

# Leipzig Career Hacks: the visa

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Das Förderprogramm „Integration durch Qualifizierung (IQ)“ wird durch das Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales gefördert.



In Kooperation mit:



Das IQ Netzwerk Sachsen wird durch den EXIS Europa e.V. koordiniert und Projektträger für die Fachinformationszentren Zuwanderung ist Wirtschaft für ein weltoffenes Sachsen e.V.





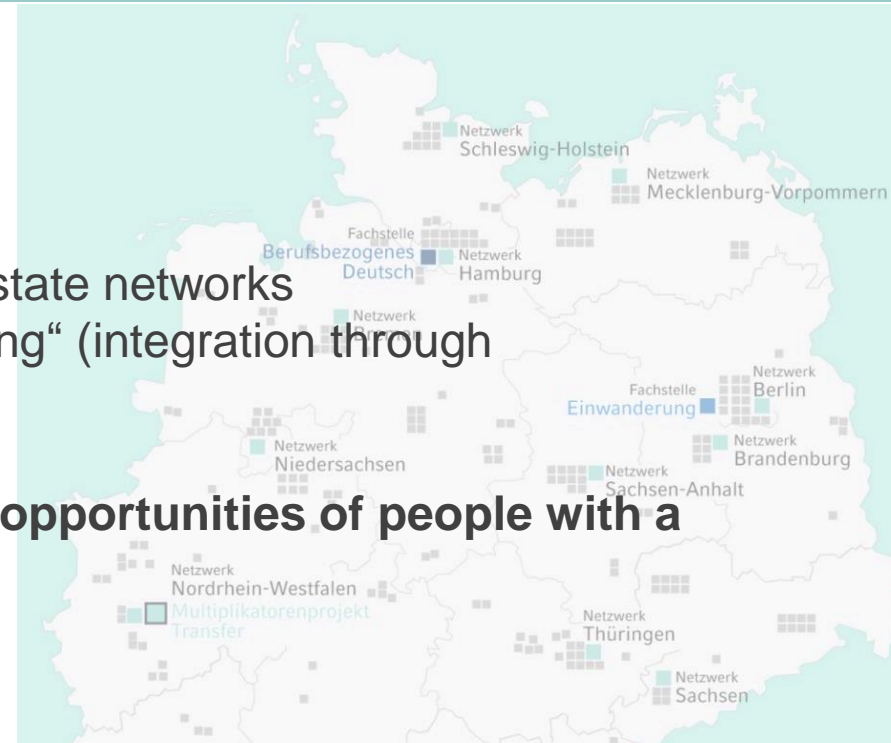
is central contact point for questions relating to the integration of immigrants into the German labour market:

- Residence status
- Work permit
- Recognition of foreign academic degrees



## IQ Network:

- Germany-wide funded programme with 16 state networks
- IQ is short for „Integration durch Qualifizierung“ (integration through qualification)
- **The aim is to improve the labour market opportunities of people with a migration background in the long term**



