



Proof of German proficiency for family reunion applicants

Since August 28th 2007 all family reunion applicants desiring to join their spouse residing in Germany have to provide proof that they possess a sufficient basic knowledge of the German language. This is to ensure that, upon arrival in Germany, the applicant will be able to conduct basic communication in German.

Basic knowledge of the German language is knowledge of the German language on the competence level “A1” of the Common European Framework of Reference for languages. Detailed information on what A1-knowledge constitutes can be found on the website of the Council of Europe: www.coe.int/lang-CEFR

The mandatory proof of your language proficiency is rendered through a certificate issued upon passing a standardised language exam that complies with the standards of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE). At present, the Goethe-Institut in Dhaka is the only institution in Bangladesh which can issue such certificates.

The Goethe-Institut can be contacted as follows:

Address: House No. 10, Road No. 9 (new), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh

Telephone: +880 2 9126525

Email: info@dhaka.goethe.org

Highly qualified applicants who can prove a job contract with a company in Germany that will hire them for working in a position adequate to their education are exempted from this requirement. Applicants who can prove that they are incapable of acquiring German proficiency due to a physical or mental illness or a handicap are also exempted. Furthermore, applicants whose spouse resides in Germany being a member of one of the following groups do not need to prove German language proficiency:

<p>If the applicant got married to the spouse before the spouse migrated to Germany:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly-skilled workers (§ 19 AufenthG) • Researchers (§ 20 AufenthG) • Self-employed (§ 21 AufenthG) • Asylum seekers or recognised refugees (§§ 25 Abs. 1, Abs. 2 and 26 Abs. 3 AufenthG) 	<p>For the following groups of foreigners the date of marriage is irrelevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Blue card holders (§ 19a AufenthG) • European citizens who are not German citizens • Residents whose stay in Germany is of temporary nature (e.g. scholarship holders, expatriate staff)
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