

## EU Blue Card

The EU Blue Card is a residence permit for people with a university degree who do not come from the EU and wish to work in Germany. This requires a university degree and an employment contract with a certain minimum salary.

- For bottleneck professions and career starters: at least €43,759.80 per year (2025).
- For all other professions: at least €48,300 per year (2025).

## Who can get the EU Blue Card?

### Do you have a recognised university degree?

If you studied abroad, the degree must be recognised in Germany or be equivalent.

**Tip:** You can check whether your degree is recognised on the "[anabin](#)" website.

### You don't have a university degree?

Then you need to have completed at least three years of training after leaving school. This must correspond to at least level 6 of the German or European education system - for example as a master craftsman/master craftswoman or educator.

### Employment contract or binding job offer in Germany:

- The job must last at least six months.
- The work must match your degree.
- The salary must be at least €48,300 per year (2025).

For shortage occupations, a salary of € 43,759.80 (2025) is also sufficient if the Federal Employment Agency agrees. You can find a list of these professions [here](#).

## Special case for career starters

If your degree is less than three years old, you can obtain the EU Blue Card with a salary of €43,759.80 (2025) - regardless of the profession. Here, too, you need the approval of the Federal Employment Agency.

## Special case of IT specialists without training

Are you an IT specialist or IT manager without an official qualification? Then you can still get the EU Blue Card if:

- You have a concrete job offer in IT in Germany (at least 6 months).
- You earn at least € 43,759.80 per year (2025).
- you have had at least 3 years of high-level professional experience in IT in the last 7 years.

## Prospects with the EU Blue Card

The EU Blue Card is valid for as long as your employment contract plus three months - up to a maximum of four years. It can be extended. After 27 months of working in Germany, you can apply

for a permanent residence permit. If you speak German at level B1, this is possible after just 21 months. You can leave Germany with your family members for up to 12 months without your EU Blue Card becoming invalid. After one year with the EU Blue Card, you can also move to another EU country (except Ireland and Denmark) and apply for a new EU Blue Card there within one month.

### **Do you have an EU Blue Card and want to change jobs?**

That is possible. You can work for a new employer with your valid Blue Card. Important: If you change jobs in the first year, you must inform the Immigration Office. The authority will then check whether you still fulfil all the conditions for the new job. If not, you may receive a different residence permit.