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Assessment of Foreign Secondary-School Education
within the Admission Proceedings

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1 PROCEDURE WHEN ASSESSING FOREIGN SECONDARY EDUCATION

Should an applicant who obtained foreign secondary education by graduation from a secondary education programme at a foreign school, international secondary school or European school operating according to the Convention defining the Statute of the European Schools, or at a school at which the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic has allowed the performance of compulsory school attendance pursuant to the Education Act (hereinafter as the “foreign secondary education”) apply for admission to studies in a bachelor’s degree programme or master’s degree programme that is not consecutive to a bachelor’s degree programme, the applicant substantiates compliance with the requirement of prior education by:

- a) **a document concerning general recognition of equivalence or validity of the foreign document concerning the attainment of secondary education in the Czech Republic** obtained pursuant to the Education Act or under previous existing legislation (the so-called “nostrification”).¹ The process of general recognition is described [HERE](#) and the recognition is accepted by all Czech Universities, or
- b) **a document concerning the award of the European Baccalaureate**,² or
- c) **a foreign document concerning foreign secondary education including the secondary school leaving examination of it is automatically equal in the Czech Republic** on the basis of its international commitments without a further administrative procedure,³ or
- d) **by a document concerning foreign secondary education that was obtained by graduating from a secondary education programme at a foreign secondary school operating pursuant to the foreign legislation and that authorises**, in the foreign state in question, its holder to access studies in a bachelor’s degree programme. This type of recognition is valid only within the University where the process of validation took place.

¹ *I.e., by a document proving recognition of foreign secondary education in the Czech Republic.*

² *Certificate of European Baccalaureate is automatically considered a document equal to the Czech school-leaving examination certificate without further procedures. Caution, so-called International Baccalaureate is a proof pursuant to subsection d). If the International Baccalaureate is a part of the school-leaving examination certificate, applicants provide the school-leaving examination certificate in the context of the admission procedure. **Note:** The certificate of the European Baccalaureate is automatically considered a document equal to the Czech school-leaving examination certificate. In order to use it in the Czech Republic, the graduate of a European School does not need any special act to be executed by any administrative authority of the Czech Republic. Education in the higher tier of the secondary level of European Schools (i.e. the 5th-7th year of secondary level of European Schools) is acknowledged in the Czech Republic as education in the education field 79-41-K/410 Gymnázium (see Government Regulation No. 689/2004 Coll. on the System of Education Fields in Primary, Secondary, and Higher Vocational Education, as amended by Government Regulation No. 18/2006 Coll.). For information on European Schools, see: <http://www.msmt.cz/mezinarodni-vztahy/zakladni-informace-o-evropskych-skolach>*

³ *These are documents issued in Slovakia (Vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške), v Polsku (Swiadectwo Dojrzalosci), Hungary (Gimnáziumi Érettségi Bizonyítvány, Szakközépiskolai Érettségi-Képesítő Bizonyítvány, Érettségi Szakiskolai Bizonyítvány) and Slovenia (Splošna Matura, Poklicna Matura).*



2 FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF DOCUMENTS

- The applicant is required to provide resource materials in the form of **originals** or **officially verified copies**. Documents must be submitted either in paper form or as PDF files resulting from authorized conversion. Documents in other forms than those mentioned above shall not be accepted.
- Resource materials that are not issued in the Czech language, English or Slovakian language as originals, must be **officially translated into the Czech or English language**. In the case that the official translation is prepared by other than a Czech certified interpreter, the translated pages must be enclosed with officially verified copies of the documents that they concern in a manner that does not allow for a later substitution of pages. **The list of official Czech certified interpreter is available [HERE](#). Translations attached to plain copies of documents shall not be accepted.**
- Pursuant to Section 12 of the Act No. 91/2012 Coll., on International Private Law, the document (e.g., certificate, degree certificate or diploma supplement) that is valid as a public instrument in the location where it was issued has the probative force of a public instrument in the Czech Republic as well if the prescribed verification is present. If it is not possible to secure the prescribed verification in accordance with international customs for the document issued abroad and the relevant diplomatic mission of the Czech Republic has no doubt concerning the authenticity of the document, it shall provide the document with a supplement stating that diplomatic mission has no doubt concerning the authenticity of the document.
- Prescribed forms of verification are indicated in part 2. Requirements on the submission of duly verified documents will be met even in the case that the applicant presents officially verified copies of documents that are already verified in the required manner (e.g., the applicant presents an officially verified copy of legalized documents from Nigeria).

