bluehawks

Germany Student Visa Checklist

2027

Documents, APS, finances & the application process for Indian students

PREPARED FOR 2027 APPLICANTS

Requirements verified against current German Missions in India, Federal Foreign Office and APS India guidance.

LAST VERIFIED • SEPTEMBER 2026

THE ROUTE

01 Before You Start

If you intend to stay in Germany for more than 90 days for study, you generally need a German National Visa (D visa). The national visa is the entry document for a long-term stay. Depending on your circumstances, you may need a residence permit after arrival.

The German Missions in India currently process the majority of national visa applications through the Consular Services Portal (CSP). The portal asks questions about your situation and determines the applicable visa sub-category.

1 Admission / study plan	2 APS, where applicable	3 Finance + language + documents
4 Consular Services Portal	5 Appointment / biometrics as instructed	6 Decision → Germany

Do not start with an appointment

For CSP categories, begin with the online process. Selecting the wrong category or mission can cause the application not to be accepted or require a restart.

KEY UPDATES

02 What Matters for 2027 Applicants

Consular Services Portal

The CSP is the central online starting point for the majority of national-visa categories.

APS remains central

Most applicants with Indian academic credentials need APS unless an official exemption applies.

70% Class XII threshold

For undergraduate admissions from Winter Semester 2026/27 onward, APS lists a minimum overall 70% of maximum achievable Class XII marks for the stated pathways.

dMAT for selected Master's applicants

For selected fields, dMAT is a required part of APS documentation for Summer Semester 2027 Master intake and later intakes, subject to transitional exemptions.

Financial requirement

Current verified blocked-account amount: €11,904 for one year, with a €992 monthly withdrawal limit. Re-check before funding your account.

Language-test caution

German Missions in India currently state that PTE, Duolingo and TOEFL Home Edition are not recognized for these visa applications.

2027 principle Do not treat a 2026 number as a permanent 2027 rule. This guide records the requirement verified in September 2026 and tells you where to re-check before applying.

PRINT THIS PAGE

03 Master Visa Checklist

IDENTITY

- ◻ Valid passport
- ◻ Passport issued within previous 10 years
- ◻ At least two empty visa pages

ACADEMIC

- ◻ School-leaving documents, where applicable
- ◻ Previous degree + semester-wise transcripts
- ◻ APS certificate, where required

ADMISSION

- ◻ Full-time university admission / relevant confirmation
- ◻ Studienkolleg or preparatory documentation, if applicable

LANGUAGE

- ◻ Recognized proof of language of study
- ◻ German / English certificate as applicable

FINANCE

- ◻ Blocked account / formal commitment / qualifying scholarship
- ◻ Education-loan evidence, where applicable
- ◻ Tuition evidence, where applicable

OTHER

- ◻ Motivation / intention-to-study letter
- ◻ Tabular CV in English or German
- ◻ Health-insurance evidence
- ◻ Any additional documents requested

Important This is a planning checklist. Your personalised application requirements and any additional document requests take priority.

ACADEMIC VERIFICATION

04 APS Certificate

The Academic Evaluation Centre (APS) India verifies academic documents and educational qualifications issued by Indian institutions for applicants intending to study in Germany. For most applicants with Indian qualifications, APS is an important part of the pathway.

Common exemptions currently listed by the German Missions include certain PhD/PostDoc applicants, qualifying German/EU scholarship recipients, applicants obtaining a non-German degree, applicants holding non-Indian foreign degrees, and certain international qualifications. Always check the current exemption list for your case.

APS checklist

- ☐ Identify the correct APS checklist for your route
- ☐ Submit complete and formally correct documentation
- ☐ Keep the original APS PDF unchanged after issuance
- ☐ Do not rename, merge, compress, scan or edit an issued APS certificate

Digital APS certificates	APS India says applicants should submit the original APS PDF. Technical warnings in some PDF readers do not necessarily mean the certificate is invalid; the integrity of the sealed document matters.

APS UPDATES FOR 2027

05 dMAT & Undergraduate Eligibility

dMAT: APS India introduced the Digital Master Test as an additional element in APS documentation for selected Master's applicants whose previous degree falls within affected fields. Current affected fields include Engineering; Commerce / Accounting / Finance / Economics; and Business / Management. For affected applicants, the requirement applies to applications relating to the Summer Semester 2027 Master intake and later intakes, subject to transitional exemptions.

