

Residence Act

§ 21 Self-employment from the German Civil Code (BGB) of the Federal Republic of Germany

Law to improve the rights of international beneficiaries of protection and alien employees

(1) Residence permits are granted to self-employed aliens under the following circumstances:

1. Existing economic interests or regional needs.
2. The anticipated activity permits the expectation of positive impacts on the economy.
3. Financing the implementation is ensured by own funds or a loan commitment.

Evaluation of prerequisites according to no. 1 is **particularly subject to the sustainability of the underlying business idea (*)**, entrepreneurial experience of the alien, level of capital investment, impact on the prevalent employment and training situation and contributions towards innovation and research. The availability of corporate bodies, responsible trade bodies, public and judicial trade associations and the authorities responsible for the occupational permit are examined at the location of the planned activity.

(*)

Some companies may want to start with small businesses in Germany. These small companies can be a helpful experience for the local economy.

§ 21 of the Residence Act regulates the application process of visas and residence permits for self-employment in Germany. Greater economic interests and positive effects on the economy are typically expected if the investment exceeds € 500,000.00 and at least five jobs are generated. If the defined threshold value is not accomplished, the assessment of requirements is **particularly subject to the sustainability of the underlying business idea**, entrepreneurial experience of the alien, level of capital investment, impact on the employment and training situation and the contributions towards innovation and research.

We offer comprehensive support regarding the subject matter and seek external legal advice if required.