## Financed by:



**Zusammen.  
Zukunft.  
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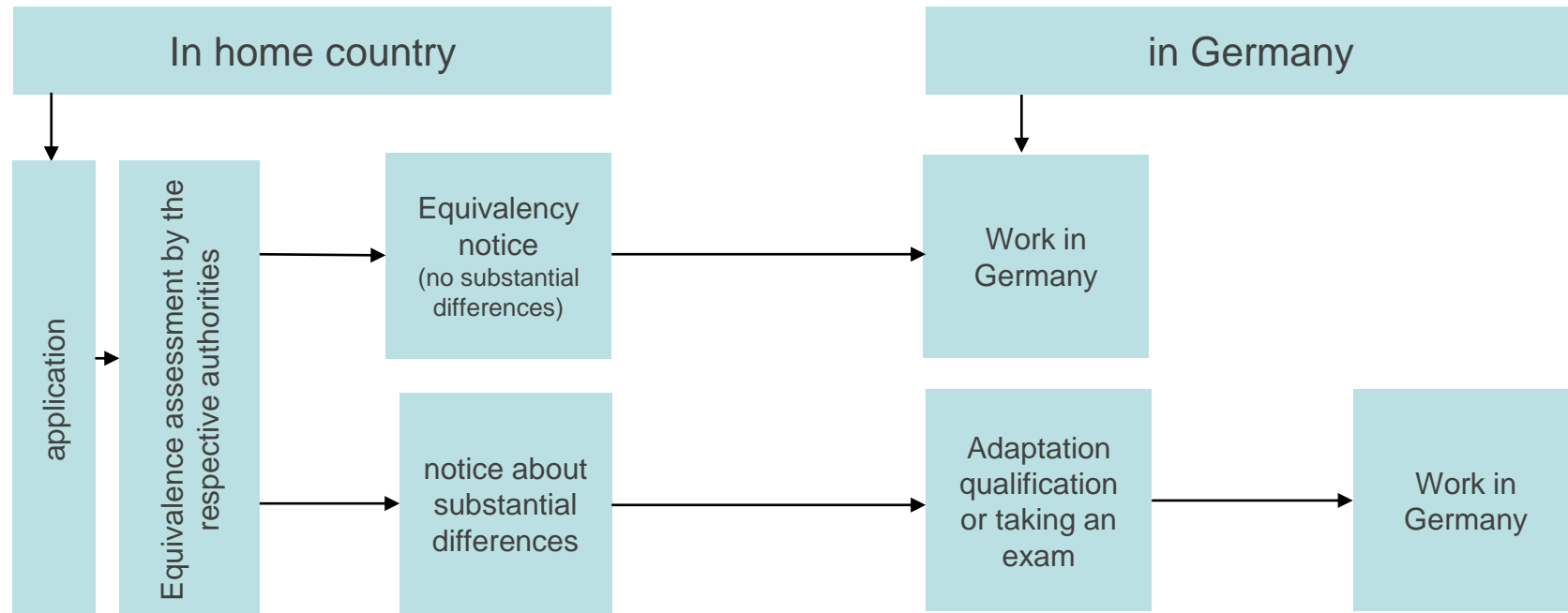
## Types of residence documents

limited	Visa	
	Residence permit – for different purposes <i>Aufenthaltserlaubnis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studying</li> <li>• Job seeking</li> <li>• Working</li> </ul>
	Blue Card	
unlimited	Permanent residence permit <i>Niederlassungserlaubnis</i>	
	Long-term resident – EU <i>Daueraufenthalt – EU</i>	

- Each document allows work at a different level.

# Recognition from abroad :

The vocational training in the country of origin must be recognised as equivalent to the German qualification in that field.



Duration with complete documents approx. 2 to 4 months, take costs into account!

