National Visa – Category D: Family Reunion

This information leaflet has been generated by the German Consulate in Dubai. The Consulate is responsible for visa applications of those applicants who reside in the United Arab Emirates. The application form needs to be filled out online [https://videx-national.diplo.de/videx/visum-erfassung/index.html#/videx-langfristiger-aufenthalt](https://videx-national.diplo.de/videx/visum-erfassung/index.html#/videx-langfristiger-aufenthalt) and printed out.

Applicants are requested to carefully read the general information sheet for National (long-term) visa for Germany (which can be downloaded from our website).

Please note that incomplete applications cannot be accepted.

Please find further details for the following categories on page:

- Family reunion to EU Nationals (excluding citizens of Germany)
- Family reunion of minors below the age of 16
- Intended marriage / civil union

**DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED**

All documents need to be submitted in 2 sets of copies including application form. Original certificates / documents must be presented separately. Original documents will be returned immediately. Documents which are not in German or English language require a translation.

Every set has to be sorted as follows:

1. **Application form – available online free of charge**
   - Fully completed in English or German and signed and dated by the applicant himself.
   - If the applicant is **under the age of 18**, signed form "Authorization – Minors / Children under 18“ needs to be attached including passport copies of parents/ legal guardian.

2. **Declaration of true and complete information – available also online, free of charge**
   - According to Section 54 (2) 8 in conjunction with Section 53 of the Residence Act
   - If the applicant is **under the age of 18**, signed form both parents

3. **Passport (Special rules might apply for some nationals which passports are not recognized by the German authorities.)**
   - Validity minimum one year
   - Signed by bearer
   - Passport not older than 10 years (issued in the last 10 years)
   - At least two free visa pages
   - Undamaged pictures securely affixed with/to passport
   - Previous passport if applicable
   - IMPORTANT: valid UAE residence permit

4. **Three recent biometric passport sized photographs (3.5x4,5 cm)**
   - Requirements:
     - Should **NOT** be older than 6 months.
     - A frontal view of the face covering 70-80% (32-26mm) of the photo.
• A uniform and light-colored background.
• Clear facial features and eyes – not covered by hair or glasses frame.
• Head coverings are only accepted for religious reasons.

Do not glue or staple the pictures to the application form.

5. If applicable: previous stay in Germany / previous Schengen Visa
• Copies of your old German resident permit
• Copies of previous Schengen visa

6. Details of spouse
• Passport copy
• For spouses of foreign nationals have to submit a copy of their partners residence permit for Germany.
• Certificate of residence (“Meldebescheinigung”) if the spouse is already living in Germany, not older than 6 months

7. Marriage Certificate (Original must be present)
   a) German Marriage Certificate:
      • ☐German certificate of marriage or extract from the Family Register.
   b) Foreign Marriage Certificate:
      • Foreign documents or certificates are often only recognized by the authorities of a state if their authenticity and evidentiary value has been determined by a special procedure.
   ** See separate leaflet for information regarding the recognition of foreign documents (can be downloaded from our website).

8. Divorce decree of previous marriages or death certificate of former spouse, if applicant has been previously married (Original must be present)
   • Foreign documents or certificates are often only recognized by the authorities of a state if their authenticity and evidentiary value has been determined by a special procedure
   ** See separate leaflet for information regarding the recognition of foreign documents (can be downloaded from our website).

9. Proof of accommodation in Germany
   • Copy of lease certificate of apartment in Germany or title deed of owned property, if partner is already residing in Germany.

10. Proof of sufficient means of subsistence
    • Copy of employment certificate / contract of the foreign spouse who intends to live / already lives in Germany
    • Salary slips from past three months if spouse is living in Germany

11. Knowledge of basic German language – Level A 1
    • Proof of language proficiency in German, by a recognized institute according to ALTE (Association of Language Testers in Europe. The following institutes are recognized Goethe-Institut, telc GmbH, Österreichisches Sprachdiplom (ÖSD) and TestDaF- Institut e.V.

   Exemptions on this requirement apply on:
   1.) Spouses of Blue Card holder, self-employed.
   2.) Parents of German minor child / unborn child
   In order to save time, that the applicant should complete the A1 course & have received the A1 certificate before the application process.
   Other exemptions can only be decided during the interview & after submission of the required documents.

12. Incoming medical insurance or proof public / private insurance has to be provided at the time of visa approval. More information to be provided during the interview.
For minors, who wish to reunite or accompany their parents, in addition to the above mentioned documents, we require:

- Birth certificate (Original is also required)
- Marriage certificate of parents (Original is also required)
- Custody decree, if their parents are divorced (Original is also required)
- Passport copies of parents
- Death Certificate, if one parent is deceased (Original is also required)
- German Language skills are not required.

See separate leaflet, for recognition of foreign documents.

Spouses of EU Nationals, excluding German citizens, are exempted from providing a copy of their partners Meldebescheinigung (Certificate of Residence) and the requirements of No.10 and 11. They are requested to provide a copy of their partner's employment certificate.

If the EU national in Germany is not working fulltime, proof of sufficient personal funds is required.

The visa process is only considered the last step and applicants should contact the civil registrar (Standesamt) well before in order to undergo the necessary procedure.

Instead of a marriage certificate, applicants are requested to provide the Certificate of intended marriage / Establishment of civil union ("Anmeldung zur Eheschließung / Eintragung einer Lebenspartnerschaft"), which has to be less than 6 months old.

A formal obligation letter ("Verpflichtungserklärung") by the fiancé is considered as proof of sufficient means of subsistence. It needs to be provided in original and not older than 6 months, and with the remark “Bonität nachgewiesen”
**Note further:**

- Applicants, who come late to their appointment by more than 15 min, will not be permitted to enter the visa section and are required to schedule a new appointment.

- Only complete applications can be accepted; applicants will be requested to arrange a new appointment if arriving with incomplete documents.

- Visa fees must be paid upon submission of application in cash (AED) only to the German Consulate only exact change will be accepted.

- Processing time at the Consulate due to necessary and obligatory legal requirements usually takes a minimum of 7 working days and up to 12 weeks or longer. Applicants are requested to apply up to 3 months prior to the intended date of journey. Applicants are also kindly requested to refrain from status inquiries, within the first 8 weeks.

- False or falsified documents will lead to the refusal of visa and / or further consequences.

- Complete documentation does not guarantee a visa approval.

- The German Consulate Dubai reserves the right to ask for additional documents and / or call applicant for additional information or interview.

**Disclaimer:** Although the information in this leaflet has been prepared with utmost care, we cannot accept any responsibility for inaccuracies contained herein.