



Applications for Student Visa

All Indian nationals who wish to study in Germany require a visa prior to their departure. Applicants residing in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu or Pondicherry have to submit their respective visa applications to the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chennai. Please note that the place of issue of your passport is of no relevance in this regard.

In order to start the application process, please contact any of the German Application Centers in Chennai, Puducherry, and Hyderabad managed by "VFS Global Services Pvt. Ltd". Personal appearance for a visa interview is mandatory for all applicants.

The Consulate will check your application and if the basic requirements are met forward it to the competent German Immigration Office.

The German Immigration Offices will take a minimum of 4 weeks but might take **8 to 12 weeks for processing your visa application**. Please note that the German Consulate General has no influence on the actual processing time. You will be informed once the visa can be issued.

Please note that the **visa approval is valid for 3 months only**. You, therefore, should arrange to have your visa stamped within this period of time. If you fail to meet this deadline, your visa will be rejected automatically and you will have to start the visa process all over.

Simultaneous applications for visiting visa in order to "bridge" the processing time of the student visa cannot be entertained. Visa for tourist or visiting purposes cannot be converted into residence permits after arrival in Germany.

Any enquiries in writing or by telephone for the status of an application within a period of 12 weeks from date of application cannot be answered.

The visa issued by the German Consulate General in Chennai will enable you to enter Germany legally in order to take up residence there. It also permits to travel within the Schengen area. Nevertheless, it is mandatory to register immediately upon arrival with the local Immigration Office which will grant the **final residence permit**.

The **Visa Fee** for a student visa is € 60,-. The visa fee has to be paid in Rupees by **Demand Draft** in the name of the "Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chennai" on the day of application. The Demand Draft must be payable in Chennai and may not be older than two months. Only Demand Drafts from the Indian Bank, Canara Bank, RBS or Deutsche Bank will be accepted. Demand Drafts with incorrect amounts will not be accepted. Fees cannot be paid in cash. Please refer to the homepage of the German Consulate General at www.chennai.diplo.de in order to find out the current amount of the visa fee in Rupees. Please note that the visa fee is **not refundable**, even when the visa is refused. Only applications with complete documentation can be accepted. If the below mentioned documents are not handed in completely, the application will either be rejected or processing may be delayed. In order to ensure that your application can be processed without delay, please submit the following mandatory documents:

- valid **Passport** (issued within the last 10 years) with at least 12 months validity
- **3 Passport Pictures** according to biometric specifications, 1 attached to each application form, 1 loose (For further details regarding biometric specifications of photos please refer to the German Consulate General's homepage at www.chennai.diplo.de)
- **Demand Draft** for Visa Fee

In addition you are requested to provide **two sets of application documents** containing the following documents:

- **Application Form** (Please ensure that you signed both forms and indicated your complete future address incl. pin code in question 15. Besides, please add your complete Indian address incl. pin code and Tel./Fax/e-mail under your signature.)

- **Declaration on True and Complete Information**, signed and dated
- your **Cover Letter** explaining the reason for your visa application. Please also submit a German translation of this documentation (Original)
- **Letter of Admission** from a German University (A4 sized copy), signed with seal of the university
- **University Certificates** (Degree Certificates and Mark Sheets, Original and A4 sized copy)
- Proof of knowledge of the **English language** (TOEFL/IELTS) Original and A4 sized copy). This document is mandatory for the visa process, even if it is not required by the German university.

Only exemptions possible: Applicants for Ph.D. / Doctorate studies and Erasmus Mundus Scholarship Holders

- Proof of **Financial Means**, one of the following documents (Original and A4 sized copy):
 - Confirmation of Scholarship
 - formal sponsorship letter from sponsor living in Germany (“Verpflichtungserklärung”)
 - Confirmation of a German blocked account (“Sperrkonto”) in the amount of € 7.905,- and with a monthly withdrawal allowance of € 659,-
- A4 sized copy of **your passport**

If applicable:

- Proof of previously acquired **German knowledge** (mandatory, if class in Germany is taught – even partly - in German)

All required forms / declarations as well as this information sheet may be downloaded from the visa page of the German Consulate General’s homepage at www.chennai.diplo.de.

Please note that the German Consulate General reserves the right to ask for additional documents in single cases. Besides, the submission of the above mentioned documents does not guarantee the issue of a visa. Submission of an incomplete set of documentation or refusal to attend the mandatory visa interview will lead to a reject of your visa application. Even though a visa might have been granted, Border Control Authorities at the port of entry reserve the right to deny entry into the Federal Republic of Germany. Once a visa has been issued, the purpose of the trip may not be altered.