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5.6 RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN EDUCATION (ZŠ, SŠ, VOŠ)

ZŠ, SŠ

Recognition of foreign degrees and qualifications is needed for further studies and when applying for a job. It may be required when registering as self-employed, practicing a regulated profession, or for retraining. Below you will find information on how to proceed when having elementary, secondary, or post-secondary vocational education recognized in the Czech Republic (CR).

NOSTRIFICATION PROCEDURE

1. get a certified copy of your proof of education from a notary https://www.nkcr.cz/seznam-notaru or at a CzechPOINT https://www.czechpoint.cz/
2. have the certified copy translated by a sworn translator https://seznat.justice.cz/
3. complete a request form – downloadable from the regional authority's website
4. pay the administrative fee of CZK 3,000

Osoby s dočasnou ochranou (DO) pobývající na území ČR méně než 1 rok jsou zproštěny povinnosti uhradit správní poplatek. V takovém případě by měl žadatel přiložit prostou kopii dokladu o 5. 5. 5. udělení dočasné ochrany opatřenou vlastnoručním podpisem a s uvedením data pořízení kopie.
podání podepsané žádosti se všemi přílohami na místně příslušný krajský úřad (v Praze Magistrát hlavního města Prahy)

5. submit the request, signed and supplemented with all required attachments, to the corresponding regional authority (Prague City Hall for applicants living in Prague)

! Nostrification of elementary education for the purposes of admission to the 1st grade of high school is not possible!

REQUEST ATTACHMENTS::

- ☑ a certified copy of proof of education + sworn translation
- ☑ a certified copy of a document indicating the content and number of classes (annex) completed abroad + sworn translation
- ☑ proof of payment of the CZK 3,000 administrative fee
- ☑ (proof of residence in the CR (e.g., a copy of the ID, lease agreement, etc.))
- ☑ (proof of a name change – e.g., marriage certificate)
- ☑ (a power of attorney if the request is submitted by an attorney)

! Persons with no residence in the CR may submit the request to any regional authority. The request can also be submitted by an attorney (power of attorney).

DECISION

According to the Administrative Procedure, requests should be handled within 30 days upon receipt, or after passing a nostrification exam. In complex cases, the period may be extended by another 30 days. If there is a document or piece of information missing, the corresponding authority asks the applicant to complete it. The administrative procedure is suspended. Upon completion, the 30-day period is reset.

APPEAL

Within 15 days upon receipt of the decision, applicants may file an appeal with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports through the corresponding regional authority.

NOSTRIFICATION EXAM

An applicant may be asked to take nostrification exams due to differences between education systems (e.g., shorter length of study in comparison to the CR). Applicants have the right to use interpreting services. A nostrification exam may be taken in an applicant's mother tongue or in their language of instruction. In such cases, it is necessary to notify the school where the exam is held in advance and arrange a sworn interpreter. The interpreting costs are covered by the applicant.

- There is only 1 attempt.
- The content of the exam corresponds to the content typically covered at the specific educational stage. (High school nostrification exams are similar to the maturita exam.)
- Topics and recommended reading for the exam are typically available on the schools' websites.
- The exam is usually oral before a committee. However, it can also be a written or a practical test (e.g., IT).
- PAfter a failed attempt, a new request can be submitted once the administrative procedure is concluded (upon receipt of a negative decision). Once a new administrative procedure is opened, an applicant can now resit only the exam that they have failed.

Useful links:

Departments of Education at Regional Authorities

Further information can be found on the Do školy společně website

Act No. 561/2004 Coll., the Education Act (on Pre-school, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education)

Decree No. 12/2005 Coll., on the Conditions for the Recognition of Equivalence and Nostrification of Certificates Issued by Foreign Schools

Act No. 500/2004 Coll., the Administrative Procedure Code