



Ukraine – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Who can obtain a residence permit according to § 24 of the Residence Act (AufenthG)?

- Ukrainian nationals who had their residence in Ukraine before 24.2.2022 as well as their family members,
- Ukrainian nationals who have been living legally in Germany for a long time (even if their current residence permit expires),
- Non-Ukrainian nationals and stateless persons who had an international or national protection status in Ukraine before 24.2.2022, as well as their family members,
- Non-Ukrainian nationals and stateless persons who resided lawfully and not only temporarily or with a permanent right of residence in Ukraine before 24.2. 2022 and cannot return to their home country.

I am a Ukrainian citizen but do not have a valid passport?

If you do not have a valid passport, the residence title is issued as a substitute for an identity document. You must contact your national representation (embassy, consulate) in Germany and apply for a passport. If you cannot obtain a passport and also do not have an Ukrainian internal passport, you must obtain an appropriate proof of identity there.

Notes: If you have an Ukrainian ID card (model 2015), this will be valid as a passport replacement until 23 February 2023.

If you can credibly prove to us that you cannot obtain a passport and want to travel abroad, you can apply for a [travel document for foreigners](#) using our [contact form](#).

What is the difference between a fictional certificate and a residence permit?

The fictional certificate (green paper) is valid for 12 months. The residence permit is valid until 4 March 2024 at the latest. You will first receive a fictional certificate from the Foreigners Office as a temporary solution until your eAT card with the residence permit has been produced at the Bundesdruckerei (Federal Printing Office) in Berlin. However, this will take a few weeks.

When can I start to work in Germany?

You can work in Germany as soon as you have received a fictional certificate with the note "Erwerbstätigkeit erlaubt" (employment permitted) or a residence permit with the note "Erwerbstätigkeit erlaubt" (employment permitted) from the competent Foreigners' Office.

Can I get a residence permit for another reason, for example to study, for family reunification or to work as a skilled worker?

Yes, you can get a residence permit for another reason at any time if you meet the requirements (for example, to join your family, to study or to work as a skilled worker). The change is free of charge for you. Please write to us via our [online service](#) if you would like to obtain a residence permit for a different reason for residence (change of purpose).

Can I take an integration course (language course)?

Yes, but you have to apply for it. You can apply for this at the competent regional office of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

[BAMF information on the integration course](#)

Can I travel within the Schengen States?

As soon as you have your residence permit, you may travel with it and a valid passport or travel document for foreigners - also for a period of up to 90 days to other [Schengen States](#).

When does my residence permit or fictional certificate become invalid?

If you stay outside Germany for longer than six months, your residence permit or fictional certificate becomes invalid. For this reason, you must contact the Foreigners Office before you leave Germany to check whether you will be granted a longer period of stay abroad.

Can I move within Germany?

Yes, you can move within Germany if you do not have an allocation decision from the Government of Upper Bavaria to a specific place of residence (Wohnsitzauflage). Please note that you must then register with the Registration Office (Meldebehörde) of your new place of residence.

If you have a residence condition (Wohnsitzauflage), you can only change your place of residence if you obtain permission to do so. You must apply for this at the Foreigners Office of your current place of residence.

Can I move to another EU Member State?

If you already have a residence in Germany and would like to move to another EU State, you must submit an application to the Foreigners Office in Germany. This application will be forwarded to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) for processing.

I do not have Ukrainian citizenship and do not have a valid passport?

If you do not have Ukrainian citizenship and do not have a valid passport or passport replacement, you must apply for one at the representation of your home country (embassy, consulate) in Germany.

Who cannot obtain a residence permit according to § 24 of the Residence Act (AufenthG)?

- Persons who cannot provide proof of having stayed legally in Ukraine on 24 February 2022,
- Persons who were in Ukraine for a short stay on 24 February 2022 (tourists, business travellers, visitors and similar stays),
- Persons, as mentioned above, who can safely and permanently return to their home country,
- Persons who are stateless and have not resided legally and permanently in Ukraine.

If you do not get a residence permit according to § 24 AufenthG, you can apply for a residence permit for another reason for stay via our [online service](#) until 31 August 2022. If you meet the requirements, you can, for example, get a residence permit to study or as a skilled worker. Alternatively, you can apply for international protection in Germany under the Asylum Act.

Can I return to my home country if I do not have Ukrainian citizenship?

Yes, you can return to your home country at any time. Please enquire about support services.

[Information of the BAMF](#)

[Information of the Social Affairs Office](#)

Do you have any further questions?

If you have any further questions, you can use our [contact form](#) or call the Foreigners Office:

+49 1525 66 52441 or +49 1525 68 31143

(Monday to Thursday 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. and Friday 7.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

The service telephone is also available in Ukrainian.