



Republic of Serbia
QUALIFICATIONS AGENCY
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BASIC INFORMATION

What is the procedure for the recognition of foreign school documents?

The recognition of a foreign school document is the procedure by which a higher education public document obtained abroad is equated with the corresponding, valid public document of the Republic of Serbia, thereby granting an individual the right to continue their education and/or seek employment.

Types of recognition of foreign higher education documents (diplomas):

1) **Academic recognition** entails recognition for the purpose of continuing education.

The academic recognition process is conducted at accredited higher education institutions – universities in the Republic of Serbia.

2) **Professional recognition** entails recognition for the purpose of employment.

The professional recognition process is carried out by the ENIC/NARIC Center, an organizational unit of the Qualifications Agency.

Who is eligible to submit a request for the recognition of foreign school documents?

The right to recognition of a foreign school document is granted to:

- Citizen of the Republic of Serbia,
- Foreign nationals and stateless persons, provided they have a legitimate legal interest.

Which higher education documents are subject to the recognition process?

The recognition process applies to higher education documents obtained abroad.

Specializations and certificates issued within the framework of

vocational training

The ENIC/NARIC Center is not responsible for the recognition of any type of specializations or certificates issued within the framework of vocational training. Only final diplomas issued by higher education institutions are recognized, not certificates of graduation.

Re-recognition of a higher education document.

If a foreign higher education document has already been recognized for employment purposes at a higher education institution in the Republic of Serbia, it is not allowed to submit the same higher education document for re-recognition for employment purposes (the same applies to previously rejected diplomas and those subject to legal proceedings).

Cases in which recognition of a higher education document is not required (Article 130, paragraph 2 of the Higher Education Act).

A higher education public document obtained in the SFRY (until April 27, 1992), in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, or the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro (until June 16, 2006), and in the Republic of Srpska, is not subject to the recognition process for foreign higher education documents.

Which regulations apply in the process of recognizing foreign school documents?

The recognition of foreign school documents is carried out based on:

- The Law on the National Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Serbia ("Official Gazette of RS," No. 27/2018, 6/2020, 129/2021 - other law, and 76/2023);
- The Law on General Administrative Procedure ("Official Gazette of RS," No. 18/2016, 95/2018 – authentic interpretation, 2/2023 – decision of the Administrative Court);
- Recognized international agreements;
- The Law on Higher Education ("Official Gazette of RS," No. 88/2017, 73/2018, 27/2018 - other law, 67/2019, 6/2020 - other laws, 11/2021 - authentic interpretation, 67/2021, 67/2021 - other law, and 76/2023).

Article 38, paragraph 2 of the Law on the National Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Serbia ("Official Gazette of RS," No. 27/2018, 6/2020, 129/2021 - other law, and 76/2023) stipulates that professional recognition is carried out by the ENIC/NARIC Center, as an organizational unit of the Qualifications Agency, following the prior evaluation of the foreign study program, in accordance with this law and the law governing higher education.

Article 136, paragraph 1 of the Law on General Administrative Procedure ("Official Gazette of RS," No. 18/2016, 95/2018 – authentic interpretation, 2/2023 – decision of the Administrative Court) stipulates that a decision is made by a ruling on the rights, obligations, or legal interests of the party involved.

A decision on professional recognition specifically contains: the name, type, level, and duration (scope) of the study program or qualification listed in the foreign higher education document – in the original language and in the Serbian language translation; the scientific, artistic, or professional field in which the study program was completed; as well as the type and level of the qualification in the Republic of Serbia and the corresponding NQF (National Qualifications Framework) level..

How is the evaluation of a foreign study program conducted for the recognition of foreign higher education documents?

The evaluation of a foreign study program is conducted based on the type and level of competencies achieved upon completion of the study program, taking into account the education system in the country where the higher education document was obtained, the admission requirements, the rights resulting from the foreign higher education document in the country where it was obtained, and other relevant facts, without considering the formal characteristics and structure of the study program..

Once the evaluation of a specific foreign study program has been conducted, it applies to all subsequent cases of recognition of a foreign higher education document when the foreign higher education document was obtained by completing the same study program.