

# Getting your education and training assessed



Guide for validation of foreign  
degrees and professional experience



INTEGRATIONSVERKET

## **Do you have a post-secondary education from another country? Start studying here!**

This brochure is for people with higher education and/or professional experience from another country who would like to have your skills evaluated. Evaluation means that you can have your credentials assessed and compared to corresponding Swedish academic and professional requirements. Following evaluation, you receive an evaluation statement or other proof of eligibility that you can then use when you seek employment or apply to an academic program. This statement is mainly intended as a guide. Employers and union organizations are recommended to take evaluation statements into consideration when hiring personnel.

The following pages explain where you can turn and how to go about getting your degree evaluated. If you have a degree from an EEA/EU country, certain other rules also apply. These are described in more detail on page 8.

### **You need an application form**

If you are considering having your degree evaluated, you should first turn to one of the following contact points:

- Employment services (Arbetsförmedling),
- Refugee reception centre (Flyktingförläggning),
- Study- and careers counsellor (Studie- och yrkesvägledare) at an upper secondary school or adult education centre,
- Study advisor (studievägledare) at institution of higher learning,
- Municipal refugee reception office (Kommunal flyktingmottagning), or
- Immigrant services bureau (Invandrarbyrå).

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\* EU countries include: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Great Britain, Sweden, Germany and Austria.

EEA countries include: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Here, you can get help with the proper application form. Where you then send your application depends on your professional area. The following pages tell you which authorities are responsible for which professions. You may also ask about this at the contact point where you pick up your application form.

### **Enclose academic transcripts and translations**

When you send in the application form, you must also enclose attested copies of degree certificates, diplomas, or personalized list of subjects studied, both in the original language as well as a translation into Swedish performed by an authorized translator. Please note that if the original language is English, French, German, or one of the Nordic languages (Danish, Norwegian, Finnish or Icelandic), no translation of original documents is required. If you have other information regarding your education, e.g., course syllabi, these should also be included. This information is helpful in the evaluation of your academic credentials.

### **Application process**

The time it takes for an evaluation to be carried out and the exact process differ from one authority to another. In some cases, you will have to sit for theoretical and practical examinations, do practical training or take a supplementary training program. Contact the authority in charge of your evaluation for more specific information concerning your particular field. The time it takes for an evaluation to be carried out and the exact process differ from one authority to another. In some cases, you will have to sit for theoretical and practical examinations, do practical training or take a supplementary training program. Contact the authority in charge of your evaluation for more specific information concerning your particular field.

1 *Translate your transcripts/certificates.* If your documents are written in a language other than English, French, German, or one of the Nordic languages, they must be translated by an authorized translator. The easiest way to do this is to take them to a translation agency; consult the yellow pages of your telephone directory to find one. The Federation of Authorized Translators (Föreningen auktoriserade translatorer) lists addresses of translators on their website [http:](http://)

//www.eurofat.se. You may also turn to the Employment Office (Arbetsförmedlingen) to discuss how to receive help and financial assistance for translations.

- 2 *Fill in application.* Remember to enclose all of your academic transcripts/certificates and employment certificates!
- 3 *Supplementation.* Depending on the profession you are having evaluated, you may be required to sit for theoretical and practical examinations, or take supplementary training.
- 4 *Wait for reply.* Processing times vary. Contact the authority responsible for more information.
- 5 *When the reply arrives.* The response to your application will contain either an evaluation statement/certificate of recognition, or a letter stating your application has been rejected with reference to possible supplementation.

An evaluation statement compares the foreign education to the most closely corresponding Swedish education and is intended as a guide to the employer.

### **Recognition of university degrees and teaching professions – National Agency for Higher Education**

In most cases, it is the National Agency for Higher Education (Högskoleverket) that will take your application. The Agency handles those foreign educations that lead to a degree, but that do not require certification, as well as being responsible for the teaching profession. The National Agency for Higher Education can also answer questions regarding academic programs of different countries directly at the request of an employer or authority.

Those of you seeking assessment of eligibility for a foreign teaching degree must pay a fee, other assessment leading to an evaluation statement is free of charge. In order for a certificate of recognition to be issued, the foreign teacher training must be comparable to a current- or former Swedish teacher training program. Professional experience may also be taken into account. In addition to this, credit in a Swedish language course corresponding to upper secondary level, such as Swedish B, Swedish as a Second Language B, or Test in Swedish for University Studies (TISUS), is also required.

### **For eligibility to study at a Swedish university or institute of higher learning – National Admissions Office to Higher Education**

If you need to have your education assessed to begin a

Swedish post-secondary education program, you must apply to the National Admissions Office (Verket för högskoleservice/VHS). Such assessment provides information on basic- and special eligibility, and are based on transcripts from completed upper secondary education. If you have studied at a university or corresponding institution in your home country, these grades can also be highly significant in an assessment.

