



Tolerated stay for apprenticeship (Ausbildungsduldung)

You are doing an apprenticeship?

The vocational training lasts 2 to 3 years. During this time you are allowed to stay in Germany with a "Duldung" (temporary suspension of deportation). Once you have graduated, you are allowed to work in your recently learned profession for another 2 years. You can get a residence permit for those two years, which is called: 3+2. In other words: 3 years of training, 2 years of work.

What are the requirements?

- You have had a Duldung for at least 3 months, unless you started your apprenticeship during the asylum procedure.
- The Immigration Office has not yet planned your deportation.
- You have a training place for an apprenticeship that lasts a total of 2 years or longer ("qualified apprenticeship").
- You can also do assistant or helper training if you want to do a "qualified apprenticeship" afterwards. In order to do this, you must have a guarantee, or promise, of an apprenticeship following the assistant/helper training. An assistant/helper training can be done in occupations for which labour is urgently needed. You are responsible for finding an employer where you can continue to work after the training. If you are unsure, get advice from a counselling centre - you can find them on the next page.

When can I submit the application?

You can submit your application to the Immigration Office as early as **7 months before the start of your training**. The Immigration Office can approve the application 6 months before the start of the training.

If you meet the requirements for the Duldung for apprenticeships, you are entitled to it! The Immigration Office cannot reject your application in this case.

When can the Immigration Office reject the application?

- If they suspect that you do not really want to do the apprenticeship or that you will not be able to do it (e.g. because you do not speak German).
- If you are **banned from working** (e.g. because you do not want to get a passport or because you come from a "safe country of origin"(*) and your asylum application has been rejected).



There are **special rules** for unaccompanied minors and young people from "**safe countries of origin**". If you belong to this group, the immigration authority cannot ban you from working even if you have not applied for asylum or if your application has been withdrawn. Get advice from a counselling centre.

* "**Safe countries of origin**" are currently (January 2024): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Ghana, Kosovo, Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of), Moldova, Montenegro, Senegal, Serbia and the EU countries.



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- If your identity is not clear. You must be able to prove your identity with documents as soon as possible after your entry.
- If you are in contact with terrorist organisations or have committed serious criminal offences, you will not be granted a "Ausbildungsduldung".



If you have tried everything possible to clarify your identity but have not been successful, you are still allowed to do the apprenticeship. It is important that you can show the Immigration Office that you have made an effort ("cooperation"). It is best to talk to a counselling centre.

What happens if I want to discontinue the apprenticeship?

- You will receive a Duldung for 6 months to look for a new training place. When you have found a new training place, you will receive a new "Ausbildungsduldung". The new "Ausbildungsduldung" is then also valid until the end of your apprenticeship.
- If you do not start or do not want to start a new apprenticeship, the "Ausbildungsduldung" is no longer valid.

What happens after the apprenticeship?

- You get a Duldung for 6 months to find a job in your newly learned profession.
- If you work in this profession, you will get a residence permit for 2 years. As a rule, you must have a passport from your country of origin. If it is not possible for you to get a passport, you must be able to prove this.
- When these 2 years are over, your residence permit will be extended if you can continue to earn a living. You are then allowed to do any job you want. You do not necessarily have to work in your learned profession.

Where can I find support?

It makes sense to go to a **counselling centre** close to you. There are refugee councils in every state and in many large cities. If you do not live in Lower Saxony, you can go to www.fluechtlingsrat.de to contact the refugee council in your federal state. They can help you or tell you which counselling centre you can turn to.



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