

Your recognition procedure as Engineer (m/f) in Berlin, Berlin

- The profession of Engineer (m/f) is **regulated** in Berlin. The professional title is subject to special protection.
- Recognition is necessary if you want to come to Germany to work. If you have any questions, you can find out more about entry, residence and work via the **hotline Working and Living in Germany** .
- This profession in Germany is regulated by the federal states. This means the regulations may differ each federal state.

Download: 08.12.2023

Quick-Info

Name of the procedure

The procedure is referred to as granting approval for use of the professional title "Engineer" (in German: "Erteilung der Genehmigung zum Führen der Berufsbezeichnung "Ingenieurin" oder "Ingenieur").

Requirements for recognition

- Equivalence of your professional qualification
- Primary residence, place of business, primary place of work in Berlin. **Or:** You want to work or live in Berlin soon.

Knowledge of German

- You require knowledge of German at **level B1** of the Common European Reference Framework for languages.
- You are required to provide a language certificate when applying.

Duration

- **One month** at the latest following receipt of your application by the competent authority: The competent authority will notify you of receipt of the documents. They will inform you if documents are missing. The procedure begins when the documents are complete.
- After **3 months** at the latest you will receive notice containing the result. In specific cases the competent authority may extend the procedure.

Costs

- Recognition procedure: approx **€200**
- There may be additional costs, e.g. for certifications or compensation measures
- More information about **financial support**

The competent authority

Baukammer Berlin

Heerstr. 18/20

14052 Berlin

[View on Google Maps](#)  +49 30 797 443 13www.baukammerberlin.de/link/ 

Your contact

Ms Kerstin Freitag

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Sprechzeiten nach telefonischer Vereinbarung

Documents for my application

Required documents

- Application form from the competent authority
- Proof of identity (e.g. passport or personal identification)
- Marriage certificate (if your name has changed through marriage)
- Curriculum vitae
- Evidence of your professional experience in this profession (e.g. employment references)
- Evidence of your other qualifications (e.g. continuing vocational training, seminars)
- Evidence of your general education school leaving certificate
- If available: Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB)
- Evidence of your knowledge of German: language certificate
- If the profession is not regulated in your country of training, then you must provide evidence of at least one year of professional experience in this profession over the last 10 years.
- Intention to start work: You may have to prove that you want to work in Germany.
- Information about an application for recognition already submitted. In this case state to which authority you applied.
- Evidence of your professional qualification: certificate of completion and final certificate from the university, diploma supplement
- If the information is not provided on the certificate: evidence of a final project
- If the information is not provided on the certificate: evidence of placements completed during the degree
- Confirmation of registration of your place of residence in Berlin

Baukammer Berlin

- **Application form - in German (27.03.2023)**

Translations and certifications

Die zuständige Stelle teilt Ihnen mit, welche Dokumente Sie im Original vorzeigen oder als Kopie abgeben müssen. Einige Kopien müssen amtlich beglaubigt sein. Wir empfehlen Ihnen: **Senden Sie keine Originale per Post**.

Sie müssen Ihre Dokumente in **deutscher Sprache** vorlegen. Die Übersetzungen **müssen** öffentlich bestellte oder ermächtigte **Übersetzerinnen und Übersetzer machen**.

My steps to recognition

I apply to the competent authority. How does this work?

You may also apply if you are not yet living in Germany.

- You can send the application **by post** to the competent **authority**. **Do not send originals.**
- You may be able to send the application **via email**. Ask your **competent authority** before you do. Later on in the recognition procedure, you may be required to submit original copies or certified copies of the documents.
- You are sometimes able to apply **online**. Later on in the recognition procedure, you may be required to submit original copies or certified copies of the documents. Use the **federal state internet portal** (in German) for the online application. You will then leave our information page.

The competent authority is processing my application. What does that mean?

The competent authority receives the application. After one month at the latest, it will confirm that the application has arrived. Once the competent authority has received all the documents from you, it processes your application.

The competent authority carries out an equivalence assessment: It compares your professional qualification with the German professional qualification as engineer. The competent authority checks the following:

- Have you completed a degree at a university? Or have you completed training at the same level?
- In your degree, did you complete examinations in particular in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM subjects)?
- Did the degree last for at least three years?
- Are you permitted to work as an engineer in your country of training?

