A1 certificates
Rules and experience in Germany

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• Asked users from Germany to let us know how their Institute handles A1 certificates within regular email with notes from last ACCU meeting

• Email sent 2 weeks ago, received 9 answers from 7 Institutes

• Will also include my own experience

• Low statistics, but enough to get a first impression
General rules

• All Institutes formally require application for an A1 certificate for every trip to any European country (sometimes also for other countries)

• Either the certificate itself, or, if it does not arrive in time, the request has to be carried along

• 2 kinds of A1 certificates
  • Long term
    • Up to 2 years also for more than one country at once. For CERN both Switzerland and France are needed
  • Short term
    • For single trips
Application instructions

• Very wide spectrum:

• “automatically provided” or at least “automatically requested together with the normal travel request”

• 3 pages of instructions for different categories of contract and of travel

• “there is no such link (yet?) at [my Institute]. Formally, it is clear though that one has to apply in time for the A1 form”

• Note: the certificate is issued Germany-wide by the public health insurance companies or by the central pension fund for civil servants (and privately insured employees)
Experience

• Did people request the certificate?

• Those who received instructions did, at least the first time(s)

• Did people receive the certificate?

• Some (mostly those with automatic procedures) quickly, in time for their travel

• Some after the end of the travel (then did not request it anymore)

• One (me) not yet, in spite of a request in July and a reply shortly after that “they are working on it, please abstain from asking for updates”