

M 2.1d Doctors (non-EU degree)

General Information

The medical profession is regulated by federal law. This means that there is a special law in Germany, the "Bundesärzteordnung". This law defines exactly which qualifications you must have as a doctor.

If you want to work as a doctor in Germany, then you must apply for a professional licence. The full professional licence for doctors without any time limits is called approbation (Approbation). The temporary licence for doctors (restricted in time for 2 years) is called "Berufserlaubnis".

The State Head Office of Saxony is responsible for professional licensing.

We recommend the following steps:

1. You need general German language skills at level B2 and medical language skills at level C1

Your application for approval will not be processed until you have a certificate of German language skills at level B2.

In addition, you must take a medical language test (**Fachsprachprüfung**) at the State Chamber of Physicians of Saxony. The State Head Office of Saxony will register you for this test at the State Chamber of Physicians of Saxony. In order to pass it, you need medical language skills at level C1. Telc-B2-Medicine is not sufficient. Search in the internet for medical language courses, e.g. under "Deutsch für Mediziner" or "Deutsch für akademische Heilberufe". If necessary, ask the IBAS.

You must take the test at the State Chamber of Physicians of Saxony. The State Head Office of Saxony accepts the corresponding language examinations at the State Chambers of Physicians of the other federal states, but it no longer accepts language certificates from other institutions (e.g. language schools, language institutes).

Information on the procedure and content can be found under "Fachsprachenprüfung":

<http://www.slaek.de/de/01/auslaendischeaerzte/fachsprachenpruefung.php>

2. Documents

You will need some documents to apply for approbation. You can find the application form at: https://fs.egov.sachsen.de/formserv/findform?shortname=sms_ld_apparzt_3&formtecid=2&ar_eashortname=142

You can also apply online: [Anerkennungportal \(anerkennung-in-deutschland.de\)](http://anerkennung-portal.de)

You will find the necessary documents in the application under "3. Proofs".

NB: You need "a proof that you are intending to work in Saxony". (Einstellungszusage (employment guarantee) or Interessenbekundung (a proof of intention to recruit you, if it is still possible, after you received your licence).

You will need **German translations** of all original documents from a "publicly appointed and sworn translator". Search for "sworn translators (for documents, etc.)" at e.g. <http://suche.bdue.de> or www.justiz-dolmetscher.de . If your translation was done outside of the EU, the translation must be confirmed by the German embassy.

You can send your documents by post to the corresponding office. You can also hand in your documents in person. Make an appointment and take all original documents with you. The documents must be submitted in the original **or** as officially certified copies.

If you send the documents by post, we recommend **certified copies of all original documents**. A certification is a confirmation that the copy and the original are exactly the same. Notarisation is allowed by: authorities and official institutions (e.g. Bürgerbüro. Bürgeramt, Ausländerbehörde), German embassies and consulates and notaries.

You can find this and further information under the following link:

https://www.lds.sachsen.de/soziales/index.asp?ID=8113&art_param=686 (FAQ)

3. Application for the licence to practise medicine (Approbation)

When you have all the documents: Submit the "Application for Approbation".

Competent office:

Landesdirektion Sachsen, Dienststelle Dresden Referat 22

Physical address
Stauffenbergallee 2
01099 Dresden

Postal address
Postfach 10 06 53
01076 Dresden

Internet: https://www.lds.sachsen.de/soziales/index.asp?ID=8105&art_param=684

Contact person according to the first letter of the family name:

Aa-Ak, Al (dentists), Am-Az, O	Diana Neubert	0351 825 22 23	Diana.Neubert@lds.sachsen.de
B, E	Silke Herfurth	0351 825 22 25	silke.herfurth@lds.sachsen.de
J, P – R	Katja Hammer	0351 825-2214	Katja.Hammer@lds.sachsen.de
AI (doctors)	Silke Braun	0351 825-2254	Silke.Braun@lds.sachsen.de
S	Claudia Glanz	0351 825-2822	Claudia.Glanz@lds.sachsen.de
H, I	Susanne Fahland	0351 825-2242	Susanne.Fahland@lds.sachsen.de
G, K	Kai Römer	0351 825-2222	Kai.Roemer@lds.sachsen.de
Al (pharmacists), F, X-Z	Susan Wiesner- Rudolph	0351 825-2221	Susan.Wiesner- Rudolph@lds.sachsen.de
M,N (pharmacists and dentists)	Gert Schiedewitz	0351 825-2213	Gert.Schiedewitz@lds.sachsen.de
C,D,L,N (doctors)	Jörg Oswald-Franz	0351 825-2226	Joerg.Oswald- Franz@lds.sachsen.de
T, U, V, W	Nadja Gerbert	0351 825-2215	Nadja.Gebert@lds.sachsen.de

Procedure

The State Head Office of Saxony has to compare, whether your degree in human medicine is equivalent to a German degree in human medicine?

