

# Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg

Behörde für Inneres und Sport

Amt für Migration

## Information on the Visa Procedure for

### Au Pair Stays \*

#### Who can become an Au Pair?

The following prerequisites apply for an au pair placement:

- Age limit of the prospective au pair: At least 18 years of age when taking up the employment, filing of application before 27th birthday.
- The au pair must have a basic knowledge of the German language
- German is the mother tongue of the host family (if German is spoken as the family language, consent can be granted if the au pair does not come from a home country of the host parents)
- At least one underage child in the host family
- There must be no family relationship between the au pair and the host parents

The au pair placement must be for a minimum duration of 6 months and a maximum duration of one year. A renewed admission as an Au Pair is generally not possible even if the maximum duration is not exhausted.

#### What needs to be observed before entering the country?

The visa must be applied for at the German mission abroad (embassy or consulate general).

The visa application should include, but not limited to, the following documents:

- Au Pair contract, you can find a sample contract at: [www.arbeitsagentur.de](http://www.arbeitsagentur.de)
- Curriculum Vitae of the prospective au pair in German
- Invitation letter from the German host family and/or agreement with the au pair agency
- Proof of basic knowledge of the German language at level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)
- Certificate of health insurance cover for the au pair

Please note that the presentation of supplementary documents to the respective diplomatic mission may be required. Information on the German missions abroad can also be found on the website of

\* does not apply to nationals of a country of the European Union.

the Federal Foreign Office: [www.auswaertiges-amt.de](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de), search term "missions abroad".

**Important Note:**

In principle, the German mission abroad decides on its own responsibility about visa procedures for au pair employment in cooperation with the employment agency.

The following information only refers to the procedures in which the involvement of the immigration authority is required.

In the case of prior residence, the German mission abroad involves the immigration authority after the application has been submitted and requests a statement. In Hamburg, the department for immigration matters is responsible.

After receipt of the request for participation, it is examined by the Immigration Office. At this point, the Federal Employment Agency is asked whether the granting of a residence title for au pair employment can be approved. At the same time, the future host family is contacted and asked to submit a declaration of commitment. The fee for a declaration of commitment is 29.00 euros.

After completion of the examination procedure, the immigration authority issues a statement to the diplomatic mission or consular post. The diplomatic mission or consular post then decides whether to issue the visa.

Nationals of the following states may enter without a visa and obtain the required residence permit after entry: Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, UK and United States of America.

**What must be observed after entering the country?**

After entering the country with the required visa, the following must be done:

- Registration of the place of residence at any customer service center with presentation of the passport
- Application for a residence permit before the expiry of the visa at the responsible local district immigration office. Please enquire about the responsible immigration office when registering your residence or consult the following website (enter your address and click "weiter")  
<https://www.hamburg.de/behoerdenfinder>.

**General note:**

This leaflet is tailored to the "normal case". Please understand that deviations are possible in individual cases.

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