

Your relocation research, organised

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Illustrative example, not a customer assessment. No payment required to view.

Illustrative Germany research plan

Research goal: second passport | Household: solo | Timing: year

Questions recorded for investigation

Which documents, application stages and costs should I confirm for my situation?

Your planning answers

Current residence: United States (illustrative). Application jurisdiction: not confirmed.

Additional citizenships: not supplied. Target month: not chosen; current stage: exploring.

Priorities: Application effort, Total cost.

Income evidence category: unknown; document preparation: some.

Family link: unknown; family records: unknown. No citizenship conclusion is inferred.

Your selected route

Germany: German citizenship by descent: recognition and declaration research

The US German-mission certificate page lists EUR 51 for a successful citizenship certificate; section 5 declaration is a separate procedure. Confirm current fees and document costs with the mission.

Original source check: 2026-10-29; review due 2026-11-05.

You chose these routes. This document organises public evidence and the questions still to resolve. It does not determine eligibility or include individual professional review.

Planning from the United States

Passport or nationality recorded: United States (illustrative). This does not determine eligibility.

Confirm the passport you will use, your lawful US residence and the consular office covering your US address. US residence does not establish US citizenship or visa eligibility.

Confirm the permitted activities for the route, including any work restrictions. Check each household member separately before relying on a residence permission.

Check background-record jurisdictions, document validity windows, apostilles, certified translations and each household member's documents before ordering them.

Ask a qualified adviser about US and destination-country tax filing, foreign-account reporting, healthcare and any applicable relief before committing.

IRS: US citizens and residents abroad

US citizens and resident aliens generally remain subject to US filing rules on worldwide income. Ask a qualified cross-border adviser which filing, reporting and relief rules apply to you.

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/international-taxpayers/us-citizens-and-residents-abroad-filing-requirements>

US State Department: preparing documents for use abroad

Identify which documents need authentication or an apostille and which authority issues it. Confirm the destination authority's current checklist before ordering documents.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/replace-certify-docs/authenticate-your-document.html>

Germany: German citizenship by descent: recognition and declaration research

German citizenship can pass through a German legal parent, subject to the law and family history at each birth. Recognition of existing citizenship, a section 5 declaration and restoration are different procedures. Start with the responsible German mission's questionnaire rather than treating a German ancestor as automatic eligibility.

Published financial conditions

The US German-mission certificate page lists EUR 51 for a successful citizenship certificate; section 5 declaration is a separate procedure. Confirm current fees and document costs with the mission.

These conditions are not a total application or relocation fee quote.

Documents and requirements to check

Build the direct family line with civil birth and marriage records, citizenship and naturalisation evidence. Ask the German mission to pre-assess its questionnaire. If a formal certificate procedure is required, use the German-language BVA forms; the English forms are explanatory translations. Section 5 cases use the declaration forms and their own evidence checklist.

Unresolved questions

Section 5 addresses specified gender-discriminatory exclusions for children born after 23 May 1949 and their descendants, under a ten-year right introduced on 20 August 2021. Earlier cases and restoration have different conditions. Do not infer citizenship, fee or timing from another family's case; official recognition can take years.

Official evidence and review dates

Internally checked by WhereCanIMove systems. Checked 2026-10-29; review due 2026-11-05. Generating this pack does not renew the check.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States

<https://www.germany.info/us-en/service/03-citizenship/german-citizenship-obtain-919576>

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States

<https://www.germany.info/us-en/service/03-citizenship/certificate-of-citizenship-933536>

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States

<https://www.germany.info/us-en/service/03-citizenship/2479488-2479488>

German Federal Office of Administration

<https://www.germany.info/resource/blob/2738140/3bb6a1b9cc7fda5c6e2d122f0bdd2e49/eer-data.pdf>

Full programme record and source locators

<https://wherecanimove.com/programme/germany-citizenship-by-descent>

Germany: organise your citizenship and family-record research

German citizenship can pass through a German legal parent, subject to the law and family history at each birth. Recognition of existing citizenship, a section 5 declaration and restoration are different procedures. Start with the responsible German mission's questionnaire rather than treating a German ancestor as automatic eligibility.

Guide checked 2026-10-29; review due 2026-11-05.

Your document list by person

Applicant and relevant family line: Family-line civil records

Collect the direct-line birth and marriage records and the evidence of citizenship or naturalisation needed to show status at each generation. The mission's questionnaire identifies what needs investigating.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Certificate of Citizenship: questionnaire, German-language forms, BVA decision, EUR 51 certificate fee and processing caveat

German Federal Office of Administration - EER information leaflet: sections Who is entitled; Which documents need to be submitted; fees; German forms and submission

Primary applicant: Applicant identity and applicable official forms

Use the certificate or declaration forms that match the procedure identified by the mission. German-language forms are the operative forms; English versions explain them.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Certificate of Citizenship: questionnaire, German-language forms, BVA decision, EUR 51 certificate fee and processing caveat

Primary applicant: Section 5 supporting evidence, if applicable

Use the current EER leaflet's document list and certified-copy rules if this is a declaration case. Do not substitute a certificate-of-citizenship checklist for an EER declaration.

