



Visa fees

Last updated on 20 May 2008

1. The fee for a **national visa** (valid in Germany for stays of more than three months e.g. for purposes of study) is **EUR 60.00**. This fee was increased from EUR 30.00 by the third ordinance amending the Ordinance Governing Residence which entered into force on 14 May 2008, in order to cover the envisaged additional cost of collecting and processing biometric data for long stay visas pursuant to section 49 (5) (5) of the Residence Act. The use of biometric data will give applicants increased protection from identity theft and will additionally help combat illegal migration and terrorism. At EUR 60.00, this fee is still much lower than that charged by other Schengen and EU states.

From 14 May 2008, a fee of **EUR 60.00** will thus be charged **for all types of visa**.

2. Applicants who wish to stay in Germany for more than 90 days, but who also need to travel to other Schengen countries during their first three months here (e.g. scholars), should apply for a national "hybrid visa". The fee for a **hybrid visa** is **EUR 60.00**.
3. A **Schengen visa** (permitting stays of up to 90 days in 24 Schengen countries) also costs **EUR 60.00**.
4. Exceptions to the price increase:
 - (a) The EU is particularly keen to encourage young people to travel. **Visa fees are thus waived by all Schengen states for the following categories of persons, regardless of their nationality:**
 - i) children under six years, and
 - ii) school pupils, students and accompanying teachers who undertake trips for the purpose of study or educational training.
 - (b) Visa fees are also waived for researchers from third countries travelling within the European Community for the purpose of carrying out scientific research as defined in Recommendation 2005/761/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 September 2005.

- (c) The EU has concluded visa facilitation agreements with **Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania**. Under these Agreements, nationals of these countries will have to pay only **EUR 35.00** for a Schengen visa from 1 January 2008, and will be exempt from paying this fee in various situations (e.g. when visiting relatives).
 - (d) The German missions will also consider **waiving or reducing the fees charged in individual cases** if the applicant's stay would serve to promote cultural interests, interests in the field of foreign policy, development policy or other areas of vital public interest or if there are humanitarian grounds for so doing.
5. Enquiries regarding visa fees in individual cases should be directed to the German mission responsible for the application in question.