Evaluation of previous education before applying to study at a Swedish university or post-secondary institution is not mandatory, but if you have had an assessment done it is good to enclose it when you apply for admission. That is, the assessment also provides information on the value or “credits” the foreign education will give upon application.

An assessment from the National Admissions Office is provided at no cost (free of charge).

### **Foreign educations in nursing and care for regulated professions – National Board of Health and Welfare**

If you have an education in the area of health- and medical care, the National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen/SoS) is responsible for the evaluation. The Board carries out an assessment of your credentials, comes to a decision on the conditions for certification, and issues the certification. Depending on the country you were educated in, supplementary training may be required, either in the form of a special supplementary program offered by the National Board of Health and Welfare, or through post-secondary courses. It is important to bear in mind that the National Board of Health and Welfare only evaluates completed educations. If you have begun but not completed a program or are unable to substantiate your qualifications from your country of origin, you will instead be required to attend supplementary training at a post-secondary institution.

### **The National Board of Health and Welfare is responsible for the following professions:**

#### **Certified professions:**

Chiropractor  
Dentist  
Dental hygienist  
Dispenser

Medical doctor  
Medical physicist  
Midwife  
Naprath  
Nurse  
Occupational therapist  
Optician  
Pharmacist  
Physiotherapist  
Psychologist  
Psychotherapist  
Radiology nurse  
Speech therapist

**Protected, non-certified professional titles**

Audiologist  
Biomedical analyst  
Dietician  
Orthopedic engineer

Applicants are referred to the National Board of Health and Welfare for information concerning possible fees.

**Professions in veterinary medicine –  
National Board of Agriculture**

The National Board of Agriculture (Statens Jordbruksverk/SJV), in cooperation with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet, SLU), issues Swedish certification for veterinarians with foreign university degrees. This occurs mainly following a supplementary training program for foreign veterinarians (TUVE). The program includes courses, practical training, theoretical- and practical examinations, as well as work experience placement. Before you begin the program, a passing grade in Medical Swedish 2 (Sjukvårdssvenska 2) is required.

**Ship officers and other seafaring professions –  
Swedish Maritime Administration**

People with ship officer training or similar professions must apply to the Swedish Maritime Administration (Sjöfartsverket). The Administration evaluates training for ship's captain, first mate, watchkeeping mate, chief engineer, engineers and watchkeeping engineers. Your previous training must fulfil, at a minimum, the stipulations of the international maritime convention, 1995 revised Convention on

Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW 95). Bear in mind that Swedish citizenship is required to work as a ship officer on a Swedish vessel.

Evaluation is free of charge.

### **Airborne professions – National Civil Aviation Administration**

The National Civil Aviation Administration (Luftfartsverket/LFV) evaluates educations in aero-professions, i.e., airline pilots and aircraft maintenance engineer. For pilots, the following applies: The Civil Aviation Inspectorate approves valid foreign certificates for limited periods of employment under the condition that the holder of the certificate fulfils the requirements of Swedish certification. In certain cases, supplementary documentation, experience and training may be required.

As concerns aircraft maintenance engineer certification, some certificates are accepted/approved directly, without the need for further supplementation. This applies to national engineer certificates issued by Norwegian and Danish authorities, and the so-called JAR 66 AML.

### **Do you come from an EEA/EU country?**

Educations from EEA/EU countries are evaluated according to other regulations. Sweden and the other EU countries, as well as Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland, are covered by EC directives that apply regarding the recognition of academic and professional credentials in regulated professions. Regulated professions refers to those professions for which authorization, certification or similar accreditation is required to practice the profession. This applies to professions such as pharmacist, architect, midwife, medical doctor, etc. The basic principle is that a person qualified to practice a profession in their home country is also qualified to practice that profession in all EU/EEA countries.

If you have an education from an EU/EEA country and want to work in a regulated profession in Sweden, you must apply for proof of eligibility or qualifications from the official authority for that profession. (See list below.) More information on where to apply can be obtained from the National Agency for Higher Education, [www.hsv.se](http://www.hsv.se).

