

# Recognition of Qualifications

Foreign qualifications are not always valid in Switzerland. Under certain circumstances, it is possible to have qualifications validated. This is a requirement for some professions.

## Recognition

Persons with foreign qualifications can, under certain circumstances, have them validated in Switzerland. Validation confirms that the foreign qualification is the equivalent of the Swiss qualification. Regulated professions (e.g. healthcare professionals, teachers, etc.) require validation. Which agency is responsible for the validation process is dependent upon the profession or training. A fee is charged for the validation process. Additional information is provided by the national information centre for recognition of foreign qualifications (Nationale Kontaktstelle für Diplomanerkennung) or the counselling centre for education and career in Canton Aargau (ask!).

## Determining the Level of Qualification

A validation process is not necessary for unregulated professions. For these professions it is possible to request that the level of qualification be determined (Niveaubestätigung). This process determines the status of a foreign diploma relative to the Swiss education system. Such a determination can be helpful in finding employment. Additional information is provided by the national information centre for the recognition of foreign qualifications (Nationale Kontaktstelle für Diplomanerkennung) or the counselling centre for education and career in Canton Aargau (ask!).

## Professional Qualification Later in Life

Adults with professional experience who do not have a recognised qualification can still obtain a Swiss qualification through vocational education and training or professional education and training. The process varies according to previous training, experience, and age. Good German language skills are an essential prerequisite (Level B1/B2 CEFR). Those interested can contact the portal Aargau (Eingangsportal Aargau) for free advice. Obtaining a professional qualification betters one's position in the job market and grants access to continued education.

**Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets,  
brochures)**

[www.ciao-aargau.ch/en/school-and-education/recognition-of-qualifications](http://www.ciao-aargau.ch/en/school-and-education/recognition-of-qualifications)