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<b>Quality Reviewer</b>				
<b>Summary</b>	Quality standards and assessment procedures (definition of assessment procedures at all levels, including quality standards)			
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	SBG			

## Document History

Content or partial result	Version	Contributors	Contribution	Thate
1st Review on the current situation in selected countries	1	Ana Dragičević, OZS	Draft 1	18.06.2022
	2	Ines Jeschke, SBG	Draft 2	17.11.2022



## 1st Review on the current situation in selected countries

### National procedures for cross-border assessment and recognition (Countries of the project partners)

#### 1. Introduction

#### 2. Countries overview

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#### 3. Analysis (all countries)



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## 1. Introduction

The PaintingSkillsAcademy (PSA) is dedicated to providing vocational training for the European painting industry, based on the challenges and demands of the European market and the related entry into the European labour market for (painting) artisans, which has a major impact on their competitiveness and the future viability of their businesses. Valuation and recognition of foreign education and recognition of foreign qualifications are processes by which a country facilitates the equal integration of people with foreign qualifications into the labour market and education system. The recognition of vocational qualifications enables a person to pursue a profession for which he/she has trained in a Member State of the European Union. For professional qualifications from abroad, there is a recognition procedure which verifies the equivalence of the professional qualification in accordance with international treaties and the national rules of the host country. Each EU country can set its own conditions for practicing a profession, which is why the European institutions have introduced rules for simplified mutual recognition of professional qualifications. The documents required to be submitted by the applicant in the recognition process depend on the country in which the qualification was obtained, the body responsible for recognition and the purpose of the recognition. The applicant will thus obtain the relevant certificate, which is equivalent to a certificate for which he/she is also qualified in another EU Member State. The first step is to contact the institution in charge of the recognition procedure to obtain the relevant information on the documents required and accepted (which documents must be obtained, where they can be obtained and how). Information on the recognition of qualifications can also be found on the ENIC-NARIC website of the individual ENIC-NARIC country, or applicants can contact the national information center of that country for expert assistance. The ENIC-NARIC network develops common policies and practices in all European countries for the recognition of qualifications, consisting of the European Network of Information Centers (ENIC), set up by the Council of Europe and UNESCO, and the National Academic Recognition Information Centers (NARIC), set up by the European Commission. More detailed information on academic recognition procedures in other countries is also available on the [UNESCO Regions](#) website, where you can contact the national authority of the country concerned directly. Once the candidate has submitted the documents, full details of the qualification will be obtained so that it can be evaluated in another system.

Cross-border mobility of programs is a movement of individual education/training courses and programs across national borders. It is important that the providers have credibility and qualifications especially for students, SMEs, ... So, it is extremely important that the cross-border providers be legitimate and recognized worldwide. Internationalization is changing the world of education. The growth in the mobility of students, programs and providers across borders leads to new opportunities but also new risks. Very important is the to take in consideration the challenges in cross-border education and how to ensure the quality of academics to achieve the recognition/legitimacy of the qualifications that are awarded. The increase in worldwide demand has resulted in a variety of providers that we can classify in the traditional higher education institutions category (oriented to teaching, research and service/commitment to society) and other providers who are usually commercial (teaching and the delivery of education services).

## 2. Countries overview

### 2.1 Slovenia

#### Recognition of education in Slovenia

Recognition is a process of transferring rights of citizens from one country to another in accordance with international agreements and national regulations of the receiving country.

Field of education



Labour market



Each EU Member State can set the legal conditions for practicing regulated professions, which is why the European institutions have introduced rules to simplify the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

Recognition of professional qualifications in Slovenia enables you to pursue a regulated profession for which you have qualified in a Member State of the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA) or the Swiss Confederation under the same conditions as Slovenian citizens.

We know three ways of recognizing professional qualifications and according to them three types of applications.

#### Automatic recognition of professional qualifications

Automatic recognition is based on harmonized minimum qualification conditions and applies to seven sectoral professions:

- doctors,
- dentists
- nurses,
- veterinarians
- pharmacists
- midwives and
- architects.

Each EU Member State automatically recognizes evidence of formal qualifications for these professions and does not check the qualifications of the professional.



If you do not meet the minimum conditions for automatic recognition, you can obtain a certificate of professional qualification according to the general system.

**Recognition of professional experience**

Automatic recognition of professional experience applies to professions in the following areas:

- crafts,
- industry and
- trade.

The performance of these activities within the prescribed time frame is automatically recognized by EU Member States as professional experience.

If you do not meet the minimum conditions for automatic recognition of professional experience, you can obtain a certificate of professional qualification according to the general system.

**Recognition under the general system**

The competent authority shall compare the applicant's competence with the national training to verify that there are significant differences between them in areas relevant to the profession. If the differences found are too great to issue a certificate of professional qualification, the competent authority must be able to remedy these differences by means of a test of knowledge or an adaptation period of no more than three years.

Nationals of Contracting States and eligible third-country nationals wishing to engage in a craft activity for which they have the appropriate professional qualifications in the Republic of Slovenia as tradesmen must submit a request for recognition of a professional qualification with evidence in accordance with the law governing the procedure. recognition of professional qualifications.

**Recognition of foreign education**

The Act on Recognition and Assessment of Education (recognition for the purpose of studying (schools, education institutions) & evaluation of education for the purpose of employment (Ministry)

- Professional Recognition – regulated professions – EU Directives (competent Ministry)
- Professional Recognition – non-regulated professions

<p><b>RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION</b> procedure for the purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- continuing education (recognition of education)</li><li>- for the purpose of employment (evaluation of education)</li></ul>	<p><b>RECOGNITION OF VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- qualifications from EU countries</li><li>- regulated professions / activities</li></ul>	<p><b>RECOGNITION of qualifications (competences) without a recognition procedure</b></p> <p><i>de facto recognition</i></p> <p>Employer: formal education for non-regulated professions (training, courses, advanced training, skills, competences)</p>
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## International Tools important for Recognition

- The Lisbon Recognition Convention – The Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, 1997 (ETS No. 165), (Ur. L RS, št. 45/99)
- ENIC-NARIC Networks
- Accreditation Agencies
- Diploma Supplement (Pravilnik o prilogi k diplomi Ur.l.RS, št. 56/07)
- European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- European Qualification Framework (National Qualification Framework)
- Europass

## Slovenian national legislation for Recognition

- Assessment and Recognition of Education Act (ZVPI)
- Act Ratifying the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (MKPVKE)
- Verification of Documents in International Transport Act (ZOLMP-1)
- Rules on forms, documents and costs in procedures for the assessment and recognition of education

## Recognition of education for the purpose of continuing education in Slovenia

The procedure for the recognition of education is intended for individuals who wish to continue their education in Slovenia with an acquired education abroad.

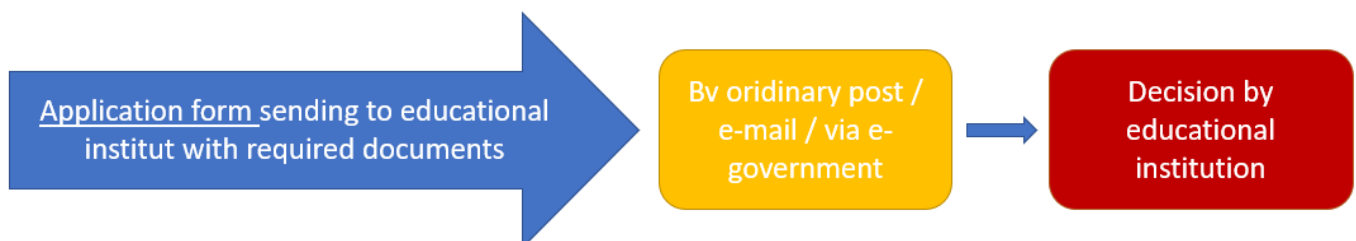
The process of recognition of education takes place at the educational institution where the holder of a foreign document wishes to continue education (vocational, secondary vocational, general secondary, vocational college or college).

## Recognition procedure

The recognition procedure is a part of the enrolment procedure. The candidate submits the recognition application together with the study enrolment application (on the online eVŠ portal).

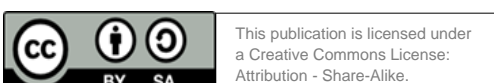
The procedure is run by the authorised persons at educational institution.

Procedure fee: free



## Criteria for recognition

- Education system
- Education programme, syllabus or curriculum
- Academic achievements
- Duration of education
- Rights arising from education



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- Other circumstances (the age of the holder of educational certificate, language proficiency, the number of credits allotted, the level of education in the country of origin, outstanding achievements)

Additional information / specific question: Slovenian ENIC – NARIC centre.

## Required documents

- Original of the certificate/diploma
- Photocopy of the certificate/diploma
- Certified Slovene translation of the certificate/diploma
- Photocopy of the evidence on the contents and duration of education and the requirements fulfilled during the educational programme (Diploma supplement, annual report card, transcript...)
- Short chronological description of the entire education prepared and signed by the applicant or his/her legal guardian

## Higher education institutions in Slovenia (education for painters)

- [EDC-Institute for Vocational Education, Kranj](#)
- [Secondary construction school and gymnasium Maribor](#)
- [Secondary school of economics, services and construction Kranj](#)
- [Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia \(Master craftsman\)](#)

## Slovenian ENIC – NARIC centre

ENIC-NARIC centre Slovenia operates as part of the Ministry of the Republic of Slovenia for Education, Science and Sport and is a competent authority for assessment and academic recognition of education in Slovenia and is a national academic recognition information centre. ENIC-NARIC centre collects and provides information on Slovenian and foreign educational systems and is included in the ENIC-NARIC centre's network.

