Documents: Permanent residence (settlement permit)

14 documents, 2026. Apply at the foreigners' office (Ausländerbehörde) where you live. Items marked in orange apply only in that situation.

Identity and application

- [ ] **Application form of your foreigners' office**
  Most offices have their own form or online application. Apply before your current permit expires.
- [ ] **Passport and current residence permit card (eAT)**
  Bring the originals and copies.
- [ ] **Two biometric photographs (35 × 45 mm)**
  Recent, neutral expression, light background.
- [ ] **Settlement permit fee (about €113–147)**
  The exact amount depends on the permit; check your office.

Purpose of stay

- [ ] **Pension insurance record (Versicherungsverlauf)**
  Free from the Deutsche Rentenversicherung. Shows your months of contributions: 21 (Blue Card with B1), 27 (Blue Card with A1) or 36 (skilled workers; 24 with a German degree).
- [ ] **Employment contract, employer certificate and recent payslips**
  Usually the last 3–6 payslips and a current confirmation from your employer.
- [ ] **Rental contract and registration certificate**
  Shows adequate living space for you and your family.

Qualifications

- [ ] **German certificate: A1 (Blue Card, 27 months) or B1 (Blue Card 21 months, skilled workers)**
  Goethe, telc, ÖSD or the integration course certificate.
- [ ] **"Leben in Deutschland" test or integration course certificate**
  Shows basic knowledge of the German legal and social system. A German degree is often accepted instead.

Money and insurance

- [ ] **Health insurance certificate**
  Current confirmation from your statutory or private insurer.

Family members

- [ ] **Marriage certificate (original and copies)** IF YOUR SPOUSE COMES
  The registered marriage certificate. Germany does not accept Indian apostilles; the German mission or authority may order a document verification instead (it takes weeks and costs a fee). Add a translation if it is not in English or German.
- [ ] **Children's birth certificates (originals) and passports** IF CHILDREN COME
  Naming both parents. Plus photos and application forms for each child. Indian apostilles are not accepted in Germany; the mission may verify the certificates.

Before you go

- [ ] **Certified translations of documents not in German or English**
  By a sworn translator; some missions accept translations made in India.
- [ ] **Appointment with the foreigners' office**
  Book early; many offices are booked out for weeks.

> Bring originals and a full set of copies. Documents not in German or English need a certified translation. Germany does not accept Indian apostilles: German missions verify Indian civil documents case by case when the German authority asks for it.

Interactive version: desieuropeantales.com/document-checklist-generator?type=settle · Orientation only, not legal advice. Check the official checklist of your German mission or foreigners' office before your appointment.