3 FORMS OF VERIFICATION

With respect to verification of documents, the states in which the foreign education was obtained are divided into:

3.1 Without further verification

States that concluded a convention on mutual legal assistance, i.e., documents are valid on the territory of state parties **without further verification, an officially verified copy prepared by a notary of this country** is considered sufficient: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, DPRK (North Korea), France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia (North), Moldavia, Mongolia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen.

3.2 Verification by the foreign school

States where the apostille (legalization in the case of Canada) may be **substituted by an official verification of the document supplemented by a confirmation issued by the foreign school**: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America (USA).

3.3 Verification of authenticity by Apostille

States that concluded a convention on abolishing the requirement of legalization for foreign public documents (the Hague Convention) according to which a uniform form of **verification of authenticity of documents is set in the form of so-called apostille** that is issued by the authorised body of the state in which the certificate was issued: American Samoa, Andorra, Angola, Anguilla (United Kingdom), Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Aruba (Netherlands), Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda (United Kingdom), Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, British Antarctic Territory



(United Kingdom), British Virgin Islands (United Kingdom), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cayman Islands (United Kingdom), Chile, China (Hongkong a Macao), Colombia, Comoro Islands, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eswatini, Falkland Islands (United Kingdom), Fiji, French Polynesia, Gibraltar (United Kingdom), Grenada, Guadelupe (France), Guam (USA), Guatemala, Guernsey (United Kingdom), Guyana (France), Honduras, Iceland, India, Isle of Man (United Kingdom), Israel, Japan, Jersey (United Kingdom), Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Lesotho, Liberia, Lichtenstein, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Martinique (France), Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montserrat (United Kingdom), Morocco, Mozambique (Portugal), Namibia, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia (France), Nicaragua, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands (USA), Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico (USA), Republic of Korea (South Korea), Republic of South Africa, Réunion – France, Saint Helena (United Kingdom), Saint Kitts and Nevis (France), Saint Lucia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon (France), Saint Thomas and Prince, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Solomon Islands (United Kingdom), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (United Kingdom), Surinam, Tajikistan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turks and Caicos Islands (United Kingdom), United States Virgin Islands, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Wallis and Futuna (France).

Further information on “How to get and Apostille?” could be found [HERE](#).

3.4 Verification by Super legalization

Other states where the authenticity of the document concerning education obtained abroad must be verified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the state where the school, which issued the document, has its registered office and, furthermore, by a diplomatic mission of the Czech Republic (so-called Super legalization).

Super legalization is a higher authentication of a public document which confirms that the document was issued by the relevant authority. Super legalization is being done by verification of the signature / official stamp / official seal on the document. Birth certificates and high school diplomas are required to be super legalized. The difference between Apostille and Super legalization is well described [HERE](#).



Alphabetical list of countries and prescribed methods of document verification

Explanatory notes

- OVC in the case of submission of the original of the document, the document does not need to be further verified; officially verified copy prepared by a notary of the foreign country is considered sufficient (there is an agreement of mutual legal assistance)
- OVC + verification of the document by an apostille/legalization may be substituted by a verified copy and supplemental confirmation issued by a foreign school
- A verification by an apostille pursuant to the Hague Convention is required
- L verification of the document by legalization, i.e., by a foreign authority or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the foreign state and concurrently by a diplomatic mission of the Czech Republic

State in which the diploma was issued	Verification	State in which the diploma was issued	Verification
Afghanistan	OVC	Belgium	OVC
Albania	OVC	Belize	A
Algeria	OVC	Benin	L
American Samoa	A	Bermuda (UK)	A
Andorra	A	Bhutan	L
Angola	A	Bolivia	A
Anguilla (UK)	A	Bosnia and Herzegovina	OVC
Antarctica	L	Botswana	A
Antigua and Barbuda	A	Bouvet Island	L
Argentina	A	Brazil	A
Armenia	A	British Antarctic Territory (UK)	A
Aruba (Netherlands)	A	British Virgin Islands (UK)	A
Australia	A / OVC +	Brunei Darussalam	A
Austria	OVC	Bulgaria	OVC
Azerbaijan	A	Burkina Faso	L
Bahamas	A	Burundi	A
Bahrain	A	Cambodia	L
Bangladesh	L	Cameroon	L
Barbados	A	Canada	L / OVC +
Belarus	OVC	Cape Verde	L
		Cayman Islands (UK)	A



State in which the diploma was issued

Central African Republic	L
Ceuta (Spain)	L
Chad	S
Chile	A
China	L
China (Hongkong and Macao)	A
Christmas Island	L
Colombia	A
Comoro Islands	A
Congo	L
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	L
Cook Islands	A
Costa Rica	A
Croatia	OVC
Cuba	OVC
Cyprus	OVC
Denmark	A / OVC +
Djibouti	L
Dominica	A
Dominican Republic	A
East Timor	L
Ecuador	A
Egypt	L
El Salvador	A
Equatorial Guinea	L
Eritrea	L
Estonia	A / OVC +
Eswatini	A
Ethiopia	L
Falkland Islands (UK)	A
Faroe Islands	L
Fiji	A

