



► INDIA – AUSTRIA

Migration Corridor Analysis: Trends and Opportunities



This collateral consolidates key information for individuals seeking to migrate from India to Austria, encompassing guidance from frameworks and pathways in the corridor to information about shortage sectors and key points of contact.

► Visa Pathways

Austria provides structured mobility pathways through the Red-White-Red (RWR) Card system, the EU Blue Card, and the Working Holiday Programme. These cater to students, highly qualified professionals, shortage occupation workers, researchers, and entrepreneurs.

Visa Type	Eligibility	Purpose	Duration	Note
 Short-Stay Multiple-Entry Visa	» Business visitors, journalists, academics, scientists, specialists	» Short-term work, research, business	» Up to 5 years	» Reciprocal for Austrian nationals in India
 Student Residence Permit	» Admission in recognised institutions	» Study in Austria	» Duration of course	» Includes 12-month job search post-graduation; convertible to RWR Card

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Visa Type	Eligibility	Purpose	Duration	Note
 Working Holiday Programme	» Indian nationals aged 18–30	» Cultural/ professional exchange; incidental jobs	» Up to 12 months	» No extension; only part-time/ seasonal work allowed
 Red-White-Red (RWR) Card	» Very Highly Qualified, Shortage Occupations, Other Key Workers, Graduates, Regular Workers, Self-employed, Start-ups	» Employment & fixed-term settlement	» 24 months (employer-linked)	» Pathway to RWR Plus after 21 months
 RWR Card Plus	» RWR/EU Blue Card holders after 21 months, family members, researchers	» Unlimited labour market access	» 1–3 years	» Grants full settlement rights; pathway to permanent residence
 EU Blue Card	» Highly qualified professionals with salary ≥ €51,500 (2025)	» Employment in Austria	» Up to 24 months (renewable)	» Can convert to RWR Plus after 21 months
 ICT Permit	» Managers, specialists, trainees in MNCs	» Temporary transfer to Austrian subsidiaries	» Up to 3 years	» No labour test; family allowed
 Seasonal Work Permit	» Agriculture, forestry, tourism workers	» Seasonal labour under quotas	» Up to 6 months	» Quotas adjustable by +20% in peaks
 Settlement Permit – Researcher	» Researchers with hosting agreements	» Residence for academic work	» Linked to research contract	» For advanced academic cooperation
 Family Reunification	» Spouses/ partners (21+), minor children	» Joining family in Austria	» ≥6 months	» Access to labour, health, education; RWR Plus after 21 months

► Priority sectors

Austria has identified labour shortages across key industries.



Information Technology (IT)

software developers, data analysts, project managers



Transportation & Logistics

truck drivers, logistics coordinators, transport planners

Healthcare and Nursing

nurses, doctors, caregivers



Engineering

civil, mechanical, electrical, renewable energy, manufacturing



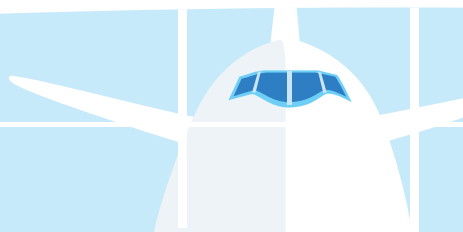
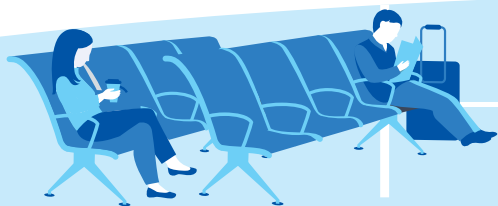
Construction