# Entering the Labour market

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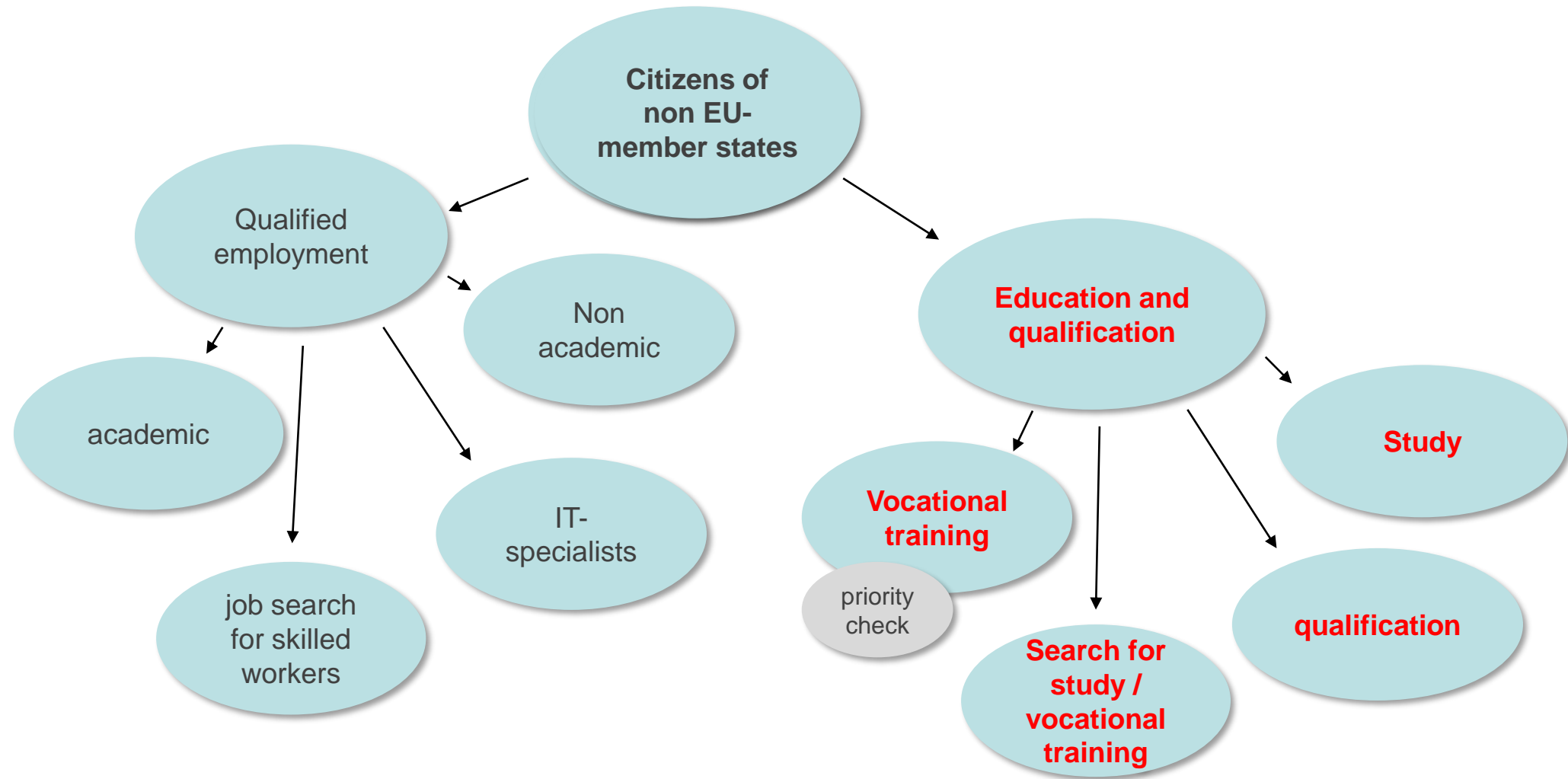


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## Recognition of foreign degrees (§16d AufenthG)

Skilled workers from non-EU member states can immigrate for the recognition process.

### Requirements

- Certificate of partial equivalence
- sufficient language skills (A2)
- Qualification course has been found
- Financing of the qualification course and livelihood needs to be secured (947,10€ per month)
- Up to 10 hours/ week of any work possible (up to 40 hours/ week if its related to the qualification)



## **Search for study / vocational training (§17 AufenthG)**

People from non-EU member states can immigrate to search for a place to study or do a vocational training:

### **requirements to search for vocational training:**

- Until the age of 25
- university access in home country
- Good language skills(B2)
- livelihood needs to be secured (947,10€ per month)

→ Up to 6 months

### **Requirements to look for study:**

- University access and the required language skills (usually C1)
- livelihood needs to be secured (947,10€ per month)

→ Up to 9 months

## **Vocational training (§16a AufenthG) and study (§16b AufenthG)**

People from non-EU member states can immigrate to do a vocational training or study.

### **Requirements vocational training:**

- Approval from the Federal Employment Agency has been granted, incl. priority check
  - B1 level or preceding language course
  - Livelihood needs to be secured (861€ per month)
- financial support by the government is possible
- Possibility to work up to 10 hours per week

### **Requirements study:**

- Required language skills (C1 or english – depending on study program)
  - Can also include preceding language course
  - Livelihood needs to be secured (861€ per month)
- Possibility to work 120 full days/ 240 half days per year

## On your way to a permanent residence permit



### **§ 16b AufenthG – Studying**

Work up to 120 days/year or 240 half days/year

### **§ 20 AufenthG – Job seeking**

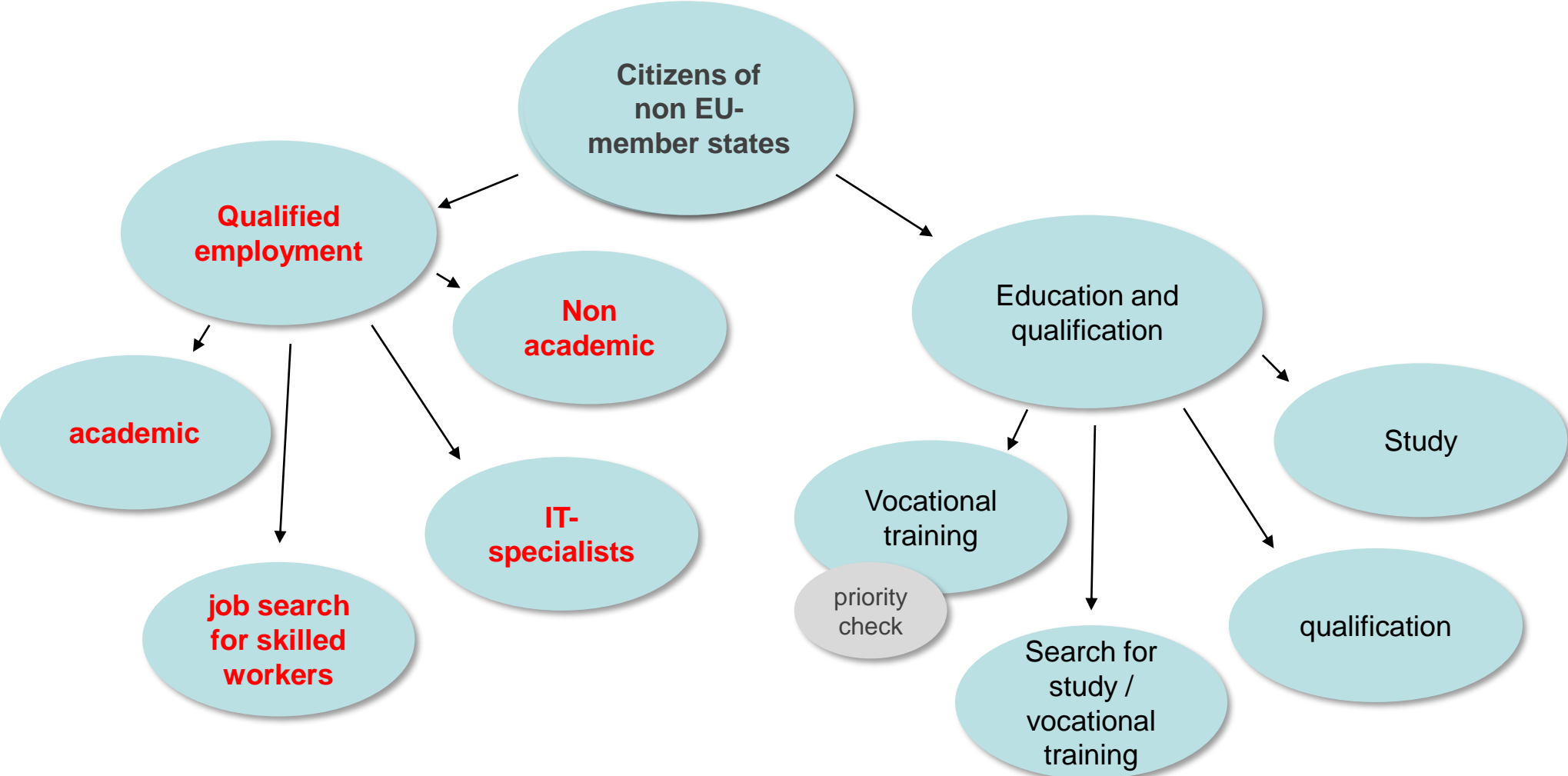
Up to 18 months/ all kinds of work are possible

### **§ 18b AufenthG – Employment as a skilled worker**

In the area in which the degree was obtained

### **§ 18c AufenthG – Permanent Residence permit**

With a German academic degree, a permanent residence permit may be granted after two years with a residence permit according to §18b AufenthG