ENIC-NARIC centre values education for labor market. Recognition education is in the hands of a specific educational institution.

Legal basis: Assessment and Recognition of Education Act

Application form

Procedure fee: 50,00 EUR

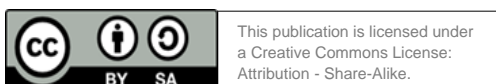
Contact:

ENIC-NARIC Center Slovenia

Kotnikova ulica 38, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Phone: +386 1 478 47 45

E-mail: [enicnaric-slovenia.mvzt@gov.si](mailto:enicnaric-slovenia.mvzt@gov.si)

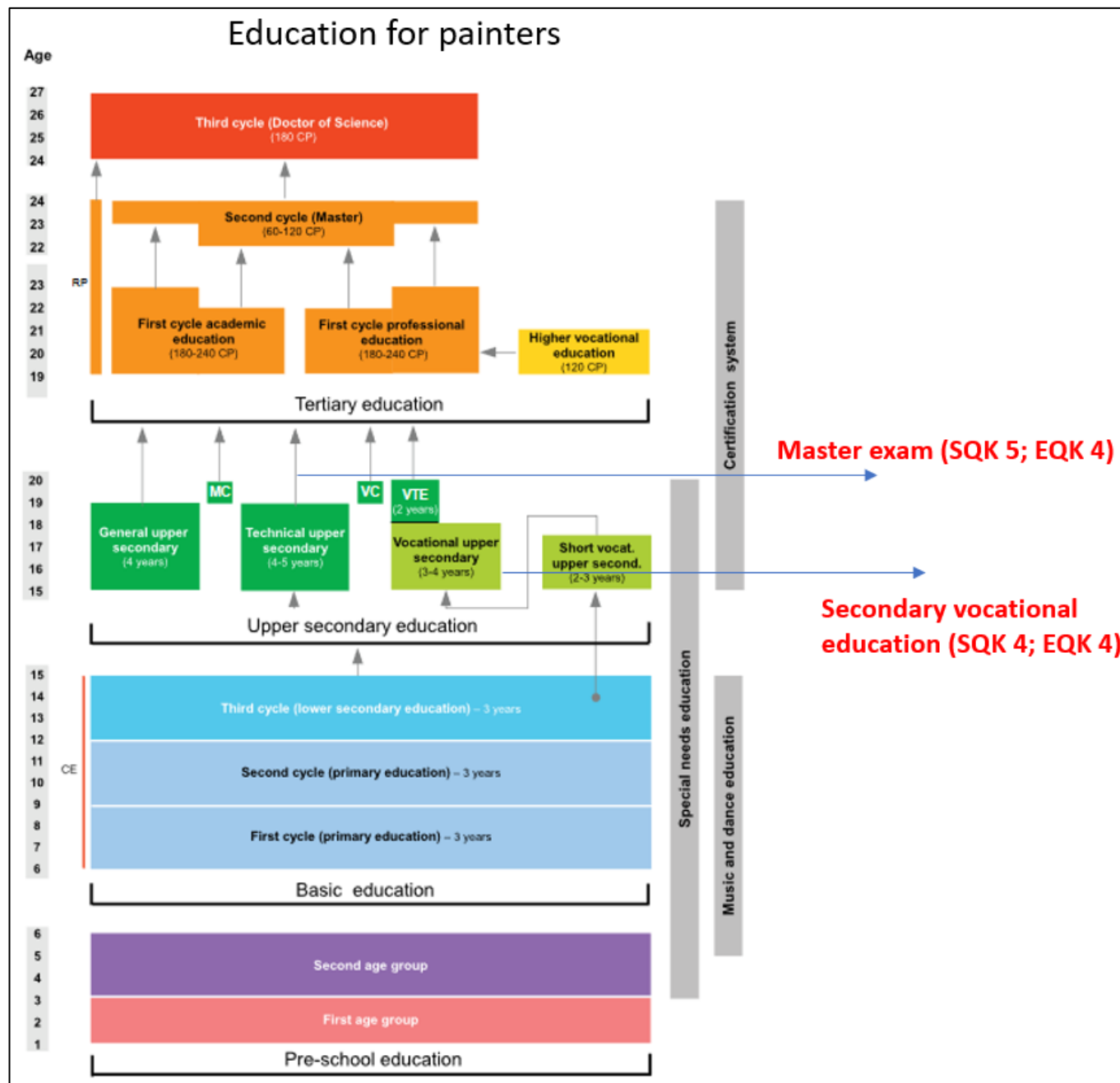


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## Structure of the education system in Slovenia



### Upper secondary vocational education

- Type of Qualification: Upper secondary vocational education
- Name of Qualification: Final examination certificate
- Category of Qualification: Educational Qualification
- Duration: 3-4 years (180 credits)



- Qualification level: SQF 4; EQF 4
- Access to further education: Secondary technical and vocational-technical education; master craftsman (SQF level 5)
- Awarding body: Vocational schools (also in combination with employers and/or an inter-enterprise education centre), education centres for children and adolescents with special needs (providing programmes adapted to the special needs of students), adult education centers

## Upper secondary technical education

Type of Qualification: Master craftsman

Name of Qualification: Master craftsman's examination certificate

Category of Qualification: Educational Qualification

Qualification level: SQF 5; EQF 4

Admission requirements: Fulfilment of one of the following conditions:

- The candidate has obtained secondary vocational education (any specialization) and has at least three years' experience in the field in which he/she wishes to sit the master craftsman's examination.
- The candidate has obtained secondary technical education (any specialization) and has at least two years' experience in the field in which he/she wishes to sit the master craftsman's examination.
- The candidate has obtained a post-secondary vocational or professional higher education qualification (any specialization) and has at least one year's experience in the field in which he/she wishes to sit the master craftsman's examination.

Access to further education: Secondary technical and vocational-technical education; master craftsman (SQF level 5)

Awarding body: Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia





## 2.2 Germany

Source of the following citations: <https://www.validierungsverfahren.de/startseite>; <https://www.validierungsverfahren.de/inhalt/aktuelles/downloadbereich>

### The VALIKOM validation procedure

#### **Assess and certify job-relevant competencies**

People without a formal vocational qualification do not always have it easy in the world of work. They lack recognized proof of their professional know-how and what they can do. Especially if they become unemployed, this can be a real problem, because they are easily overlooked or underestimated in the labour market.

In order to make the existing know-how of these people visible and thus increase their chances on the labour market, the »VALIKOM« project developed and tested a procedure with which job-relevant competences acquired outside the formal education system can be assessed and certified (validated).

At the end of the procedure, a certificate is issued by a chamber of crafts, industry and commerce or a chamber of agriculture, which certifies which activities of a profession you can do.

#### **Target group**

The validation procedure is aimed at people

- those regardless of their current employment status
- at home and/or abroad
- have acquired professionally relevant skills,
- but cannot prove this with a professional qualification.

Both people without a professional qualification and people with a professional qualification who work in another profession can take part in a validation process. In order to be able to participate in the procedure, the persons must be at least 25 years old and have relevant professional experience. In order to achieve full equivalence, the relevant work experience for admission to validation should be 1.5 times the standard training time.

The target group also includes people with professional experience gained abroad who are not entitled to have their foreign professional qualifications recognized in accordance with the Professional Qualifications Assessment Act.

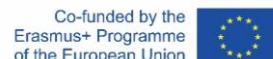
All participants who successfully complete the validation process receive a validation certificate from a Chamber of Crafts, Chamber of Commerce and Industry or Chamber of Agriculture at the end of the process. In this way, the skills of the participants in relation to a training occupation are made visible to the labor market in a credible manner.

The comprehensive advice before, during and after the procedure also gives participants incentives to further their professional development.



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## Participation

With the validation process, professional skills are compared with the requirements of a recognized dual training occupation. Participation in the validation process may be suitable for people who

- are at least 25 years old and
- do not have a professional qualification or work in a profession other than that for which they were trained and
- have several years of professional experience.

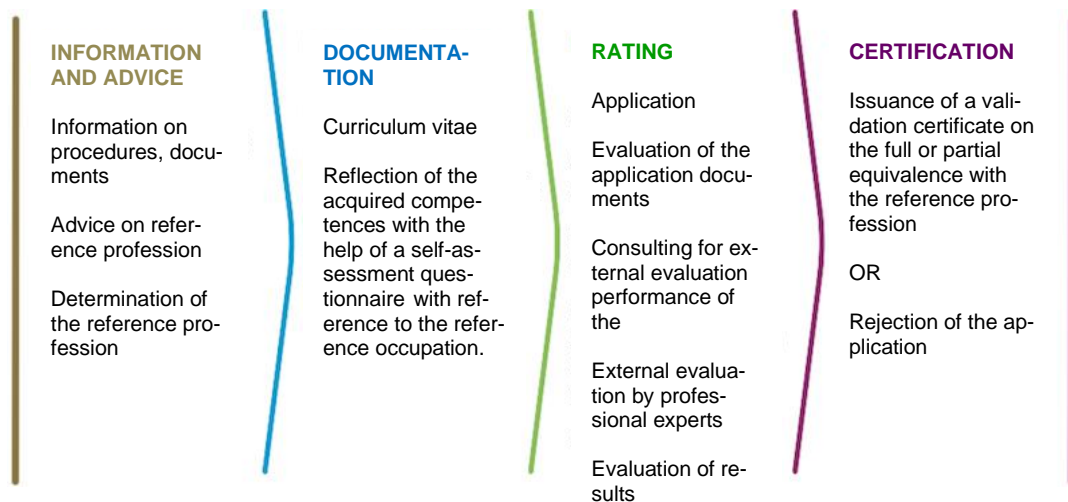
The procedure is carried out in German. In order to successfully complete the validation process, the participants therefore need a basic knowledge of German and should be familiar with the German terminology of their professional field.

