



## Visa for research stay (§ 18d AufenthG)

If you intend to conduct research in Germany, you are required to obtain a residence permit.  
The national visa for the 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 is 2 weeks, in individual cases several months. Please apply as early as possible!
- 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 one copy each.

Originals will be returned after examination.

Copies will not be made by Consulate General staff. Please do not staple the documents.

- Fully completed and signed [visa application form](#) (no copy required)
- [Declaration of genuineness of submitted documents](#) (no copy required)
- 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)
- Two passport photos according to [biometric specifications](#) (not older than 3 months)
- Aufnahmevereinbarung (Hosting Agreement)
- Signed motivation letter with a detailed description of the intended activity in Germany
- Curriculum vitae, complete and in detail
- Proof of University qualification (German or otherwise equivalent university degree)
- Financial proof with a minimum of 1.091 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 1.091 EUR per month). You have to open the blocked account directly with the bank.
- Proof of adequate health insurance.
- Visa application fee  
75 EUR, in cash in HKD. The exact amount in HKD depends on the exchange rate.