PRINTABLE DOCUMENT PLANNER

German Citizenship Records Checklist

Section 5 StAG • Start here; match your official BVA instructions.

ONE CHECKLIST PER PERSON + SHARED FAMILY RECORDS WHERE ACCEPTED

1 Individual application documents

- [ ] **EER forms or online declaration, as applicable**
  Each eligible person declares separately; paper EER forms use German.
- [ ] **Valid passport or other accepted photo ID copy**
- [ ] **Applicant birth certificate / proof of descent**
- [ ] **Applicant marriage or name-change records, if applicable**
- [ ] **Nationwide criminal-record certificate, if required**
  For applicable U.S. residents, follow the BVA FBI guidance and validity period.

2 Family-line evidence

- [ ] **Birth records connecting applicant to the affected ancestor**
- [ ] **Marriage records connecting the generations, as relevant**
- [ ] **Evidence of relevant ancestor's German citizenship**
  Examples: passport, citizenship certificate, registration records.
- [ ] **Proof of the historical circumstances behind your §5 category**
  May involve marriage, citizenship loss, paternity or legitimation evidence.
- [ ] **Adoption, divorce, custody or parentage records, if relevant**

3 Submission preparation

- [ ] **Check BVA / mission rules for originals and certified copies**
  Copy certification examples: free one-page guide (click here)
- [ ] **Check translation and apostille rules before paying for them**
- [ ] **Label family-shared evidence and each applicant's records**
- [ ] **Keep a copy of the submitted package and delivery evidence**

IMPORTANT • NOT AN OFFICIAL BVA FORM

The legal requirements vary by category, age and family circumstances. This planner does not establish eligibility. Check the current BVA EER guidance before submitting.

FAMILY EVIDENCE & REQUESTS

Keep the Paper Trail Clear

Use these boxes to plan a family packet and track missing records.

4 Family application snapshot

Common German ancestor / branch: _____

Relevant birth / marriage years: _____

Possible §5 category / question: _____

Applicant(s) and representative(s), if needed: _____

5 Record-request tracker

DOCUMENT / PERSON	OFFICE / SOURCE	REQUEST DATE	STATUS / FOLLOW-UP

6 Useful official and Gear Arena links

- Official BVA EER form package
- German birth-register requests
- Historical Meldekarte research
- U.S. A-File / immigration records
- Standesamt email templates

Deadline: August 19, 2031 • BVA receipt date is decisive

Federal portal estimate: 2–3 years; individual cases may take longer.