The validation procedure is offered in around 30 professions.

Participation in the procedure as part of the "ValiKom Transfer" project is supported with project funds. The participants must bear the costs for travel, accommodation, loss of service, etc. themselves. The duration of a validation procedure varies greatly: It can last from a few weeks to several months.

## Process

The validation procedure can be divided into four process steps, as shown in the following graphic:



## Information for companies

Many companies are already feeling the effects of the shortage of skilled workers. However, small and medium-sized companies in particular often lack the capacity to plan and implement employee retention and personnel development measures. For such companies, a validation process represents an opportunity to convey to employees their appreciation for their professional skills. So far companies have:

- made employees aware of the validation process,
- Employees released to take part in the third-party assessment,
- supports employees in self-assessment and application and
- made their own premises available for external assessments of their employees.



Through these or other support measures, companies can actively show their employees that they are interested in long-term cooperation and in the personal and professional development of employees.

## Certificate

The certificate

- is given to a person if they have the essential skills required to practice a profession,
- documents the extent to which the individually acquired skills match the qualifications of a recognized training qualification tune in,
- is issued by a Chamber of Crafts, Chamber of Industry and Commerce or Chamber of Agriculture, i.e. a body recognized by the labor market,
- is an »official« document confirming informally and non-formally acquired competences, which the person can use for job applications,
- shows employers and personnel decision-makers which job-related skills the person has.



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## 2.3 Belgium

### Equivalence of foreign diplomas

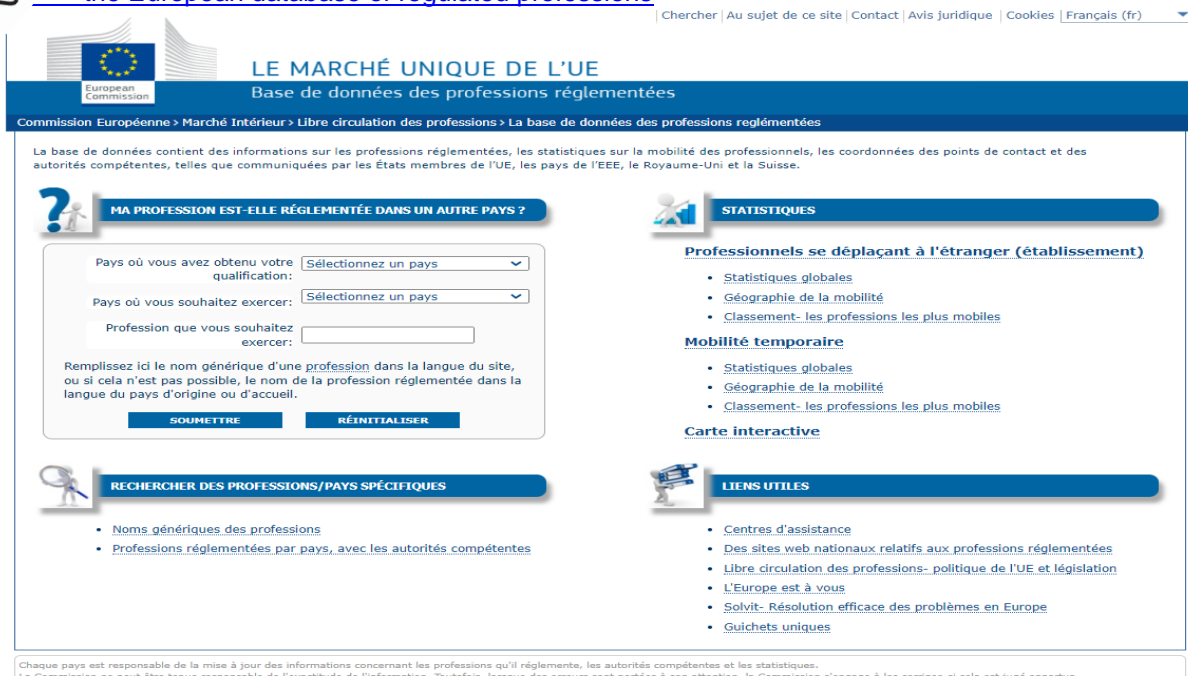
The equivalence's degree would determine the value of studies got abroad by comparing them with similar studies in Belgium. Once obtained, the equivalence allows to study or work in Belgium.

Not all foreign degrees lead to equivalence and sometimes it can be limited (i.e. will give access opening access to certain studies).

The access to a regulated profession is subject in particular to the possession of a specific diploma. For example, we can't legally practice medicine if we don't hold a recognized medical degree.

In order to know if a profession is regulated or not in Belgium, you can consult

 [the European database of regulated professions](#)



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LE MARCHÉ UNIQUE DE L'UE  
Base de données des professions réglementées

Commission Européenne > Marché Intérieur > Libre circulation des professions > La base de données des professions réglementées

La base de données contient des informations sur les professions réglementées, les statistiques sur la mobilité des professionnels, les coordonnées des points de contact et des autorités compétentes, telles que communiquées par les États membres de l'UE, les pays de l'EEE, le Royaume-Uni et la Suisse.

**MA PROFESSION EST-ELLE RÉGLEMENTÉE DANS UN AUTRE PAYS ?**

Pays où vous avez obtenu votre qualification: Sélectionnez un pays

Pays où vous souhaitez exercer: Sélectionnez un pays

Profession que vous souhaitez exercer:

Remplissez ici le nom générique d'une profession dans la langue du site, ou si cela n'est pas possible, le nom de la profession réglementée dans la langue du pays d'origine ou d'accueil.

SOUMETTRE RÉINITIALISER

**STATISTIQUES**

**Professionnels se déplaçant à l'étranger (établissement)**

- Statistiques globales
- Géographie de la mobilité
- Classement- les professions les plus mobiles

**Mobilité temporaire**

- Statistiques globales
- Géographie de la mobilité
- Classement- les professions les plus mobiles

**Carte interactive**

**LIENS UTILES**

- Centres d'assistance
- Des sites web nationaux relatifs aux professions réglementées
- Libre circulation des professions- politique de l'UE et législation
- L'Europe est à vous
- Solvit- Résolution efficace des problèmes en Europe
- Guichets uniques

Chaque pays est responsable de la mise à jour des informations concernant les professions qu'il réglemente, les autorités compétentes et les statistiques. La Commission ne peut être tenue responsable de l'exactitude de l'information. Toutefois, lorsque des erreurs sont portées à son attention, la Commission s'engage à les corriger, si cela est jugé opportun.

### To study in secondary education in Belgium

If you have completed primary/secondary education abroad and you would like to start or continue your secondary education in Belgium

Either you submit the application yourself, or the secondary school of your choice can submit the application for equivalence to the Ministry of Education (Wallonia-Brussels Federation). To do this, the school will ask you for various administrative and school documents:

The primary school leaving diploma accompanied by the school score report (only if primary studies completed abroad);

- At a minimum, the school report of the last 3 years of secondary education followed abroad (if partial secondary studies abroad);
- The original birth certificate;
- The original payment's receipt of the fees;
- The ad hoc form completed by the chosen secondary school.



The equivalence procedure costs €76 (€51 for nationals of countries on the list of countries receiving official development assistance (ODA) established by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

For any details or additional information, visit the website of the Equivalence Service of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation

<http://www.equivalences.cfwb.be/>

## **To study in higher education (university or not) in Belgium**

**If you have a high school diploma** got abroad and you want to start higher education in a University, a High School, a Higher School of Arts or a School of Social Advancement

You must submit an application for equivalence of your secondary school leaving certificate to the "Service des equivalences de l'enseignement obligatoire" so that it can determine whether your diploma is equivalent to the Certificate of Upper Secondary Education – CESS.

To compile the application for equivalence, several administrative and academic documents must be gathered:

- The original birth certificate.
- A letter of motivation written in French (surnames, first names, address, type and branch of study you want to follow) or complete the ad hoc form;
- The original payment's receipt of the administrative costs for the equivalence application;

A true copy of the high school degree, accompanied by the school report, or a provisional certificate of success + the points scored (if you have recently graduated). For the countries listed below, the original document is required. For nationals of a non-EU country, possible proof of admission to higher education in your country or successful one or more years of study in higher education (this may lead to broader equivalence). For the countries listed below, the original is required.

### Comments

– For diplomas (the points scored, access to higher education) Congolese, Cameroonian, Moroccan, Chinese, Guinean (Guinea Conakry), Senegalese, Rwandan; it is mandatory to provide the original documents (be sure to retrieve them after the equivalence procedure);

– If your documents are not written in French, German, English, Spanish (Castilian), Italian, Dutch or Portuguese, they must be translated by a sworn translator.

– Refugees and asylum seekers can submit their application even if all the necessary documents are not collected. The equivalence procedure costs €200 (€150 for nationals of countries on the list of countries receiving official development assistance (ODA) established by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

This amount must be paid before July 15 of the academic year preceding the one you want to follow.

**If you have a higher education degree obtained abroad** (or you have completed part of your higher education abroad) and you wish to continue your higher education at a University, a University, a Higher School of Arts or a School of Social Advancement

You must apply for admission directly to a higher education institution organizing the studies you are interested in (the application for admission can be submitted to different schools/universities).

It is the admission jury of the higher education institution compares the level of your studies, followed abroad, with that of similar studies in Belgium in order to determine if you are able to follow the requested studies and from which year of study (3rd bachelor, 1st master...). If the Jury accepts your admission, it may fix conditions: having to follow a program of complementary courses, obtaining the equivalence of your high school degree, etc.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are admitted to the 1st cycle of higher education (1st, 2nd and 3rd year of bachelor's degree), you will also need to get an equivalence of your secondary school leaving diploma (see above). This equivalence is







not necessary if you are admitted directly to the 2nd cycle (1st and 2nd year of the master's degree) or to the doctorate.

