

Pharmaceutical-technical assistant with training from third countries, recognition of professional qualification

Would you like to work as a pharmaceutical-technical assistant in Germany? Then you need a state permit. In order to obtain the state permit, you can have your foreign professional qualification recognized.

Competent Department

- [Die Senatorin für Gesundheit, Frauen und Verbraucherschutz | Referat 20 - Berufe im Gesundheitswesen](#)

Basic information

The profession of pharmaceutical technical assistant is regulated in Germany. This means that in order to work as a pharmaceutical technical assistant in Germany, you need a state license. With this permit, you can use the job title "pharmaceutical technical assistant" and work in the profession.

You can also obtain a state permit from the competent authority in Germany if you have a professional qualification from a so-called third country. Third countries are all countries that do not belong to the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.

In order to obtain the permit, you must have your foreign professional qualification recognized.

In the recognition procedure, the competent authority compares your professional qualification from abroad with the German professional qualification and checks the equivalence. The equivalence of the professional qualification is an important prerequisite for the granting of a state license.

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

If your professional qualification originates from the EU, the EEA or Switzerland, other regulations apply.

You can also apply for the procedure from abroad.

Requirements

- You have a professional qualification as a pharmaceutical technical assistant from a third country.
- You want to work in Germany as a pharmaceutical technical assistant.
- Personal suitability: You are reliable for the work as a pharmaceutical technical assistant and have no criminal record.
- Health suitability: You are mentally and physically able to work as a pharmaceutical technical assistant.
- You have German language skills at the required level. This is normally language level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

What documents do I need?

- The responsible office 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 qualifications (e.g. certificates, professional certificate)
 - Proof of training
 - Proof of your relevant professional experience as a pharmaceutical-technical assistant
 - Proof of other relevant knowledge for working as a pharmaceutical technical assistant
 - You do not yet live or work in the EU, the EEA or Switzerland? Then you must provide proof: You want to work in the profession in Germany. Proof can be: Job applications, proof of your application for an entry visa for gainful employment or personal declaration.
- You usually hand in these documents later. The responsible office will inform you when you should hand in the documents:
 - Proof of your personal suitability: criminal record extract or certificate of good conduct from your country of origin. The certificate must not be older than 3 months at the time of application.
 - Proof of your health suitability: Medical certificate. The certificate must not be older than 3 months at the time of application.
 - Proof of your German language skills: Language certificate
- The responsible office will tell you which documents you need to submit as a simple copy, a certified copy or the original.

Procedure

Application

You submit an application to the competent authority for permission to use the professional title "pharmaceutical-technical assistant". You can submit the application with the documents to the competent authority or send it by post. Do not send any originals.

Sometimes you can also send the application electronically. The responsible office will inform you.

Examination of equivalence

The competent body will then check whether you meet all the requirements. An important requirement is the equivalence of your professional qualification. The competent body will compare your professional qualification from abroad with the German professional qualification as a pharmaceutical-technical assistant. 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 examination

If your professional qualification is equivalent, your foreign professional qualification will be recognized. The competent authority can confirm the result in writing. You must still meet the other requirements. You will then receive permission to use the professional title "pharmaceutical-technical assistant".

Are there any significant differences between your professional qualification and the German professional qualification? You may be able to compensate for the differences through your professional experience, other knowledge or skills (lifelong learning). You must provide evidence of your professional experience. Knowledge and skills must be certified by an authority in the country in which you acquired the knowledge or skills.

However, it may be that the significant differences cannot be compensated for by this knowledge. In this case, your foreign professional qualification will not be recognized. You will then not be allowed to work as a pharmaceutical-technical assistant in Germany.

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

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

Compensatory measures

There are various compensatory measures:

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

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

If you successfully complete the compensation measure and meet all other requirements, you will receive permission to use the job title "pharmaceutical-technical assistant".

Legal bases

- [§ 1 Abs. 1 Gesetz über den Beruf des pharmazeutisch-technischen Assistenten](#)
- [§ 18c Ausbildungs- und Prüfungsverordnung für pharmazeutisch-technische Assistentinnen und pharmazeutisch-technische Assistenten](#)
- [§ 2 Abs. 2 Gesetz über den Beruf des pharmazeutisch-technischen Assistenten](#)
- [§ 18b Ausbildungs- und Prüfungsverordnung für pharmazeutisch-technische Assistentinnen und pharmazeutisch-technische Assistenten](#)

More information

Legal remedy:

You can take legal action against the decision of the competent authority within a certain period (e.g. lodge an objection). The decision will then be reviewed. Details can be found in the information on legal remedies at the end of your decision. We recommend that you first speak to the responsible office before taking legal action against the decision.

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

None.

Sometimes documents are still missing from the procedure. The responsible office will then inform you by when you must submit the documents.

How long does it take to process

4 months The processing time varies.

The responsible office will inform you if any documents are missing.

What are the costs?

The responsible office will inform you about the costs. The costs generally depend on the effort required for processing.

Additional costs may arise (e.g. for translations, certifications or compensatory measures). These costs vary individually.