State in which the diploma was issued

Finland	A / OVC +
France	OVC
French Polynesia	A
French Southern and Antarctic Lands	L
Gabon	L
Gambia	L
Georgia	OVC
Germany	A / OVC +
Ghana	L
Gibraltar (UK)	A
Greece	OVC
Greenland	L
Grenada	A
Guadalupe (France)	A
Guam (USA)	A
Guatemala	A
Guernsey (UK)	A
Guinea	L
Guinea-Bissau	L
Guyana (France)	A
Haiti	L
Heard Island and McDonald Islands	L
Honduras	A
Hungary	OVC
Iceland	A
India	A
Indonesia	L
Iran	L
Iraq	L



State in which the diploma was issued	Verification	State in which the diploma was issued	Verification
Ireland	A / OVC +	Malawi	A
Isle of Man (UK)	A	Malaysia	L
Israel	A	Maldives	L
Italy	A / OVC +	Mali	L
Ivory Coast	L	Malta	A
Jamaica	L	Marshall Islands	A
Japan	A	Martinique (France)	A
Jersey (UK)	A	Mauretania	L
Jordan	L	Mauritius	A
Kazakhstan	A	Mayotte (France)	L
Kenya	L	Melilla (Spain)	L
Kiribati	L	Mexico	A
DPRK (North Korea)	OVC	Micronesia	L
Korea, Republic of (South Korea)	A	Moldova	OVC
Kosovo	A	Monaco	A
Kuwait	L	Mongolia	OVC
Kyrgyzstan	OVC	Morocco	A
Laos	L	Montenegro	OVC
Latvia	A / OVC +	Montserrat (UK)	A
Lebanon	L	Mozambique (Portugal)	A
Lesotho	A	Myanmar	L
Liberia	A	Namibia	A
Libya	L	Nauru	L
Lichtenstein	A	Nepal	L
Lithuania	A / OVC +	Netherlands	A / OVC +
Luxembourg	A / OVC +	Netherlands Antilles	A
Macao	L	New Caledonia (France)	A
Macedonia, (North)	OVC	New Zealand	A / OVC +
Madagascar	L	Nicaragua	A



State in which the diploma was issued	Verification	State in which the diploma was issued	Verification
Niger	L	San Marino	A
Nigeria	L	Saudi Arabia	L
Niue	A	Senegal	L
Norfolk	L	Serbia	OVC
Northern Mariana Islands (USA)	A	Seychelles	A
Norway	A / OVC +	Sierra Leone	L
Oman	A	Singapore	L
Pakistan	L	Slovakia	OVC
Palau	L	Slovenia	OVC
Panama	A	Solomon Islands (UK)	A
Papua New Guinea	L	Somalia	L
Paraguay	A	South Africa, Republic of	A
Peru	A	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (UK)	A
Philippines	L	Spain	OVC
Pitcairn Islands	L	Sri Lanka	L
Poland	OVC	Sudan	L
Portugal	A / OVC +	Suriname	A
Puerto Rico (USA)	A	Sweden	A / OVC +
Qatar	L	Switzerland	OVC
Réunion – France	A	Syria	OVC
Romania	OVC	Taiwan	L
Russian Federation	OVC	Tajikistan	A
Rwanda	L	Tanzania	L
Saint Helena (UK)	A	Thailand	L
Saint Kitts and Nevis (France)	A	Togo	L
Saint Lucia	A	Tokelau	L
Saint Pierre and Miquelon (France)	A	Tonga	A
Saint Thomas and Prince	A		
Saint Vincent and Grenadines	A		
Samoa	A		



State in which the diploma was issued **Verification**

Trinidad and Tobago	A
Tunisia	L
Turkey	A
Turkmenistan	L
Turks and Caicos Islands (UK)	A
Tuvalu	L
Uganda	L
Ukraine	OVC
United Arab Emirates	L
United Kingdom	OVC
United States of America	A / OVC +

State in which the diploma was issued **Verification**

United States Minor Outlying Islands	L
United States Virgin Islands	A
Uruguay	A / OVC +
Uzbekistan	A
Vanuatu	A
Vatican City State	L
Venezuela	A
Vietnam	OVC
Wallis and Futuna (France)	A
Yemen	OVC
Zambia	L
Zimbabwe	L