INFORMATION

Residence titles and documentation

AB – Betriebsentsandter / Limited leave to remain - posted workers
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; employer has no office in Austria; employment licence or confirmation of guaranteed work as posted worker is required; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.

AB – Schüler / Limited leave to remain - pupils
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; for persons who attend school or a certified educational institution; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months, extension in case of school success is possible.

AB – Sozialdienstleistender / Limited leave to remain - workers in social non-profit organisations
Limited leave to remain for temporary stay; for persons who provide services for a social non-profit organisation that are exempt from the Employment of Foreign Nationals Act (AusIBG); declaration of liability is mandatory; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months; no extension.

AB – Selbständiger / Limited leave to remain - self-employed persons
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay: self-employment based on a contract that requires contract work in Austria for longer than six months; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.

AB – Studierender / Limited leave to remain - students
First-time permit or extension for persons (regular or non-regular students) who study at a university, university of applied sciences (Fachhochschule), accredited private university, teacher education university, accredited private teacher education university, or attend a study course at a university or private accredited university that is not merely a language course; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.

AB – Rotationsarbeitskraft / Limited leave to remain - job rotation workers
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; employment licence or confirmation of guaranteed work as job rotation worker for a company with international branch offices is required; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.

AB – Forscher / Limited leave to remain - researchers
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; persons holding a hosting agreement pursuant to Art 68 of the Law on Residence and Settlement in Austria (NAG) with a (certified) research institution; exempt from the immigration quota; can be issued for a duration of two (2) years; followed by residence permit red-white-red card plus (Rot-Weiβ-Rot-Karte plus).

AB – Künstler / Limited leave to remain - artists
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; for employed (written notification by the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) is required) or self-employed artistic work, exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.
AB – Sonderfälle unselbständiger Erwerbstätigkeit / Limited leave to remain – special cases of dependent employment
First-time permit or extension for temporary stay; for dependent employment exempt from the Employment of Foreign Nationals Act (AuslBG); exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months; e.g.: religious community leaders, media correspondents, au pairs, guest researchers.

AB – Familiengemeinschaft / Limited leave to remain – family reunification
First-time permit or extension for family members of job rotation workers, artists, special cases of dependent employment, students, researchers, temporary stay; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months.

AT – Blaue Karte-EU / Residence permit - EU Blue Card
First-time residence permit for highly-skilled university graduates, exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration 24 months.

AT – Rot-Weiß-Rot-Karte / Residence permit - red-white-red card
First-time residence permit for employed or self-employed or highly-skilled key employees, skilled workers in shortage occupations or graduates of an Austrian university; exempt from the immigration quota; maximum duration: 12 months; change to red-white-red card plus and for self-employed key employees to indefinite leave to remain (Niederlassungsbewilligung) possible.

AT – Rot-Weiß-Rot-Karte Plus / Residence permit - red-white-red card plus
First-time permit or extension for family members of persons holding a residence permit EU Blue Card, red-white-red card, red-white-red card plus, permanent leave to remain (including permanent work permit) or eligible for asylum; extension following a red-white-red card in case of employed key employees; free access to labour market; duration: basically 12 months; after two (2) years of legal residence and completion of Module I (CEFR A2 level): duration of 36 months possible.

NB – ausgenommen Erwerbstätigkeit / Indefinite leave to remain - excluding employment
First-time permit or extension for private individuals; sufficient means of subsistence even without employment; subject to the immigration quota or exempt from it – depending on the group of persons and type of procedure; duration: 12 months or after legal residence of two (2) years and completion of Module I (CEFR A2 level), duration of 36 months possible.

NB – Niederlassungsbewilligung / Indefinite leave to remain
First-time permit and extension; self-employment admissible, subject to the immigration quota or exempt from it – depending on the group of persons and type of procedure; duration: 12 months or after legal residence of two (2) years and completion of Module I (CEFR A2 level), duration of 36 months possible.

AT – Familienangehöriger / Residence permit - family members
Residence permit for the core family of Austrians, EEA nationals or Swiss nationals, if not subject to freedom of movement regulations; exempt from the immigration quota; free access to labour market; duration: 12 months; after legal residence of two (2) years and completion of Module I (CEFR A2 level), duration of 36 months possible.
NB – Angehöriger / Indefinite leave to remain - dependents
First-time permit and extension for other dependents (e.g. children who are of age, parents, civil partners) of Austrians, EEA nationals or Swiss nationals. Declaration of liability required; exempt from the immigration quota; duration: 12 months; change of official purpose of stay to indefinite leave to remain “Red-White-Red Card plus” is possible but subject to immigration quota; after legal residence of two (2) years and completion of Module I (CEFR A2 level), duration of 36 months possible.

AT – Daueraufenthalt-EU / Residence permit - permanent leave to remain (including work permit)
After five (5) years of continuous legal stay with indefinite leave to remain or after five (5) years of legal stay as person eligible for asylum or person with subsidiary protection status and after completion of Module II (CEFR B1 level); permanent residence and unrestricted access to the labour market; EU-mobility possible; exempt from the immigration quota; duration: 5 years.

Anmeldebescheinigung / confirmation of registration
Documentation of residence of EEA nationals and Swiss nationals, who have resided in Austria for more than three (3) months; application within four (4) months of arrival is mandatory; duration: unlimited.

Bescheinigung des Daueraufenthaltes / Confirmation of permanent residence
Documentation of permanent residence of EEA nationals and Swiss nationals; duration: unlimited; issued upon application after five (5) years of legal stay.

(Dauer-)Aufenthaltskarte / (Permanent) residence permit
Documentation of residence of family members of Austrians under the freedom of movement provisions, EEA nationals and Swiss nationals, who are third-country nationals; residence permit is issued for five (5) years, followed by permanent residence permit (Daueraufenthaltskarte) that is issued for ten (10) years.

Lichtbildausweis für EWR-Bürger / Photo-ID for EEA nationals
Identity document (card) issued for EEA nationals and Swiss nationals upon request, valid for five (5) years, no travel document.
Definitions

Family members from third countries
Spouses and homosexual civil partners over 21 years of age, minor
unmarried children (including adoptive children and stepchildren)

Family members under EU law
Spouses and homosexual civil partners, children and grandchildren up to 21 years
of age, if applicable also over 21 years of age, parents and grandparents

Austrians under the freedom of movement provisions, EEA nationals, Swiss
nationals
EEA nationals and Swiss nationals as well as Austrians under the freedom of
movement provisions who reside in Austria and avail of the freedom of movement
provisions in the EEA.

Exempt from the immigration quota
Unrestricted number of residence permits

Subject to the immigration quota
Annually restricted number of residence permits

Abbreviations

AB = Aufenthaltsbewilligung / limited leave to remain
NB = Niederlassungsbewilligung / indefinite leave to remain
AT = Aufenthaltstitel / residence permit
NAG = Niederlassungs- und Aufenthaltsgesetz / Law on Residence and
Settlement in Austria
AuslBG = AusländerInnenbeschäftigungsgesetz / Employment of Foreign
Nationals Act
GER = Gemeinsamer Europäischer Referenzrahmen für Sprachen / CEFR =
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages