

[Go to main navigation](#) [Go to content area](#)



[To the homepage](#)

- [For skilled workers](#)
- [For employers](#)
- Switch language
 - Language selection
 - [DE](#)
 - [EN](#)
 - [ES](#)
 - [FR](#)
 - Short information on:
 - [Bahasa Indonesia](#)
 - [Български](#)
 - [Bosanski](#)
 - [Español \(México\)](#)
 - [Italiano](#)
 - [Polski](#)
 - [Português](#)
 - [Português \(Brasil\)](#)
 - [Românesc](#)
 - [Русский](#)
 - [Shqip](#)
 - [Српски](#)
 - [Türkçe](#)
 - [Tiếng Việt](#)
 - [ไทย](#)

Hide search

- [DE](#)
- [EN](#)
- [ES](#)
- [FR](#)

- Show/Hide search
- Menu

[To the website of the federal government](#) Federal government



Search for topics

Search for topics



Hide search



[To the homepage](#)

for qualified professionals



Working in Germany: the official website

- All categories
- Show Working in Germany [Working in Germany](#)
 - Working in Germany
 - Show Professions in demand [Professions in demand](#)
 - Professions in demand
 - [Green Jobs](#)
 - [Nursing professionals](#)
 - [Physicians](#)
 - [Engineers](#)
 - [IT specialists](#)
 - [Scientists](#)
 - [Craftspeople](#)
 - [Careers in transport](#)
 - [Other professions in demand](#)
 - Show Finding a job [Finding a job](#)
 - Finding a job
 - [Looking for a job](#)
 - [Applying for a job](#)
 - [Placement agencies](#)
 - [Job listings](#)

-  Show Recognition [Recognition](#)
 -  Recognition
 - [Who needs recognition?](#)
 - [Recognition procedure](#)
 - [Evaluation of foreign academic degrees](#)
 - [Staatliche Anerkennung im Ausbildungsland](#)
-  Show Working environment [Working environment](#)
 -  Working environment
 - [Work contract](#)
 - [Salary, taxes & social security](#)
- [Information for EU citizens](#)
-  Show Setting up a business [Setting up a business](#)
 -  Setting up a business
 - [5 reasons](#)
 - [Visa for a business start-up](#)
 - [Professional requirements for founding](#)
 - [Preparation and consultation](#)
 - [5 steps for starting a business](#)
- [Research](#)

 Fachkraft aus dem Ausland arbeitet in Deutschland 

[To the job listings](#)

-  Show Study & vocational training [Study & vocational training](#)
 -  Study & vocational training
 -  Show Studies in Germany [Studies in Germany](#)
 -  Studies in Germany
 - [Can I complete a course of study in Germany?](#)
 - [Planning your arrival and course of study](#)
 - [Study and work](#)
 - [Prospects after graduation](#)
 -  Show Vocational training in Germany [Vocational training in Germany](#)
 -  Vocational training in Germany
 - [5 reasons](#)
 - [What is vocational training?](#)
 - [Do I qualify for vocational training?](#)
 - [Vocational training profiles at a glance](#)
 - [How do I find vocational training?](#)
 - [Prospects after your vocational training](#)

 International group of young people completing their vocational training in Germany 

[Dual vocational training system](#)

-  Show Visa & residence [Visa & residence](#)
 -  Visa & residence
 - [Quick-Check](#)
 -  Show Types of visa [Types of visa](#)
 -  Types of visa
 - [EU Blue Card](#)
 - [Work visa for qualified professionals](#)
 - [Visa for professionally experienced workers](#)
 - [Visa for recognition partnership](#)
 - [Visa options for IT professionals](#)
 - [Job search opportunity card](#)
 - [Visa for the recognition of foreign qualifications](#)
 - [Visa for vocational training](#)
 - [Visa for studying](#)
 - [Other types of visa](#)
 -  Show Visa procedure [Visa procedure](#)
 -  Visa procedure
 - [Do I need a visa?](#)
 - [Entry & visa process](#)
 - [Visa application forms](#)
 -  Show Family reunification [Family reunification](#)
 -  Family reunification

- [Spouses joining EU citizens](#)
- [Spouses joining citizens of non-EU countries](#)
- [Family reunion for children](#)
- [Self-Check: Opportunity card](#)
- Show Living permanently in Germany [Living permanently in Germany](#)
 - Living permanently in Germany
 - [Settlement permit](#)
 - [Permanent EU residence permit](#)
 - [Naturalisation](#)
- [The Skilled Immigration Act](#)

 Internationale Fachkräfte arbeiten in Deutschland 

[EU Blue Card](#)

- Show Living in Germany [Living in Germany](#)
 - Living in Germany
 - Show Learning German [Learning German](#)
 - Learning German
 - [Do I need to know German?](#)
 - [Language classes](#)
 - [Integration courses](#)
 - Show Discover Germany [Discover Germany](#)
 - Discover Germany
 - [Why Germany?!](#)
 - [German states](#)
 - [Politics, democracy, freedom](#)
 - [Economy](#)
 - [Qualified professionals](#)
 - [Immigration](#)
 - [Employment & earnings](#)
 - [Education](#)
 - [German society](#)
 - Show Family life in Germany [Family life in Germany](#)
 - Family life in Germany
 - [Financial support for families](#)
 - [Child care](#)
 - [School system & compulsory education](#)
 - Show Housing & mobility [Housing & mobility](#)
 - Housing & mobility
 - [Housing and registration](#)
 - [Driving licence & car](#)
 - [Mobility in Germany](#)
 - Show Money & insurance [Money & insurance](#)
 - Money & insurance
 - [Bank account](#)
 - [Health insurance](#)
 - [Additional insurances](#)
 - Show Back to Germany [Back to Germany](#)
 - Back to Germany
 - [Social security](#)
 - [Unemployment](#)
 - Show Settling [Settling](#)
 - Settling
 - [Leisure](#)
 - [Useful everyday knowledge](#)



