

IQ ADVICE ON RECOGNITION AND JOB TRAINING

BACKGROUND

Germany depends on the integration of international skilled workers to meet the growing demand for skilled workers. Recognition of professional qualifications is required in “regulated professions”, such as general nurse and doctor, in order to work in Germany as a skilled worker.

From 2012, when the Recognition Act came into force, to the end of 2023, a total of 427,000 applications were made under federal and federal state law for recognition of a qualification obtained abroad. In addition, 305,000 applications were made to the federal states’ Central Service Center for Professional Recognition (ZAB) for a statement of comparability for a higher education qualification obtained abroad. The number of applications is increasing every year. The vast majority of applications were for the occupation of general nurse, followed by doctor and engineer.

Applicants are increasingly coming from third countries. These comprised 83 percent of applications in 2023, while 17 percent came from the EU.

The recognition of foreign professional qualifications is a complex procedure. The provision of information and advice is crucial for accessing the recognition procedure and completing it successfully. With its advisory sessions on recognition and job training offers, Network IQ represents an important support structure. It has advised over 175,000 people on recognition since 1 January 2023 alone.

Source: Bericht zum Anerkennungsgesetz 2023, BIBB

FURTHER INFORMATION



Network
Integration through
Qualification

The IQ funding programme supports recognition through advice and training.

<https://www.netzwerk-iq.de/en/>



**ANERKENNUNG
IN DEUTSCHLAND**

Information portal of the German government for the recognition of foreign professional qualifications.

<https://www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/en/index.php/en/index.php>



The information portal for foreign professional qualifications

<https://www.bq-portal.de/en>



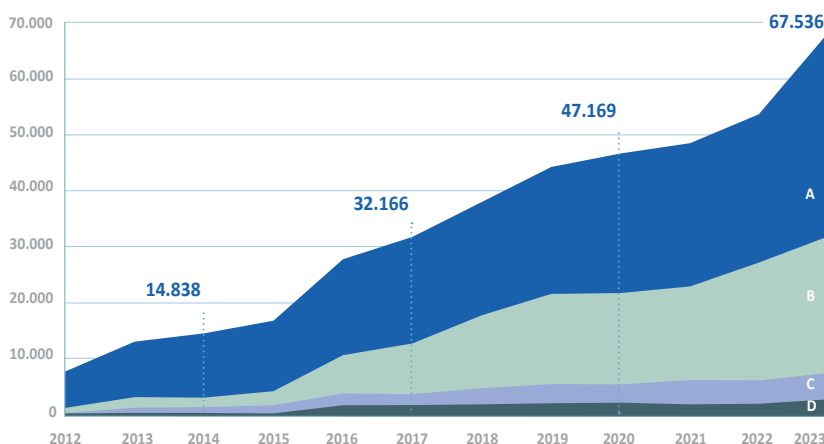
anabin

Das Infoportal zu ausländischen
Bildungsabschlüssen

Information portal for foreign educational qualifications

<https://anabin.kmk.org>

NUMBER OF RECOGNITION NOTICES



Continuous increase in the number of recognition notices

- A** Positive – full equivalence
- B** Requirement of a compensation measure (only for regulated professions)
- C** Partial equivalence (only for non-regulated professions)
- D** Negative – no equivalence

Recognition monitoring fact sheet, 2024, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB)

ENTRY FOR RECOGNITION

Skilled workers from third countries wishing to participate in a job training scheme as part of the recognition procedure can enter Germany for this purpose.

The “Guideline for Advising on Section 16d of the Residence Act” from the Network “Integration through Qualification” provides information on the requirements and options regulated in Section 16d of the Residence Act (AufenthG) with the entry into force of the Skilled Immigration Act. This addresses the procedure itself and other topics such as training to compensate for substantial differences, visa procedures, funding, and required documents.

<https://t1p.de/iqleitfaden16d>

60 Network IQ advice centres assist service users across Germany with the recognition of their foreign qualifications.



Provide information about the procedure and the offices involved in professional recognition



Support service users in the recognition process



Provide information concerning financial support with recognition



Advise on the likelihood of recognition being successful and the career opportunities it will provide.



Help with finding an appropriate training offer, if necessary, en route to recognition



Provide specific information on social media

All 60 advice centres in Network IQ with contact details: <https://t1p.de/IQAQB>

The IQ Competence Centre for Counselling and Job Training of Migrants supports and advises members of the Network IQ – Integration through Qualification in two areas: counselling on credential recognition and job training as well as bridge training schemes in the context of the Recognition Act. The competence centre disseminates results and findings from these areas to decision-makers in politics, administration, business and the expert community.

Further information can be found on the website of the specialist centre:

<https://www.netzwerk-iq.de/foerderprogramm-iq/fachstellen/fachstelle-anerkennung-und-qualifizierung>

IQ advisory offers



A total of 176,025 persons received advice on recognition from January 2023 to June 2025.



The top three countries of origin of service users are Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.



The IQ advisory sessions are often multilingual. Advice is provided across Germany and in more than 35 languages.



The reference occupations most frequently represented in the advisory sessions are businessengineer, economist, and teacher.



Counselling is offered as individual and group counselling and is available in person, by telephone, email, virtually and on social media

All Network IQ performance data comes from surveys of supported projects conducted by the IQ Competence Centre for Recognition and Job Training/f-bb gGmbH and ebb GmbH.

IQ GOOD PRACTICE

IQ advice portal presses ahead with digitalisation



The IQ advice portal was developed within Network IQ and is now being used in eight federal states and by 34 of the 60 IQ advice centres across Germany.

The platform offers individual advice on recognition and job training from IQ experts. The system is secure, transparent, multilingual and intuitive to use. Users enter their own professional background information and can upload documents and certificates. An IQ advisory session is allocated by postcode. An IQ adviser will then make contact with the person seeking advice. They will respond to questions by email, or a personal advisory session will be arranged. All advice cases are archived and documented to also enable monitoring and knowledge management.

Further information is available at: www.anerkennungsberatung-iq.de

Want to know more?

<https://www.netzwerk-iq.de/en/>

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