



Visa for research stay (§ 18d AufenthG)

If you intend to conduct research in Germany, you are required to obtain a residence permit.
This residence permit must be issued before you enter the country.

General Information

- The application can be submitted at the earliest 6 months before the planned entry.
- The standard processing time can take up to 2 weeks, in individual cases even longer.
- Documents that are not issued in German or English must be submitted together with a translation.
- The Consulate General reserves the right to request further documentation.

Checklist

**Please submit the documents listed below in according order in original and two copies each
(copies distributed into two sets).**

Originals will be returned after examination. Copies will not be made by Consulate General staff.

- Fully completed and signed [visa application form](#)
- [Declaration of genuineness of submitted documents](#)
- Passport, which is valid for at least six months, which was issued in the last ten years and with at least two free pages (copy of photo page and pages with visas, stamps, etc. required)
- Proof of residency in Hong Kong
 - Hong Kong stay permit and a Hong Kong Identity Card or
 - Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card (only applicable for non Hong Kong passport holders)
- Three passport photos according to [biometric specifications](#) (not older than 3 months)
- Aufnahmevereinbarung (Hosting Agreement)
- Proof of University qualification (German or otherwise equivalent university degree)
- Financial proof with a minimum of 1.027 EUR per month by one of the following:
 - Invitation letter from the German university or research organisation (internship agreement) stating: Purpose and duration of stay, salary and detailed description of duty/training
 - A blocked account ("Sperrkonto") at a German bank showing a minimum amount according to the duration of your intended stay (withdrawal limit of 1.027 EUR per month). You have to open the blocked account directly with the bank.
- Proof of travel health insurance stating
 - name of the applicant
 - coverage of at least 30.000 EUR for medical expenses and repatriation
 - valid for the entire Schengen area
 - valid for at least three months the date of departure
- Visa application fee
75 EUR, in cash in HKD. The exact amount in HKD depends on the exchange rate.