



December 2023

## Information sheet: SCHENGEN VISA – Cultural/Religious Purpose

This information leaflet has been generated by the German Embassy in Dhaka. It is valid for visa applications in Bangladesh (BGD) if Germany or Estonia is your main destination. This leaflet stipulates the legal requirements and can be downloaded free of charge. Applicants are requested to read it carefully and observe the regulations as stated below – see I. through IV.

I. Documents to be submitted (documents other than in English and in German need to be translated into English or German):

Sl. No.	Required Documents	Submitted
1.	Completely filled out and signed Schengen visa application form. Please use the VIDEX website ( <a href="https://videx.diplo.de/videx/desktop/index.html#start">https://videx.diplo.de/videx/desktop/index.html#start</a> ) to fill out the application online. Please ensure to print and submit all pages of the application form including the barcodes.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Filled out and signed Declaration of Consent. ( <a href="https://dhaka.diplo.de/blob/2157316/f09d693ebec056cf648a90d9b0939a26/declaration-of-consent-data.pdf">https://dhaka.diplo.de/blob/2157316/f09d693ebec056cf648a90d9b0939a26/declaration-of-consent-data.pdf</a> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Valid passport with minimum three months validity from the date of expiry of the requested visa and at least two free “visa pages”</li><li>Previous passport(s) if applicable</li><li>Valid Bangladesh residence permit for non-Bangladeshi applicants (valid at least three months from the date of expiry of the requested visa / intended end of journey)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	One recent biometric passport-sized photograph (35x45mm, white background, 70%-80% face coverage); Head coverings are only accepted for religious reasons. ( <i>Do not glue or staple the picture to the application form</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Overseas medical insurance: (link for the list of accepted travel health insurances from Bangladesh: <a href="https://dhaka.diplo.de/blob/2076266/aa3d31f781495ffe0f79762c35e1af81/c-krankenversicherungenliste-data.pdf">https://dhaka.diplo.de/blob/2076266/aa3d31f781495ffe0f79762c35e1af81/c-krankenversicherungenliste-data.pdf</a> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Valid for the entire duration of the requested visa and for all Schengen countries</li><li>Minimum coverage 30,000,-- Euro and repatriation. (Medical insurances of credit cards are not accepted)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Proof of accommodation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Valid hotel/guesthouse reservation for the entire travel with full address, contact information, booking reference (if the applicant intends to stay with a family member or a friend: proof of sponsorship and/or private accommodation from the host).Your accommodation has to be identical with your flight reservation.</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Flight reservation or travel itinerary	
8.	Personal covering letter explaining the purpose of your visit and who will bear the travel cost	<input type="checkbox"/>

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visa@dhak.diplo.de

**Website**

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Sl. No.	Required Documents	Submitted
9.	Invitation letter from organisation in Germany/Estonia with full address, stating the purpose and duration of the program.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	Documents reflecting the nature/purpose of the journey and stay of artist/member of cultural/religious association in Germany: a) Artist/Member of Cultural/Religious Association in Bangladesh travels to a cultural/cultural event organized in cooperation with a German cultural/religious association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Letter of local Bangladesh cultural/religious association stating timeframe and schedule of cultural camp/event with details of organizer/host with full address in Germany, as well as purpose of cultural camp/event and information who covers costs (accommodation, travel expenses) and</li><li>Letter of local German cultural/religious association with full address, stating partner of cooperation, timeframe and schedule of camp/event</li></ul> b) Athlete/member of sports association in Bangladesh travels to a cultural camp/event organized by the (local) Bangladesh cultural association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Letter of Local Bangladesh cultural association stating timeframe and schedule of camp/event with details of organizer/host with full address in Germany, as well as purpose of camp/event and information who covers costs (accommodation, travel expenses) and</li><li>Letter of Support / No Objection by the BGD Ministry of Culture confirming the camp, timeframe and stating the Local Bangladesh cultural association and German cultural association</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.	Original personal bank statements of at least the last 6 months before application and proof of other financial means and assets (e.g. DPS, FDR, holding tax payment receipt etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	If the travel cost will be borne by a third party, for example any company or any person in Bangladesh, the company/the person has to provide its bank statement for the last 6 months along with a letter of consent from the company/the person.	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.	If employed by a company in Bangladesh: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>letter from local employer including name, address and telephone number of sponsor/company, with details regarding applicant's working position, starting date of employment, salary and timeframe of work leave (expected date to resume duties).</li></ul> If you are a student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>no objection certificate from school/college/university</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.	Documents related to civil status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Copy of marriage certificate – if married (also “Nikah Nama” both in Bangla and English for Muslim marriage)</li><li>Copy of divorce certificate (“Talak Nama”) – if divorced</li><li>Copy of death certificate – in case you are a widow or widower</li><li>Copy of birth certificate of your children – if you have children</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.	Additional photocopies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Passport copy of pages containing personal data</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Sl. No.	Required Documents	Submitted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copy of valid Bangladesh residence permit/visa (applicable only to non-Bangladeshi applicants)</li><li>• Copies of previous Schengen, US, Canada or UK visa, if applicable</li></ul>	
16.	<p>Additional documents for applications of minor applicants(age of below 18):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application form and declaration of consent both have to be signed by both parents or legal guardian</li><li>• Passport copy (biometric and address page) of the applicants both parents/legal guardian</li></ul> <p>If anyone other than both parents/legal guardian submits the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proof of custody/legal guardianship either by submitting custody order from family court or</li><li>• Power of Attorney from both parents/legal guardian (if father/mother/legal guardian are/is abroad then it must be authenticated by competent authority abroad)</li></ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ❖ NOTE: Special rules might apply for some nationals whose passports are not recognized by German authorities. You might be required to come to the Embassy in person. In this case visa processing will take more time.

## II. Information for the applicant on **Terms and Conditions** of the visa process:

- All photocopies should be in A4 size
- Only complete applications will be accepted; non-submission of necessary documentation may lead to refusal of visa application.
- All visa fees must be paid upon submission of the above in cash (BDT) only.
- The processing time at the Embassy due to necessary and obligatory legal requirements takes up to 15 calendar days. Applicants are requested to apply well in advance, but – due to legal requirements - not more than six months prior to the intended date of journey. Status updates during the regular processing time will not be entertained.
- During the whole processing time the passport has to remain with the German Embassy. Passports can only be withdrawn if a written request by the applicant himself/herself is presented to the Embassy. Consequently, the application will be cancelled/withdrawn and the passport returned within 3 working days.
- False or falsified documents, including fake bookings, will lead to the refusal of visa and/or further consequences.
- The German Embassy Dhaka reserves the right to ask for additional documents and/or call the applicant for an interview.

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Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Dhaka

III. REMARKS to be filled out by VFS staff (please tick, what is relevant):

√ Applicant travels ☐ alone ☐ with family member/s  
☐ with a group as .....  
(please specify e.g. colleague, escort, sponsor)

IV. Signatures and agreement:

a) For visa applicant:

I have taken note of all the regulations and remarks as mentioned from I. to III. on the checklist. I have been informed that VFS Global does not have any influence on the decision about a visa application!

I confirm that the VFS officer has noted all documents submitted by me and that I want the application in its present form to be forwarded to the German Embassy Dhaka. I am aware that original documents not submitted with a copy will be kept by the visa section.

b) For VFS staff:

I confirm that above checklist has been filled out together with and signed in front of me by the applicant.

Dhaka, .....

Name of the applicant: .....

City and Date

Signature of the applicant:.....

Dhaka, .....

Name of the VFS Staff:.....

City and Date

Signature of VFS Staff:.....

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