

Visa for orientation concerning studies at a German university - Studienbewerbervisum

You are considered a university applicant if you are interested in studying in Germany, but have not yet received an admission from a public or state-approved university. The university application can be combined with learning German or orientating yourself with university possibilities.

A national “visa for orientation concerning studies at a German university” (Studienbewerbervisum) can be issued if:

- you have not yet been admitted to a German university or Studienkolleg
- there is no express reason to refuse your application (e.g. the absence of a required passport)
- there is no conflict with other public interests.

You need to provide the following evidence in order to get a national visa:

- health insurance policy
- documents that prove how you intend to finance your living expenses during the time of your studies (proof of sufficient financial resources)
- permission from the person(s) entitled to custody (minors only).

In some individual cases, it may be necessary to check if you meet the requirements for admission to university. In such a case, you may have to submit the following documents when applying for the visa for university applicants:

- proof of university acceptance comparable to the German HZB
- proof of possible previous academic achievements.

The national visa for orientation concerning studies at a German university is issued and valid for a residence of up to **three months**. It can be extended to a 6 month residence permit by the foreigners' authority (Ausländerbehörde). This is combined with the requirement that university applicants have to prove acceptance of a university place or the acceptance of a preparatory German course or a Studienkolleg place within the three months (or nine months) visa period. The maximum thus amounts to 9 months.

After submitting your acceptance of a university place, you obtain a **limited residence permit** for your period of degree study. You do not need to leave the country again between study orientation, language course and starting university. It is your own risk as an applicant that you may not get a university place and have to travel back to your home country.