The documents requested may vary depending on the higher education institution, so you must inquire directly with the institutions that offer the studies that interest you (see their website). On the website [www.enseignement.be](http://www.enseignement.be) under the heading "Directory", you will find the complete contact details of all the Universities, Universities, Higher Schools of Arts and Schools of Social Advancement in French-speaking Belgium.

The cost of the admission procedure (not yet regulated) is set by the University, University or Higher School of Arts.

## Comments

You want to:

- have access to the aggregation of upper secondary education.
- have access to a specialization in short-term higher education.
- have access to the studies of Master in Engineering and Social Action, Master in Analytical Engineering, Master in Site Management specialized in sustainable construction and Master in Production Management;
- apply for a FRIA/FNRS doctoral scholarship (unless credit is valued by a university).

In this case, you must apply for equivalence of your higher education diploma obtained abroad to the "Service for the Academic and Professional Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Diplomas"

<http://www.equivalences.cfwb.be/index.php?id=1230>

## **Refusal of equivalence or restrictive equivalence**

In case of refusal of equivalence, alternatives are possible to be able to follow higher education:

To take the Examinations of the Jury to obtain the CE1D, the CE2D or the CESS;

To take the entrance exam organized by universities and colleges.

To take the entrance exam organized by the Schools of Social Advancement (teaching at reduced hours);

To enroll in an institution to complete high school.

In the event of restrictive equivalence limiting access to some higher education, the alternatives are:

- Take the Examinations of the Jury to obtain the DAES (Diploma of Aptitude for Higher Education);
- Take the entrance exam organized by universities and colleges.
- Take the entrance exam organized by the Schools of Social Advancement (part-time teaching);
- Promptly provide a document proving that you have had access to higher education in the country where you followed your secondary education.

## **To work (as an employee or self-employed person) or to follow vocational training in Belgium**

### **A. You have a high school diploma got abroad and you want to work or follow a vocational training**

The equivalence procedure is almost identical to that described above to access to higher education in Belgium.

The only difference is that the application can be submitted at any time, and you must attach proof that this equivalence will be used to obtain a job (e.g. registration with Actiris, Forem or VDAB), to set up as a self-employed person or to access vocational training.

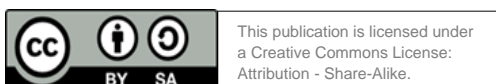
### **B. You have a higher education diploma obtained abroad and you wish to work or follow a vocational training**

To practice a regulated profession (doctor, dentist, lawyer ...), the European Directive of 07/09/2005 provides that:

- If you are a national of one of the EEA countries (or Switzerland) and have a diploma got by one of these countries, contact the competent authority for the regulated profession you would like to practice:

[www.equivalences.cfwb.be](http://www.equivalences.cfwb.be)

(section "Higher education diplomas").



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- If you don't have the nationality of one of the EEA countries (or Switzerland), but you have a diploma in the medical or paramedical sector delivered by one of these countries, contact the "Ministry of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation"  
[http://www.recherchescientifique.be/index.php?id=sirs\\_accueil](http://www.recherchescientifique.be/index.php?id=sirs_accueil)

For those who are not concerned by the European Directive of 07/09/2005 and who wish to practice a regulated profession or for those who would like to pursue a non-regulated profession:

This procedure concerns European and non-European nationals.

For the private sector, you don't necessarily need an equivalence.

For the public sector or public subsidized institutions, equivalence will be required. The procedure costs €200 (€150 for nationals of countries on the list of countries receiving official development assistance (ODA) established by the Development Assistance Committee – DAC

### **To practice as a self-employed person**

You must start by proving your basic management knowledge with a foreign title recognized as equivalent to that issued in Belgium.

Contact the FPS Economy [info.eco@economie.fgov.be](mailto:info.eco@economie.fgov.be)

### **Level equivalence**

This procedure concerns people who wish to have their academic level (bachelor, master) recognized and not their entire diploma.

It is therefore a way to have one's level of study "officially" recognized, even if the diploma obtained abroad has no equivalent diploma in Belgium. The equivalence of level makes it possible to open the doors (eg access to salary scales ...) and can possibly facilitate your hiring on positions for which a certain level of education is required.

Be careful, if you go through this procedure, your diploma will not be recognized as equivalent to the Belgian diploma. Only your level of study will be recognized as equivalent. The pedagogical content of your studies will not be recognized. You will therefore not be able, for example, to exercise a regulated profession for which the Belgian diploma (or its total equivalence) is required.

However, this is a good alternative if you do not need recognition of your entire diploma, or if your diploma has no equivalent in Belgium.

The procedure to obtain level equivalence has the advantage of being faster (the opinion of the equivalence commission is no longer necessary), less complex (less evidence to provide) and cheaper if your diploma is European and dates from after the implementation of the Bologna process (65 € instead of 150 or 200 €). All the procedures are available on the website of the equivalence service.

A level equivalence is automatically granted to diplomas awarded by higher education institutions in the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

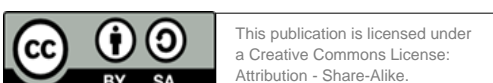
### **Comments**

Refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are exempt from fees (whether for level equivalence or full equivalence) and benefit from an adapted procedure if they are unable to produce the required official documents. More information on the website of the equivalence service.

### **Recourse**

An administrative appeal is possible to the Council of State when the equivalence service (or the University/University Jury) doesn't comply with the procedure during the processing of the equivalence application. (more info: [www.raadvst-consetat.be](http://www.raadvst-consetat.be) "Procedure" section)

\* Equivalence is not required when you have one of the following diplomas:



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- A baccalaureate issued by the European School;
- A baccalaureate issued by the International Baccalaureate Office;
- A baccalaureate issued by the SHAPE International School;
- A diploma issued by a Belgian program school abroad.
- A diploma (secondary 1st degree and primary) issued from June 2018 by the program school of the French Community of Belgium in Casablanca.

How do I get it?

To obtain equivalence, you must apply to the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (CFWB) or to the Flemish Community (NARIC-Vlaanderen).

## **Validation of competencies**

Learning opportunities today are limitless and borderless. Individuals acquire new skills and competences not only in classrooms (formal learning), but also increasingly outside. An important part of learning is done at work. Companies are increasingly offering their workers training opportunities to update their skills through organized but non-formal learning. Informal learning is also gaining in importance in the era of globalization and interconnection, with technologies offering individuals an infinite number of ways to learn, including through open access and distance learning resources.

In this context, education, training, and certification systems must give all citizens the opportunity to showcase what they have learned outside the education system and to use it in their working lives or in their learning journey. This is what is possible with the validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes, which consists of obtaining confirmation by an accredited organization that the achievements of the person concerned (knowledge, skills and competences) correspond to the requirements of a given standard.

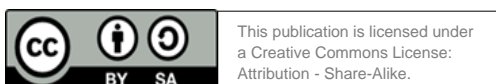
The validation of non-formal and informal learning experiences in the Member States contributes significantly to the achievement of the objective of smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth in the European Union enshrined in the Europe 2020 strategy. It can have a significant impact on the functioning of the labor market: validation mechanisms make the skills of the workforce more transparent, facilitate the matching of skills supply and labor demand and promote the transferability of skills across companies and sectors and mobility in the European labor market. By improving occupational and geographical mobility and the matching of skills and needs, validation can go a long way towards addressing skills shortages in booming sectors and contributing to economic recovery. The validation of non-formal and informal learning has been on the European Union's agenda since the launch of the Lisbon Strategy in 2000.

In Wallonia and Brussels, workers and job seekers can obtain official recognition of professional skills and acquired experience. 4 specific courses have been developed (Validation of skills, VAE in High School, in universities or in Social Advancement Education):

- to facilitate access to training or education
- to certify knowledge of a trade with employers (by obtaining a Credential),
- to have technical qualifications recognized.

Together, these pathways are an increasingly valuable lever in terms of the effective right to lifelong learning. In order to inform the general public of the various possibilities of validating or valuing their experience in a training project and in a job search project, a [website www.valorisermonexperience.be](http://www.valorisermonexperience.be) has been put online.

These arrangements do not only meet the concerns of education and training institutions. It is equally of interest to companies, economic sectors, voluntary sectors, and all other organizations that employ self-employed workers, employees and volunteers.



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To obtain a Credential, official proof of professional competence, the candidate must pass a competency validation test at an accredited Validation Centre. This is a professional situation, free and confidential, judged by professionals in the trade.

This practical test can in some cases take place within a company but always under the responsibility of an approved Center.

The candidate's performance is evaluated objectively, based on an evaluation grid containing the essential aspects of a professional performance. The observer, a professional in the trade, checks the good running of the test.

When the test is over, the jury, composed of professionals in the trade (the head of the Centre, the evaluator, and the observer) meets to deliberate.

In case of failure, the candidate can request an appointment with the head of the Centre or the evaluator who precisely explain the reasons for the failure.

If successful, the Validation Centre may refer the candidate to an information and/or orientation service that can advise them on the most appropriate use of their Credential. Visit the website: <http://www.cvdc.be>

## Structure of the education system in French-speaking Belgium

The organization of education in Wallonia and Brussels

### The organizing authorities

The **organizing authority** - abbreviated "PO" - of an educational institution is the authority, the natural or legal person(s), public or private, who assumes responsibility for it.

It is this "PO" that determines the choice of teaching methods, the curriculum, the commitment of the teachers, the values mainly conveyed, etc.

