

Recognition of qualification for physicians or non-medical health profession to work in the Czech Republic

In order for foreign physicians or non-medical health profession be able to operate in the Czech Republic, it is necessary to pass the approbation exam. The conditions for the approbation exams are different for doctors and for non-medical health profession.

1) Physicians - recognition of qualification to perform the medical profession in the Czech Republic

Physicians (and dentists or pharmacists) who as foreign nationals have obtained medical qualification outside the European Union and wish to practice their profession in the Czech Republic must pass **the approbation exam**.

Knowledge of the Czech language is one of the requirements for the successful passing of the approbation exam. Please note that all information for the approbation exam is given in the Czech language.

The Exam Application:

All the necessary information about approbation exam (including the application form) is available on website: http://www.mzcr.cz/Odbornik/dokumenty/aprobacni-zkousky_1784_952_3.html (in Czech only).

The Application documents and requirements:

- A certified copy (not the original) of translation of the document to proof eligibility for the medical profession – diploma (translation must be made by an interpreter registered in the register of experts and interpreters of the Czech Republic).
- A certified copy of the certificate of recognition of university education (i.e. validation by Act no. 111/1998 Coll., on universities, as amended). A copy can be obtained from the medical faculties of the universities in the Czech Republic.
- The job medical certificate - medical certificate (i.e. the result of the medical examination of the applicant) is issued on the request of the applicant. No more than three months validity at the time of submission.
- The proof of integrity - an extract from the Criminal Records. No more than three months validity at the time of submission.
- A certified copy of marriage certificate or evidence of surname change (if the applicant has changed name).

- 2,000 CZK an administrative fee.

All documents must be officially verified and translated into the Czech language.

Specific parts of Approbation test:

The approbation exam consists of 3 parts. Content and scope corresponds to an accredited master's degree programs at the universities in the Czech Republic.

1. The first part - written

The first part consists of two computer tests:

- The first test verifies the expertise knowledge;
- The second test verifies the knowledge of the health system and the legal bases in relation to the provision of health care in the Czech Republic.

The tests can be done only in Czech language. The minimum percentage of the first part of the exam is 70%. The result will be announced after completion.

The both tests are performed in one day only. The exam term (written or oral part of exam) will be announced to each candidate via invitations. The invitation will be sent by registered post to the contact address given by the applicant. Successful completion of previous two written tests is a requirement for the realization of the second part of the exam.

2. The second part - practical

The second part requires a six-month professional experience within the weekly working time in an accredited health facility in the Czech Republic under the direct professional guidance of a specialist physician (or dentist or pharmacist) according to the educational program. Successful completion of previous parts, including practical performance is a requirement for examination of the candidate in the third part of the exam.

During practice, the candidate has to complete 5 case studies. Examiners will select one of the case studies that the candidate will defend during the oral examination.

After finishing the practical part the candidate will receive a certificate of graduation practice. Confirmation is on the letterhead of the medical facility where the practice took place.

3. The third part - oral

The final part is an oral exam, which is verifying the expertise and ability to express oneself in the Czech language.

After passing Approbation exam the Ministry of Health will send to applicants the record on passing the exam. They can apply for any of the existing fields of postgraduate education in the Czech Republic.

Approbation exam fee:

At the start of each part of the approbation exam, applicants need to present their ID along with proof of payment of the fee for the given part of the approbation exam.

The fee depends on the number of attempts the applicant takes to pass the exam:

- Written test of professional knowledge and knowledge of the healthcare system and legal basics: 3,000 CZK
- Oral exam: 4,000 CZK

Visa requirements and employment card

For the practical part of exam is recommended to be a holder of a visa with the stay purpose code in the Czech Republic. This will allow the applicant to enter into an employment - or other contractual relationship as a physician, dentist or pharmacist.

Inspection of this visa, including legal liability for its closure is under authority of medical facility. To practice, the applicant must request a work permit at the relevant labour office.

Any information relating to the application for the visa and all conditions posted above can be found at: <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/third-country-nationals-third-country-nationals.aspx>.

2) Nurses and other non-medical professions - recognition of qualification to perform the non-medical healthcare professions in the Czech Republic

Non-medical health professionals who as foreign nationals have obtained qualifications to practice a non-medical health profession in a country outside the European Union and wish to practice their profession in the Czech Republic must pass **the approbation exam**.

The Exam Application:

The application form for the approbation exam is available on website: <https://ezp.mzcr.cz/Request/Create?type=SN08PRIHLASKAAPROBACNIZKOUSKA>.

On the basis of the successful approbation exam, the Ministry of Health shall issue a document certifying the passage of the approbation exam. With this document, the applicant can apply for recognition of the qualification of non-medical profession.

The application form for the recognition of qualification (after successful completion of the approbation exam) is available on website: <https://ezp.mzcr.cz/Request/Create?type=SN09ZADOSTROZHODNUTIMIMOEU> (both in Czech only).

The Application documents and requirements:

- A certified copy (not the original) of translation of the qualification certificate for the practice of the non-medical profession - diploma or certificate (translation must be made by an interpreter registered in the register of experts and interpreters of the Czech Republic);
- A certified copy of the certificate of recognition of foreign education or a certificate of recognition of higher education (so-called nostrification);
- The job medical certificate - medical certificate (i.e. the result of the medical examination of the applicant) is issued on the request of the applicant. No more than three months validity at the time of submission.
- The proof of integrity - an extract from the Criminal Records. No more than three months validity at the time of submission.
- A simple copy of the type of residence permit in the Czech Republic (e.g. identity card, passport with marked residence, visa);
- 500,- CZK or proof of payment of the administrative fee by bank transfer;
- A certified copy of marriage certificate or evidence of surname change (if the applicant has changed name).

All documents must be officially verified and translated into the Czech language.

Specific parts of Approbation test:

The approbation exam has three parts: written, practical and oral.

1. The first part - written

The first part consists of two computer tests:

- The first test verifies the expertise knowledge;
- The second test verifies the knowledge of the health system and the legal bases in relation to the provision of health care in the Czech Republic.

The both tests can be done in Czech, English, French, German or Russian. The both tests are performed in one day only. The exam term (written part of exam) will be announced to each candidate via invitations. The invitation will be sent by registered post to the contact address given by the applicant. Successful completion of previous two written tests is a requirement for the realization of the second part of the exam.

2. The second part - practical

The candidate passes the practical part of the approbation exam under the supervision of a health professional with the competence to practice a non-medical profession without professional supervision in the relevant field who will assess in writing whether the practical part has been successfully performed. The practical part of the approval test is carried out by the health service provider.

To pass the practical part, applicants need to hold a visa for the purpose of employment, an Employee Card, or a Blue Card that allows them to work based on an employment contract or another type of contract.

Any information relating to the application for the visa and all conditions posted above can be found at: <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/third-country-nationals-third-country-nationals.aspx>.

3. The third part – oral exam

The final part is an oral exam, which is verifying the expertise and ability to express oneself in the Czech language. The oral exam is held only in the Czech language before an examining commission appointed by the Minister of Health. Successful completion of previous parts, including practical performance is a requirement for examination of the candidate in this part of the exam.

Approbation exam fee:

At the start of each part of the approbation exam, applicants need to present their ID along with proof of payment of the fee for the given part of the approbation exam.

The fee depends on the number of attempts the applicant takes to pass the exam:

- Written test of professional knowledge and knowledge of the healthcare system and legal bases: 3,000 CZK
- Oral exam: 4,000 CZK