

Austria – Fachhochschule Burgenland

Institution	Fachhochschule Burgenland – University of Applied Sciences Burgenland - Austria
Study programs	We offer a range of bachelor, master and PhD programmes. We also offer bridging programmes and further education courses. For information please refer to our homepage: www.fh-burgenland.at .
Skills in German language	German language skills are necessary for admission for most study programs.
Study fees	There are no study fees at the Fachhochschule Burgenland for the bachelor and master courses. A fee may be applicable for other courses. Please refer to the particular course on our website.
Interviewed Person	Validation Professional at the FH Burgenland

Preparation

Mag. Andrea Trink, MA is the head of the department Quality Management and International Office in the Fachhochschule Burgenland GmbH / University of Applied Sciences Burgenland. She is among other things responsible for validating the qualification of foreign applicants for the study at the University of Applied Sciences.

All foreign certificates have to be proved by her if the A-level/Bachelor degree has the same standard as the Austrian ones. First of all she uses a database Eric Naric from the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, if the certificate is registered there. She needs as proof a notarized certificate of the country. The certificates must be translated and certified by a notary. If the applicant does not have such notarized certification, she searches the WorldWideWeb to prove if the certificate could be a real one or not. She has to find out where the applicant studied, does this certificate look like the one of this school/university etc. If the applicant does not have any certificate and assured that he has got A-levels, then there is an opportunity to examine the applicant (Feststellungsprüfung). Every university in Austria is individually responsible for this and can use different examinations. In her career she never had this case. In some programs of the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland, for example, an English certificate is required. If applicants do not have any certification for English, they have pass an exam at the institute before they can start to study.

At the moment Mag. Andrea Trink, MA has a lot of Chinese applicants to check and to control their certificates is a challenge. By now she has a good network to manage this task.

SPECIAL SECTION ONLY FOR VALIDATION PROFESSIONALS**Job profile and training needs**

Mag. Andrea Trink, MA became an assessor because of her job profile and to have a new challenge. At the beginning she invested a lot of time to appropriate this requirements. There was not really any preparation for this job and therefore she started to search information by the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy and other organizations. She managed it step by step by attending different meetings, talking with professionals who had experiences with validation. They gave her straight tips where she can find proper information in the WorldWideWeb, where she can search for details. She visited meetings to build up a network, which she can use. Once a year Enic Naric Austria organize meetings with different topics. For example new challenges, which document fakes are in common, changes in the administration, new educational systems, etc. She uses a database called ANABIN where she can find information to assess foreign certifications. It would be useful for her, if this database would be developed further. China for example has a different way to certificate their school leaving examination (A-level). Schools in Chine rate with points. It is up to the University which max. points is required to start there to study.

<https://wissenschaft.bmwf.wg.at/bmwf/studium/academic-mobility/enic-naric-austria/>
<http://anabin.kmk.org/anabin.html>

Policy context

There is little help from local/national policies to facilitate her work, for example the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy with ENIC NARIC which is concerned with notification. The ÖAD (<https://oead.at/>) is another institution which is responsible for international mobility and cooperation with abroad. <https://www.euraxess.at/> is a platform covers mobility issues. But you have to find out by yourselves where to find the proper information and it is useful to have a good network.