**Official authorities:***Accountants (89/48/EEC)*

Supervisory Board of Public Accountants (Revisorsnämnden)

Karlavägen 104

Box 24014

104 50 Stockholm

Tel. 08-783 18 70

Fax: 08-783 18 71

e-mail: rn@revisorsnamnden.se

<http://www.revisornamnden.se>*Aircraft maintenance engineers (92/51/EEC)*

National Civil Aviation Administration (Luftfartsverket)

601 79 Norrköping

Tel. 011-19 20 00

Fax: 011-19 25 75

e-mail: luftfartsverket@hk.lfv.se

<http://www.lfv.se>*Chief engineer, master mariner (89/48/EEC), marine electrician, ship's mechanic A and B, skipper A and B, ship's mate A and B (92/51/EEC)*

Swedish Maritime Administration (Sjöfartsverket)

601 78 Norrköping

Tel. 011-19 10 00

Fax: 011-10 19 49

e-mail: sjofartsverket@sjofartsverket.se

<http://www.sjofartsverket.se>*Driving instructors (92/51/EEC)*

National Road Administration (Vägverket)

781 87 Borlänge

Tel. 0243-750 00

Fax: 0243-758 25

e-mail: vagverket@vv.se

<http://www.vv.se>*Lawyers (89/48/EEC)*

Swedish Bar Association (Sveriges Advokatsamfund)

Box 27321

102 54 Stockholm

Tel. 08-459 03 00, Fax: 08-660 07 79

e-mail: info@advokatsamfundet.se

<http://www.advokatsamfundet.se>

*Occupational therapist, audiologist, biomedical analyst, dieticians, speech therapist, optician, orthopedic engineer, psychologist, psychotherapist, radiology nurse, medical physicist, physiotherapist, chiropractor, (89/48/EEC), dispenser, dental hygienist, dental nurse (92/51/EEC)*

National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen)  
106 30 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-55 55 30 00  
Fax: 08-55 55 34 20  
e-mail: [socialstyrelsen@sos.se](mailto:socialstyrelsen@sos.se)  
<http://www.sos.se>

*Real estate agents (92/51/EEC)*

Real Estate Broker Board (Fastighetsmäklarnämnden)  
Legal, Financial and Administrative Services Agency  
(Kammarkollegiet)  
Box 2199  
103 15 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-700 08 00  
Fax: 08-700 09 99  
e-mail: [fmn@kammarkollegiet.se](mailto:fmn@kammarkollegiet.se)  
<http://fastighetsmaklarnamnden.se>

*Teachers for the public school system (89/48/EEC)*

National Agency for Higher Education (Högskoleverket)  
Box 7851  
103 99 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-56 30 85 00  
Fax: 08-56 30 86 50  
e-mail: [naric-enic@hsv.se](mailto:naric-enic@hsv.se)  
<http://www.hsv.se>

*Search and rescue command (89/48/EEC), search and rescue officer, fireman, fire inspection officer and certified chimney sweep (92/51/EEC)*

Swedish Rescue Services Agency (Räddningsverket)  
651 80 Karlstad  
Tel. 054-10 40 00  
Fax: 054-10 28 89  
e-mail: [srv@srv.se](mailto:srv@srv.se)  
<http://www.srv.se>

*University teachers*

No single official authority. Assessment is made by the employer (university or post-secondary institution) at the time of hiring.

**Responsible authorities  
in Sweden for sectoral directives:**

*Architect*

National Agency for Higher Education (Högskoleverket)  
Box 7851  
103 99 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-56 30 85 00  
Fax: 08-56 30 86 50  
e-mail: [hsv@hsv.se](mailto:hsv@hsv.se)  
<http://www.hsv.se>

*Pharmacist, midwife, medical doctor, nurse, dentist*

National Board of Health and Welfare (Socialstyrelsen)  
106 30 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-55 55 30 00  
Fax: 08-55 55 34 20  
e-mail: [socialstyrelsen@sos.se](mailto:socialstyrelsen@sos.se)  
<http://www.sos.se>

*Veterinarian*

National Board of Agriculture (Statens jordbruksverket)  
551 82 Jönköping  
Tel. 036-15 50 00  
Fax: 036-19 05 46  
e-mail: [jordbruksverket@sjv.se](mailto:jordbruksverket@sjv.se)  
<http://www.sjv.se>

Information on the EC directives:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal\\_market/en/qualifications/  
codeen.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/en/qualifications/codeen.pdf)

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal\\_market/en/qualifications/  
guideen.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/internal_market/en/qualifications/guideen.pdf)

(guide and code of conduct)



## Getting your education and training assessed

Having your higher education or professional experience evaluated and compared to corresponding Swedish conditions is a requirement for gaining employment that matches your qualifications. The Swedish Integration Board has compiled the information presented here in cooperation with the agencies responsible for assessing academic qualification obtained in countries other than Sweden. The guide explains what forms of evaluation are carried out by the different authorities, and describes how evaluation works. You will also find addresses and contact numbers to the different authorities.

To order printed copies of the guide in simplified Swedish, please contact our distribution section:  
Swedish Migration Board  
Distribution  
601 70 Norrköping

The guide has also been translated to French, Spanish, Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, Arabic, Farsi, Turkish, Somali, Russian and Sorani. Translations are not available in print form but can be downloaded as a pdf file from our website [www.integrationsverket.se](http://www.integrationsverket.se). A Swedish version is also available.



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Tel. 011-36 13 00, Fax 011-36 13 01

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