

Guidance for dentists qualified in Estonia

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 Estonia

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-E:

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 Estonia, 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:	Hambaarstikraad Degree in Dentistry (DD) Diplom hambaarstiteaduse õppekava läbimise kohta
Body awarding the evidence of Qualifications:	Tartu Ülikool
Professional title:	Hambaarst
Your training began on or after this date and your diploma was awarded on or after this date (reference date):	1 May 2004

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 May 2004 (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 Estonia 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 state is listed in Annex V, point 5.3.2

³ Diplomas listed in Annex V where training commenced before 1 May 2004

Qualifications not listed in Annex V point 5.3.2 of the Directive

- C** If you have a diploma which was granted in Estonia **on or after 1 May 2004** 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 Estonia certifying that the diploma—
- (a) is evidence of training which satisfies the requirements of article 34 of the Directive; and
 - (b) Is treated by Estonia as if it were a qualification listed in relation to Estonia in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive.
- D** If you have a diploma granted in Estonia **before 1 May 2004 (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.

Qualifications from the former Soviet Union

- E** If you hold a diploma in dentistry from the former Soviet Union which—
- (a) is evidence of training that commenced before 20 August 1991 in the former Soviet Union; or
 - (b) was awarded by the former Soviet Union before 20 August 1991,

this will be an appropriate European diploma if you can provide the following:-

(a) an EEA Compliance certificate of the competent authority of Estonia stating that you have effectively and lawfully practised dentistry in Estonia for at least three consecutive years during the five years preceding the date of issue of the certificate; and

(b) an EEA Compliance certificate from the competent authority of Estonia stating that that diploma has, on its territory, the same legal validity as regards access to and practice of the dental profession as the qualification listed in relation to Estonia in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive.

My qualification is from Estonia 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”*.

Certificate of Current Professional Status and EEA Compliance Certificate (if applicable)

This must be issued by the Competent Dental Authority for Estonia:

Terviseamet (Health Board) www.terviseamet.ee