



Fact sheet on family reunion for Somali/Eritrean refugees

(Effective: December 2019)

This information sheet, other forms as well as the visa appointments are free of charge!

To apply for a visa for family reunification the following documents have to be provided by the applicant. Documents that are not presented either in German, English or French have to be supplied together with a translation into German or English by an in the European Union sworn translator plus one copy of the translation.

General documents:

- Two fully completed and signed application forms (category D) per applicant
- Two signed security declarations
- Two recent biometric passport photos taken against a light background (35mm x 45mm)
- A valid passport plus two copies of the ID pages
 - **(Notice:** submitting a national passport shortens the processing time by several weeks/months)
- Only ERI:* Eritrean ID card plus two copies of both the front and the reverse, ERI proof of residence (is not replacing an identity document)
- Proof of habitual abode in Ethiopia (Proof of Registration (PoR) from UNHCR or Ethiopian residence permit which has been valid for at least six months) in the original plus two copies
PLEASE NOTE: To ensure that applicants may leave Ethiopia after obtaining a visa, their residence in Ethiopia must be legal. It is thus strongly recommended that applicants ensure their residence is legal before applying for a visa, either by applying for a residence permit or registering as a refugee. This is the only way to ensure that departure is not delayed after the visa has been issued.
- Birth certificate; original plus two copies, authenticated*
- Proof that the application process was started before the deadline – two copies (if an initial application was made to meet the deadline)
- Passport of the family member in Germany; two copies
- Residence permit of the family member in Germany; two copies
- Current residence registration certificate; two copies
- Notification of recognition from the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) for the family member in Germany, including incontestability notice; two copies
- If represented by someone else, e.g. a lawyer or helper: power of attorney in original
- EUR 75 (EUR 37,50 for children) (fee payable in ETB; converted at the current exchange rate used by the Embassy cash office)

*Only ERI: Authenticated by Eritrean Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Subsequent immigration of spouses

- If married at a registry office: original authenticated* marriage certificate plus two copies
- If married in a religious ceremony or under customary law: proof of religious/customary marriage; original with two copies
AND original authenticated* civil marriage certificate (Issuance of the civil marriage certificate takes place after registration of the religious marriage or after registration of a marriage under customary law) with two copies
- If available: (is not replacing the obligatory supplying of civil certificates)
 - Images of the marriage ceremony
 - Testimonials/university degree/work contract/employment reference
 - Proof of financial support by the family member living in Germany
 - Chat/E-Mail correspondence across the period of separation
 - Detailed proof of telephone calls
 - Proof of visits by the family member living in Germany
 - Vaccination card

Religious marriage certificates or contracts under customary law cannot replace civil certificates (civil marriage certificate).

Baptismal certificates cannot replace civil birth certificates.

All documents/texts must be translated into German or English language by an in the European Union sworn translator.

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Subsequent immigration of children

- If the parents were married at a registry office: original authenticated* marriage certificate plus two copies
- If the parents were married in a religious ceremony or under customary law: proof of religious/customary marriage; original with two copies
AND original authenticated* civil marriage certificate (Issuance of the civil marriage certificate takes place after registration of the religious marriage or after registration of a marriage under customary law) with two copies
- Proof of custody (e.g. death certificate in the original plus two copies OR court order in the original plus two copies, ...)
- School testimonials
- Children health and growth card
- Vaccination card

All documents/texts must be translated into German or English language by an in the European Union sworn translator.

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Subsequent immigration to join a recognized minor refugee

- If the parents were married at a registry office: original authenticated* marriage certificate plus two copies
- If the parents were married in a religious ceremony or under customary law: proof of religious/customary marriage; original with two copies
AND original authenticated* civil marriage certificate (Issuance of the civil marriage certificate takes place after registration of the religious marriage or after registration of a marriage under customary law) with two copies
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- If available:
 - Images of the marriage ceremony of the parents
 - Testimonials/university degree/work contract/employment reference
 - Chat/E-Mail correspondence across the period of separation

All documents/texts must be translated into German or English language by an in the European Union sworn translator.

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Note: The Embassy reserves the right to demand further documentation, such as certificates, language certificates, DNA reports, age tests, etc.