

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF A SOCIAL WORKER

The Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour (hereinafter referred to as “Department”) carries out the recognition of the professional qualifications of a social worker held by nationals of the Member States of the European Union, European Economic Area States, the Swiss Confederation and third countries, wishing to pursue the professional activities of social work in the Republic of Lithuania.

The procedure for recognition of the professional qualifications of a social worker is free of charge.

Persons whose professional qualifications are recognized as a social worker must have a good command of the Lithuanian language and the required level of knowledge of the official language need to reach B1 Language Proficiency Level (Second Category).

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR CITIZENS OF MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA STATES AND THE SWISS CONFEDERATION, ACQUIRED A PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION IN THE MEMBER STATES, WISHING TO TAKE UP A REGULATED SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION IN THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA.

Whether delivered by hand, posted or email, a duly completed application and documents must be submitted to the Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour by the applicant himself or by his authorized representative to the following address: A. Vivulskio st. 13, LT-03221 Vilnius, sppd@sppd.lt

The applicant must submit a duly completed Application form and copies of the documents

List of Required Documents:

1. Proof of the nationality of the person.
2. Evidence of formal qualifications.
3. Documents constituting evidence of the duration and content of the training.
4. Documents on the recognition of proof of formal qualifications attained in a third country in a Member State (if any).
5. Other documents confirming professional qualifications held by the applicant (if any).

6. Documents providing proof of social work experience for at least one year for the last 10 years or for an equivalent duration on a part-time basis during the previous 10 years in another Member State which does not regulate the social work profession.
7. Proof of change of the last name (first name) (if changed).
8. A power of attorney if the application is filled out by an authorised person.
9. Documents of proof of passing a professional aptitude test or of the period of professional adaptation (if either of these compensatory measures has been applied).
10. Lithuanian translations of the submitted documents. The translation must be certified with the signature of the translator and/or seal of the translations agency.

Description of the service delivery process:

1. Upon receipt of an application and documents from citizens of the Member States of the European Union, States of the European Economic Area or the Swiss Confederation, the Department shall acknowledge thereof within 5 days and notify the person of any missing document. Upon receipt of the person's application and any supporting documents, the Department shall forward it to the Commission within 7 calendar days.
2. The Commission shall process an application and documents submitted and draw a conclusion proposing to the Director of the Department to recognize applicant's professional qualifications or not to recognize applicant's professional qualifications, stating reasons for non-recognition, or imposing a compensatory measure on the applicant, stating the reasons for the imposition thereof.
3. The Department shall take a final reasoned decision on the recognition of professional qualifications of social work as soon as possible, but no later than within three months of the date of receipt of all relevant documents, and shall inform the applicant of the action taken on his application.
4. The decision shall be sent to the applicant by post, or email or may be collected at the Department by the applicant (or his authorized representative).

Contact person: Inga Sapkaitė, e-mail: Inga.Sapkaite@sppd.lt

RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR CITIZENS OF MEMBER
STATES AND FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS,
ACQUIRED A PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION IN THE THIRD COUNTRIES MEMBER
STATES WISHING TO TAKE UP A REGULATED SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION IN THE
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Whether delivered by hand, posted or email, duly completed application forms must be submitted to the Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour by the applicant himself or by his authorized representative to the following address: A.Vivulskio st. 13, LT-03162 Vilnius, sppd@sppd.lt

The applicant must submit a duly completed Application form and copies of the documents.

List of Required Documents:

1. Proof of the nationality of the person.
2. Evidence of formal qualifications.
3. Documents constituting evidence of the duration and content of the training.
4. Documents related to the further training of the social worker (if any).
5. Documents on the recognition of proof of formal qualifications attained in a third country in a Member State (if any).
6. Documents certifying the duration and nature of social work experience (if any).
7. Other supporting documents certifying the professional qualification of the social worker (academic degree, scientific research and pedagogical activities, etc.) (if any).
8. Proof of change of the last name (first name) (if changed).
9. A power of attorney if the application is filled out by an authorised person.
10. Documents of proof of the passing of a professional aptitude test or of the period of professional adaptation (if either of these compensatory measures has been applied).
11. Lithuanian translations of the submitted documents. The translation must be certified with the signature of the translator and/or seal of the translations agency.

