

## Renewal of residence titles

You have to apply for a renewal of your residence title before your current residence title expires (3 months before expiry at the earliest). Until a decision about your application for a renewal is taken you are considered to be lawfully resident in Austria, even if your current residence permit expires.

In case you have to leave Austria for a short time before you receive your renewed permit the authority can, if you can give well-founded reasons, insert a written approval to your travel document, for which a fee applies and which will enable you to re-enter Austria (“emergency vignette”).

If you submit your application for a renewal after your previous residence permit has expired the application will be classified as a first-time application and you may have to apply at the [Austrian representative authority](#) in your home country. An application that is submitted after the expiry of the previous residence title will exceptionally be regarded as a renewal if you can prove that an unexpected or inevitable incident has occurred for which you cannot or can only marginally be made liable and which has prevented you from submitting the application for the renewal in time. In this case the application must be submitted within two weeks of the end of said event.

Only residence titles (residence permits and settlement permits) can be renewed in Austria – it is not possible to have a visa renewed. Only in case of ongoing medical treatment that prevents you from leaving Austria before your visa expires you are entitled to apply for a visa in Austria. The prerequisite for this is that the medical treatment is absolutely necessary and has already started.

You have to apply for the renewal of a residence title at the locally competent [Austrian residence authority](#). Needed documents and further information for prolongation of the residence title can be found in the subtopic “checklist” on the website for the respective residence title.

When applying for renewal of your residence title you may also apply for a change of purpose – this means that if you fulfil the requirements, you may apply for a different residence title.