German Federal Office of Administration - EER information leaflet: sections Who is entitled; Which documents need to be submitted; fees; German forms and submission

Before choosing

1. Choose the correct procedure with the German mission

Existing citizenship recognition, section 5 declaration and restoration are different. A German birthplace or surname alone does not prove citizenship. Submit the mission's questionnaire for the initial pre-assessment.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Certificate of Citizenship: questionnaire, German-language forms, BVA decision, EUR 51 certificate fee and processing caveat

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Obtaining German Citizenship: birth in wedlock, out of wedlock, adoption and other acquisition grounds

Before applying

1. Record the events that can change transmission

Track births, marriage, acquisition/loss of citizenship and naturalisation against the relevant dates. In a gender-discrimination case, use the section 5 or section 14 guidance that actually applies.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Section 5 declaration after 23 May 1949, descendants and ten-year declaration right; section 14 distinction; translation note

Application

1. Use the BVA form and copy requirements for your case

Follow the responsible German mission's instructions for the German-language certificate or declaration forms and supporting records. Retain copies of the submitted file and reference; the mission is your contact during the process.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Certificate of Citizenship: questionnaire, German-language forms, BVA decision, EUR 51 certificate fee and processing caveat

German Federal Office of Administration - EER information leaflet: sections Who is entitled; Which documents need to be submitted; fees; German forms and submission

After approval

1. Treat the official decision as the milestone

BVA verifies a certificate application; the consulate's initial assessment does not itself establish citizenship. Check the issued decision and arrange any later passport process with the mission. This stage does not require relocation.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Certificate of Citizenship: questionnaire, German-language forms, BVA decision, EUR 51 certificate fee and processing caveat

Longer term

1. Keep declaration deadlines separate from passport renewal

The section 5 ten-year declaration right introduced in August 2021 is a procedure window, not a passport-expiry date. Confirm the applicable statutory deadline and submission rules directly.

German Federal Foreign Office, Missions in the United States - Section 5 declaration after 23 May 1949, descendants and ten-year declaration right; section 14 distinction; translation note

Confirm before acting

The certificate page's EUR 51 figure belongs to that named procedure, not every citizenship route; confirm the current applicable charge.

Historical loss, restoration, adoption and complex family chronology require case-specific assessment. No personal citizenship result is calculated here.

Your action checklist

Before choosing

- ☐ Confirm the authority for your current residence before using a consulate-specific checklist.
- ☐ Your family link is recorded as unknown; family evidence is unknown. Build a dated citizenship and naturalisation timeline for each generation. A relative's birthplace alone does not establish eligibility.
- ☐ Cost is a priority: obtain separate government, translation, insurance and professional quotes; keep qualifying income/capital outside the spending subtotal.
- ☐ Choose the correct procedure with the German mission
- ☐ Confirm the passport you will use, your lawful US residence and the consular office covering your US address. US residence does not establish US citizenship or visa eligibility.
- ☐ Confirm the permitted activities for the route, including any work restrictions. Check each household member separately before relying on a residence permission.
- ☐ Check background-record jurisdictions, document validity windows, apostilles, certified translations and each household member's documents before ordering them.
- ☐ Ask a qualified adviser about US and destination-country tax filing, foreign-account reporting, healthcare and any applicable relief before committing.

Before applying

- ☐ Order only the documents on the selected authority checklist; confirm validity windows before paying for checks.
- ☐ Applicant and relevant family line: Family-line civil records
- ☐ Primary applicant: Applicant identity and applicable official forms
- ☐ Primary applicant: Section 5 supporting evidence, if applicable
- ☐ Record the events that can change transmission
- ☐ Confirm which documents and permissions apply to your household.
- ☐ Complete your budget worksheet using actual quotes. Unknown costs are not zero.

Application

- ☐ Use the BVA form and copy requirements for your case

Before moving

- ☐ Ask a qualified adviser about tax residence, home-country obligations and healthcare before committing.

After approval

- ☐ Treat the official decision as the milestone

Longer term

- ☐ Keep declaration deadlines separate from passport renewal

Your budget worksheet

Your own researched amounts in one currency. Income or capital qualification thresholds are separate from money spent. Unknown items remain unknown; this is not a complete cost estimate.

Application and government fees: Unknown - obtain a quote

Professional advice: Unknown - obtain a quote

Documents and translations: Unknown - obtain a quote

Travel: Unknown - obtain a quote

Moving and shipping: Unknown - obtain a quote

Housing and deposits: Unknown - obtain a quote

Insurance and healthcare: Unknown - obtain a quote

Contingency: Unknown - obtain a quote

Scope, corrections and support

An automated research guide for the route or routes you chose, personalised to your recorded planning answers. No individual professional review or eligibility decision is included.

Official conditions can change. Each route keeps its original source and internal-check dates; generating this pack does not renew them.

Financial conditions are not a total fee quote. Published information and unanswered questions need confirmation before applying.

No application preparation, visa approval, citizenship, tax outcome or agency availability is promised.

Your saved checklist and budget are reflected at download time. The original route snapshot retains its evidence dates. Report a source error at <https://wherecanimove.com/corrections>. For order or refund help: jack@wherecanimove.com.