Some organizing authorities organize only one school, others organize several, up to several hundred. This is particularly the case with WBE.

### Schools

At the level of schools or establishments, we generally distinguish:

On the one hand, **official education** (or public education) includes schools whose organizing power is a public authority (the French Community via WBE, the communes, the provinces...).

On the other hand, **free education** whose organizing power is not a public authority (almost all these organizing powers are organized in the form of non-profit organizations).

Educational networks

Over time, the organizing powers regrouped into a "network".

The distinction here relates more to the "philosophical" character of the organizing power.

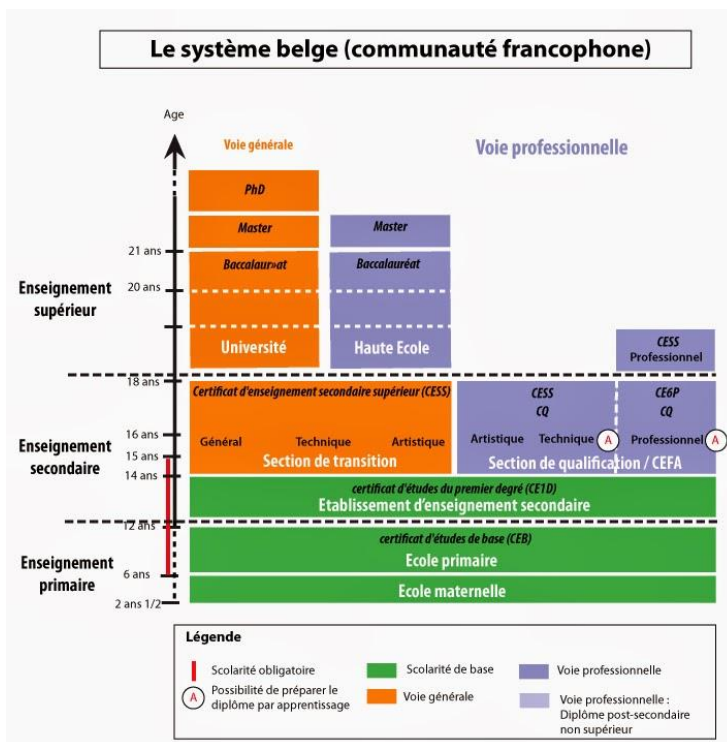
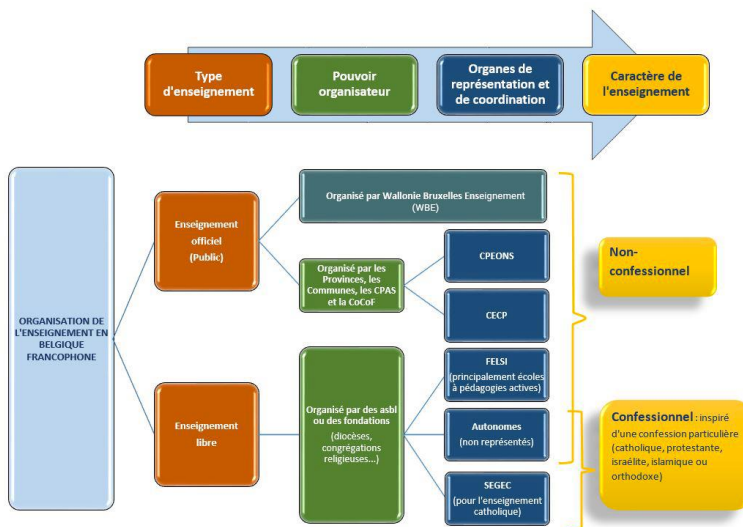
Therefore, we will talk about:

- of the **free confessional network (SEGEC)** when an organizing authority bases its educational project on a religion
- of the **non-confessional free network (FELSI)** when the organizing power bases its pedagogical project on notions of pluralism and non-confessionally
- of the **official subsidized network (CECP / CPEONS)** when the organizing authority is a municipality or a province.
- of the **official "network" organized** when the organizing power is the French Community (via WBE). The word "network" is not aptly named because WBE is the only organizing authority concerned. Therefore, we talk more often about **education organized** by the Community (or WBE).



**The notion of regulatory power**

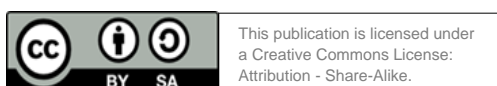
By "regulatory power" we mean the French Community (or Wallonia-Brussels Federation) when it sets the rules applicable to education regardless of the organizing power. The French Community (or Wallonia-Brussels Federation) can also organize education. To avoid being in a position of judge and party, the Parliament of the French Community has delegated the competence of organizing authority of the French Community to Wallonia Brussels Education.





## 2.4 Norway

## 2.5 Austria



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Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





## 2.6 Hungary

### Recognition of education in Hungary

Recognition is a process of transferring rights of citizens from one country to another in accordance with international Agreements and national regulations of the receiving country.

### Recognition of foreign education

- **Act on recognition of foreign certificates and diplomas (2001)** (recognition for the purpose of studying (schools, education institutions) & evaluation of education for the purpose of employment)
- Use of the professional title and the title certified by the person who successfully completed the training

The scope of this act extends to the proceeding authority\*, the assistance centre, the proceeding authority carrying out the preliminary check and, irrespective of nationality, to natural persons who have obtained a certificate from a foreign educational institution.

(\*The main activity of the Hungarian Equivalence and Information Centre (MEIK) is the recognition of certificates and diplomas obtained abroad, the provision of information on Hungarian and foreign education systems and liaison with ENIC and NARIC offices)

This act shall apply to the recognition and naturalisation of a certificate issued under the law of a foreign state as equivalent to a certificate obtained in Hungary, and to the crediting of partial studies. This act shall also apply if recognition is based on professional practice.

In the recognition and naturalisation procedure, the provisions of the Act on the General Administrative Procedure shall apply

The applicant shall have the right to indicate the purpose for which and the national level of qualification, vocational qualification or professional qualification for which he or she seeks recognition or naturalisation as a certificate or diploma equivalent to a certificate or diploma.

Recognition of a certificate or diploma does not exempt you from fulfilling the additional requirements laid down by law for the pursuit of the profession.

Recognition of the level of education, professional qualifications or vocational training attested by foreign certificates and diplomas, if it is for the purpose of further studies in an educational institution, is the responsibility of the educational institution where the applicant intends to pursue his/her studies.

Credit for part-time study abroad is the responsibility of the educational establishment where the applicant intends to pursue his/her studies.

### Recognition of the level of primary education

A foreign certificate attesting to the completion of at least eight years of education in a foreign educational institution and which, taking into account the educational requirements, can be recognised as a general school certificate if it attests to a level of education equivalent to that of the national general school leaving certificate.

A foreign certificate which, in comparison with a diploma attesting to the level of education and training attained in Hungary, is recognised as a vocational certificate attesting to a basic or secondary vocational qualification or as a diploma attesting to a secondary vocational qualification may be recognised as a foreign certificate the duration, content and training and outcome requirements, certifies a vocational qualification or professional qualification which can be obtained or has been obtained in Hungary.

- Professional Recognition – regulated professions – EU Directives (competent Ministry)
- Professional Recognition – non-regulated professions



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## Recognition of the school leaving certificate

A certificate attesting to the completion of a foreign educational institution and entitling the holder to apply to a higher education institution in that country, issued in a state belonging to the European Economic Area or in a state which has recognised the provisions of the Lisbon Convention as binding upon itself, is equivalent to a Hungarian school-leaving certificate.

If the certificate cannot be recognised, the applicant may apply to any educational establishment or examination centre authorised to conduct the school-leaving examination and issue school-leaving certificates for his/her studies and examinations to be included in the school-leaving examination. The educational institution or examination centre determines the subjects in which the applicant must sit the school-leaving examination, after which it issues the Hungarian school-leaving certificate.

If there is a substantial difference between the applicant's training and the training leading to the corresponding national qualification, the competent authority may make recognition of the certificate subject to a professional examination.

A professional examination may be required in order to verify that the applicant has the knowledge acquired in the home training. If a professional examination is required, the decision must specify the requirements for the examination, the examining body and the deadline for taking the examination. The requirements of the examination may include only knowledge which is required by the qualification requirements laid down by Hungarian law or which is included in the home training and which the applicant has not acquired or cannot be said to have acquired during his/her studies abroad. In determining the requirements for the professional examination, account shall be taken of the applicant's professional experience and of the training in which the applicant has participated after obtaining the certificate.

The recognition of the Master's diploma (is not equal to the one of taken at university) is also based on the above. If the applicant fulfils the conditions for practising the regulated profession, the competent authority will grant him/her the right to use the Hungarian professional title and title corresponding to the profession in Hungary. The applicant shall practise the regulated profession by using the Hungarian professional title or title.

## International Tools for Recognition

- The Lisbon Recognition Convention – The Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, 1997
- ENIC-NARIC Networks
- Diploma Supplement
- European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- European Qualification Framework (National Qualification Framework)
- Europass
- European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)

## Hungarian national legislation for Recognition

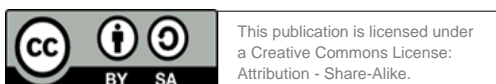
- Act on recognition of foreign certificates and diplomas (2001)

## Recognition of education for the purpose of continuing education in Hungary

The procedure for the recognition of education is intended for individuals who wish to continue their education in Hungary with an acquired education abroad.

The process of recognition of education takes place at the educational institution where the holder of a foreign document wishes to continue education (vocational, secondary vocational, general secondary, vocational college or college).

