



The system of recognition of professional qualifications in the Czech Republic, particularly in relation to the professions in the social field

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The system of professional recognition of qualifications in Czech Republic acquired in EEA, other EU states or in Switzerland

Recognition of professional qualifications is focused on evaluation of knowledge and abilities of a particular person.

The result of a recognition of professional qualification process is the decision whether the particular person has sufficient qualification to practise the respective profession.

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Who can apply for recognition of professional qualification in the Czech Republic?

Any **EU, EEA or Swiss national** who acquired professional qualification the above mentioned countries outside the Czech Republic and also family members of such persons and permanent residents in the Czech Republic.



What shall an applicant proceed?

First, an applicant should find out if the profession or activity that he wants to practice is a regulated profession or activity.

- ***A regulated profession or activity is a profession or activity, the practise of which, in the form intended by the applicant, requires evidence of education or attestation of competence.***

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If a profession or activity which an applicant intends to practise in the Czech Republic **is not regulated**, he is allowed to practise it without recognition of a professional qualification.

If a profession or activity which EU, EEA or Swiss national intends to practise in the Czech Republic **is regulated**, he is obliged to apply for recognition of a professional qualification authority.

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The **recognition authority** for a recognition of a professional qualification in an individual case is a **central administrative body** with competence in the field of a regulated profession, or whose competence is the closest to the field of the regulated profession.

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What steps to take for recognition of professional qualifications

What should an applicant do?

An applicant should fill in the application form for recognition of a professional qualifications, which can be found on the website:

www.msmt.cz.

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An applicant should state

- first name, surname, date of birth, nationality and mailing address
- the regulated profession they wish to practise in the Czech Republic
- the form of intention for the practise of a regulated activity (an entrepreneur, responsible representative of an entrepreneur or an employee).

Profession of social worker and the social services worker in the Czech Republic can not perform a self-employed business, just as an employee.

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The application form should be supported by

- an identity card and/or proof of nationality
- evidence of professional qualifications
- evidence of other competence
- a receipt proving the remuneration of the administration fee

(Acceptance of the form is charged CZK 2000.)

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What shall the recognition authority do?

A recognition authority shall issue a decision on the application within **60 days** of submission of a complete application, including relevant documents.

The recognition authority in the Czech republic can issue a decision which states that:

- professional qualification is recognised
- the recognition authority requires an accomplishment of compensatory measures (the completion or pass of a adaptation period, or the need to pass an aptitude test)
- the application for recognition of professional qualifications is rejected

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Recognition of professional qualifications is regulated by **Act No. 18/2004 Coll.**, on the recognition of professional qualification and other competence of nationals of Member States of the European Union and some nationals of other states and on the amendment of some Acts.

This procedure is used only where **the applicant is fully qualified** to practise the regulated profession, or the activity in the country of origin, or in the country of residence, or in the state where an applicant has practised the regulated profession or the activity.

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In Czech Republic vocational activities within social services shall be performed by

- **social workers**
- **social services worker**
- health services worker
- pedagogical workers

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Professional activities which by law carries a social worker

- ✓ social investigation
- ✓ arranges for social agenda including solutions of social law problems in facilities providing social care services
- ✓ social law counselling
- ✓ analytic, methodical and conceptual activities
- ✓ provision of crisis assistance
- ✓ social counselling and social rehabilitation



Professional activities which by law carries a social services worker

1. providing direct service to person in ambulatory or stay-in social services facilities,...
2. performing basic educational non-pedagogical activity consisting in deepening and strengthening basic hygiene and social habits,...
3. domiciliary activities in the household of a person,...



Vocation skills for performing a profession of a social worker shall be

- a) higher vocational school diploma acquired in the field of social work, social pedagogy, humanitarian work, social legal and charity activity,
- b) university BC./MC./Doc. Diploma in the field of social work, social politics, social pedagogy, social care, social pathology, low and special pedagogy,
- c) pass the accredited educational course in the field of a), b) in the period of minimum 200 hours and praxis in the field of social worker in the length of 5 years with university BC./MC./Doc. Diploma in the different field then b).



Vocational skills for performing a profession of a social services worker shall be

for 1) primary or secondary education and completion of an accredited qualification course or course of a health service worker, specialization: nurse,

for 2) secondary education with vocational certificate and completion of an accredited qualification course or course of a health service worker, specialization: ergo therapist,

for 3) primary, secondary, secondary with vocational certificate and completion of an accredited qualification course or course of a health service worker, specialization: nurse.

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The accredited qualification course includes the following themes

- the basic of care for patients,
- quality of social services,
- basic of psycho-psycho-patholo-somatology,
- motivational and educational technology,
- socio-legal minimum,
- the methods of social work,
- restrictions,
- disability issues,
- crisis intervention,
- care household and professional experience.

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Required continuing education

Social workers and social services workers are required to undergo further training of at least **24 hours per calendar year** in which you renew, strengthen and complement the skills.

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs accredits educational institutions and educational programmes for further education of social workers and qualification and other education social services workers.

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Education for social work and social care

- In Czech Republic there is a long tradition in social work and social care, but the qualification requirements of a social workers and social services workers were first established by law until **2007**.
- By **2017**, the transition period in which the personnel will have a long practise can gradually add missing the qualifications requirements under the Act.

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Experience with the process of recognition of qualifications acquired outside in Czech Republic

From 2007 to present only **3** qualifications have been recognized (2 social workers and 1 social services worker).

In each of these cases was a request of the Czech citizen who was educated outside the Czech Republic and wanted to work in the CR.