RESIDENCE LEGALISATION GDAŃSK / EU LONG-TERM RESIDENT / 2026

# EU long-term resident in Gdańsk: verification of conditions

An EU long-term resident permit is indefinite, but it requires several conditions to be met together: period of stay, income, insurance, knowledge of Polish and a legal title to housing. Below is a description of the successive layers of verification.

## Layer 1. In brief

- As a rule, at least 5 years of legal and uninterrupted stay directly before filing is required (in Poland or, for EU Blue Card holders, under the “2+3” rule).
- Required are: stable and regular income, health insurance, confirmed knowledge of Polish at level B1 or higher, and a legal title to residential premises.
- The application is filed through MOS during legal stay in Poland; the stamp duty is PLN 640.
- After the permit is granted, a residence card is issued for 5 years; the next one on application, also for 5 years.
- Time limit for deciding: up to 6 months from filing a complete application with annexes and documents.

**Locally in Gdańsk.** Residence cases are handled by the Foreigners Department of the Pomeranian Voivodeship Office, ul. Okopowa 21/27, 80-810 Gdańsk. Office helpline: 222 500 134 (working days, 7:45–15:45 Tuesday to Friday, until 18:00 on Mondays). Current information: Foreigners’ affairs at the Voivodeship Office and wsc.gdansk.uw.gov.pl.

## Layer 2. Five substantive conditions

### 1. Period of legal and uninterrupted stay

Not every stay counts, and some count only in part. What matters is the basis on which you stayed in Poland.

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| **Not counted** | Stay of a posted worker for cross-border provision of services; stay during studies or education in Poland; stay on a visa issued on humanitarian grounds or in the interest of the state; stay after an obligation to return (until the end of the voluntary return period); stay under intra-corporate transfer and circumstances requiring short-term stay; stay under local border traffic; use of temporary protection. |
| **Counted in part** | Half of the period of stay on a visa or temporary residence permit for studies, doctoral education or vocational training. The period of international protection proceedings: in full if it exceeded 18 months, or half if it was shorter. |
| **Breaks in stay** | No single break in Poland longer than 6 months, and all together no more than 10 months in the required period. Stay is not interrupted by, among others, business trips for an employer with a registered office in Poland, a particular personal situation of up to 6 months, and internships and student exchange provided for in studies in Poland. |

### 2. Knowledge of Polish (at least B1)

This does not apply to persons who had not turned 16 by the date of filing. Knowledge must be confirmed by a document from a closed list; other documents are not accepted. According to MOS these include: a certificate of the State Commission for Certification of Proficiency in Polish as a Foreign Language (certyfikatpolski.pl), ECL and TELC certificates, a certificate from a university approved to admit foreigners, a sworn translator's certificate, a school-leaving certificate (primary, secondary, art school) with Polish as the language of instruction, and a degree diploma with Polish as the language of instruction. A post-secondary school certificate is, as a rule, no longer recognised (the exception concerns proceedings initiated by 30 June 2026 where the school was completed before 30 June 2025).

### 3. Stable and regular income

Income must be relatively permanent and continuous and sufficient to cover the living costs of the foreigner and of family members dependent on them. Period reviewed: 3 years directly before filing (2 years for EU Blue Card holders meeting the MOS criteria) and during the proceedings. For income from 1 January 2025, the required value is higher than PLN 1,010 per month when living alone, or PLN 823 per month per family member. Income from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024 is assessed under the criteria in force at the time (PLN 776 and PLN 600). Sample evidence: tax returns, employment or civil-law contracts, ZUS certificates, business documents.

### 4. Health insurance

Insurance within the meaning of the Act on healthcare services financed from public funds, or confirmation by an insurer that treatment costs in Poland will be covered.

### 5. Legal title to housing

A scan of a current document confirming the title to the premises in which you will live (e.g. ownership deed, tenancy agreement, cooperative ownership right) is attached to the application in MOS. The original is shown at the visit. A loan-for-use agreement is acceptable only where the lender is the foreigner's descendant, ascendant, spouse, spouse's parents or sibling.

> **The "2+3" rule for the EU Blue Card.** If you stay in Poland on an EU Blue Card, the 5-year requirement is counted as the last 2 years in Poland on a permit for work in a highly qualified profession or Blue Card mobility, plus the preceding 3 years in another EU state on specified grounds. Breaks: in Poland up to 6 months individually and 10 in total; in another EU state up to 12 months individually and 18 in total.

## Layer 3. Documents, visit and fees

### Attach in MOS

- The application form signed via login.gov.pl (a representative does not sign the application).
- A scan of all pages of a valid travel document (PDF).
- A scan of the document confirming the legal title to housing (PDF).
- A current digital photograph (JPG).
- Optionally: proof of stamp duty and documents confirming that the conditions are met (PDF).

### At the visit to the office

The voivode summons you to a visit no earlier than 7 days after the summons is delivered. You show the original travel document and the original title to housing, and give fingerprints and a specimen signature. Failing to complete these actions risks discontinuation of the proceedings. The remaining documents (history of stay, income, insurance, language) are delivered on summons, within a deadline of at least 14 days, as originals or certified copies, with sworn translations of

foreign-language documents.

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| **Stamp duty for the permit** | For EU long-term resident status it is PLN 640. Account according to the Voivodeship Office: Urząd Miejski w Gdańsku, 31 1240 1268 1111 0010 3877 3935. Payment title (in Polish): “opłata za zezwolenie na pobyt czasowy/stały/rezydenta długoterminowego UE oraz imię i nazwisko wnioskodawcy”. |
| **Fee for issuing the residence card** | Payable only after you receive the permit decision (there is no obligation to pay earlier). Account according to the Voivodeship Office: Pomorski Urząd Wojewódzki w Gdańsku, 07 1010 1140 0169 1322 3100 0000. Payment title (in Polish): “opłata za wydanie karty pobytu oraz imię i nazwisko wnioskodawcy”. |
| **Before you pay** | Take account numbers and payment titles only from the current Voivodeship Office page: Fees for applications. The data may change. |

## Layer 4. Proceedings and official sources

- An application filed correctly during legal stay gives you a certificate of filing and legality of further stay until the decision becomes final. The certificate does not entitle you to travel in the Schengen area.
- Grounds for refusal: failure to meet the conditions of Art. 211(1) of the Act on Foreigners, or reasons of defence, state security or public order.
- Appeal to the Head of UdSC: in writing, through the voivode, within 14 days of delivery of the decision; decided within 90 days.
- The permit may be revoked, among other grounds, after leaving Poland for over 6 years or leaving the EU for over 12 months (24 months for EU Blue Card holders and their families).

- MOS: EU long-term resident permit
- MOS portal
- MOS: questions and answers
- Pomeranian Voivodeship Office: foreigners’ affairs
- Pomeranian Voivodeship Office: fees for applications
- Foreigners Department in Gdańsk (wsc.gdansk.uw.gov.pl)
- Polish language certificates
- MOS: residence card

> Questions about your case: **wniosek@legalizacja-pobytu-gdansk.pl**. The legalizacja-pobytu-gdansk.pl service is an independent support team, not a state website.

*Informational material prepared by the independent service legalizacja-pobytu-gdansk.pl. It is not an official website, does not replace the MOS portal or legal advice. Information as of 28.11.2026. Before filing, check the current legislation and notices of the authorities.*