Description of the service delivery process:

1. Upon receipt of an application and documents from a citizen of a third country, the Department shall forward them to the Commission within 3 business days.
2. The Commission shall process an application and documents submitted and draw a conclusion proposing to the Director of the Department to recognize applicant's professional qualifications or not to recognize applicant's professional qualifications, stating reasons for non-recognition, or imposing a compensatory measure on the applicant stating the reasons for the imposition thereof.
3. The Department shall take a final reasoned decision on the recognition of professional qualifications of social work as soon as possible, but no later than within three months of the date of receipt of all relevant documents, and shall inform the applicant of the action taken on his application.

4. The decision shall be sent to the applicant by post, or email or may be collected at the Department by the applicant (or his authorized representative).

If there are any reasonable doubts as to the authenticity of the documents, the Department shall have the right to request the applicant to submit copies of the documents certified by a notary or any other competent authority.

Contact person: Inga Sapkaitė, e-mail: Inga.Sapkaite@sppd.lt

PROCEDURE FOR THE RECOGNITION OF THE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF A SOCIAL WORKER FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES IN THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON A TEMPORARY OR OCCASIONAL BASIS

The temporary and occasional nature of the provision of services shall be assessed case by case, in particular in relation to its duration, frequency, regularity and its continuity.

The applicant must submit to the competent authority a prior written Declaration on the Temporary and Occasional Provision of Social Worker Services when he first moves from a Member State to the territory of the Republic of Lithuania to provide social worker services.

Whether delivered by hand, posted or email duly completed declaration and documents must be submitted to the Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour by the applicant himself or by his authorized representative to the following address: A. Vivulskio st. 13, LT-03115 Vilnius, sppd@sppd.lt

The applicant shall provide the following documents accompanying the declaration:

1. Proof of the nationality of the person.
2. Evidence of formal qualifications.
3. An attestation certifying that the applicant is legally established in a Member State may pursue social work activities and he is not prohibited from practising, even temporarily.
4. Other documents confirming professional qualifications held by the applicant (if any).
5. A document certifying that he/she is legally established in a Member State, he/she is not prohibited from pursuing a social work profession that he pursued in a Member State or several

Member States full-time for one year during the previous ten years, if the Member State of establishment does not regulate social work profession.

6. The declaration must be accompanied by Lithuanian translations of documents. The translation must be certified with the signature of the translator and/or seal of the translations agency.

The competent authority may ask the competent authorities of the Member State of establishment to provide any information as to the legality of the applicant's establishment and the applicant's good conduct, as well as the absence of any disciplinary or criminal sanctions of a professional nature.

A person may start providing services from the day of submission of declaration (procedure for the recognition of professional qualifications shall not apply).

Contact person: Inga Sapkaitė, e-mail: Inga.Sapkaite@sppd.lt

LEGISLATION GOVERNING THE RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SOCIAL WORKER:

The Republic of Lithuania Law No. X-1478 of 3 April 2008 on the Recognition of Regulated Professional Qualifications

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.318398/GWYfVWofby?jfwid=146xwqwhno>

The procedure for recognition of the professional qualifications of a social worker for the purpose of engaging in the professional activity of social work or providing social worker services on a temporary or occasional basis in the Republic of Lithuania is regulated by the Order No V-178 of 5 May 2016 of the Director of the Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour “On the Approval of the Procedure for Recognition of the Professional Qualification of a Social Worker for the Purposes of Engaging in the Professional Activity of Social Work or Providing Social Worker Services on a Temporary or Occasional Basis in the Republic of Lithuania”.

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/2a3d95c012f711e6aa14e8b63147ee94/NdRGvCgtNb?jfwid=146xwqwhs5>

The procedure for recognition of professional qualifications of third-country nationals for the purposes of engaging in the professional activity of social work in the Republic of Lithuania is regulated by the Order No V1-431 of 26 May 2021 of the Director of the Department of Supervision of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour “On Approval of the Procedure for the Recognition of the Qualification of Third-Country Nationals for the Purposes of Engaging in the Professional Activity of Social Work in the Republic of Lithuania”.

<https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/b729c250be1511eb8c24980b2b0e0fef/IRDMMgbhev>