Current transitional exemptions include applicants who completed APS online registration before 29 June 2026, applicants who shipped complete APS documents before 29 June 2026, and applicants who had already completed the APS procedure and received their APS certificate. New applications can be subject to the rules in force at that time.

Undergraduate eligibility

APS India announced that updated higher-education eligibility criteria apply to admissions beginning with Winter Semester 2026/27. For the stated Indian Class XII pathways, a minimum overall 70% of the maximum achievable marks is required. The established routes continue, including the Studienkolleg pathway and direct subject-restricted admission after one successful academic year, where all stated conditions are met.

Important	APS eligibility is not the same as university admission. Universities make their own admission decisions.

WHAT TO PREPARE

06 Academic & Admission Documents

Bachelor's applicants

- ☐ Class 10 / 12 documents, where applicable
- ☐ Diploma / university documents, if applicable
- ☐ APS certificate, where required
- ☐ Admission / preparatory documentation

Master's applicants

- ☐ Bachelor's degree certificate
- ☐ Semester-wise transcripts / mark sheets
- ☐ APS certificate, where required
- ☐ Admission letter

Admission evidence should clearly identify the programme and the language of instruction. The German Missions' current checklist asks for proof of admission to a full-time degree programme, preparatory college or relevant language course.

Bluehawks document rule

Keep one master folder with a simple naming convention: 01 Passport, 02 APS, 03 Admission, 04 Academics, 05 Language, 06 Finance, 07 Insurance, 08 Motivation.

Consistency matters	Names, dates, programme details and academic history should be consistent across your documents. If something is genuinely different, explain it rather than altering a document.

MATCH THE VISA ROUTE

07 Language Requirements

The current German Missions in India guidance distinguishes between preparatory study and direct degree study. The exact requirement can depend on the programme and route, so verify the specific requirement applicable to your application.

Preparatory route

German-taught preparatory course: generally German B1 or above.

English-taught preparatory course: generally English B2 or above.

Direct degree study

The current guidance states that students entering Bachelor's or Master's degree studies directly generally require C1 in the language of study. Check the official guidance and your programme-specific requirements.

Important test warning

- ☐ PTE is currently not recognized for these visa applications
- ☐ Duolingo is currently not recognized
- ☐ TOEFL Home Edition is currently not recognized

University acceptance ≠ visa acceptance

A university may accept a particular test for admission, but that does not automatically mean the German visa section accepts the same test as visa language proof.

SHOW SECURE LIVELIHOOD

08 Financial Proof

The current German Missions in India guidance lists several routes for proving sufficient financial resources. A blocked account is one route, not the only route.

CURRENT BLOCKED-ACCOUNT FIGURE	OTHER RECOGNIZED ROUTES
€11,904 for one year €992 maximum withdrawal per month	• Formal Declaration of Commitment (Verpflichtungserklärung) by a sponsor residing in Germany • German / EU scholarship or stipend • Education-loan evidence, where applicable

Verification date

€11,904 / €992 is the amount verified from the current German Missions in India guidance for this edition. Re-check the official figure immediately before funding your blocked account.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL EVIDENCE

09 Health Insurance & Tuition

Health insurance

- ☐ Proof of compulsory health insurance coverage effective from intended arrival
- ☐ Policy / certificate clearly identifies you
- ☐ Coverage meets the German requirements

Private university tuition

Where tuition fees apply, the current German Mission checklist requires evidence of the tuition amount and payment of the first year's fees or a substantial deposit, as applicable. Do not assume that semester contributions at public universities and tuition fees at private universities are treated the same way.

Financial document trail

For any funding route, organise the evidence so that a reviewer can understand the source and purpose of the funds. If an education loan is part of your plan, include the relevant proof requested by the Mission.

Do not substitute an Indian affidavit	The German Missions in India state that an Indian "Affidavit of support" is not a replacement for an official German Declaration of Commitment or a blocked account. It can only be an additional document.

TELL THE SAME STORY AS YOUR DOCUMENTS

10 Motivation Letter & CV

The German Missions currently ask for a freely written intention-to-study / motivation letter explaining why you want to study in Germany, why you selected the programme and university, how you found them, and what you plan to do after graduation.

