



Process of nostrification and obtaining a professional license for general practitioners and medical specialists with qualifications from third countries

This information refers only to the nostrification and the regulation for gaining of a professional license. A "Red-White-Red Card" can only be issued when the professional license has been granted after nostrification*. Information on immigration to Austria can be found at <https://www.migration.gv.at/en/welcome/> and <https://www.workinaustria.com/en/>. Multilingual information on settlement and access to the labour market: <https://www.migrant.at/en/information-sheets/>.

Process:

1. Information and initial consultation:

- AST Contact Points (AST Anlaufstellen) for people who gained professional qualifications abroad <http://www.anlaufstelle-anerkennung.at/anlaufstellen>.
- Medical Universities – Vienna, Graz or Innsbruck.



2. Preparation:

- compilation of documents, if necessary legalization of documents for the international use,
 - certified translations need to be provided,
 - clarify funding,
- German language courses and courses in medical terminology (C1-certificate is necessary for applying for nostrification at all medical universities. At least B2-level German is needed to obtain a professional license after the nostrification).



3. Application for nostrification at one of the three Medical Universities (nostrification fee € 150.00).



4. Preliminary proceedings:

- comparison of curricula by the university,
- participation at random sample test (joint appointments for all universities three times a year) – sufficient knowledge of medical German is necessary.



5. Decision of nostrification with supplementary exams, a deadline to meet the requirements and the admission to extraordinary study program.



*[provisional employment for study purposes according](#) to § 35 of the Medical Profession Act is possible under certain conditions



6. Taking the supplementary exams:

- admission to extraordinary study program (current tuition fee € 388.56 per semester),
- min. of two compulsory exams for Viennese extraordinary study program are required.



If you do not agree with the decision, there is a possibility to file an appeal with the Federal Administrative Court within four weeks from the date of delivery.



7. Decision of the medical university about the equivalence with the Austrian university degree and granting the use of the Austrian academic degree "Dr. med. univ."



8. Application for registration in the Austrian List of Medical Doctors at the Medical Chamber of the Federal State. Required documents amongst others:

- passed German language exam of the Austrian Medical Chamber at the Austrian Academy of Medical Doctors (pre-requisite: German B2 level-certificate),
- Criminal record certificate and certificate of good standing from country of origin.



OR



9. Recognition of foreign medical training periods:

- medical training and employment certificates required,
- jurisdiction of the Education Commission of the Austrian Medical Chamber,
- administration fee € 410.15 (in case there is no registration into the List of Medical Doctors yet, see above),
- decision on recognized modules.



10. Medical training:

- may be reduced through recognition of foreign medical training periods (see point 9),
- the tenure is subject to the chosen professional training.



11. Taking the theoretical and practical license-exam as a General Practitioner or Medical Specialist
(examination fee € 764.00 or € 1,395.00) –
obtaining the professional license as a General Practitioner or Medical Specialist.

Notes to nostrification and obtaining of a professional license for general practitioners and medical specialists with qualifications from third countries:

1. Requirement: The study program of general human medicine completed in a third country must be fundamentally equivalent to the Austrian study in terms of scope, subjects and extent.
2. Compilation of documents: application form, diploma, transcript (incl. information about type of lessons, duration of academic hour etc.), thesis/academic work and abstract, C1-certificate of German language (various types of language exams are permitted; validity of the C1 level certificate is max. 3 years), residence registration form or postal delivery authorisation, marriage certificate, passport, curriculum vitae and confirmation that the nostrification is mandatory for the exercise of the profession in Austria (given by the Austrian Medical Chamber; not older than 1 year). The documents must be legalised (legalization fees should be considered) and a certified translation of the documents (for the Med Uni Vienna translation from Austria) is necessary (in Vienna English version of the documents is accepted). Translation must be firmly attached (sealed) to the original document or a certified copy thereof. Translation costs amount to several hundred euros.

