

How to Request Information and Files from Germany Regarding a BEG Application

Compensation proceedings under the German Federal Restitution Law ("BEG" or Bundesentschädigungsgesetz) are administered at the state level in Germany. Thus, a given survivor's BEG file may be maintained by any one of eleven different BEG offices. The files are generally maintained by the office that originally processed the application or that issues monthly BEG pension payments to the survivor.

If the survivor is currently receiving a BEG pension, a good way to find out which office is responsible for the file is to look at the survivor's most recent BEG life certificate (making sure to distinguish between BEG life certificates and those issued by the DRV, Claims Conference, etc.), which will contain the name and address of the relevant office, as well as the client's BEG Registration Number.

If the client does not have a BEG life certificate, or if you believe the survivor received a one-time BEG payment rather than a pension, you must write to the BEG *Bundeszentalkartei* (Central Register) in Düsseldorf to find out if the survivor has a file and where it is located. The Central Register can also provide you with the survivor's BEG Registration Number.

Once you have the location and number of the survivor's BEG file, you may request a copy of the file (or specific documents from the file) directly from the responsible BEG office.

The following pages contain further instructions and sample letters.

The **Bundeszentalkartei (BZK)** is the central register containing all compensation matters under the Bundesentschädigungsgesetz (BEG), and the State of North Rhine-Westphalia with the Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf – Dezernat 15 (Wiedergutmachung) – by order of the federal State Governments.

The States that have been charged with implementing the BEG are under an obligation to make available any data that are necessary for the register.

At the moment, the BZK consists of about 2 million file cards showing the applicants' names, the persecutees' names, if any, the applicants' or persecutees' dates of birth, the applicants' address at that time, the reference number and the responsible Compensation Authority. The cards have been filed solely by the applicants' or persecutees' dates of birth, so that in case of a search request it is of special importance to indicate the exact date of birth.

The BZK is thus able to inform as to whether a certain individual has filed an application for compensation under the BEG with any Compensation Authority and to specify the reference number under which this matter has been dealt with by which Compensation Authority.

On the basis of an administrative agreement both federal and States authorities and individuals concerned in compensation matters as well as their legal representatives can get information from the BZK. It is permitted to forward data to authorities abroad, provided that such a transmission is necessary for the terms of reference and that it has been internationally stipulated by contract. The information is free of charge.

The BZK is not in a position to inform you about applications for compensation with regard to certain types of injury or about the outcome of the compensation matter or about the amount of the compensation sums paid. Such information must be obtained from the responsible Compensation Authority where the relevant files are kept.

For information from the BZK please contact:

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf, Dezernat 15 (Bundeszentalkartei), Postfach 30 08 65, D – 40408 Düsseldorf

Fon: ++49 211 475-3071 or 3571

Fax: ++49 211 475 – 3979

E-Mail: bzk@brd.nrw.de

[Date]

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf
Dezernat 15 - Bundeszentalkartei
Postfach 30 08 65
D-40408 Düsseldorf
GERMANY

**EXAMPLE:
Request to BEG
Central Register for
File Location and
File Number**

Re: Request for Location and Number of BEG File

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a victim of Nazi persecution who is seeking compensation or financial assistance from **[name of agency or program]**. In connection with that matter, I am writing to request information about any applications that I previously filed under the Federal Restitution Law (BEG).

My identifying information is as follows:

Name: **[Provide all names that the client might have used when applying for BEG]**

Birth name:

Birth date: **[Provide exact birth date, or any birth dates that the client might have used when applying for BEG]**

Birth place:

Kindly advise me of the file numbers and locations of any compensation files that may exist in my name.

[Optional:]

[Agency Name] is assisting me with this matter. I hereby authorize you to send the above-mentioned information to:

[Name and address of authorized person.]

This authorization is limited to the purposes described herein and is not intended to revoke any prior authorization or power of attorney.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

[Date]

[Name and Address
of BEG Office Where
Client's File is Located]

**EXAMPLE:
Request for BEG
File Copy**

(You may obtain the file's location and
registration number from the BEG Central
Register in Düsseldorf, if the client does not have
a document containing this information.)

Re: Request for BEG File Copy

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a victim of Nazi persecution who is seeking compensation or financial assistance from [name of agency or program]. In connection with that matter, I am writing to request documents relating to my application under the Federal Restitution Law (BEG).

My identifying information is as follows:

BEG Reg. Nr.: [The 6-digit Registration No. can be provided by the
Bundeszentralarchiv (Central Register) in Düsseldorf. It can
also be found on the client's most recent BEG life certificate.]

Name: [Provide all names that the client might have used when
applying for BEG]

Birth name:

Birth date:

Birth place:

Kindly send me a complete copy my file [OR, identify specific documents sought, such
as "copies of any decisions, approvals, or denials issued in my compensation case"].

Because the requested documents are needed for the purpose of obtaining
compensation or services for a victim of Nazi persecution, I respectfully request that you
waive any fees or charges associated with this request.

[Optional:]

[Agency Name] is assisting me with this matter. I hereby authorize you to send the
above-mentioned information to:

[Name and address of authorized person.]