## Job seeking after graduation (§20 AufenthG)

During a period of up to 18 months, graduates from German universities may receive a residence permit for seeking a job

- Livelihood must be secured (2020: 947,10€/ month)
  - Residence permit entitles to all kinds of employment, regardless of the field of studies and below the level of qualification
  - The desired employment after max. 18 months must be in accordance with the qualification

## Job seeking from abroad

- Residence permit entitles to employment up to 10 hours/ week
- Livelihood must be secured (947,10€/ month)
  - Can be obtained for up to 6 months

## Employment as a skilled worker (§18 AufenthG)

- Foreign degree must be recognised in Germany
  - A concrete job offer must be available
  - The desired employment must be in the field according to your profession
  - *Bundesagentur für Arbeit* has to approve the working conditions
- With a permanent contract the residence permit is granted for 4 years

## Blue Card (§18b (2) AufenthG)

- Only for professionals with an academic degree
- Minimum salary of 56.800€ (2021) gross per year, in this case *Bundesagentur für Arbeit* does not have to approve
- For employment contracts in the area of STEM, the minimum salary is 44.304€ (2021) gross per year

Employment as a **specialist with distinct practical knowledge in IT** according  
§19c (2) AufenthG

- No formal qualification is required
- 3 years of relevant working experience in the past 7 years
- German skills on the level B1 may be required
- Minimum salary of 4.260€ (2021) gross per month

**Permanent residence permit (§18c AufenthG)**

- After 5 years of residence permit
- Pension insurance contributions must be made for at least 60 months
- Livelihood must be secured through work (1.021€/month)
- German skills on the level B1
- No offences (even fines may be hindering)

