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Apply for recognition of foreign professional qualifications (EU/EEA/Switzerland) as a specialist pharmacist

The profession of specialist pharmacist is regulated in Germany. This means: You need a permit if you want to use the title “Fachapotheker” or “Fachapotheker” for your specialization in Berlin.

With the training as a pharmacist specialist, you have acquired an additional pharmaceutical specialization to your qualification as a pharmacist abroad. To work as a pharmacist in Germany, you first need a license to practice medicine or a professional permit that is valid in Germany. In order to work as a pharmacist specialist in Germany, you must also apply for recognition of your further training as a specialist pharmacist. With the recognition of your professional qualification, you may use the continuing education title for your specialization as a pharmacist specialist .

Note: You may only use the designation for your specialization if there is a corresponding continuing education designation also in Germany. The permission will be granted by the responsible Chamber of Pharmacists Berlin after examination of your documents and prerequisites when applying in Berlin.

Procedure:

1. you submit your application and the required documents to the Berlin Chamber of Pharmacists.

If necessary, you will be asked to submit any missing documents.

2. The procedure of automatic recognition often applies. This means: Your professional qualification will be recognized without an individual equivalence test.

3. If the requirements for mutual recognition or equality are not met, the Berlin Chamber of Pharmacists will check whether your professional qualification is equivalent.

3.1. The professional qualification is equivalent if there are no significant differences between your professional qualification and the German professional qualification.

If your specialist pharmacist qualification is recognised, you can work in the profession in Germany. You will receive a notification.

3.2. If significant differences are found, the equivalence of your pharmacist specialist qualification will not be certified. You will then receive notification of the differences in your professional qualifications. You can complete an aptitude test or an adjustment course to compensate for the differences.

Aptitude test:

The purpose of the test is to determine whether you have acquired the special or additional knowledge and skills required for recognition.

- You will be examined orally in front of an examination board, usually for 30 minutes.
- You will then receive written notification of the result of the examination. The exam may be repeated a maximum of two times.

Adjustment course:

The adaptation course is a practical post-qualification course and serves to deepen knowledge and skills in the development, manufacture, testing and dispensing of medicinal products as well as information and advice on medicinal products.

- The competent body decides on the content, duration and implementation.
- A certificate will be issued to you upon completion of the course.

If you successfully complete the adaptation course or pass the aptitude test, you will be granted permission to use the professional title "Fachpharmacist" for your specialization.

4. You will be informed of the result of the recognition procedure in a notification. You can take legal action against the decision of the competent authority within one month (e.g. lodge an objection). We recommend that you first speak to the competent authority before taking legal action against the decision.

Prerequisites

- **License to practice medicine/ approbation**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/325425/>)
You must already have a state professional license (approbation) valid in Germany as a pharmacist or a professional permit.
- **Equivalence of your professional qualification**
(<https://service.berlin.de/dienstleistung/325435/en/>)
If your degree is not automatically recognised, you must prove the equivalence of your professional qualification as a specialist.

Documents required

- **Application for recognition**
You can submit an application online or informally in writing by post.
- **Curriculum vitae**
Curriculum vitae in tabular form with details of further training courses completed and professional practice
- **Proof of identity**
Identity card or passport
- **License to practice medicine or professional permit**
Proof of German license to practice medicine/ approbation or professional license and proof of equivalent level of education and training
- **Proof of qualifications**
Further education certificates and certificates of professional practice
- **Declaration on previous professional recognition procedures**
Explanation of whether you have already submitted an application for recognition to another Chamber of Pharmacy

- **German translation**

If your documents are not available in German, you must submit German translations of your documents. The translations must be done by translators who are publicly appointed or authorised.

Fees

- EUR 150,00 to EUR 1.600,00 per effort

Legal basis

- **Further training regulations of the Berlin Chamber of Pharmacists § 14**
(<https://www.akberlin.de/recht-praxis/kammerrecht>)
- **Berlin Health Professions Chamber Act (Bln HKG) § 36**
(https://gesetze.berlin.de/perma?j=HeilBKG_BE_!_36)
- **Schedule of Fees of the Berlin Chamber of Pharmacists**
(<https://www.akberlin.de/recht-praxis/kammerrecht>)

Average time to process request

Usually within 3 months after receipt of the complete documents; the deadline can be extended by one month.

More information

- **Chamber of Pharmacists Berlin**
(<https://www.akberlin.de/fuer-mitglieder/ausbildung/apothekerinnen>)
- **Informationen zur Anerkennung ausländischer Berufsqualifikationen auf dem Portal Anerkennung in Deutschland**
(<https://www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/en/index.php>)
- **Information on the recognition of foreign professional qualifications (BQ-Portal)**
(<https://www.bq-portal.de/en>)
- **Finanzielle Hilfe im Anerkennungsverfahren**
(<https://www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de/html/en/financial-support.php>)
- **Öffentlich bestellte Übersetzerinnen und Übersetzer in Deutschland**
(<https://www.justiz-dolmetscher.de/Recherche/en/>)
- **Informationen zum Einheitlichen Ansprechpartner Berlin**
(<https://www.berlin.de/ea/en/>)

Average time to process request

<https://www.ea.berlin.de/intelliform/forms/eu-dlr-ng/Berlin/Berufsanerkennung/index?AnliegenID=331224>