German language courses and courses in medical terminology as preparation for the random sample test are necessary (recommendation especially for nostrification in Vienna: [initiative wnwmedNOST](#)). After the university-recognition process a B2 level German certificate (various types of language exams are permitted) is a pre-requisite to take the German exam at the Austrian Medical chamber and for the registration into the Austrian List of Medical Doctors.

3. The application may only be submitted to one selected university. It is not allowed to apply for nostrification at another university at the same time or after withdrawal. After a final negative decision for nostrification application, an application at another university may be possible under certain circumstances.
4. The preliminary proceedings start with a comparison of the curricula by the university. After review of the documents and determination of the basic comparability, the random sample test must be taken (invitation by the university, participation is obligatory), whereby medical knowledge from ten clinical disciplines is tested. At least 60% in every part of the random sample test must be positive. The results of the random test contribute to the final decision about the nostrification. In 2025, following random test date is still possible:
 - at the Medical University of Graz: 24.09.2025 (registration until 30.06.2025).The test appointments are offered annually in February (Innsbruck) and May (Vienna).
5. After completion of the preliminary proceedings and the random sample test the decision of the nostrification (additional supplementary exams) and a deadline will be enacted. In case of a final negative ruling a nostrification is not possible at the chosen university and an appeal with the Federal Administrative Court can be undertaken.
6. Once the decision is positive one may enrol in the extraordinary study program at the university of application and is independently responsible for the examination dates. The tenure of the nostrification process will vary depending on the number of exams given (in Vienna there is a minimum of two exams: pharmacy and forensic medicine). The given deadline by the Medical University of Vienna is up to eight semesters, tuition fees are currently € 388.56 per semester.
7. Once all exams are completed the university will give a decision about the equivalence with the Austrian university degree and grant the use of the Austrian academic degree.

8. Registration in the Austrian List of Medical Doctors at the Austrian Medical Chamber in the federal state respectively: before requesting entry into the Austrian List of Medical Doctors the medical German language exam on C1 level at the Academy of Medical Doctors (link see below) needs to be taken (the language certificate B2 is a pre-requisite in order to undertake the medical German exam) – examination fee € 1.138,66 (repeat exam fee: € 569,33; exam can be undertaken on many dates annually, unlimited number of exam starts).
9. Partial recognition of foreign medical training periods is possible, other parts of the practical training need to be retaken in Austria. The Education Commission of the Austrian Medical Chamber assesses how far the foreign medical training may be comparable to the medical training periods in Austria (necessary: vocational documents and confirmation from hospitals where the applicant has worked as a general practitioner or medical specialist, etc.).
10. Medical training may be commenced in Austria without the recognition of foreign medical training periods – longer waiting times are to be expected depending on the federal state.
11. Additionally, all applicants need to take the license-exam as a General Practitioner or Medical Specialist after the practical training after the medical training.

Helpful links:

Fact sheet about nostrification general medicine of the Medical University of Vienna:

https://www.meduniwien.ac.at/web/fileadmin/content/serviceeinrichtungen/studienabteilung/studium/nostrifikation/aktuell/Merkblatt_Nostri_Human_VS_18.2.2025.pdf - German only

Nostrification – Medical University of Innsbruck:

<https://www.i-med.ac.at/studium/services/nostrifizierungsablauf.html> - German only

Nostrification – Medical University of Graz:

<https://www.medunigraz.at/en/study-guidance/nostrification>

[Requirements for recognition of foreign medical training periods by Austrian Medical Chamber](#)

German language exam – Austrian Academy of Medical Doctors:

<https://www.arztakademie.at/sprachpruefung-deutsch> - German only

Information, counselling and clarification of funding:

AST Contact Points (Anlaufstellen) for people who gained professional qualifications abroad

<http://www.anlaufstelle-anerkennung.at/anlaufstellen>

Subject to change without notice. Errors and omissions excepted. For further information please contact the AST Contact Points or the recognition authorities.

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