

### 1. What is the Red-White-Red (RWR) Card and do I need it?

Austria has a flexible immigration scheme: the Red-White-Red Card. It aims to facilitate the immigration of qualified third-country workers and their families with a view to permanent settlement in Austria, based on personal and labour-market related criteria.

➔ **If you do not hold an Austrian or EU citizenship, you need a RWR card to enter the Austrian job market!**

The RWR Card is issued for 12 months and allows employment with the **specific employer** for which it was requested. After one year the **Red-White-Red Card plus** (<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration-red-white-red-card/red-white-red-card-plus.html>) can be applied for, this grants the holder unlimited access to the labour market.

### 2. Which criteria do I have to fulfill in order to get a RWR Card?

According to the following criteria you will be given a certain amount of points that will enable you to receive the RWR Card either quicker or on a longer term:

- **Very high qualifications**  
<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration/very-highly-qualified-workers/>
- **Skills in shortage occupations**  
<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration/skilled-workers-in-shortage-occupations/>
- **Other key skills**  
<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration/other-key-workers/>
- **Graduation of Austrian universities and colleges of higher education**  
<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration/students-and-graduates/>
- **Self-employed with key skills**  
<https://www.migration.gv.at/en/types-of-immigration/permanent-immigration/self-employedkeyworkers/>

If you are not sure, how many points you might reach according to your skills, this **Points Calculator** might help: <https://www.migration.gv.at/en/service-and-links/points-calculator.html>

### 3. How do I apply for RWR Card?

- You find detailed information about the application process in the **FAQ** of migration.gv.at: <https://www.migration.gv.at/en/faq/>
- When it comes to filling the application form, please be aware that the document itself is written in German only. You can download the **application form** here: [https://www.migration.gv.at/fileadmin/downloads/formulare/Rot\\_Weiss\\_Rot\\_Karte\\_Formular.pdf](https://www.migration.gv.at/fileadmin/downloads/formulare/Rot_Weiss_Rot_Karte_Formular.pdf)

If requested by your future employer) the according **employer declaration** which is to be filled by your future employer here:

<https://www.migration.gv.at/fileadmin/downloads/formulare/Arbeitgebererklaerung.pdf>

- Please find the info regarding the legal **documents needed for application** here: [https://www.migration.gv.at/fileadmin/downloads/infoblaetter/2014-03-24\\_Documents\\_for\\_the\\_application\\_for\\_Jobseeker\\_Visa\\_and\\_Red.pdf](https://www.migration.gv.at/fileadmin/downloads/infoblaetter/2014-03-24_Documents_for_the_application_for_Jobseeker_Visa_and_Red.pdf)
- Important: If you are planning to bring your family with you, please do not forget to mention this in your application. Otherwise, you will be provided with work and residency permission for Austria, but your family will not automatically be granted with it.

#### **4. How long does the application process take?**

The application process for very highly qualified applicants (like for those working in IT) usually takes around 6 to 8 weeks.

#### **5. How much does it cost to get the RWR Card?**

The fee is €100 (€80 for application, €20 for grant).

#### **6. Do I have to be fluent in English and/or German in order to get the RWR Card?**

You do not necessarily HAVE to hold a certificate or be fluent at all, but you score higher if you have it.

#### **7. Further useful links:**

- The website [www.migration.gv.at/en](http://www.migration.gv.at/en) contains all the information needed to apply for the Rot-Weiss-Rot-Card  
More information on immigration from non-EU countries: [www.advantageaustria.org](http://www.advantageaustria.org) This website also provides you with information in various languages:  
[http://www.advantageaustria.org/international/zentral/business-guide-oesterreich/arbeiten-in-oesterreich/Zuwanderung\\_aus\\_Nicht-EU-Staaten.en.html](http://www.advantageaustria.org/international/zentral/business-guide-oesterreich/arbeiten-in-oesterreich/Zuwanderung_aus_Nicht-EU-Staaten.en.html)
- If you prefer to hire a consultant to help you with the application for RWR Card rather than handling the application on your own, there are several consulting agencies in Austria that are specialized on doing so.

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