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Apply for permission to use the professional title occupational therapist from third countries

Heruntergeladen am 08.06.2025

<https://fimportal.de/xzufi-services/377433989/L100008>

Modul	Sachverhalt
Leistungsschlüssel	99150014001000, 99150014001000
Leistungsbezeichnung I	Apply for permission to use the professional title occupational therapist from third countries
Leistungsbezeichnung II	
Typisierung	2/3 - Bund: Regelung (2 oder 3), Land/Kommune: Vollzug
Quellredaktion	Sachsen-Anhalt
Freigabestatus Katalog	unbestimmter Freigabestatus
Freigabestatus Bibliothek	unbestimmter Freigabestatus
Begriffe im Kontext	
Leistungstyp	Leistungsobjekt mit Verrichtung
Leistungsgruppierung	Anerkennung Ausländischer Berufsqualifikationen (150)
Verrichtungskennung	Erteilung (001)

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SDG-Informationsbereich	Anerkennung beruflicher Qualifikationen, einschließlich beruflicher Bildung
Lagen Portalverbund	Anerkennung ausländischer Berufsqualifikationen (1040400), Berufsausbildung (1030200)
Einheitlicher Ansprechpartner	Nein
Fachlich freigegeben am	07.12.2021
Fachlich freigegeben durch	Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training Federal Ministry of Health
Handlungsgrundlage	https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bearbthg/_1.html https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/ergthaprvt/_16b.html https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bearbthg/_1.html https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/ergthaprvt/_16b.html
Teaser	Would you like to work as an occupational therapist in Germany? Then you need a state permit. To obtain state permission, you can have your foreign professional qualification recognized.
Volltext	<p>The profession of occupational therapist is regulated in Germany. This means that in order for you to be able to work as an occupational therapist in Germany, you need a state permit. With this permission, you may use the professional title "occupational therapist" and work in the profession.</p> <p>Even with a professional qualification from a so-called third country, you can obtain state permission from the competent authority in Germany. Third countries are all states that do not belong to the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.</p> <p>In order to obtain the permit, you must have your foreign professional qualification recognised.</p> <p>In the recognition procedure, the competent authority compares your professional qualification from abroad with the German professional qualification and checks its equivalence. The equivalence of the professional</p>

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qualification is an important prerequisite for the granting of the state permit.

In addition to the equivalence of the professional qualification, you must also meet other requirements for the granting of the permit. Further requirements are e.B. sufficient German language skills and health suitability.

If your professional qualification comes from the EU, EEA or Switzerland, different regulations apply.

You can also apply for the procedure from abroad.

Erforderliche Unterlagen

The competent authority will tell you which documents you need to submit. Important documents are generally:

- Proof of identity (identity card or passport)
- Marriage certificate (if your name has changed due to marriage)
- Curriculum vitae
- Proof of your professional qualification (e.B. certificates, professional certificate)
- Evidence of formal qualifications
- Proof of your relevant professional experience as an occupational therapist
- Proof of further relevant knowledge for working as an occupational therapist
- You do not yet live or work in the EU, the EEA or Switzerland? Then you have to prove that you want to work in the profession in Germany. Proofs can be: applications for a job, proof of your application for an entry visa for gainful employment or personal declaration

You usually hand in these documents later. The competent authority will inform you when you should hand in the documents:

- Proof of your personal suitability: Extract from criminal record or certificate of good conduct from

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your country of origin. The proof may not be more than 3 months old when the application is submitted.

- Proof of your fitness for health: Medical certificate. The proof may not be more than 3 months old when the application is submitted.
- Proof of your German language skills: Language certificate

The competent authority will inform you which documents you must submit as a simple copy, as a certified copy or in the original.

Voraussetzungen

- You have a professional qualification as an occupational therapist from a third country.
- You want to work as an occupational therapist in Germany.
- Personal suitability: You are reliable for working as an occupational therapist and have no criminal record.
- Health suitability: You can work psychologically and physically as an occupational therapist.
- You have German language skills at the required language level. This is usually the language level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Kosten

The competent authority will inform you about the costs. The costs generally depend on the effort required for processing.

In addition, additional costs may arise (e.B. for translations, certifications or compensatory measures). These costs vary from person to person.

Verfahrensablauf

****Application****

You submit an application for permission to use the professional title "occupational therapist" to the competent authority. You can submit the application with the documents to the competent authority or send it by post. Do not send originals. Sometimes you can also send the application electronically. The competent authority will inform you.

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****Equivalence test****

The competent authority will then check whether you meet all the requirements. An important prerequisite is the equivalence of your professional qualification. The competent authority compares your professional qualification from abroad with the German professional qualification as an occupational therapist. The professional qualification is equivalent if there are no significant differences between your foreign professional qualification and the German professional qualification.

****Possible results of the test****

If your professional qualification is equivalent, your foreign professional qualification will be recognised. The competent authority can confirm the result in writing. You must also meet the other requirements and then you will be given permission to use the professional title "occupational therapist".

Are there significant differences between your professional qualification and the German professional qualification? Perhaps you can compensate for the differences through your professional practice, other knowledge or skills (lifelong learning). You must prove your professional experience. Knowledge and skills must be certified by an authority of the state in which you acquired the knowledge or skills.

However, it may be that the essential differences cannot be compensated by this knowledge. Then your foreign professional qualification will not be recognised. You are then not allowed to work as an occupational therapist in Germany.

However, the competent authority will tell you the essential differences and why you cannot compensate for the essential differences through your professional experience.

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In most cases, you can take a compensatory measure. This allows you to compensate for the essential differences.

****Compensatory measures****

There are various compensatory measures:

- Adaptation period: The adaptation period lasts a maximum of three years.
- Knowledge test: The knowledge test tests your knowledge in certain subjects and areas. The knowledge test includes an oral and practical part.

You can choose between an adaptation course or a knowledge test.

If you successfully complete the compensatory measure and meet all other requirements, you will receive permission to use the professional title "occupational therapist".

Bearbeitungsdauer

4 Monat(e)
 The competent authority will inform you if documents are missing. If the documents are complete, the procedure will take a maximum of 4 months.

Frist

None. Sometimes documents are still missing in the procedure. The competent authority will then inform you by when you have to submit the documents.

weiterführende Informationen

Hinweise

****Equivalence notice****

In the permit procedure, the examination of equivalence (recognition procedure) is also carried out. You can request a separate decision for the result of the examination.

****Procedure for ethnic German repatriates****

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As a ethnic German repatriate, you can either go through the recognition procedure according to the laws mentioned here or according to the Federal Displaced Persons Act. You can decide for yourself. The responsible body will advise you on which procedure is right for you.

Rechtsbehelf

You can take legal action against the decision of the competent authority within a certain period of time (e.B. lodge an objection). The decision is then reviewed. Details can be found in the notice of appeal at the end of your decision. We recommend that you first talk to the competent authority before taking legal action against the decision.

Kurztext

- Occupational therapist with training from third countries, professional qualification recognition
- To work as an occupational therapist, you need a state permit in Germany.
- With permission, you can officially call yourself an "occupational therapist" and work in the profession.
- Even with a professional qualification from a so-called third country, you can obtain state permission in Germany. Third countries are all states that do not belong to the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.

Ansprechpunkt

The State Administration Office in Halle (Saale) grants permission.

Zuständige Stelle

Formulare

Ursprungsportal

Erlaubnis zum Führen der Berufsbezeichnung Ergotherapeutin oder Ergotherapeut aus Drittstaaten beantragen, Apply for permission to use the professional title occupational therapist from third countries