

Factsheet Secondary School Teacher Mobility to Belgium



Version: Fall 2019

Preliminary remark

In Belgium, the competences for recognition and education are divided between the Flemish, French and German-speaking Communities. This means that an application for recognition must be submitted to the authority of the Community in which you want to work. The procedures vary from one Community to another. Where information is provided relating to one of the three Communities, this is specifically indicated.

Alternatives instead of a recognition procedure

In the three Communities it is possible, under certain conditions, to work in the field of education without recognition. However, this concerns temporary work when there is a shortage of qualified staff.

Step 1 – Submission application for recognition

It is possible to contact the competent authorities in advance for information on the recognition process.

- Submit a full application
- To the [Agentschap voor Onderwijsdiensten \(AgODi\)](#) of the Flemish Community; or
 - To the [Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles](#) of the French Community (contact form); or
 - To the [Ministerie](#) of the German-speaking Community.

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

Step 2 – Processing of the dossier

Reception full dossier

Evaluation by Community

Result

The Community concerned is responsible for applications for recognition. Recognition is decided on a case-by-case basis and is therefore tailor-made. The emphasis is on teaching qualification in the home country (the subjects and age categories), diplomas, and work experience. In this context, the authorities ask applicants to submit a document indicating what the foreign teaching qualification looks like. Such a document can be requested from DUO in the Netherlands, and from the *Landesprüfungsämter* for education in Germany. The authorities in the Flemish and German-speaking Communities evaluate what you can obtain in the Flemish and German-speaking Communities in terms of a teaching qualification based on your home Member state's teaching qualification. In the French Community, this is evaluated by the *Commission des titres pour l'accès aux fonctions enseignantes*.

Step 3 – Result recognition procedure



If recognition cannot take place, compensation measures will be imposed. Compensation measures are generally imposed in case of substantial differences. In that case, the differences between training in the Belgian Communities and foreign training are so great that they cannot be bridged by work experience. In the case of the three Communities, few compensation measures are applied in relation to qualifications from the neighbouring countries (NL & DE) for the profession of secondary school teacher, the majority of cases concerns direct recognitions.

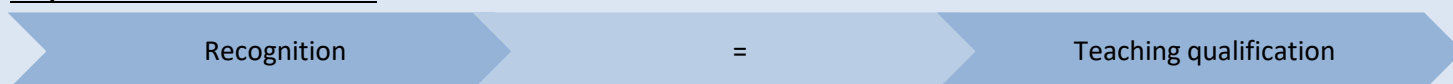
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Flemish Community – Does a certain subject not exist in the Flemish Community, but would you still like to teach it one way or another? An alternative is to apply for an [academic \(specific\) recognition](#). Through this procedure, the foreign diploma is "translated" into an equivalent Flemish diploma. In some cases, this can lead to broader competences. If it is not possible for you to obtain recognition, you will be referred to the department "[leraar worden](#)".

French Community – If a particular subject does not exist, it cannot be recognised. In that case, partial recognition may be granted for a subject for which you are qualified and which exists in the French Community. If you cannot obtain recognition under the EU Directive (e.g. because you do not have a valid teaching qualification or are not qualified to teach in the home country), an [equivalence à un grade académique spécifique](#) can serve as an alternative.

German-speaking Community – Applications from holders of German diplomas who are not yet able to work as teachers in Germany (i.e. are not fully qualified) are frequently received. In this case, a teaching qualification must first be obtained in the German-speaking Community.

Step 4 – Labour market access



For the profession of teacher, recognition gives direct access to the labour market. This means that you are directly qualified to teach and can directly look for employment as a secondary school teacher. The recognition decision therefore also constitutes the teaching qualification and indicates, among others, the subjects and age categories to which it applies.

Flemish Community – in the Flemish Community there is a [language requirement](#) to work in education. Are you not yet able to speak the required level of Dutch? In that case, the school can apply for a *taalafwijking*, meaning that the necessary knowledge of the Dutch language must be acquired within three years.

French Community – language proficiency is checked within the first three years of employment. The [required level of language proficiency](#) depends on the function. There are various [procedures](#) in order to apply for a teaching post in the French Community.

German-speaking Community – a specific procedure applies in the event of appointments to the [Community education system](#). If you want to work in education, you have to be proficient in the [German language](#). In order to determine the level of remuneration, the academic level of the degree is evaluated. This does not apply to Dutch diplomas because – as a result of agreements in the Benelux – there is automatic level recognition. In the case of German diplomas, however, a [niveau-Gleichstellung](#) must be obtained.

Further information?

Be-assist is the [Belgian Assistance Centre](#) for the Professional Qualifications Directive.

Attention!	Costs	Flemish Community	French Community	German-speaking Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Completeness of documentation is essential: the processing time only starts with a complete file.- An application for recognition is submitted to the Community in which a person wants to work. It is not possible to submit an application in more than one Community.- This Factsheet is strictly informative in nature, no rights can be derived from it.	Recognition procedure	Free	€ 65	Free
	Possible additional costs			
	Certified translations (in case of documentation not in NL/EN/FR/DE)			
	Costs proof of teaching qualification home Member State			
	Costs additional documentation appointment			

Contact details authority

Flemish Community	French Community	German-speaking Community
Agentschap voor Onderwijsdiensten Koning Albert II-laan 15 1210 Brussels +32(0)2 553 65 29 (mon, tue, thur 9-12) Erkenning.lerarendiploma@vlaanderen.be https://www.vlaanderen.be/professionele-erkenning-van-een-buitenlands-lerarendiploma-in-vlaanderen	Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles Adolphe Lavalléestraat 1 1080 Brussels +32 (0)2 690 89 00 (tue and wed 13:30-16) Equi.sup@cfwb.be http://www.equivalences.cfwb.be/index.php?id=1216	Ministerium der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Gospertstraße 1 4700 Eupen +32 (0) 87 596 364 +32 (0)87 976 706 http://www.ostbelgienbildung.be/PortalData/21/Resources/downloads/unterrichtsorganisation/gleichstellung_diplome/Prozedur_der_Anerkennung_einer_Lehrperson_DG.pdf