Recognition procedure







The recognition procedure is a part of the enrolment procedure. The candidate submits the recognition application together with the study enrolment application

The procedure is run by the authorised people (headmaster) at educational institution.

Procedure fee: free

The procedure depends on the applicant's school-leaving qualifications.

**If the applicant finishes his/her primary education, the criteria of his/her advancement are:**

- Filling in an application form
- Academic achievements
- Personal interview
- Aptitude test
- Medical examination

**If the applicant has already started his/her secondary education in another country, in this case the criteria are:**

- Knowledge assessment
- Duration of education

And then the authorized person of the institute decides whether the applicant needs to take a sectoral basic examination or not and she/he can follow his/her vocational education in that school.

sectoral basic examination= it needs to be taken by every vocational school student who fulfilled his/her first year at school, that is the so-called sectoral basic education (9th year)

sectoral basic education= first year at vocational education which is the same for every student in the sector (for example in construction sector)

**Required documents:**

- Original of the certificate/diploma
- Photocopy of the certificate/diploma
- Certified Hungarian translation of the certificate/diploma
- Photocopy of the evidence on the contents and duration of education and the requirements fulfilled during the educational programme (Diploma supplement, annual report card, transcript...)
- Short chronological description of the entire education prepared and signed by the applicant or his/her legal guardian

**Higher education institutions in Hungary (education for painters)**

There is no further education training or course for painters, varnishers and wall-paperers in Hungary.

**Hungarian ENIC – NARIC centre**

Recognition of foreign qualifications in Hungary

General Information on recognising foreign qualifications

Professional recognition under Directive 2005/36/EC

Application form for requesting recognition of foreign qualifications under Directive 2005/36/EC

Application form for requesting recognition of teacher qualifications under Directive 2005/36/EC

European Professional Card

Regulated professions subject to prior check

Regulated professions subject to prior declaration

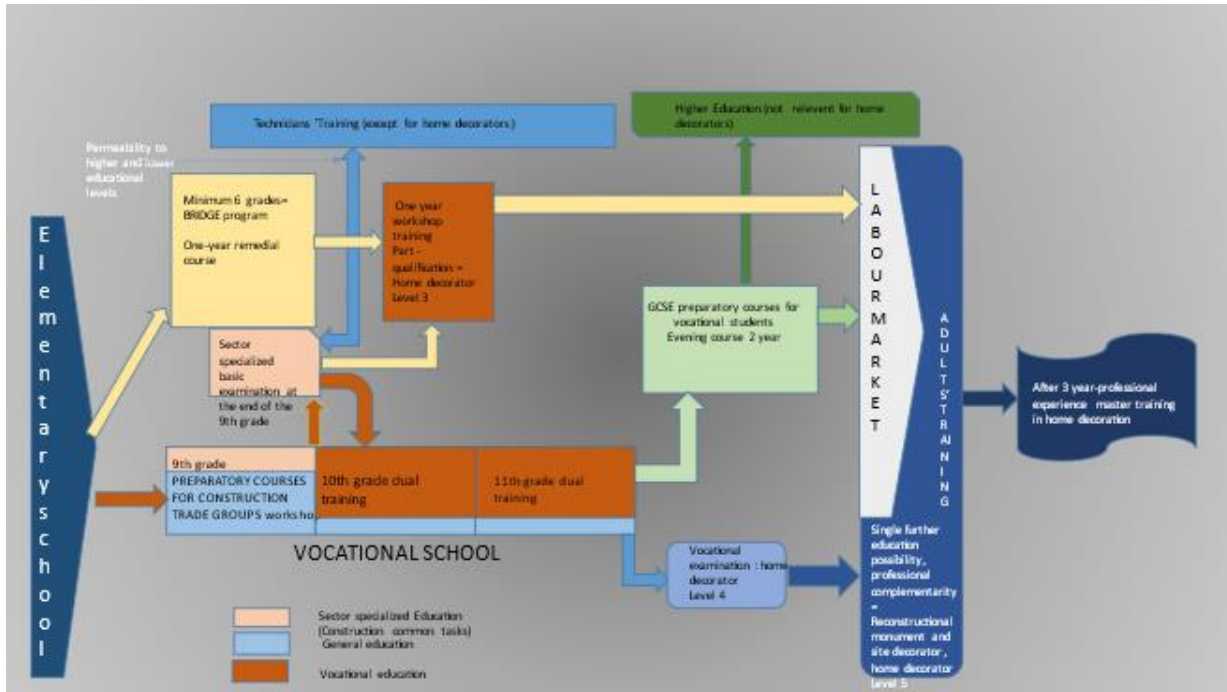


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**Structure of the education system in Hungary:**



There are two school types in the new school-based VET: •

**Technicum**

Based on the feedbacks provided by the economy, the name "technicum" will be introduced to replace the name of "vocational grammar school", which is more clearer and even in nowadays symbolizes high-quality VET for many people, so it can be a buzzword for both the parents and students. Its name indicates the qualification, as those finishing their studies in it will be technicians. The technician training programme characterised by being a single unit, dual and having a strong connection with higher education justifies the changes.

**The technician programme lasts for 5 years.** The first two years provides sectoral knowledge followed by dual training in the second cycle. Apprenticeship contract will be replaced by an employment contract, which allows students to earn an income during the second cycle of the programme. Students take the secondary school-leaving examination, which consists of four general subjects and the fifth one will be the final vocational exam needed for the technician's vocational occupation. Thus, after the successful examination at the end of grade 13 students obtain a certificate that attests two educational attainment. They obtain the secondary school-leaving certificate and also a technician diploma. The knowledge acquired in technicum creates the possibility for those finishing it with good academic performance, taking into account the result of the final vocational examination, to continue their studies in higher education within the same economic sector.

**Vocational school**

**Qualification level: SQF 4; EQF 4 for Painters, Varnishers and Wallpapers**

The recent period has made it clear that students, parents and employers have been unable to interpret the name "secondary vocational school" so the name of this school type will change to vocational school.





**Vocational school programme lasts for 3 years.** The first year provides sectoral knowledge, which is followed by two years of dual training, primarily in the framework of an employment contract. After graduation it is possible to learn further and obtain the secondary school-leaving certificate or even a technician qualification. As sectoral foundation education is carried out in the first stage of both vocational schools and technicism, at the end of the grade 9 there is an interoperability within the two school types without an aptitude test. Initial sectoral foundation education is finished by a sectoral basic examination. The sectoral basic examination entitles its holder to fulfil simple jobs. Post-secondary VET is an option for those having taken only the secondary school-leaving examination, for those completed secondary grammar school, as well as for those who have given up their university studies. The 2-year training programme which takes place in technical services this purpose.



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## 2.7 Iceland

### Recognition of education in Iceland

Individuals who have studied abroad have the possibility of having their qualifications recognized in Iceland. If the purpose of recognition is to prepare for further studies or to compare qualification levels, an application should be sent to the relevant education institution or to the ENIC/NARIC network in Iceland (academic recognition).

If the purpose of recognition is to acquire rights to work within a regulated profession in Iceland, the applicant must apply to the appropriate competent authority in this country. Further information on recognition of foreign vocational qualifications can be found [here](#).

The University of Iceland operates an ENIC/NARIC office on the basis of an agreement with the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The ENIC/NARIC office is in charge of academic recognition of qualifications.

The Icelandic Centre For Research operates an Europass office on the basis of an agreement with the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The aim of the Europass office is to make it easier for people to make their skills and competences visible and qualifications more readable. Further information on recognition of professional qualifications can be found on the Europass website.

[Act on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications no. 26/2010](#)

Regulation on the recognition of professional qualifications for working in Iceland no. 477/2020

### Recognition of foreign education

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Act on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications no. 26/2010

Regulation on the recognition of professional qualifications for working in Iceland no. 477/2020

### International Tools important for Recognition

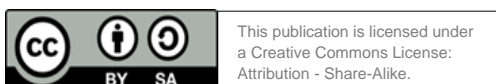
Not applicable. Iceland has its own process on how to administrate applications. As described here above.

### Icelandic national legislation for Recognition

Iceland relies on Icelandic laws and regulations that are founded in EU Directive 2005/36/EC. Entry into force 1 July 2010 EEA Agreement: Annex VII, Directive 2005/36/EC. Amended by Act No 126/2011 (entry into force 30 September 2011) and Act No 63/2012 (entry into force 29 June 2012).

### Recognition of education for the purpose of continuing education in Iceland

Each educational institute recognises education built on national laws and regulations as described here above.





**Recognition procedure**

If the applicant is deemed to fulfil the educational requirement to work in a certified trade in Iceland, (s)he will receive a statement to that effect from the Directorate for Education. In such case, there are no further demands for further studies in Iceland in the relevant field. However, the person concerned must apply for a license to work from the Directorate of Labour if (s)he is a citizen of a country outside the EEA. The District Commissioner (Sýslumaður) in East-Iceland issues a license for individuals who fulfill the conditions for education and professional experience in Iceland.

Applicants for an evaluation and recognition of a professional qualification in industry-related professions should direct their enquiries to Fræðsluskrifstofa rafiðnaðarins if it is a qualification in electricity or electronics or to IÐAN educational center if it is any other industry-related degree.

**Criteria for recognition**

**Required documents**

- Copy of a school leaving certificate in the original language, stamped by the issuing institution or other recognized body
- A translation of the certificate into Icelandic or English
- Statement on the professional experience of the applicant in the profession he/she intends to pursue in Icelandic or English
- Verification on the professional rights of the applicant in his/her home country in Icelandic or English, when applicable
- Copy of passport

It is important to copy all pages of the certificate so that the content of the training (the listing of subjects) and its length in years is visible.

