

# Who can help you in your procedure?

Certain French organisations can help you:

- ➔ **'Pôle Emploi'** welcomes, informs and supports people in their attempts to find work: [www.pole-emploi.fr/accueil](http://www.pole-emploi.fr/accueil)
- ➔ **'Missions locales centres'** help youngsters aged 16 to 25 find work or a training course: [www.unml.info](http://www.unml.info)
- ➔ **'Cap Emploi'** welcomes, informs and supports people with disabilities in their steps to find work: [www.capemploi.net](http://www.capemploi.net)
- ➔ **'CIDFF centres'** (information centres for the rights of women and families) form a network of centres that inform women about their rights and support them in their search for work or a training course: [www.infofemmes.com/v2/p/Contact/Liste-des-CIDFF/73](http://www.infofemmes.com/v2/p/Contact/Liste-des-CIDFF/73)

## Fédération des CIDFF

Centres d'Information sur les Droits des Femmes et des Familles

**CIDFF de Seine Saint Denis**  
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**93120 La Courneuve**  
**01.48.36.99.02**  
**contact@cidff93.fr**

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[www.infofemmes.com](http://www.infofemmes.com)   



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# Equivalence of qualifications and employment in France

DOCUMENT PRODUCED FOR NEWCOMERS TO FRANCE HOLDING A RESIDENCE PERMIT ALLOWING THEM TO WORK

ARE YOUR **QUALIFICATIONS** VALID IN FRANCE?



IS **EQUIVALENCE** OF QUALIFICATIONS OBLIGATORY IN FRANCE?



HOW CAN **EQUIVALENCE** BY OFFICIALLY **RECOGNISED**?



WHERE CAN YOU GET **INFORMATION** AND **SUPPORT**?





If you would like to work in France and you hold a qualification awarded and recognised by the competent authorities in your country of origin, you can request a certificate of equivalence to support your qualifications.

This certificate is not obligatory but will help you to:

- ➔ Affirm the true value of your foreign qualification in the eyes of an employer or organisation to certify that you have qualifications relating to the work you seek,
- ➔ Enrol at a university or higher-education institute in France.

## What is a certificate of equivalence?

A certificate of equivalence is a document that validates a correlation between a foreign diploma and a certain level of training or education in France, based on different criteria.

It is not a French qualification.

It has no legal value but the certificate is definitive once it has been issued.



**Please note that a certificate of equivalence cannot be obtained for a qualification that:**

- ➔ Results from a short-term training course (lasting fewer than six months or 600 hours per semester full-time)
- ➔ Has been awarded for a profession that is regulated in France (for example, in medicine, pharmacy, law and so forth)
- ➔ Certifies language-learning alone

## How can a certificate of equivalence be obtained?

Requesting a certificate of equivalence for a qualification should be part of a personal plan to enter the world of work in France, to resume studies or to take a training course.

Through support from one of France's organisations in job-seeking (see section 'Who can help you in your procedure?'), your professional plan can be defined in a way that takes into account your career path, training course, qualifications, experiences and so forth.

Depending on your plan, you might have to request a certificate of equivalence.

## Where can you make the request?

### If your profession is regulated

In France, some professions require a specific qualification (architect, hairdresser, lawyer, doctor, driving instructor and so forth). These are known as regulated professions.



The list of these regulated professions can be found on the website 'guichet qualifications': <https://www.guichet-qualifications.fr/fr/professions-reglementees/>

### Who should you contact to obtain a certificate of equivalence?

This depends on the profession and on the country where the qualification was awarded.

Paramedical professions	DRJSCS*
Professions in commerce and craftsmanship (butchers, bakers, hairdressers, electricians, plumbers, dental technicians, coachbuilders and so forth)	Chambre des Métiers (Chamber of trades)
Métiers de l'auto-école, du contrôle technique automobile, de l'immobilier	Prefecture
Legal professions, doctors, chemists, lawyers, midwives	National order or Council

\* Direction Régionale de la Jeunesse, des Sports et de la Cohésion Sociale (Regional department for youth, sport and social cohesion)

### If your profession is not regulated

To request a certificate of equivalence for a qualification, you should fill in a form only on the ENIC-NARIC website:

<http://www.ciep.fr/enic-naric-page/demande-dattestation-ligne-2>



**Please note that you must pay for a certificate of equivalence to be issued: it costs 70 euros** (asylum-seekers, refugees and people benefiting from subsidiary protection are entitled to this service free of charge upon showing a supporting document).

On the website, you should state the qualifications that you would like to compare and attach the different supporting documents: proof of identity, final diploma certificate, grades transcript, translations of diploma certificates and grades transcripts (translations are not required for documents in English, Italian, Spanish, German, Portuguese or Arabic).

A file number will be assigned to you. You can use it to track progress in the procedure. It takes around four months for the certificate to be issued.