As part of this, the competent authority takes into account your professional experience, other certificates and other qualifications.

The competent authority then checks other requirements for use of the professional title. This includes, for example, your place of residence in Berlin **or** your intention to work in Berlin.

The procedure takes a maximum of **3 months**. In specific cases the competent authority may extend the procedure. At the end, the competent authority sends you a notice containing the result.

The competent authority informs me of the result in a notice. What are the possible outcomes?

Outcome: Recognition

Your professional qualification and the German professional qualification are **equivalent**. You receive authorisation to use the professional title. You receive a certificate for this. You also meet all further requirements. Your professional qualification is **recognised**.

You are permitted to use the professional title "Engineer". Professionally you have **the same rights** as a person with the German professional qualification.

Outcome: No recognition because the professional qualification is not equivalent.

There are substantial differences between your professional qualification and the German professional qualification. You are not able to compensate for these differences with your professional experience and other knowledge of the profession. Your professional qualification is therefore **not equivalent** to the German professional qualification. Your professional qualification is not recognised.

In most cases you are able to complete a compensation measure. This allows you to compensate for the substantial differences.

Outcome: No recognition because you do not meet all the requirements.

Your professional qualification is equivalent. However, you do **not** meet all other requirements. You may still be required to provide evidence that you want to live and work in Berlin. The competent authority will inform you of which evidence is missing.

You are able to take legal action against the decision of the competent authority. Details on this procedure can be found in the **legal redress advice** (German: "Rechtsbehelfsbelehrung") at the end of your notice. We recommend that you speak to a counselling centre first before challenging the decision or taking legal action.

I receive no recognition. What can I do?

Compensation measures

If your professional qualification is not **equivalent** you can complete a compensation measure. A compensation measure allows you to compensate for substantial differences. Substantial differences are listed in your notice.

There are a range of compensation measures:

- Adaptation period
- Aptitude test

In certain cases, you are required to complete both compensation measures. However, sometimes you can also choose between an adaptation period and an aptitude test. It depends on your professional qualification. Your competent authority will inform you.

If you successfully complete the compensation measure, you receive a certificate. You submit this certificate to the competent authority. The competent authority checks the certificate and all other requirements (e.g. your place of residence in Berlin or your knowledge of German). If you meet all requirements, your professional qualification is **recognised**. Professionally, you then have **the same rights** as a person with the German professional qualification.

Do you come from a third country? You are permitted to enter Germany for a compensation measure. Please seek advice if you have questions, or find out more about entry e.g. via the hotline **Working and Living in Germany** .

Counselling

If you do **not meet all requirements**, you can find out from the competent authority about the options available to you. Were you not able to provide evidence, for example, that you live in Berlin? The competent authority can help you with this.

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My other options

Working without recognition

Do you already live in Germany and are you permitted to work in Germany? If so, you may also be able to work without recognition in an engineering office, for example.

However, the professional title "Engineer (m/f)" is subject to special protection. You are not permitted to use this professional title. This also applies to word combinations using the professional title

You can find out more about entry, residence and work via the hotline **Working and Living in Germany**.

Procedure for Ethnic German Resettlers

As an Ethnic German Resettler, you can select between two procedures for vocational recognition:

- You apply for the procedure described here.
- You apply for the procedure under Section 10 of the Federal Expellees Act (German: "§10 Bundesvertriebenengesetz, BVFG").

You can decide this. Your competent authority will advise you.

Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications

A Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications can make it easier for you to access the German labour market. The Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) assesses your certificate. Please note, the Statement of Comparability does not replace recognition of your professional qualification. You can only receive recognition of your professional qualification from the competent authority. Further information about Statement of Comparability is available [here](#).

Counselling

- Do you have any questions? Do you need help with the application? Seek advice! You will find your counselling centre two steps in advance. In the navigation, click "Counselling offers".
- Do you have questions regarding entry or residence? Please contact the hotline [Working and Living in Germany](#).

Further information

Info and links

- [Information page of the competent authority with a leaflet and application form for downloading](#)
- For further helpful information, see also this publication by the network Integration through Qualification (IQ): [Professional recognition for engineers – becoming a skilled worker](#)

Legal basis

- [Ingenieurgesetz Berlin \(IngG Bln\)](#)
- [Berufsqualifikationsfeststellungsgesetz Berlin \(BQFG Bln\)](#)

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