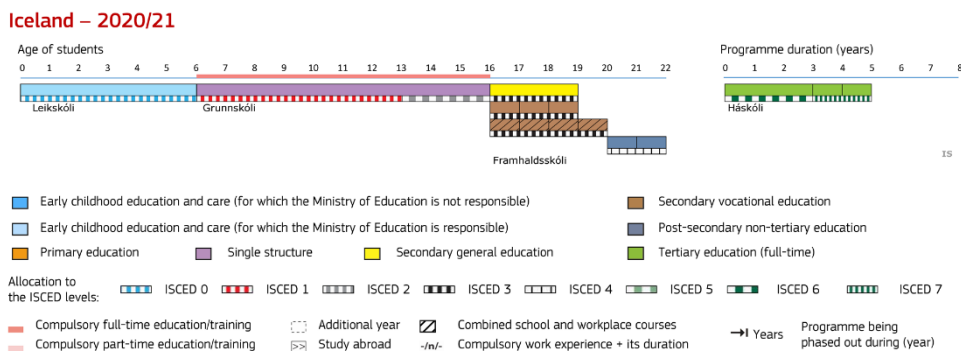
Upon processing the application, the educational institutions that process the application send it with a statement to the Directorate for Education.

Applications for a license to work in the health professions should be sent to the Directorate of Health.

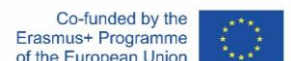
**Higher education institutions in Iceland (education for painters)**

Not applicable

**Structure of the education system in Iceland**



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## Upper secondary vocational education

In Iceland, almost all VET is offered at upper secondary level, where studies at school and workplace training form an integral part. Study programmes vary in length from one school year to four years of combined school and workplace training. Workplaces responsible for training need official certification and training agreements with both the student and the school, stipulating the objectives, time period and evaluation of the training. Most students in workplace training receive salaries, at an increasing percentage of fully qualified workers' salaries. Companies training students can apply to the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture for a subsidy to fund training. Several qualifications are offered at upper secondary level (ISCED 3), some of which are preconditions for holding relevant jobs. The most common are journeyman's exams but there are also exams for healthcare professionals and captains and engineers of ships and planes. In other professions, a VET degree is not a precondition for employment but graduates enjoy preferential treatment for the jobs they are trained for. A few VET programmes are available at postsecondary, non-tertiary level (ISCED 4), including tourist guides and captains at the highest level. Certificates for all master craftsmen are also awarded at this level. These programmes last one to two years and lead to qualifications giving professional rights. For further reading [Vocational education and training system in Iceland \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)

## Upper secondary technical education

This is included in the VET education in Iceland.



## 2.8 Czech Republic

[Home/EU and International Affairs/Recognition of qualification and education in.](#)

### Recognition of professional qualification

It focuses on assessing the knowledge and skills of a specific person, with this knowledge and skills being possible to prove by a document of formal qualification (education and preparation) but also by a document of an actual performance of the relevant activity or other document. The outcome of the process of professional recognition is a decision as to whether the person in question has sufficient knowledge and skills to be able to perform the specific profession or activity.

The area of recognition of professional qualifications for the purposes of practising a profession had not been regulated in the Czech Republic until 1st May 2004. In particular, the need for thorough regulation of the principles for the free movement of persons in accordance with the requirements of the European Union with the aim of free claims to the labour market of the European Union led to the acceptance of Act No. 18/2004 Coll., On the Recognition of Professional Qualification and Other Eligibility of Citizens of Member States of the European Union and Some Citizens of Other States and on the Amendment of Certain Acts (Act on Recognition of Professional Qualifications), which took effect on the day of the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union.

The issues of mutual recognition of professional qualifications for the purposes of practising a profession affect cca 330 professions and professional activities in the Czech Republic, in whose case legislation regulates the conditions for entry to these professions and professional activities and the conditions for their practice. These are the **regulated professions and regulated professional activities**.

The list of regulated professions including the detailed information about required competences you can find on the Czech Database of Regulated Professions: [https://uok.msmt.cz/uok/ru\\_list.php](https://uok.msmt.cz/uok/ru_list.php)

The European Union Database of Regulated Professions, where you can find regulated profession of each EU State Member, is available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regprof/index.cfm?action=homepage>

More information on: <https://www.msmt.cz/eu-and-international-affairs/recognition-of-professional-qualification>



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## 2.9 Slovakia

### Professional recognition of evidence of education and professional qualifications in Slovakia

The recognition of a certificate of education is the recognition of a certificate of education issued by a recognized educational institution of an EU Member State or a third country as equivalent to a certificate of education issued by a recognized educational institution in the Slovak Republic.

**Professional recognition means** recognition for the purpose of a profession.

A distinction should be made between regulated and unregulated professions.

- **'regulated profession'** means a profession, professional activity or group of professional activities for which performance is required to fulfil the qualifications laid down by specific rules.
- **an unregulated profession** is a profession the exercise of which is not subject to a qualification requirement.

### Recognition of completed education for the pursuit of an unregulated profession in the Slovak Republic

The principle of an unregulated profession lies in the fact that the qualification requirements relating to the pursuit of the profession do not exist or are too general. Therefore, recognition is not necessary.

### Recognition of completed education from abroad for the pursuit of a regulated profession in the Slovak Republic

The recognition of completed education from abroad for the pursuit of a regulated profession takes place in three regimes:

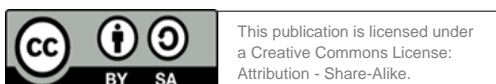
- automatic recognition system for qualifications,
- a system of recognition on the basis of acquired rights;
- general system for the recognition of professional qualifications.

**The system of automatic recognition of qualifications** is carried out on the basis of the principle of coordinated training. These are professions such as doctor, dentist, pharmacist, nurse and midwife. For those professions, EU Member States have agreed to coordinate education, which consists in respecting the minimum standards for training laid down in [Directive 2005/36/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications. This system is followed for professions and qualifications acquired in the territory of a Member State after the accession of a Member State to the EU/EEC.

**The system of recognition on the basis of acquired rights** applies to the field of health professions mentioned above if the education was obtained before the Member State's accession to the EU/EEC, does not agree with the name of the diploma or for any other specific reason.

**The general system for the recognition of professional qualifications** applies to professions which do not coordinate education and in the case of all qualifications acquired in the territory of a third country (outside the EU, THE EEC and Switzerland). This system is based on the presumption **of comparability**, which means that when deciding on the recognition of a certificate of education, the scope and content of the applicant's education is compared with the scope and content of education required in the Slovak Republic. On the basis of the comparison, a certificate of education may subsequently be recognized or not recognized as equivalent to an education document issued in the Slovak Republic.

The special regime governs the recognition of medical professional qualifications acquired in the **territory of third countries (non-EU, EEC and Switzerland)** which takes place in a two-step process:



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- at the first level, the applicant will apply to the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic for recognition of proof of education. When recognizing evidence of education, it shall be assessed whether the evidence of education has been acquired at a state-recognized school and whether the education meets the formalities of comparability according to the requirements defined in The Government Regulation No. 296/2010 Z. z. on professional competence for the pursuit of the medical profession, the way of further training of health professionals, the system of specializations and the system of certified occupational activities.
- after the recognition of the evidence of education, the applicant is obliged to take an additional examination at a secondary school or higher education school providing the same study program as that completed in order to verify his/her true knowledge. Evidence of professional qualifications for the pursuit of a medical profession issued in a third country is automatically recognized as equivalent to the evidence of professional qualifications for the pursuit of the medical profession issued in the Slovak Republic on the basis of a recognized certificate **of education and a supplementary examination** successfully carried out after the recognition of a certificate of education at a recognized higher education institution or a recognized secondary school in the Slovak Republic.

## Knowledge of the state language

The applicant for recognition of professional qualifications is obliged to speak the state language to the extent necessary for the pursuit of the regulated profession concerned.

In the case of the exercise of medical professions, the mastery of the state language to the extent necessary for the pursuit of the regulated profession concerned shall always be verified by examination. The competent authority for the purpose of verifying the control of the state language is the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic.

For other regulated professions, the verification of state language control shall be carried out by examination if there are reasonable doubts as to the sufficient extent of state language control.

The applicant does not have to prove his/her state language control if he/she has passed the school-leaving examination in the state language or the state language examination.

## Procedure for the recognition of evidence of education and professional qualifications

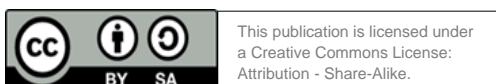
The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic decides on the recognition of the education document (university or secondary school document), unless a special regulation provides otherwise. Recognition of professional qualifications (other qualification requirements except evidence of education, e.g. professional experience, non-formal education document, etc.) is decided by the authority competent for the recognition of professional qualifications.

Where the competent authority for the recognition of both evidence of education and professional qualifications is the same body, recognition shall be possible by a single decision in a single procedure. The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic decides in this way on the recognition of proof of education and professional qualification for:

The procedure shall always come from the date of receipt of the request by the competent authority.

Each application shall contain:

- the name and surname of the applicant,
- the address of the applicant's permanent residence or similar residence,
- the name of the regulated profession for which the applicant seeks recognition of evidence of education or professional qualifications,
- the signature of the applicant.



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The application for recognition of evidence of education shall be annexed to:

- a copy of the identity document,
- certified copies of evidence of education,
- an extract of the subjects completed and the examinations carried out,
- information or a copy of the evidence of prior education obtained prior to the education which is the subject of the application,
- proof of payment of the administrative fee of EUR 50.

