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Certificate of inheritance: apply for a limited joint certificate of inheritance

Heruntergeladen am 12.07.2025

<https://fimportal.de/xzufi-services/133494261/L100027>

Modul	Sachverhalt
Leistungsschlüssel	99046068001003, 99046068001003
Leistungsbezeichnung I	Certificate of inheritance: apply for a limited joint certificate of inheritance
Leistungsbezeichnung II	
Typisierung	2/3a - Bund: Regelung, Land: Vollzug
Quellredaktion	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Freigabestatus Katalog	fachlich freigegeben (gold)
Freigabestatus Bibliothek	fachlich freigegeben (silber)
Begriffe im Kontext	
Leistungstyp	Leistungsobjekt mit Verrichtung
Leistungsgruppierung	Gerichtliche Leistungen (046)
Verrichtungskennung	Erteilung (001)
SDG-Informationsbereich	Erbansprüche und -pflichten in einem anderen Mitgliedstaat, einschließlich Steuervorschriften

Modul	Sachverhalt
Lagen Portalverbund	
Einheitlicher Ansprechpartner	Nein
Fachlich freigegeben am	28.03.2025
Fachlich freigegeben durch	Ministry of Justice, Equality and Consumer Protection
Handlungsgrundlage	https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/famfg/__352b.html https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bgb/__2100.html https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bgb/BJNR001950896.html#BJNR001950896BJNG020002377
Teaser	<p>The probate court can also issue a so-called joint certificate of inheritance for several heirs. Each co-heir can apply for a joint certificate of inheritance. This can be restricted in terms of subject matter if parts of the estate are located abroad.</p>
Volltext	<p>When a testator dies, they usually leave behind not just one heir, but several. These become part of the so-called community of heirs upon inheritance. The estate is only divided among the individual heirs in accordance with the agreements made once the estate has been settled.</p> <p>In principle, each individual co-heir can apply for a certificate of inheritance with which they can identify themselves to third parties as the rightful heir. However, if the community of heirs wishes to act jointly and deal with banks, insurers and the land registry, a joint certificate of inheritance is often required.</p> <p>A certificate of inheritance limited to the deceased's assets located in Germany (estate) can be issued by the probate court upon application if the estate also includes items located abroad. A restricted certificate of inheritance should be applied for if it speeds up the procedure for issuing the certificate of inheritance (e.g. because no foreign inheritance law has to be determined) or because the certificate of inheritance is not required abroad and the restriction can save costs. https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/famfg/__352c.html </p>
Erforderliche Unterlagen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your identity card or passport,

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- the death certificate of the deceased person (testator),
- the family record book to document the relationship,
- Information on whether there is a lawsuit concerning your inheritance rights,
- Names and addresses of the co-heirs,
- Proof of the reason why certain persons who would actually inherit are no longer heirs, for example their death certificates, declarations of waiver of inheritance or renunciation of inheritance,
- wills or inheritance contracts, if applicable,
- the matrimonial property regime (in the case of married couples) or the asset status (in the case of registered civil partnerships),
- Proof that items of the estate are located abroad.

In addition to applying for a certificate of inheritance from the probate court, you must also make an affidavit in lieu of an oath regarding certain information required by law, which must be notarized by the court or notary.

Note: The probate court will provide you with information about which documents you need to submit in detail and which declarations you may still need to make.

Voraussetzungen

There is a co-heir status and estate assets are located both in Germany and abroad.

Kosten

- Fees for a certificate of inheritance are regulated in the German Court and Notary Fees Act (GNotKG) and are based on the estate value after deduction of debts.
- In addition to the fee for issuing a certificate of inheritance, there may be costs for declarations in lieu of an oath and notary fees - plus statutory VAT.

Verfahrensablauf

After you have applied for the certificate of inheritance, the local court will check your entitlement and issue the certificate of inheritance.

Bearbeitungsdauer

The processing time depends on the complexity of the inheritance case.

Frist

none

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**weiterführende
Informationen**
Hinweise
Rechtsbehelf
Appeal

If there are conflicting interests in the certificate of inheritance proceedings before the probate court, the probate court may not grant the certificate of inheritance immediately. The local court issues an order in which it states that it considers the facts required to justify the application for a certificate of inheritance to have been established.

Pursuant to Sections 58 and 63 FamFG, the parties involved then have the opportunity to lodge an appeal against this decision within a period of one month.

The certificate of inheritance is only issued if no one has lodged an appeal against the probate court's decision after the one-month period has expired and the decision has thus become legally binding.

In addition, pursuant to Section 59 FamFG, a person who was unable to convince the probate court with their arguments in the certificate of inheritance proceedings and whose rights have been impaired as a result can lodge an appeal.

Contestation

By applying for a certificate of inheritance, the inheritance is automatically deemed to have been accepted - it is then no longer possible to contest the inheritance.

Heirs can then only avoid the inheritance by contesting the certificate of inheritance. However, a reason for contesting must be proven. In principle, only the person who would benefit from a contestation may contest a certificate of inheritance. It is recommended that you seek legal advice from a lawyer.

Sole heir certificates: These can only be contested by

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	<p>sole heirs.</p> <p>Partial certificates of inheritance and joint certificates of inheritance: Every heir within the community of heirs is entitled to contest the certificate.</p>
Kurztext	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are co-heirs, they can apply to the probate court for a joint certificate of inheritance. • The certificate of inheritance is an official certificate issued by the probate court that provides information about the inheritance rights of certain persons. • The joint certificate of inheritance can be issued on the basis of a will or according to intestate succession. • Parts of the estate are located abroad.
Ansprechpunkt	The locally competent district court
Zuständige Stelle	<p>The locally competent district court.</p> <p>This is either the local court in whose district the deceased had his/her last habitual residence or the local court in whose district the deceased has his/her habitual residence.</p>
Formulare	Forms are not required.
Ursprungsportal	Certificate of inheritance: apply for a limited joint certificate of inheritance, Erbschein: gegenständlich beschränkten gemeinschaftlichen Erbschein beantragen