Welcome to the University of Duisburg-Essen

You already began studying medicine, dentistry or pharmacy in your country and you want to continue your studies at our University? You will find some relevant information below.

The first step is to get your studies from abroad recognized. As you are now living in North Rhine Westfalia, the following health authority is in charge:

Landesprüfungamt für Medizin, Psychotherapie und Pharmazie
Postfach 300865
40408 Düsseldorf

Information on how to apply for recognition and what you need to do can be found here:

www.brd.nrw.de/gesundheit_soziales/landespruefungsamt

Along with the application, you have to submit certified copies of your documents from Secondary School and University as well as German translations. After the recognition procedure, you will receive a confirmation from the “Landesprüfungamt” about which exams are considered equivalent and for which semester you may apply to Universities in Germany.

Recognition of Foreign Trained Doctors in Germany

Before practicing medicine in Germany, all migrant doctors are obliged to undergo recognition procedures in order to get the “ Approbation” (medical license).

The “Oberste Landesgesundheitsbehörde” (state health authorities) evaluates foreign doctors’ education to judge if it is “Gleichwertigkeit” (equivalent) to medical training in Germany. In NRW you have to apply for the “ Approbation” at:

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf
Cecilienallee 2 Dezernat 24
40474 Düsseldorf
The specific required documents are an official German translation of your documents. They may also require passport, Führungszeugnis (clean criminal record), Ärztliche Bescheinigung (certificate of health), proof of German knowledge (certification of at least B2 level plus a specific Medical German test - Level C1 of CEFR), birth certificate, CV (German format, in German), and a copy of degree.

During assessment for equivalency, the education and professional experience presented in each case are considered on an individual basis. A full license can be offered if the training is considered to be equivalent. However, if significant differences are found between the medical education in the applicant’s home country and Germany, the applicant must undergo further assessment in the form of a test to establish equivalency.

The test is a clinical-practical test with patient presentation that takes between 60 and 90 minutes and can only be repeated two times. While preparing for this test, foreign doctors are given a provisional license and a maximum of two years “Anpassungszeit” (adjustment period) before the test must be taken. During this time, foreign doctors do not hold a full license and are restricted to similar studies and practical skills as the “PJ” (practical year).

Recognition of foreign medical qualifications is based on the initial qualification in general medicine. If you wish to work as a specialist doctor in Germany you need to have your further training qualifications recognized by the respective “Landesärztekammer” (Land Chamber of Physicians). Recognition is based on the further training regulations of the Land Chamber of Physicians in the Land in which you wish to practice. For NRW the address is

Ärztekammer Nordrhein-Westfalen
Tersteegenstr.9
40474 Düsseldorf

Check the “Recognition finder” on the Federal Ministry of Education and Research website:

For any questions please get in touch with:
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International Office
Email: restart@uni-due.de
Phone 0203/379-2224 Mondays 9-11 am, Tuesdays and Thursdays 1 – 3 pm
Contact: Mrs. Bärbel Enger