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Abstract

More businesses than ever before are choosing to expand into global markets, causing a large need for expatriates, or workers from one country who move to live and work in a country other than their own. Most of the time, these workers are sent abroad by large multinational organizations which have a dedicated team of human resources professionals. This HR staff trains the expatriates about the culture of the new country, as well as takes care of all the documentation and logistical aspects required when moving abroad. However, more individuals are choosing to become expatriates on their own without help from an organization, and these people must figure out how to complete all the planning and preparation alone. This guide provides a starting point for new expatriates as they navigate the confusing, yet rewarding, challenge of living in another country. While expatriation can occur in any country, this guide specifically focuses on U.S. expatriation to Germany and provides background information about expatriation, documentation, compensation, the process, housing, the German culture, the German language, packing, expatriation with families, and repatriation.

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