

## ENTRY AND RESIDENCE REGULATIONS

Students who do not have EU/EEA nationality need an entry/residence title for Austria. The type of permit depends on the length of the stay.

### 1. Stays up to 6 months – Visa D

If you stay up to 6 months you require a **Visa D** in order to legally enter and reside in Austria. Visa D holders may travel to Schengen countries up to 90 days within the dates of validity specified in the visa.

You have to submit your Visa application to the responsible Austrian authority (embassy, general consulate)\* 3 months to 3 weeks *before* entering Austria. The visa will be issued by the same authority.

\* Find the responsible Austrian representative authority for your home country [here](#).

#### Exceptions:

Exchange students with <b>US or Canadian citizenship*</b>	CAN	apply for the Visa D at the Consulate in Munich, Bratislava or Lubljana
Students with <b>residence permit for another Schengen country</b>	HAVE to	

**\*Attention! If you travel to Austria through another Schengen-country, a Visa D is required!**

To apply for a Visa D for study purposes, the following documents are required:

- a completed and signed [application form](#) -> select "study" as main purpose(s) of the journey
- recent photograph (the size must be between 3.5 x 4.5 cm and 4.0 x 5.0 cm)
- valid passport (+ photocopies of all passport pages that contain entry information and stamps)  
-> valid during your entire stay in Austria!
- proof of accommodation in Austria
- proof of health insurance applicable in Austria
- proof of financial support
- Letter of Acceptance issued by the International Office
- return airline ticket, if available

**A VISA D FOR AUSTRIA CANNOT BE ISSUED OR EXTENDED IN AUSTRIA!**

## 2. Stays longer than 6 months – Residence permit

If you stay **longer than 6 months** you need a **residence permit for study purposes** (Aufenthaltsbewilligung "Studierender").

Nationals of countries with <b>exemption from visa requirements</b> (see 2.2. )	<b>Option 1</b> Apply for the residence permit after your arrival in Austria <i>(Make sure to bring all required documents!)</i>	<b>Option 2</b> Apply for the residence permit before your departure in your home country*
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**Attention! If you travel to Austria through another Schengen-country, a Visa D is required!**

Nationals of <b>all other countries</b>	<b>Option 1</b> Step 1: Apply for a Visa D in your home country* (see 1. ) Step 2: Apply for the residence permit after your arrival in Austria <i>(Make sure to bring all required documents!)</i>	<b>Option 2</b> Step 1: Apply for the residence permit in your home country* Step 2: Await the decision (may take up to 3 months) Step 3: Apply for an entry Visa to enter Austria
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\*Find the responsible Austrian representative authority for your home country [here](#).

The following documents are necessary for the application:

- fully completed and signed **application form** for a *residence permit for study purposes* ([Aufenthaltsbewilligung "Studierender"](#))
- recent **photograph** (size between 3.5 x 4.5 cm and 4.0 x 5.0 cm)
- **passport** (valid for the whole stay!)
- **certified birth certificate** (for information on legalisation please check 2.1. )
- **letter of acceptance** from the university
- **proof of financial** means to finance your stay (for students up to 24 years at least € 491,43, for older students at least € 889,84, per month - rent for housing up to € 284,32, is included; e.g. a savings account or a bank account at an Austrian bank or proof of purchase of traveller's cheques for the necessary amount or a confirmation of the award of a scholarship/grant). A bank account statement alone is not sufficient. The authority needs to know where the money comes from e.g. if your parents finance your study please enclose an explanation from them including their income statement.
- **proof of accommodation** in Austria (Housing confirmation)
- **proof of health insurance:** travel health insurance for the first 2-3 weeks after arrival is sufficient if you decide to sign up for the [Upper Austrian health insurance](#) (available for approx. € 55/month and only after local registration)
- **police record/certificate of good conduct** (where available) - the submission of this document is not obligatory, but nevertheless the Austrian authority is allowed to ask for it - we recommend to submit this document to avoid a delay in processing your application
- **return flight ticket**, if available

All documents have to be submitted in the original AND photocopy.

**EXCEPTION:** Letter of Acceptance, Housing confirmation and visa letter can be submitted in photocopy. Documents in languages other than German or English have to be submitted together with a certified German translation.

A fee of € 120 is due for payment for the residence permit. € 80 of this has to be paid when you apply at the representative authority; another € 20 for the collection of police identification data ("Personalisierungsgebühr") and the remaining € 20 have to be paid when collecting the residence permit in Austria.

## 2.1. Legalisation of documents

Legalisations confirm the authenticity of documents and signatures respectively. Foreign documents which are to be submitted to authorities and higher education institutions in Austria need to be legalised in most cases. Several countries have concluded agreements about legalisation with Austria in order to simplify the procedure. Since these regulations are country-specific, it is highly recommended to enquire at the Austrian representative authority in your country if and how your documents should be legalised.

### The document's place of issue determines if and which kind of legalisation is required:

#### 1. Legalisation by means of an 'apostille'

Apostilles are legalisations that are attached to public documents in the form of a seal. The following countries have joined the legalisation agreement of The Hague and thus their documents only need an apostille:

*Africa:* Botswana, South Africa, Swaziland

*America:* Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, United States of America

*Asia:* India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Turkey

*Australia*

*Europe:* Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Portugal, Russia, United Kingdom, Ukraine

#### 2. No legalisation

Due to bilateral agreements documents that have been issued in the following countries do neither need legalisation nor apostille:

Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Luxemburg, Macedonia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Czech Republic, Turkey, Hungary

#### 3. All other countries need full legalisation

This means that first the internal legalisation process of the country of origin has to be completed, then final legalisation of the document is carried out by the ministry for foreign affairs of that country and finally the Austrian representative authority has to legalise the document again.

## 2.2. Exemption from visa requirements (Visa Waiver Programme)

If you are a citizen of one of the countries stated below, you will **not require a visa to enter and stay in Austria up to the period indicated below:**

**90 days:** Albania, Bosnia- Herzegovina, Brunei, Chile, El Salvador, Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, Honduras, Hong Kong (Holders of a "Hong Kong Special Administrative Region" passport only), Macao, Taiwan (only passports with identity card number)

**3 months:** Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, East Timor, Guatemala, Independent State of Samoa, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Israel, Malaysia, Marshall-Inseln, Mauritius, Macedonia\*, Micronesia, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Palau, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia\*, Seychelles, Singapore, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Vatican City, Venezuela

**6 months:** Japan

\* applies only to holders of a biometric passport

## 2.3. Tuberculosis

Students who are not citizens of the EU, EFTA, the United States, Canada, New Zealand or Australia need to submit a lung X-ray-examination. This examination by the Public Health Office is free of charge. However it is not necessary, if you provide an X-ray, **no older than 2 months**, from your country.