carpenters, masons, electricians, project managers



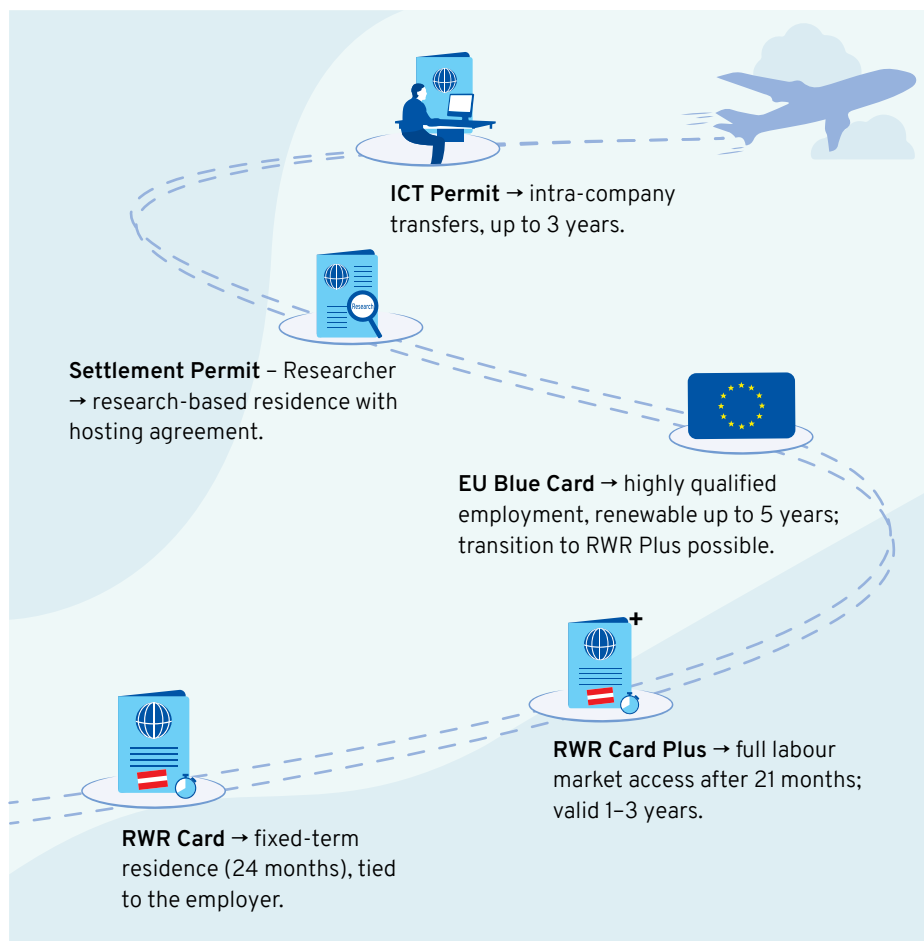
► Sector-Specific Pathways

Sector	Career Options	Key Requirements	EU Blue card Eligibility	Notes
Healthcare	Nurses, doctors, caregivers	B1 German, qualifications recognition	Yes (for doctors)	Eisenstadt-Kanjirapally-Burgenland MoU: 50 Indian care workers annually
IT/ICT	Software engineers, data analysts, project managers	Degree + job offer	Yes	High demand; 23.8% of EU Blue Cards went to Indians in 2023
Engineering	Mechanical, electrical, civil, industrial engineers	Degree, professional recognition	Yes	Renewable energy, advanced manufacturing in shortage
Transportation & Logistics	Drivers, logistics coordinators	A1-B1 German, job offer	No	Truck drivers critical shortage
Construction/ Trades	Carpenters, masons, tilers, electricians	Apprenticeship/ qualification recognition	No	Linked to Austria's dual vocational training system
Research/ Academia	Scientists, researchers	Hosting agreement, research permit	Yes	Settlement Permit – Researcher available



► Resident permits

Austria issues several resident permits for third-country nationals. Information on different categories' eligibility for resident permits:



Integration information

Pre-departure measures



Language Classes

- German language training through ÖIF & AMS-supported programmes; Pre-departure orientation (PDOT) via Indian agencies.

Training & Skilling

- NSDC-ABA partnerships for skills; Dual vocational training accessible after mobility.



Qualification Recognition

- ProRecognition and bilateral efforts to align Indian skills with Austrian standards.

Integration measures (after arrival)

Language & Orientation

- Integration Agreement Modules 1 & 2 (A2 → B1 German + values/orientation courses) mandatory for long-term residence.

Labour Market Support

- AMS career counselling, CV support, job placement, qualification recognition.

Cultural Integration

- Austrian Integration Fund (ÖIF) offers language, cultural orientation, and counselling.

Workers' Support

- ÖGB (trade union) advocates migrant rights; WKÖ (employers' chamber) helps with compliance and integration.

Social Support

- Caritas Austria provides housing, counselling, and post-arrival support.



To know more about the India-Austria Migration Corridor and/or Key Nodal Agencies/Departments in India and Austria, please click here

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