MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL INSURANCE
LABOUR DEPARTMENT

- Subject: **THE GENERAL SYSTEM FOR THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

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EUROPEAN SINGLE MARKET

- FREE MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL
- FREE MOVEMENT OF PRODUCTS
- FREE MOVEMENT OF SERVICES
- FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS

FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS – WORKERS

AIM : ENCOURAGEMENT/FACILITATION OF WORKERS MOBILITY

- FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS
- EURES:EUROPEAN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
- MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- REGULATED PROFESSIONS
- TRANSNATIONAL ELEMENT
- THE APPLICANT IS A PROFESSIONAL IN HIS/HER HOME MEMBER STATE

MEASURES ON THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PROFESSIONALS

1. **Liberalization Directives - 1960 :**

   Transitional measures in relation to certain activities in the areas of trade, manufacturing, transport, services etc.

2. **Sectoral Directives – 1970-1980** :

   Doctor, nurse, midwife, dentist, veterinarian, pharmacist, architect, lawyer

3. **General System 1990-2000**
   - Directive 89/48/EEC
   - Directive 92/51/EEC
   - Directive 99/42/EC
   - Directive 2001/19/EC

4. **New Directive (2005/36/EC)**

DIRECTIVE 89/48/EEC
LAW 179(I)2002

- When the taking up or pursuit of a regulated profession is subject to possession of a diploma, the competent bodies may not, on the grounds of inadequate qualification, refuse to authorize a national of a member state to take up or pursue that profession, if the applicant:-

i. holds the diploma required in another member state for the taking up or pursuit of the profession in question in its territory, such diploma having been awarded in a member state, or

ii. has pursued the profession in question full time for two years during the previous ten years in another member state which does not regulate that profession and has acquired formal qualifications.

DIRECTIVE 92/51/EEC
LAW 121(I)2003

Legislation Requirements	Equivalent applicant´s qualifications
Diploma	Diploma or 2 years of experience + formal qualifications
Diploma	Diploma or 2 years of experience + formal qualifications or regulated education and training
Certificate	Diploma or 2 years of experience + formal qualifications or regulated education and training or 3 years of experience
Attestation of Competence	Attestation of competence or equivalent certificate
Primary and Secondary Education Certificate	Equivalent certificate

DIRECTIVE 99/42/EC LAW 157(I)2004

General Rules:

- Comparative investigation of the national requirements and the applicant´s qualifications
- Adaptation period or aptitude test is required when the applicant´s qualifications are inadequate
- Experience in another member state is adequate evidence when general trade or professional knowledge is required
- Issue of attestations or certificates for professional experience from competent authority.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Evidence of professional experience : When the duration of the education and training is at least one year less than the required.

2. Adaptation period or aptitude test : When the education and training of the applicant differs substantially from those required or when the profession in the Republic comprises of additional activities.

   The choice belongs to the applicant except for profession whose practice requires precise knowledge of the national law, so the competent body has discretionary power to decide.

PROVISION OF EVIDENCE

- When certificates are required for :

- good character or reputation or not been declared bankrupt
- not suspension or not prohibition of the pursuit of the regulated profession
- physical and/or mental health
- financial adequacy/standing
- proof of insurance against the financial risks arising from the professional liability ,

certificates from the home member state are accepted, which have been issued no more than 3 months before the date of presentation to the competent body.

COMPETENT BODIES - PROCEDURE

1. **Competent Body**

   - receives and examines applications and decides within 4 months

   - requires the documents to be translated in Greek or one of the other languages most commonly used in the E.U.

   - Informs the applicant of its decision, duly reasoned

   - Right of the applicant to appeal against the competent body.

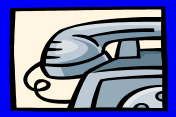
2. **National Coordinator**

   - Person designated by the Council of Ministers responsible for the proper application of the provisions of the Laws.

3. **National Focal Point**

   - It is the Labour Department - it provides information to European and Cypriot citizens concerning the procedure for the pursuit of the regulated professions.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT



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