A useful structure

01 Why this field?
Connect the programme to your academic or professional journey.

02 Why Germany?
Give genuine academic reasons, not generic slogans.

03 Why this programme?
Use real curriculum or programme features.

04 What next?
Explain your professional plan truthfully.

CV requirements

The current checklist asks for a CV in English or German in tabular form, listing previous training, qualifications and activities. Keep your timeline clear and explain genuine gaps rather than hiding them.

No official word count

The current German Mission FAQ says there is no specific format for the cover letter. Your letter should come from you and explain your motivation for studying in Germany.

THE APPLICATION FLOW

11 Consular Services Portal

The current national-visa process uses the Consular Services Portal (CSP) for the majority of national-visa categories. The portal uses your answers to determine the applicable visa category and guides the online process.

01	Country of residence	Enter the country in which you reside.
02	Visa purpose	Answer the study-related questions accurately.
03	Visa sub-category	Follow the category identified by the portal.
04	Upload documents	Use the requested files and formats.
05	Pre-check	Complete the portal's document/application checks.
06	On-site step	Attend the appointment / biometric step when instructed.

Use the responsible Mission The applicable German Mission depends on your place of residence. Do not select a Mission simply because it is convenient.

IF YOU ARE ASKED TO APPEAR

12 Appointment & Interview Preparation

Applicants may be required to appear in person for the applicable appointment and biometric procedures. The German Missions reserve the right to request additional documents or verification. If an interview is requested, refusal to appear can lead to refusal.

Practice questions

- ☐ What are you going to study?
- ☐ Why this programme?
- ☐ Why this university?
- ☐ How does it connect to your previous education?
- ☐ How will you finance your stay?
- ☐ What have you been doing since your last qualification?
- ☐ What are your plans after graduation?
- ☐ Where will you stay in Germany?

The rule	Your answers should match your documents. Be accurate, concise and truthful. Do not memorise a script or invent facts.

AVOID PREVENTABLE ISSUES

13 Common Application Problems

Incomplete documentation

Missing documents can lead to refusal. Use the official checklist and respond to additional requests.

Wrong category

Incorrect CSP answers or the wrong application category can cause the process to be rejected or restarted.

Unrecognized language proof

Check the German Mission's accepted language evidence, not only your university's admission policy.

Unclear finances

Make the funding route and supporting evidence easy to understand.

Inconsistent information

Dates, names, programme details and academic history should line up across the application.

False information / documents

The German Missions warn that false information or documents can lead to refusal and potentially an entry ban.

KNOW THE CURRENT LEGAL POSITION

14 If Your Visa Is Refused

If your application is refused, read the refusal letter carefully. The available next step depends on the decision and applicable legal remedy.

Remonstration is not available in India	The German Missions in India abolished the remonstration process from 1 January 2024. The Federal Foreign Office later abolished the procedure worldwide from 1 July 2025. For India, the current route is to reapply or, where appropriate, pursue judicial review as described in the refusal information.

Current options

- ☐ Apply again with a complete, corrected application
- ☐ Consider judicial review where appropriate
- ☐ Read the refusal letter for the specific legal remedy and deadline

This is not legal advice. If you are considering court proceedings, obtain appropriate legal advice.

Official sources

German Missions in India: india.diplo.de
Federal Foreign Office: auswaertiges-amt.de
APS India: aps-india.de
Consular Services Portal: digital.diplo.de

BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

15 Final 48-Hour Checklist

DOCUMENTS

- ◻ Passport + visa details checked
- ◻ Admission / enrolment documents
- ◻ APS certificate, where required
- ◻ Academic originals / transcripts
- ◻ Language certificate
- ◻ Financial proof
- ◻ Health insurance evidence

PRACTICAL

- ◻ Accommodation details
- ◻ Travel arrangements
- ◻ Important contacts
- ◻ Digital backup of key documents
- ◻ University arrival / enrolment instructions
- ◻ Copies of important documents

Planning Germany for 2027?

Bluehawks Edu can help you plan the pathway from university selection and applications to documentation and visa preparation.

https://bluehawksedu.com/study-in-germany/

Important disclaimer

This guide is for general information. Visa rules, financial thresholds, application procedures and document requirements may change. Information in this edition was last checked in September 2026 against publicly available guidance from the German Missions in India, the Federal Foreign Office and APS India. Always verify the latest requirements applicable to your individual case before submitting an application. Bluehawks Edu does not guarantee visa issuance.