

Factsheet Physiotherapist Mobility to Germany



Version: Fall 2019

Preliminary remark

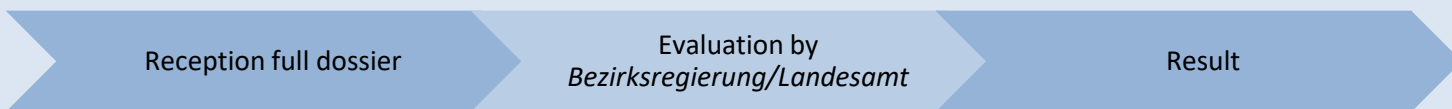
In Germany, recognition is often organised per *Bundesland*. This means that – depending on where you want to work – there is a different authority. The focus in this factsheet is on the *Bundesländer* that border on the Netherlands (North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and Lower Saxony (Nds.)). Where information is provided that relates to one of the two *Bundesländer*, this is specifically indicated. Are you planning on working somewhere else? Consult the website anerkennung-in-deutschland.de to find the right competent authority.

Step 1 – Submission application for recognition

- Submit a full application
- At the *Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf* in case of mobility to North Rhine-Westphalia:
 - With a [NL diploma](#)
 - With another [EU diploma](#)
 - At the *Landesamt für Soziales, Jugend und Familie* in case of mobility to Lower Saxony with an [EU diploma](#)

You will receive a confirmation stating whether any additional documents need to be sent.

Step 2 – Processing of the dossier



Authorities assess whether there is equivalence with the learning outcomes in the “*Gesetz über die Berufe in der Physiotherapie (Masseur- und Physiotherapeutengesetz – MPhG)*”. Recognition is mainly based on training and work experience.

Step 3 – Result recognition procedure



If recognition cannot take place, compensation measures will be imposed. Compensation measures are imposed in case of substantial differences. In this case, the differences between German and foreign training are so great that they cannot be bridged by your professional experience.

North Rhine-Westphalia – The *Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf* uses separate criteria for Dutch physiotherapy diplomas. Given the extensive experience of the *Bezirksregierung* with these diplomas, the content of the training is considered only globally. This means that recognition for physiotherapists trained in the Netherlands is almost automatic. As a result, the procedure often takes less than the maximum period of 4 months (approx. 1 month) and no compensation measures are usually requested. In general, these can still occur with old training courses. In the case of compensation measures, the *Bezirksregierung* will refer you to an educational institution in order to start the adaptation period. The adaptation periods consist of theory and practice and are structured by means of modules. The aptitude test can be taken at very short notice (approx. 2 weeks) and consists of a patient examination.

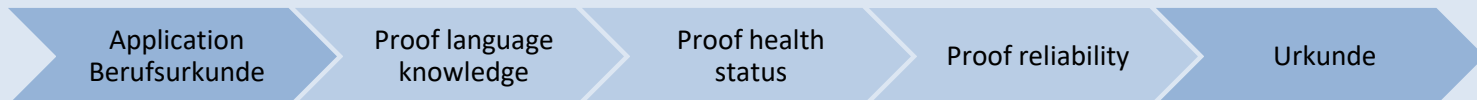
Step 4 – Labour market access

North Rhine-Westphalia

After recognition by the *Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf*, it is necessary to apply for the *Berufsurkunde/Erlaubnis* from the [Gesundheitsämter](#) for access to the labour market.

Lower Saxony

Both recognition and the *Berufsurkunde/Erlaubnis* are granted by the *Landesamt*.



Explanation documents

- Proof language knowledge - As a rule, a level of B2 language proficiency is required.
- Proof health status - For example by a doctor's certificate.
- Proof reliability - For example by a certificate of good conduct.
 - For [Belgium](#), the municipality of your place of residence or the Central Criminal Record (if you do not live in Belgium) can be contacted.
 - For the [Netherlands](#), the municipality of your place of residence or Justis (if you do not live in the Netherlands) can be contacted

Further information?

The [IQ-Netzwerk](#) offers national advisory services for persons with foreign qualifications looking for recognition. The *Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung* is the [German Assistance Centre](#) for the Professional Qualifications Directive.

Attention!

- Completeness of documentation is essential: the processing time only starts with a complete file.
- Please note that in Germany more detailed information about the content of the training is generally requested (e.g. content of courses and number of hours). Completeness accelerates the procedure.
- This Factsheet is strictly informative in nature, no rights can be derived from it.

Costs

	NRW	Nds.
Recognition procedure	€ 150-350	Approx. €200*
<i>Berufsurkunde/Erlaubnis</i>	Approx. € 60	€ 53

Possible additional costs

- Certified translations (NRW in case of documentation not in DE/EN | Nds. in case of documentation not in DE)
- Costs proof health status and reliability

*Possible additional costs in case of evaluation by the [Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen](#) (ZAB)

Contact details authorities

North Rhine-Westphalia

Application by post:

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf
Landesprüfungsamt für Medizin,
Psychotherapie und Pharmazie
Postfach 30 08 65
40408 Düsseldorf

+49 (0)211 475 4265 (mon 13:00-14:30, wed 8:30-11:30)

Dez24.heilberufe@brd.nrw.de

http://www.brd.nrw.de/gesundheit_soziales/LPA-NAH-Start/index.jsp

Visitor's address:

Bezirksregierung Düsseldorf
Am Bonnhof 35
40474 Düsseldorf

Lower Saxony

Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Soziales, Jugend
und Familie
Außenstelle Lüneburg
Postfach 2280
21312 Lüneburg

+49 (0) 4131 150 (mon-thur 9-15, fr 9-12)

4SL3@ls.niedersachsen.de

https://soziales.niedersachsen.de/startseite/soziales_gesundheit/gesundheits_und_pflegerische_nichtaerztliche_heilberufe/