



Syrian refugees Visa requirements

Syrian refugees who have a right to family reunification or who fulfil the requirements for any other long-term residence permit – for example for university studies or employment - may apply and receive an entry visa and may then legally travel to Germany. The following information refers to visas for the purposes of family reunification, for all other purposes please refer to the general information concerning visas for studies, employment etc. on our website.

Family reunification is possible for spouses as well as for parents with their minor children. For family reunification with a person recognised as a refugee, it will in most cases not be necessary to have knowledge of German or to provide proof of financial means.

For family reunification in the case of Syrian refugees, a simplified procedure has been introduced. Detailed information can be found on the website: <https://familyreunion-syria.diplo.de> . You can also download simplified application forms from this website.

With your application please submit the following documents (**with two copies each**):

- Syrian passport
- Greek Registration (proof of date of entry into Greek territory)
- Application (simplified form; in duplicate)
- 2 biometric photos
- Your family member's proof of recognition as a refugee in Germany ("BAMF-Bescheid") and copy of his/her German Refugee Travel Document and Residence Permit
- If possible: two copies of your family member's passport
- In cases of family reunification of spouse and/or children: legalised certificate of marriage with official translation as well as marriage contract and sharia court decision and additionally, in the case of proxy marriages, special authorisation of the proxy (with translations)
- Legalised excerpt from the family register (with translation)
- In the case of children: legalised birth certificate with official translation
- In the case of children: signature/consent of parent in Germany
- Timely notification
- 75 euros fee for adult applicants, 37,50 euros for children (please bring in cash).

In some cases further documents may be required.

For your application it is necessary to book an appointment via e-mail: visa@athe.diplo.de

Legalisation of Syrian documents involves two steps: documents must first be **certified by the Syrian Foreign Ministry in Damascus**. Second step: legalisation by the **German Embassy in Beirut**. Legalisation of a foreign document confirms its authenticity. Legalisation may be applied for by a duly authorised third party (a trusted person or a lawyer).

Contact: Deutsche Botschaft Athen – Konsularabteilung, Karaoli & Dimitriou 3, 10675 Athen-Kolonaki
e-mail: visa@athe.diplo.de
<http://www.griechenland.diplo.de/Vertretung/griechenland/de/04/Visabestimmungen/Visabestimmungen.html>
Öffnungszeiten: Mo-Fr 09:00 – 12:00 h (Terminbuchung erforderlich über visa@athe.diplo.de)

Lost documents and lost passports: experience has shown that Syrian passports may be applied for by a duly authorised person (a person trusted by the applicant or a lawyer).

Validity of Syrian passports: only passports issued by official Syrian authorities can be recognised as valid. Syrian passports issued after 1 January 2015 in the Syrian districts of Hasaka, Deir ez-Zor, Raqa and Edlib are not accepted as valid.

Translations: documents need to be translated by official translators in Germany. Please make sure that your names and the names of places in Syria are always transliterated from Arabic script in the same way.

Application procedure:

- Booking of an application appointment: visa@athe.diplo.de
- Applicants have to come to the Embassy **personally** (even children)
- The **originals** of all documents must be submitted with the application (with translations and two copies each)
Please do not send documents to the Embassy by post or by e-mail – due to the large number of applications, it is not possible to match these documents with an existing or future application or to check documents in advance!
- If documents are not complete on the day of application, applicants will be given a **checklist** on which the missing documents are marked.

This information is regularly updated but makes no claim to be complete (last updated: September 2017).

Contact: German Embassy Athens – Consular Section, Karaoli & Dimitriou 3, 10675 Athens-Kolonaki
e-mail: visa@athe.diplo.de
<http://www.griechenland.diplo.de/Vertretung/griechenland/de/04/Visabestimmungen/Visabestimmungen.html>
Opening hours: Mo-Fr 09:00 – 12:00 h (Appointment needs to be booked via visa@athe.diplo.de)