



Information sheet: National Visa

Visa for Researchers (Section 18d Residence Act)

Basic Information

- All documents must be submitted **twice**, sorted into two different sets in the order as mentioned in the checklist below
- Certificates, diplomas, etc. must be presented in the original and attested by the HEC. Your original documents will be returned to you once your application has been processed.
- **Processing time is as a rule ca. 2 months**, but can take longer in individual cases.
- Flight reservations are not required to apply for a visa – please only book when you have received your visa.
- The German Embassy Islamabad reserves the right to request further documents.
- Missing documentation delays the procedure and can result in your application being rejected.
- **Please do not contact the Embassy to check the status of your application during the normal processing period.** Such inquiries are extremely time-consuming for the visa section and can thus not be answered.

General Information on Research Visas

Researchers are third-country nationals who

1. have a doctoral degree or a suitable university degree that allows access to doctorate programmes and
2. have been selected by a research institute and are allowed in the national territory of a member state
3. in order to engage in research for which such a qualification is normally required.

Note: This includes doctorate students unless they are enrolled at a German university to complete a full-time study programme leading to a doctoral degree as their primary activity. If you are taking part in a full-time study programme, please apply for a student visa instead.

Use the following checklist to make sure your application documents are complete. All documents listed here are to be submitted in **two identical sets** in the requested form and order. **The documents needs to be submitted in A4, complete and not stapled.**

**Visa application checklist – Researcher**

The following documents are to be submitted in full with every set of documents.

		Missing:
1	Application Form , including recent (2 weeks) biometric passport pictures (+ one additional passport picture)	
2	Proof of adequate financial means: This can be the work or research contract or the scholarship confirmation letter. You need to have at your disposal at least 1027 € per month. If you are financing your stay through a work contract, proof of the statutory minimum wage of 12€ / hour must be provided. Please note that if you want to take your family with you, the financial means must be sufficient!	
3	Invitation letter from the institute you will be joining as a researcher	
4	Hosting Agreement as per §18d German Residence Act	
5	Proof of qualification: Doctoral degree or university degree that allows access to doctorate programmes attested by the HEC (all pages, original and in copy)	
6	Your Curriculum Vitae	
7	Passport copies: Copies of Page 1 and 2 of all your passports starting with the most recent one you want to travel on. If you lost a passport, please provide police certificate regarding the loss instead	
8	ID card copy	
9	Travel Health Insurance	
10	If applicable: Information about any previous visa refusals. If you have been refused a visa, please supply us with a written explanation and the refusal letter	
11	Applicants Declaration	
12	Declaration as per § 54 (2) S. 8 in combination with § 53 Residence Act	
13	Printout of the appointment confirmation e-mail; including the provided booking code (e.g. "isla_9729717")	
Fee		
	Visa fee of 75,- €. Payable in PKR.	