[Learning German](#)

- Show Service [Service](#)
 - Service
 - Show Contact us [Contact us](#)
 - Contact us

- [Email](#)
- [Hotline](#)
- [FAQ](#)
-  Show Advisory & contact services [Advisory & contact services](#)
 -  Advisory & contact services
 - [Worldwide](#)
 - [In Germany](#)
- [Webinars](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Downloads](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [News](#)

 Frau arbeitet im Büro vor einem Computer 

[Do you have any questions?](#)

-  Show About us [About us](#)
 -  About us
 - [Make it in Germany](#)
 - [Partner network](#)
 - [10 years of Make it in Germany](#)



[Make it in Germany](#)

- Visit the page ...
 - [For skilled workers](#)
 - [For employers](#)

Do you have any questions?

-  [Email](#)
-  [Telephone](#)
- FAQ [FAQ](#)

Hide menu

-  [Email](#)
-  [Telephone](#)
- FAQ [FAQ](#)

Academic qualifications

Did you successfully graduate from university abroad? Find out whether your academic degree corresponds with the German standards.



•  [Working in Germany](#)

•  [Recognition](#)

• [Evaluation of foreign academic degrees](#)

If you have a foreign academic qualification and want to work in a regulated profession (e.g. as a doctor or lawyer) in Germany, you need to have your foreign academic qualification recognised. In our sections "[Who needs recognition](#)" and "[Recognition procedure](#)", you will find detailed information on this matter.

You do not need the recognition certificate if you want to work in an academic, non-regulated profession, such as computer scientist, mathematician or economist. If you wish to emigrate from a [third country](#) in order to work in Germany, and you require a work [visa](#), such as the [EU Blue Card](#), you must provide proof of your foreign academic qualification being comparable to a German academic qualification. To provide such proof, you can choose one of the following options.

Positive results in the anabin database

The [Central Office for Foreign Education \(ZAB\)](#) operates the [anabin](#) database, which provides information on the evaluation of foreign educational qualifications and universities. The database is currently available in German.



Instructions for using the anabin database

This guide explains step by step how to use the anabin database.



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Explainer video: Compare academic qualifications via anabin





Statement of Comparability

The [Statement of Comparability](#) is an official document which describes your foreign academic qualifications and indicates the level of the German academic qualification to which your foreign qualification is comparable. The individual statement can be requested from the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) in Bonn. You must request an individual Statement of Comparability if your university is listed in the anabin database as "H+", but your degree in particular is not listed.

An individual Statement of Comparability can be helpful. It is advantageous when applying for a job, changing jobs, or negotiating salary. With a statement in the German language, employers can better classify the foreign academic qualification. The Statement of Comparability can also be used when applying for a visa.

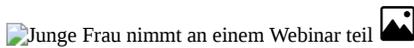
Information concerning the evaluation procedure, including a list of required documents and costs, can be found [here](#) . For further questions concerning the evaluation, please contact the Central Office of Foreign Education (ZAB) (email: zabservice@kmk.org).



Info box

Please note that the processing time can be up to three months, if you have provided all the necessary documents. If you apply for an evaluation in order to receive an [EU Blue Card](#), the processing time will take two weeks. Please attach a copy of your work contract in this case.

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Webinar on the professional recognition

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Information on the web

1. Federal Office for Migration and Refugees [Hotline on "Recognition of foreign non-academic vocational qualifications"](#)
2. Recognition of qualifications in Germany [How to have your non-academic vocational qualifications recognised and where to find your local contact centre](#)
3. European Commission [Search for regulated professions in Germany](#)
4. IHK FOSA (Foreign Skills Approval) [National Centre of Excellence for the recognition and assessment of foreign non-academic vocational qualifications](#)
5. BQ Portal [Information on foreign non-academic vocational qualifications and on foreign basic and advanced vocational training courses](#)
6. Network IQ [Find an advice centre near you to have your international qualification recognized](#)



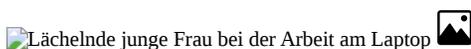
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Do you have any questions?

Let us advise you on your opportunities to work and live in Germany. Our experts will support you with questions regarding job search, visa, recognition and learning German.

You can find out more about the various contact options by clicking on one of the icons in the bar below.



- [Learn more about: "E-Mail"](#) E-Mail

- [Learn more about: "Hotline"](#)  Hotline
- [Learn more about: "FAQ"](#)  FAQ



- Top themes
 - [The Skilled Immigration Act](#)
 - [Working as an IT specialist](#)
 - [Job listings](#)
- Important addresses and services
 - [Advisory centres worldwide](#)
 - [Advisory centres in Germany](#)
 - [Downloads](#)

- [Sign language](#)
- [Easy Read](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Legal Notice](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)

[Privacy Settings](#)

-  Copyright

-  [Instagram](#)
-  [LinkedIn](#)
-  [YouTube](#)
-  [X \(before: Twitter\)](#)

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- [illustrated globe \(global.svg\)](#), iStock.com/bounward
- [Fachkraft aus dem Ausland arbeitet in Deutschland \(2_Moon Safari - stock.adobe.com.jpeg\)](#), Moon Safari – stock.adobe.com
- [International group of young people completing their vocational training in Germany \(2.5 iStock.com_andresr.jpg\)](#), iStock.com/andresr
- [Internationale Fachkräfte arbeiten in Deutschland \(1.3 AnnaStills - stock.adobe.com.jpeg\)](#), AnnaStills – stock.adobe.com
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