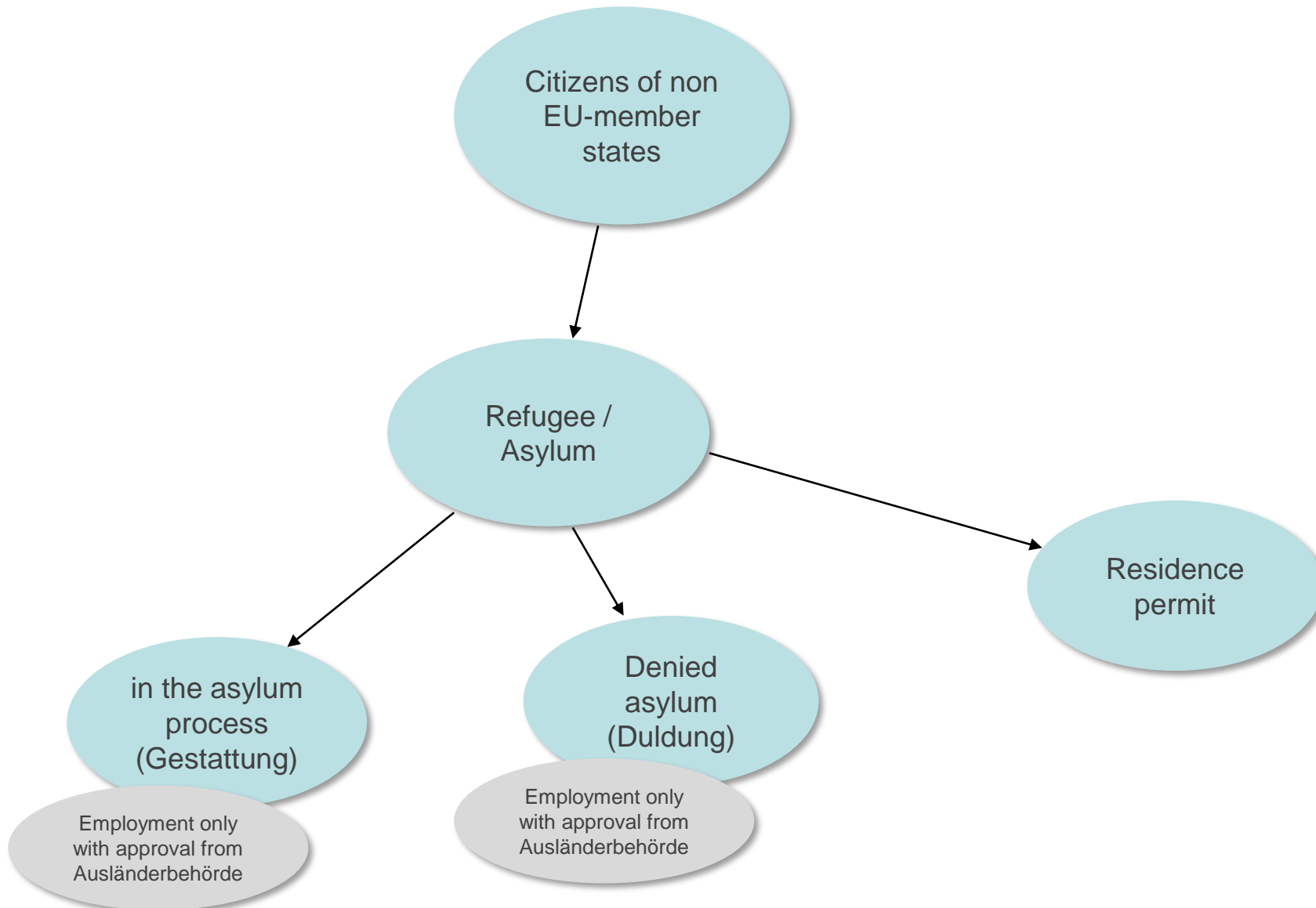
## Age limit for professionals

- From the age of 45, higher minimum income applies when first granted residence as a skilled worker: 3.905 EUR (2020)
- or proof of adequate pension insurance



## Accelerated procedure for skilled workers (§81a AufenthG)

- Employers can apply for the procedure on behalf of the skilled worker
- Foreigners authority advises employers and arranges/coordinates the faster procedure
- fee required (411 EUR)
- Shorter processing times are defined by law for recognition and visa offices, e.g.: The decision of the recognition authority must be issued within a maximum of 2 months after submission of the complete documents (currently only applies to professions regulated by federal law)



## Residency permit for qualified asylum seekers (§19d AufenthG)

People with a denied asylum request can receive a residency permit if they have qualified work.

### Requirements:

- German university degree or vocational training or
  - Foreign university degree and 2 years of continuous, adequate employment or
  - 3 years of uninterrupted qualified work in Germany without any funding from public authorities
- 
- Language skills at B1 level
  - Sufficient living space
  - no conviction due to criminal offences
  - clarified identity

## „Duldung“ for vocational training (§60c AufenthG) I

Can be obtained with a „Gestattung“ if:

- taken up qualified vocational training or
- taken up assistant or helper training; in this case, a commitment for subsequent qualified vocational training in a shortage profession must be available
- Agreement of the employer that the training is to be continued after the asylum application has been rejected

Can be obtained with a „Duldung“ if:

- In possession of a „Duldung“ for at least 3 months
- clarified identity
- taken up qualified vocational training or
- taken up assistant or helper training; in this case, a commitment for subsequent qualified vocational training in a shortage profession must be available

## „Duldung“ for vocational training (§60c AufenthG) II

- Application can be submitted up to 7 months before that start of the vocational training
- is issued at the earliest six months before the start of the vocational training
- Valid for the whole duration of the vocational training

### **In the case of termination:**

- The educational institution is obliged to inform the Ausländerbehörde within 2 weeks
- A Duldung for up to 6 months to look for a new vocational training can be issued

If it is not possible to continue employment in the training company after successful completion of the training, a Duldung can be issued for six months for the purpose of looking for a job.

## „Duldung“ for people in work – (§60d AufenthG)

### Can be issued for up to 30 months (also for the spouse) if:

- clarified identity
- Entered Germany until the 01.08.2018
- In possession of Duldung for at least 12 months
- The employment subject to social security contributions has existed for at least 18 months
- The livelihood has been secured for the last 12 months
- Sufficient language skills (A2)
- no conviction due to criminal offences

The “Duldung” automatically expires if the above-mentioned requirements are no longer met.

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