

Recognition of degrees for the application for Job Seeker Visa, Red-White-Red Card and EU Blue Card

Diploma programmes (Diplomstudien) and programmes according to the Bologna structure from a recognized **university or university of applied science** (Fachhochschule) are both recognized. Formal recognition (nostrification) of the foreign degree in Austria is not required.

The programmes must have a four-year minimum duration (for **Very Highly Qualified Workers**) or a three-year minimum duration (for **Workers in Shortage Occupations and Other Key Workers and applicants for an EU Blue Card**). The minimum duration of several programmes of study (e.g. completed according to the Bologna structure) may be accumulated, if the last degree is higher and is based on the previous one (for example, Bachelor's degree and subsequent Master's degree).

MINT-points (for Very Highly Qualified Workers as in annex A: mathematics, informatics, natural sciences, technology) are awarded for the degree required to achieve the required four-year minimum duration of study. For example, a three years Bachelor's programme in medicine (which is not a MINT subject) followed by a two year Master's programme in natural sciences (which is a MINT subject) can be awarded **30 points** as a university programme with a four-year minimum duration in a MINT subject according to annex A.

Applicants with **habilitations**, or applicants who have graduated from a university programme as Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or with a **doctorate** are awarded **40 points** according to annex A.

Any **degree** must be verified by submitting a certificate of the successful graduation from a programme of studies, as well as proof of the status of the university or other tertiary educational institution issued by the competent authority/the competent Ministry in the country of origin. A habilitation must be verified by submitting a document which certifies the postdoctoral lecture qualification (document assigning lecture authorization; *venia docendi* respectively *facultas docendi*).

More **information on recognized foreign university degrees and degrees from universities of applied science** (in German) can be found on the website <http://www.anabin.de/>.

The programmes are divided into a classification scale according to their respective standard duration. Class A3 degrees are recognized as courses of study with a typical standard duration of three years, class A4 degrees with a typical standard duration of four years, and class A5 degrees with a typical standard duration of more than four years. Class D1 comprises degrees with a doctorate, while class D2 includes habilitations. The status H + or H- indicates whether the institution where the programme of study was completed is recognized as a higher education institution. Only studies at universities or universities of applied science (Fachhochschule) with the status H + are recognized. If the university or university of applied science has the status H +, no further proof of the status of the

university by the competent authority in the country of origin is required. Postgraduate studies (class PGS) are considered "associate studies" and thus do not count towards the Red-White-Red Card.

If the degree or the university is not included in the anabin classification system or if there are doubts regarding the acknowledgement of the programme, the ***national information centre for academic recognition*** (ENIC NARIC AUSTRIA) with the Federal Ministry for Science, Research and Economy can be asked for an assessment of the degree.