

Guidance for dentists qualified in Bulgaria

Application for registration as a Dentist under Section 15(1)(b) of the Dentists Act 1984

This guidance should be read in conjunction with “Guidance Notes for EEA-qualified Dentists”.

Evidence of Primary Dental Qualification from Bulgaria

If you have an appropriate European Diploma for the purposes of Schedule 2 of the Dentists Act 1984, you will be eligible for registration with the GDC under Section 15(1)(b) of the Dentists Act. An appropriate European Diploma is one which falls under one of the following categories A-D:

Qualifications listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of Directive 2005/36/EC

- A** If you have a diploma in dentistry which was granted in Bulgaria, this will be an appropriate European diploma if you can provide evidence of the qualification listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of Directive 2005/36/EC¹ as follows:

Evidence of formal qualifications:	Диплома за висше образование на образователно-квалификационна степен "Магистър" по "Дентална медицина" с професионална квалификация "Магистър-лекар по дентална медицина"
Body awarding the evidence of Qualifications:	Университет
Professional title:	Лекар по дентална медицина
Your training began on or after this date and your diploma was awarded on or after this date (reference date):	1 January 2007

You will not need to provide an EEA Compliance certificate. If your qualification is less than the 5000 hours required by the directive but was awarded before 18th January 2016 this will also be a qualification entitled to automatic recognition.

- B** However, if your diploma is listed in Annex V point 5.3.2 of the Directive but was granted **before the reference date², 1 January 2007, (or on or after that date where the training was commenced before that date)³** it is not an appropriate European diploma **unless** either

- (a) You can provide an EEA Compliance certificate from the competent authority of Bulgaria stating that the diploma guarantees that the holder's training satisfies the requirements of article 34 of the Directive (requirements for basic dental training); or
- (b) You can provide an EEA Compliance certificate of a competent authority of any relevant European State stating that you have effectively and lawfully practised dentistry in that State for at least three consecutive years during the five years preceding the date of issue of the certificate.

¹ Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications

² The reference date for each European State is listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2

³ Diplomas listed in Annex V where training commenced before 1 January 2007

Qualifications not listed in Annex V point 5.3.2 of the Directive

- C** If you have a diploma which was granted in Bulgaria **on or after 1 January 2007** which is not evidence of training commenced by the holder before that date, and which is not listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive, this is not an appropriate European diploma unless you can produce an EEA Compliance certificate issued by a competent authority of Bulgaria certifying that the diploma—
- (a) is evidence of training which satisfies the requirements of article 34 of the Directive; and
 - (b) Is treated by Bulgaria as if it were a qualification listed in relation to Bulgaria in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive.
- D** If you have a diploma granted in Bulgaria **before 1 January 2007 (or on or after that date where training commenced before that date)** and which is not listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive, this is not an appropriate European diploma unless you can produce an EEA Compliance certificate as described in paragraph B(b) or paragraph C above.

My qualification is from Bulgaria but it does not meet the requirements above for an ‘appropriate European diploma’ for the purposes of the Act. Do I have an alternative route to registration?

If you are an exempt person and you do not meet the criteria above under Section 15(1)(b), you may apply for registration under 15(1)(ba) of the Act for recognition of your qualification under the ‘general systems’.

The GDC will provide you with further guidance on this route to registration. Information on this route can also be found in the GDC’s guidance document *“Frequently Asked Questions - Application for registration as a Dentist under Section 15(1)(ba) Dentists Act 1984”*.

EEA Compliance Certificate (if applicable):

This must be issued by the Competent Dental Authority for Bulgaria:
Министерство на здравеопазването (Ministry of Health)
www.mh.government.bg

Certificate of Current Professional Status:

This must be issued by the Competent Dental Authority for Bulgaria:
БЪЛГАРСКИ ЗЪБОЛЕКАРСКИ СЪЮЗ (Bulgarian Dental Association)
www.bzs.bg
Министерство на здравеопазването (Ministry of Health)
www.mh.government.bg