



Generalkonsulat
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Kanton

Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Updated: November 2006

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Visa for self-employment in Germany

(e.g. managing director of a private limited company)

Foreigners who wish to invest and to work in Germany on a self-employed basis have to meet the basic criteria according to section 21 of the German Residence Act (§ 21 AufenthG) and the German Employment Decree. There is no legal right to claim a visa for self-employment.

The following **documents** have to be submitted when applying for the visa:

1. Three duly filled and signed application forms (Application for Residence Permit/ Antrag auf Erteilung einer Aufenthaltserlaubnis) with 4 recent photographs (3,5 x 4,5cm, white background, see information on photographs) accompanied by signed declaration that the information given is true and complete (section 55 of German Residence Act).
2. Valid passport.
3. Documents that prove the setting up of a company in Germany (Firmengründungsurkunde) or draft of it prepared by a notary public.
4. Formal registration of the company in the trade register in Germany or proof of the investment sum.
5. Complete personal resume.
6. Graduation certificates legalized.
7. proof of current employment in China, work contract/confirmation by employer, and original of business license.
8. Business plan stating in detail business scope, location of the company, it's legal classification, market analysis and strategies, capital-/financing plan, investment plan, solvency preview, future employment offers, plans for the future, credit-loss-account.
9. For Chinese applicants only: Household Register (hukou).
10. Proof of health insurance valid at least 90 days after entering Germany (not applicable for family members of German citizens or spouses/children of EU- or EEA citizens). As the time of the visa approval is not definite, applicants are recommended to arrange that the date of the insurance is flexible, valid after entering only.
11. In case of minors travelling: see information "Visa for Minors under 18".
12. Additional documents may be requested either by the Consulate General or by the authorities in Germany.

All documents have to be presented in the **original** and with **2 copies**.

All documents have to be presented with a **translation** into German or English.

The Consulate General legalizes Chinese documents, which are notarized and certified by the Foreign Affairs Offices of Guangdong, Guangxi, Fujian or Hainan. **Legalisation** of these documents is possible when applying for the visa. A legalisation fee is incurred.

Visa applications can be submitted after scheduling an **appointment**. As from 1st December 2006, appointments will have to be arranged through the **Visa Application Centre**. www.germanvac-cn.com The arrangement of an appointment is highly recommended: applicants with appointment are received with priority. Without appointment there is no guarantee for submitting the visa application at the Consulate General.

At the Visa Application Centre you can have your documents pre-checked and get general information in visa matters, either in person or by sending an authorized third person. This service is useful, as only complete applications can be processed. The Visa Application Centre is not in a position to refuse visa applications

The decision whether to grant a visa lies solely in the competence of the Visa Section of the Consulate General.

Visa applicants will be asked to come to the Consulate General for **interviewing**. Please be there on time 15 minutes before the scheduled appointment. Applicants not showing up on time will not be able to hand in their applications and will have to arrange for a new appointment. Changes of the appointment date should be notified to the Visa Application Centre in due time; a new appointment date may be arranged free of charge if notified at least two days prior to the interview.

The **visa fee** is **30,- EUR** (15,- EUR for minors).

(Spouses of German citizens and parents of German children, as well as spouses/children of EU- or EEA citizens are free of charge.)

The fee has to be paid in equivalent Renminbi Yuan when handing in the application in the Consulate General, according to the relevant exchange rate.

An additional service fee of 190,- RMB has to be paid by every applicant in the Visa Application Centre.

Application forms and information leaflets are free of charge - www.kanton.diplo.de

Processing time: 2 to 3 months. Enquiries within this period of time cannot be answered.

Passports will be handed back to the applicants via the Visa Application Centre after the Visa Section of the Consulate General has decided on the visa.

Applicants are asked to check their visa (esp. validity dates, typing of name, photo) on receipt.

The visa is issued with a validity of 90 days and has to be extended at the local Immigration Office in Germany.

Regional competence of German missions in China:

The Federal Republic of Germany has several missions in the Peoples' Republic of China. Each of them has a clearly defined region for visa issue:

- Persons residing or having their normal abode in the provinces of Guangdong, Fujian, Hainan and the Autonomous Region of the Zhuang-Nationality Guangxi have to hand in their visa application with the **German Consulate General Kanton**.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in the provinces of Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang und the city of Shanghai have to hand in their visa application at the Consular and Visa section of the **German Consulate General Shanghai**, New Century Plaza, 14/F, 188 Wu Jiang Road, Shanghai 200041, phone: (021) 6217 1520, fax: (021) 6218 0004, www.shanghai.diplo.de.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in any other province will have to apply for their visa at the **German Embassy Peking**, 17 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Peking 100600, phone: (010) 8532 9000, fax: (010) 6532 3557, www.peking.diplo.de.
- Persons residing or having their normal abode in Hongkong and Macao will have to apply for a visa at the **German Consulate General Hongkong**, United Centre, 21/F, 95 Queensway-Central, Hongkong, phone: (00852) 2105 8777, fax (00852) 2105 8788, www.hongkong.diplo.de.
- The **German Consulate General Chengdu** is **not issuing any visa for the time being**.

As a rule the **normal abode** is defined as the place a person is living in and working at. This is the case if a person has been living at that place for the past six months or is expected to stay at that place for long-term. If the normal abode is not in agreement with the Household Register (Hukou) or place of issue of the passport, the applicant is asked to present proof of his normal abode (ID card 暂住证, working contract, police confirmation).