

The basics



- If you are holding a passport of a member state of the European Union, Lichtenstein, Norway, or Switzerland, you do not need a visa. Please inform us about this ASAP!
- Your turn! Appointment already booked?
- It's important to apply for your visa in your home country before you arrive in Austria.
- Please check if you're allowed to enter the Schengen Area without a visa with your passport. If yes, please check how many visa free days you have (for example, US and Canadian citizens can stay in the Schengen Area without a visa for 90 days).



Which entry and residence documents do I need?



Are you staying for an academic year?

residence permit - student

apply for a residence permit – student at an Austrian embassy or consulate general Are you staying for a semester and more than your visa free days?

visa D

apply for a visa D at a VFS office or at the Austrian embassy/consulate in your home country Are you staying for a semester and less than your visa free days?

We still advise to get a visa D







Where to apply



VFS offices in the US:

- Chicago
- Houston
- Los Angeles
- Miami
- New York
- San Francisco
- Washington DC

VFS offices in Canada:

- Edmonton
- Ottawa
- Vancouver

All others:

 Austrian embassy or consulate in your home country

--> Hand in a complete set of the required documents!



The Paperwork



Sort the completed documents in this order:

- Completed and signed form for Visa D
- 1 recent color passport picture, sized 3.5 x 4.5 cm for EU
- Valid passport (valid until at least three months after leaving the Schengen territory)
 - + photocopy of data page of passport (black and white copy)
 - + photocopies of pages that contain entries and stamps (color copies)
- Proof of accommodation in Austria (OEAD contract or tenancy contract)
- Proof of health insurance
- Proof of financial means (e.g. bank statement of past three months displaying name of account holder; scholarship;...)
- Letter of acceptance
- Letter of your home university
- Flight, bus or train reservation

→ Copies of EVERYTHING





The Paperwork (Application form)



Useful advice for filling in the form:

- Bordercrossing: the point where you enter the Schengen Area (if you have a layover in Paris, then put Paris here)
- <u>Schengen Area</u>: EU countries+ Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein (for a list of countries click on the link)

The Paperwork (Picture)



VISA PHOTOGRAPHS CRITERIA



All visa applications must include one recent photograph in colour meeting the compulsory internationally agreed standards.

The basic rules are simple:

face must cover 2/3 of photo and looking straight forward - eyes must be on the middle line or in upper half of the photograph - neutral expression please and mouth must be closed - hair must not cover face - background must be light and plain no reflexion on glasses - photograph should be 45 mm high and 35 mm wide

Please have a look at some samples and turn the page for more detailed information.



SFITE 7







The photograph must

- · be in sharp focus and clear
- · have a strong definition between the face and background
- · be printed professionally

The photograph must show

- no shadows
- · you facing forwards, looking towards the camera
- · a neutral expression, with your mouth closed (no obvious grinning, frowning or raised evebrowes)
- · your eyes open and clearly visible (with no sunglasses or heavily tinted glasses, and no hair across your eyes)
- · no reflection or glare on your glasses and the frames should not cover your eyes (you may find it easier to remove your glasses)
- · your full head, without any head covering, unless it is worn for religious beliefs or medical reasons

CHILDREN. Photographs of children must show a clear image that is a true likeness of the child. The eyes should be open and if you need to support a baby's head, it is important, that your hand cannot be seen in the photograph.



















Must meet EU photo standards







Austrian Embassy W Visa Department

The Paperwork (Health Insurance)



- Insurance card is NOT sufficient!
- You need an insurance letter containing the following:
 - Your name
 - Countries of validity (Europe or worldwide)
 - Period of validity (must cover the entire visa period)
 - Minimum coverage sum: USD 50,000 or EUR 30,000 or unlimited
 - Must be included:
 - Guarantee to cover possible recovery and repatriation costs
 - Coverage of Covid-19 related issues
 - Recommended insurance: <u>feelsafe</u>, <u>care concept</u>



The Paperwork (Financial means)



- Bank statement with full transactions for the last 3 months including name, address
- Scholarships, letter of grants etc.
- Letter of support from parents (sample attached)
- Proof of sufficient financial means (depends on age/accommodation expenses ≈ € 3,000- € 4,000 in total)

Q&A



• Any questions from your side?