The basis of the comparison is the curriculum of the University of Leipzig and your curriculum. The curriculum lists subjects, lectures, seminars and practical courses with the number of hours.

The criteria of the comparison are: Are there significant differences between the German and the foreign education? If yes: Can your professional experience compensate for the differences?

NB: For this comparison a syllabus must be issued for you personally. It must clearly show the years in which you completed your education and that you actually studied the subjects listed there in full. The specific contents of the subjects must be provided. Based on it, there will be written a report for comparison.

You need a German translation of the personalised syllabus from a sworn translator. Sometimes a syllabus issued by the university in English is also accepted.

Only in exceptional cases can the syllabus be dispensed with, e.g. for reasons for which you are not responsible. In this case, you should be consulted by the State Head Office of Saxony (Regional Directorate).

If your degree is not equivalent or you are unable to present the syllabus, you must take the assessment test (**Kenntnisprüfung**)!

In addition, the State Head Office of Saxony also checks your personal requirements, e.g. your language skills, your certificate of good standing.

Duration

The procedure can take 4 months. For this, all documents must be complete.

The preparation of the report also takes a few months. Afterwards, you will receive the licence to practise or a decision about substantial differences.

During the assessment, you can already apply for a professional licence.

Costs

(in case you receive financial support from Job Center, you can apply for the cost coverage, but you have to do it in advance (before you've paid for something yourself))

- Application for approbation approx. 170 - 490 €
- Medical language test 425 €
- Translations, including personalised syllabus, depending on the number of pages and translator approx. 1,500 - 15,000 €.
- Comparison and equivalency assessment, 220 - 2,860 €
- Report - at least 515 €
- Assessment Test approx. 500 €
- Professional licence 490 €

Results of the procedure

Possible outcomes are:

- Your qualification is equivalent: there are no significant differences or your work experience compensates for the differences.
- Your degree is not equivalent: there are substantial differences. Your work experience does not compensate for the differences.

Then you have to take an examination. This examination is called an assessment test (Kenntnisprüfung).

This examination covers the entire content of the German state examination. If you pass this exam, the equivalence of your qualification is proven.

You can take an "adaptation training for immigrant doctors" („Anpassungsfortbildung für zugewanderte Ärztinnen und Ärzte“). It is a preparation for the assessment test. The adaptation training contains theoretical, practical and specialised language parts.

There are adaptation training courses for doctors all over Germany. In Saxony, for example, here:

Kulturakademie in Dresden <http://www.kulturakademie-dresden.de/>

Pro Bildung in Leipzig: <https://probildung.org/projekte/>

You need a temporary professional licence (Berufserlaubnis) for the practical part of the courses.

Temporary licence (Berufserlaubnis)

With a professional licence, you may work under the supervision of a licensed physician. It is limited to two years. Within these two years you either receive approbation or you must take the assessment test (Kenntnisprüfung). The goal of the temporary licence is the full licence to practice medicine (Approbation). The completed medical degree from abroad is sufficient for a temporary licence (Berufserlaubnis). To receive it, you must first pass the medical language test (Fachsprachprüfung).

Note: You also need a temporary licence for an internship in a hospital or in a medical practice.

Our recommendation: Apply for the temporary licence (Berufserlaubnis) together with your full licence to practice medicine (Approbation)! Tick both on page 1 of the application. For the temporary licence you also need a confirmation of employment (Einstellungszusage) from an employer.

Note: With the approbation or temporary licence in Saxony, membership in the State Chamber of Physicians of Saxony is mandatory.

Please contact us again

- If you have any questions.
- If you have the result of the procedure.

We will be happy to advise you.

Note: As far as we know, there are also federal states in which a license to practice medicine (Approbation) can be issued without the **equivalency assessment** and without a syllabus if you pass the assessment test (Kenntnisprüfung).

Status: 25.05.2022, compiled and published by IBAS - Information and Advisory Service Labour Market Saxony, IQ Network Saxony * Tel: 0351/4370 70 40 * anerkennung@exis.de
* www.netzwerk-iq-sachsen.de

EXIS Europa e.V. assures that the information is provided to the best of its knowledge and belief and to carry out the consultations in high quality. EXIS does not accept any liability for errors in advice and information as well as for direct damages resulting therefrom, insofar as these were not caused intentionally or in gross negligence. All information given is to be understood as recommendations, they have no liability-binding character.

The IQ Network Sachsen is coordinated by EXIS Europa e.V. * Headquarters: Römerplatz 4 * 08056 Zwickau *
Tel: 0375/ 390 9365 * Email: post@exis.de * www.exis.de * www.netzwerk-iq-sachsen.de