Recognition of Qualifications

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

Recognition

People 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 the Recognition of Foreign Qualifications (Nationale Kontaktstelle für Diplomanerkennung) or the vocation and career counselling service in Glarus (Berufs- und Laufbahnberatung Glarus).

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).

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 department for professional qualifications for adults (Fachstelle Berufsabschluss für Erwachsene) to obtain free advice. Attaining a professional qualification improves your position in the job market and grants access to continued education.

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

www.hallo-glarus.ch/en/school-and-education/recognition-of-qualifications