

## **Information concerning visas for the subsequent immigration of children<sup>\*</sup>**

If you are a foreign citizen staying on federal territory with a residence permit, you may apply to have unmarried minors join you in Germany. If you are an asylum-seeker, you may not bring your dependents to Germany until you have been granted asylum. Requests for family reunification may be turned down in certain circumstances.

### **How can my unmarried minors join me in Germany?**

The following conditions must be fulfilled:

- At least one of the child's parents must be in possession of a valid residence permit.
- The child must be a minor and unmarried.
- Sufficient accommodation must be available.
- Living costs must be secured. A foreigner's living costs are deemed to be secured if these can be covered, including sufficient health insurance cover, without requiring state financial assistance.

### **The following documents should be submitted to the German mission abroad when filing an application:**

- The child's valid national passport
- Passport photos
- The child's birth certificate
- The lease contract for the accommodation
- Proof of net income must be submitted so that this self-sufficiency can be assessed.

Gainfully-employed people in employment can demonstrate this by submitting a copy of their current employment contract, confirmation from their employer that employment has not be terminated, and their last three pay slips (six pay slips must be provided if "unemployment pay II" – ALG II – was previously claimed as per Book II or XII of the German Social Security Code, SGB). Self-employed people can prove their net monthly income for the last three months (or six months, if the company was recently launched) with a letter of confirmation from their accountant.

- If the child will be immigrating to join just one parent, proof of sole custody of the child must be submitted.

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<sup>\*</sup> This does not apply to citizens of European Union Member States, EEA countries or Switzerland

The visa application must be filed at the German mission abroad in the child's country of origin. The German mission abroad receives the visa application and forwards it to the Foreigners' Authority.

Upon receiving the visa application, the Foreigners' Authority writes to the spouses resident in Germany, inviting them to an interview on a particular date, and notifying them about the documents they will be required to bring. The submitted documents are then used as the basis for a statement to the relevant German mission abroad.

### **What should I bear in mind after the child enters the country?**

The following must be undertaken after entering the country with the required visa:

First:

- Register the child's place of residence with the [Bürgeramt](#) (citizens' registration office)

Then:

- Apply for a residence permit from the [Foreigners' Authority](#) before the child's visa expires (Please make an appointment!)

### **General information:**

This data sheet is based on "normal" cases. Please note that deviations are possible in individual cases. Visa applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.