

Evaluation of Foreign Academic Degrees

Have you successfully finished your academic studies abroad? Find out whether your academic degree meets German standards.

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Do I have to have my foreign academic degree recognised?

If you have a foreign **academic degree** and wish to work in a regulated profession (e.g. as a doctor or lawyer) in Germany, the recognition of your foreign academic degree is obligatory. In our sections “[Who needs recognition?](#)” and “[Recognition procedure](#)”, you will find detailed information on this matter.

For non-**regulated professions**, such as computer specialist or mathematician, you do not need the recognition to work in Germany. However, if you are entering the country from a non-EU country and wish to apply for the [EU Blue Card](#) or the [work visa for qualified professionals](#), you must provide proof of your foreign academic degree being comparable to a German one. To provide this evidence, you have the following options:

anabin: proof of comparability via the online database

With the information from the **anabin** database, you can prove that your foreign academic degree is comparable to a German degree. It is made up of two important entries:

- **University:** your university should be indicated as “H+” in anabin. This means that the university is recognised in Germany. If the university is evaluated as “H+/-”, the academic degree must additionally be indicated with the university.

- Academic degree: in addition, the degree itself must be evaluated as *entspricht* or *gleichwertig* (“corresponds” or “equivalent”) in the database.

If both results you are looking for are positive, your foreign academic degree is deemed as comparable to a German degree. You can use the printouts as proof of equivalence for your **visa** application.



Information on foreign qualification assessment – in the anabin database

The [anabin database](#) , provided by the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) offers comprehensive information on the evaluation of foreign education certificates and universities. Currently, it is only available in German.

Explainer video: comparing academic degrees via anabin

Central Office for Foreign Education: Statement of Comparability for your academic degree

Is your university or your academic degree not listed or evaluated as equivalent/corresponding in the anabin database? Then you can have your degree evaluated individually. The **Statement of Comparability** for foreign university degrees is an official document describing your foreign academic qualifications, and it states the German education qualification your foreign degree is comparable to. You can submit a request for the Statement of Comparability for Foreign University degrees to the **Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB)**. The entire process, from submitting the application to issuing the Statement, is conducted digitally.

For example, a Statement of Comparability is required if your university is evaluated as “H+” in the anabin database, however, your specific degree is not listed.

Detailed information on the evaluation procedure, the required documents, the costs and the persons authorized to apply for a Statement of Comparability can be found on the [ZAB website](#) .



Allow sufficient time for the Statement of Comparability

Please note that processing may take up to several months, provided that you submitted all required documents. If you decide to apply for a Statement of Comparability for foreign university degrees to get an [EU Blue Card](#), processing takes two weeks. Please make sure to add a copy of your work contract or written confirmation of your employment position.

Information on the web

Federal Office for Migration and Refugees

[Hotline on “Recognition of foreign non-academic vocational qualifications”](#)

Recognition of qualifications in Germany

[How to have your non-academic vocational qualifications recognised and where to find your local contact centre](#)

Federal Employment Agency

[Search for regulated professions in Germany](#)

IHK FOSA (Foreign Skills Approval)

National Centre of Excellence for the recognition and assessment of foreign non-academic vocational qualifications

BQ Portal

Information on foreign non-academic vocational qualifications and on foreign basic and advanced vocational training courses



Print page



URL: <https://www.make-it-in-germany.com/en/working-in-germany/recognition/foreign-academic-qualifications>

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