employed)

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. Self- Employment (§ 21 (4) AufenthG):
- You have been self-employed for three years
- Your company is successfully established on the market
- You can secure your livelihood for yourself and your family members from your income
- Proof of sufficient pension provision for applicants older than the age of 45 years

B. Graduates of German universities or domestic vocational training programs (§18c (1) 2 AufenthG):
- at least 24 months of qualified employment
- in the case of German-language training/studies, proof of German language skills is not re-quired.

C. 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

Required documentation for the application:
- National passport
- 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
- Current biometric photo (must only be presented at the appointment)**

Self-employed people who have successfully established their business:

- Audit report of the tax consultant to check by the Chamber of Commerce / Form "Prüfungs-bericht"*
- Business evaluation / profit and loss account
- Current profit calculation by the tax advisor: form Information on gross/net income*

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- Proof of adequate pension provision for applicants older than 45 years of age: Submission of a private pension or life insurance policy or assets above 199 thousand euros (no foreign real estate)
- Certificate in tax matters from the tax office
- trade register excerpt (if applicable)

All other people:

- certificate of earnings of the last three months of the family members living in one household, Freelancer: Current profit calculation by the tax consultant: form information on gross/net income*
- Sufficient pension provision (if available)
  - 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)
  - German school-leaving certificate or university degree (of applicable)
- Knowledge of the legal and social order
  - Successful completion of the test "Living in Germany" or "Einbürgerungstest" (if available)
  - German school-leaving certificate (if available)

*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 plan enough time 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.