This authorization is limited to the purposes described herein and is not intended to revoke any prior authorization or power of attorney.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Wiedergutmachung (BEG) Offices

Entschädigungsbehörden der Länder

LOCATION - CITY & (STATE)	
BUNDESZENTRAKARTEI (BEG CENTRAL REGISTER): Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf Dezernat 15 (Bundeszentalkartei) Postfach 30 08 65 D-40408 Düsseldorf Germany <i>Requests for the location and number of a survivor's BEG file should be sent to this office.</i>	Tel.: +49-211-475-3071 Fax: +49-211-475-3979 bzk@brd.nrw.de Website: http://www.brd.nrw.de/entschaedigung_fuer_naziunrecht/bundeszentalkartei/merkmale_der_bundeszentalkartei.html
BERLIN: Landesamt für Bürger- und Organisationsangelegenheiten - Abt. 1, Entschädigungsbehörde - Fehrbelliner Platz 1 D-10702 Berlin Germany	Tel.: +49-30-90269-0 Fax: +49-30-90269-5100 post.entschaedigung@labo.berlin.de Website: https://www.berlin.de/lab0/entschaedigung-von-ns-unrecht/
BREMEN: Senator für Wirtschaft, Arbeit und Häfen -Landesamt für Wiedergutmachung- Hutfilterstr. 1-5 D-28195 Bremen Germany	Tel.: +49 421-361-5155 Fax: +49 421-361-10059 http://service.bremen.de/sixcms/detail.php?gsid=bremen02.c.3811635.de
DARMSTADT (HESSEN): (Formerly in Wiesbaden) Regierungspräsidium Darmstadt Dezernat II 25 Wilhelminenstr. 1-3 D-64283 Darmstadt Germany	Tel.: +49-6151-12 6097 Fax: +49-6151-12 6099 Franz-Josef.Herlt@rpda.hessen.de Website: https://rp-darmstadt.hessen.de/soziales/leistungen-nach-dem-bundesentsch%C3%A4digungsgesetz-beg-und-dem-hessischen-ns-h%C3%A4rtefonds

LOCATION - CITY & (STATE)	
DÜSSELDORF (NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN): <u>P.O. Box address:</u> Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf Dezernat 15 (Abt Wiedergutmachung) Postfach 30 08 65 D-40408 Düsseldorf Germany <u>Street address:</u> Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf Dezernat 15 (Abt Wiedergutmachung) Am Bonnheshof 35 D-40474 Düsseldorf Germany	Tel.: +49-211-475-1500 Fax: +49-211-475-3978 http://www.brd.nrw.de/organisation/abteilung1/15/index.html
FELLBACH (BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG): Landesamt für Besoldung und Versorgung Baden-Württemberg - Wiedergutmachungsstelle - D-70730 Fellbach Germany	Tel.: +49-711-3426-0 Tel.: +49-711-3426-2710 Fax: +49-711-3426-2002 internet-poststelle@lbv.bwl.de Website: https://lbv.landbw.de/service/fachliche-themen/wiedergutmachung
HAMBURG: Versorgungsamt Hamburg - Amt für Wiedergutmachung - Adolph-Schönfelder-Str. 5 D-22083 Hamburg Germany	Tel.: +49-040-42863-7225 Fax: +49-040-42796-1305 versorgungsamt@basfi.hamburg.de Website: www.hamburg.de/versorgungsamt
HANNOVER (NIEDERSACHSEN): Niedersachsen Landesamt für Bezüge und Versorgung Referat LBV 12 - (Wiedergutmachung) D-30149 Hannover Germany	Tel.: +49-511-925-0 Fax: +49-511-925-2633 PoststelleNLBVHannover@nlbv.niedersachsen.de

LOCATION - CITY & (STATE)	
KIEL (SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN): Ministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Jugend, Familie und Senioren - Entschädigungsbehörde, Referat VIII 20 – Adolf-Westphal-Str. 4 D-24143 Kiel	Tel.: +49-431-988-0 Tel.: +49-431-988-5504 Fax: +49-431-988-5674 Fax: +49-431-988-5416 E-mail: volker.behlau@sozmi.landsh.de
MUNICH (BAYERN): Landesamt für Finanzen - Landesentschädigungsamt- Alexandrastr. 3 D-80538 München Germany	Tel.: +49-89- 7624-1025 Fax: +49-89- 7624-1068 poststelle-m@lff.bayern.de
SAARBRÜCKEN (SAARLAND): <u>P.O. Box address</u> Landesamt für Soziales - Entschädigungsbehörde - Postfach 10 32 52 D-66032 Saarbrücken Germany <u>Street address</u> Landesamt für Soziales - Entschädigungsbehörde - Hochstraße 67 D-66115 Saarbrücken Germany	Tel.: +49-681-9978-0 Fax: +49-681-9978-2299 E-Mail: poststelle@las.saarland.de Website: www.las.saarland.de
SAARBURG (RHEINLAND-PFALZ): Landesamt für Finanzen Amt für Wiedergutmachung Heckingstr. 31 D-54439 Saarbürg Germany	Tel.: +49-6581-921-0 Fax: +49-6581-921-150 Email: Poststelle.AfW@lff.fin-rlp.de Website: https://afw.lff-rlp.de/en/welcome/index.html

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