The application form for evidence of formal qualifications obtained in a third country (non-EU, EEC and Switzerland) shall also be:

- verification of the authenticity of the school's signatures and stamp on the originals of the education documents by the third-country authority competent to verify it, unless the international treaty provides otherwise (apostille or supergravitation),
- an attestation of the educational establishment's entitlement to provide the relevant training for which the applicant seeks recognition;
- detailed content of the subjects completed (subject syllabi).

The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic issues a decision on the recognition of the certificate of education is **issued within 2 months** of receiving the complete application

The application for **recognition of professional qualifications shall be** annexed to:

- a copy of the identity document,
- a certified copy of the decision on the recognition of a certificate of education for the pursuit of the profession in question in the Slovak Republic or a certified copy of the certificate of professional competence,
- a certificate of the nature and duration of the practice issued by the competent authority of the Member State or third country, if required,
- documents proving the content and extent of the training received issued by the competent authority of the Member State or third country, if required, proof of payment of the administrative fee of EUR 50,
- documents proving compliance with other conditions required under the legislation governing the pursuit of the regulated profession in the Slovak Republic,
- a protocol on the implementation of a supplementary one, if required.

The competent authority shall decide on the recognition of professional qualifications **within 1 month** of receipt of the complete application. The decision on the recognition of evidence of education and professional qualifications for pedagogical, sporting and health professions is issued by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic in one **procedure within 3 months** of receiving the complete application. The administration fee in this case is EUR 100.

No qualifications (it is a free trade) are required for the exercise of the painting profession, so the recognition of evidence of education abroad is not relevant for the pursuit of that profession.





## 2.10 Denmark



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## 2.11 United Kingdom (UK)

### Recognition of education in the United Kingdom

Higher education institutions are recognised by the British government through legislation, such as a Royal Charter or an Act of Parliament, and are referred to as 'recognised bodies'. Only these institutions are authorised to award degrees in the U.K.

The U.K. government provides guidance for regulatory and professional bodies, and information about arrangements, such as Mutual Recognition Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding, and other arrangements in respect of UK Free Trade Agreements, in relation to the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

It supports such bodies across the UK to enter into bilateral or multilateral arrangements with their counterparts in the EU and the rest of the world, to enable the mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/arrangements-for-the-recognition-of-professional-qualifications/arrangements-to-facilitate-the-recognition-of-professional-qualifications-accessible-webpage>

Note: this information is aimed at regulatory and professional bodies. Generally, a profession is regulated when the qualification requirements are set by legally binding measures of general scope such as laws, regulations or administrative provisions. As Painting and Decorating is not regulated work in the UK, the inclusion of this information is only general background.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/recognition-of-professional-qualifications-technical-guidance-for-regulatory-bodies/recognition-of-professional-qualifications-guidance-for-regulatory-bodies#eligibility-for-assessment-and-professions-in-scope-of-the-amended-2015-regulations>

Painting and Decorating qualifications are part of Further Education (FE), which includes any study after secondary education that is not part of higher education (that is, not taken as part of an undergraduate or graduate degree) and typically includes apprenticeships and other vocational qualifications.

FE also includes 3 types of technical and applied qualifications for 16 to 19-year-olds:

- level 3 technical levels to specialise in a specific technical job
- level 2 technical certificates help get employment or progress to another technical level
- applied general qualifications to continue general education at advanced level through applied learning

### International Tools important for Recognition

- The Lisbon Recognition Convention
- ENIC Network
- Ecctis (provides official UK national agency services on behalf of the UK Government in qualifications, skills, and migration)
- European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) - There is no nationally operated credit transfer system in the UK or a body with overarching responsibility for credit recognition and transfer opportunities.
- Europass - following the departure of the UK from the European Union, the UK no longer participates in the Europass initiative and there is no nominated representative for Europass in the UK.

### United Kingdom national legislation for Recognition

See above.

### Recognition of education for the purpose of continuing education in the United Kingdom

If planning on coming to the UK to continue academic studies or work, it is important to think about existing qualifications. Check with the institution where you are applying if the qualification obtained in your country is officially



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recognised in the UK, and whether it would require an additional verification, translation or apostille from your home country in order to be accepted. Since the end of the transition period following Brexit, from 1 January 2021, there is a new [temporary process for recognition of European professional qualifications in the UK](#).

Source: <https://www.enic.org.uk/What%20Is%20Recognition/UK%20Education%20System/Default.aspx>

## Recognition procedure, criteria and required documents

More relevant for Painters and Decorators wishing to work in the U.K. is to apply for a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card and Ecctis has information and links to assist.

Industry Skills Statements are for those wishing to work in construction (which includes Painting and Decorating), plumbing, electrical or the land-based sector only. The Ecctis service help with application for a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card (usually a blue or gold card) and you will need:

Industry Skills Statement with Skills Mapping

To be eligible for this service, you must have spent time working on a construction site as part of your qualification. You can only submit one qualification for this service.

This service includes:

- a mapping report (for one qualification only)
- a Primary Source Verification\* (PSV) report (for one qualification only)

There are two stages to the application process.

Stage 1, upload photographs or scans of your:

- final certificate
- transcripts
- certified translations of your documents if the documents are not in English
- completed Stage 1 form.

Once all the necessary documents and Stage 1 payment have been received, assessment will be completed within 15 working days and an email sent regarding Stage 2. If additional research is required, this may take longer; however notification will be sent if this is the case.

To apply for Stage 2 upload photographs or scans of your:

- signed Letter of Authorisation
- passport / photo ID
- course content - this is a detailed breakdown of the modules studied within your course and will be more comprehensive than a transcript

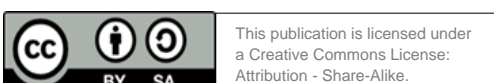
Once all necessary documents and Stage 2 payment have been received, Ecctis aim to complete the Stage 2 assessment within 30 working days. However, because we rely on information from third parties for verification, we cannot guarantee that we will complete your application within 30 working days.

If you work in construction and need to evidence the level of your overseas qualification for employment, study, professional registration or another reason, then apply for a general purpose Statement of qualification Comparability

Source: <https://ecctis.com/Qualifications/ISS/Default.aspx>

## Higher education institutions in the United Kingdom (education for painters)

The United Kingdom does not have any Higher Education for Painters and Decorators.



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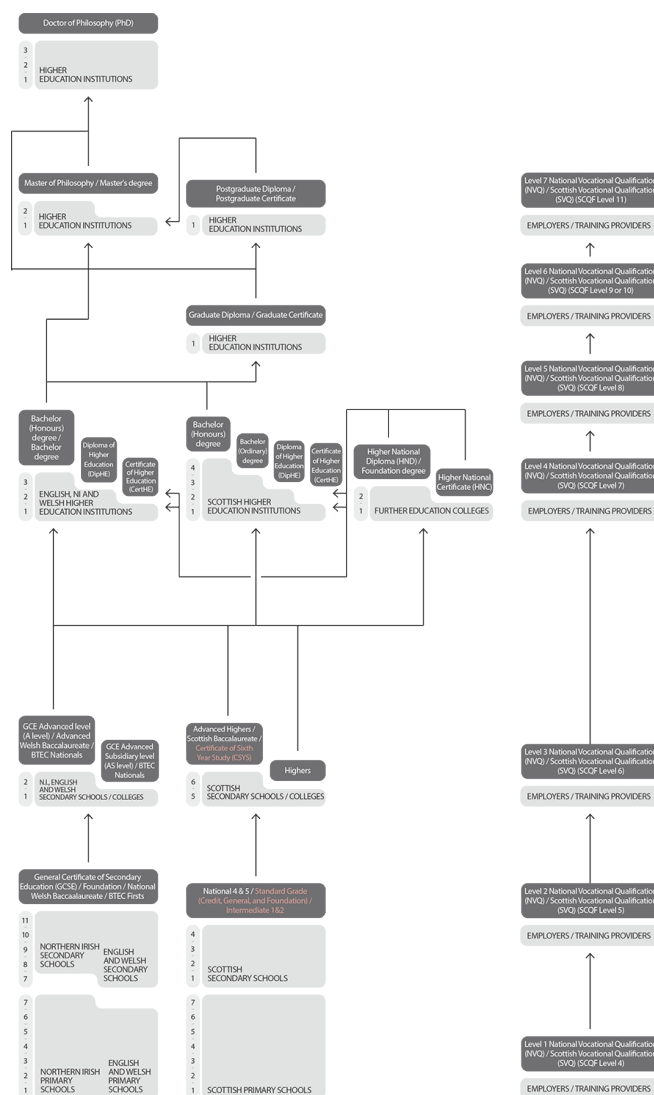
**United Kingdom ENIC centre**

UK ENIC – the UK National Information Centre for the recognition and evaluation of international qualifications and skills.

Following the UK’s departure from the European Union, the UK NARIC recognition agency function had to change from a NARIC (which is an EU-only title) to an ENIC (the wider European title for national recognition agencies) in order to meet the UK’s continuing treaty obligations under the Lisbon Recognition Convention. Therefore, on 1 March 2021, the UK NARIC agency title becomes UK ENIC, operated and managed by Ecctis Limited.

<https://www.enic.org.uk/>

**Structure of the education system in the United Kingdom**



Source: <https://www.enic.org.uk/What%20Is%20Recognition/UK%20Education%20System/Default.aspx>

Painting and Decorating falls within the far right-hand column for Level 2 and Level 3 National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ).



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### 3. Analysis (all countries)

There are huge challenges when collecting information from different countries, due to a lack of a common set of terms and to different systems. An examination of the gathered information from all the countries reveals great differences.

A comparative analysis was undertaken to determine whether there were any similarities and differences.

Not done due to not receiving the information from all the partners



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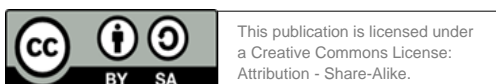
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