

# RECOGNITION OF YOUR PROFESSIONAL OR VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION IN GERMANY

Would you like to live and work in Germany? And are you looking for a job in an area where you already hold a qualification from your home country? Then you need to check whether your professional or vocational qualifications are recognised in Germany and whether you need an official Certificate of Recognition. Official recognition is required for certain occupations (e.g. doctor, teacher or nurse), and in any event it can improve your chances in the German job market.

🗣️ If you don't speak German, it's a good idea to get help from someone who can guide you through the procedure.



Łukasz Wesołowski (29) from Działdowo, works as an electrician in the field of machines and drive technology in Hamburg.

**"To me, recognition means equal opportunity. I have an official confirmation of my qualification which opens paths to new opportunities."**

Would you like to know more about how Łukasz gained recognition? You can read his story and that of others on the "Recognition in Germany" website.

▶️ **recognition-in-germany.info**

The German federal government's portal provides you with all the information you need about gaining recognition for foreign professional and vocational qualifications in Germany.

You can find your regional office here (if available):



The portal "Recognition in Germany" is operated by the German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The portal is supported within the scope of the programme "Integration durch Qualifizierung – IQ".

Last updated: June 2014



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IN COOPERATION WITH  
*Make it in Germany*



➔ Recognition of foreign professional and vocational qualifications in Germany

# WORKING IN GERMANY

## HOW THE RECOGNITION PROCEDURE WORKS



### 1 CHECK ENTRY AND WORK PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Use our Quick Check to find out more about the requirements for living and working in Germany: [make-it-in-germany.com](http://make-it-in-germany.com) (in English and German)



### 2 USE THE RECOGNITION FINDER


Use the Recognition Finder to check whether official recognition of your qualifications is a requirement or would help you to find a job in Germany: [recognition-in-germany.info](http://recognition-in-germany.info) (in English and German)


The Recognition Finder will point you towards the appropriate authority for your particular occupation and (desired) place of work or residence.



### 3 MAKE AN APPLICATION

In order to make an application, you must already hold a professional or vocational qualification. You do not have to be resident in Germany in order to submit your application. Before making your application, it is advisable to contact the authority listed in the Recognition Finder.

 Many staff at government offices in Germany only speak German.


 The cost will be between €200–€600. The recognition authority will provide information on the exact costs involved.



### 4 RECOGNITION AUTHORITY CHECKS YOUR QUALIFICATIONS

It normally takes up to 3 months to check whether your qualification is equivalent to the corresponding German qualification.

Your professional experience is also taken into account.


 The procedure begins once you have made your application and submitted all necessary documentation (e.g. references from employers, certificates/diplomas, CV).



### 5 YOU RECEIVE YOUR CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

What does it include?

Full recognition: Your qualification is equivalent to the corresponding German qualification. Now you can apply for a job in Germany!

 It is possible that your qualification will either not be recognised or will only be granted partial recognition.

The differences between your qualification and the corresponding German qualification are listed in detail.

Your recognition authority will be happy to advise you on what you can do to gain full recognition (such as undergoing further training) and the costs involved.



### 6 TIME TO GET THAT JOB!

Visit the welcome portal [make-it-in-germany.com](http://make-it-in-germany.com) to find out everything you need to know about living and working in Germany. The website also lists the occupations that are currently in demand.



 [recognition-in-germany.info](http://recognition-in-germany.info)

The official portal for recognition of foreign professional qualifications in Germany.