

Guidance for dentists qualified in Switzerland

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”. For the purposes of recognition of professional qualifications, Switzerland is treated as an EEA Member State.

Evidence of Primary Dental Qualification from Switzerland

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 Switzerland, 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:	-Titulaire du diplôme fédéral de médecin-dentiste -Eidgenössisch diplomierter Zahnarzt -Titolare di diploma federale di medico-dentista
Body awarding the evidence of Qualifications:	The Département fédéral de l'intérieur
Professional title:	-Zahnarzt -Médecin-dentiste -Medico-dentista
Your training began on or after this date and your diploma was awarded on or after this date (reference date):	1 June 2002

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 June 2002 (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 Switzerland 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

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 June 2002

- (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.

Qualifications not listed in Annex V point 5.3.2 of the Directive

- C** If you have a diploma which was granted in Switzerland **on or after 1 June 2002** 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 the competent authority Switzerland certifying that the diploma—
- (a) is evidence of training which satisfies the requirements of article 34 of the Directive; and
- (b) is treated by Switzerland as if it were a qualification listed in relation to Switzerland in Annex V, point 5.3.2 of the Directive.
- D** If you have a diploma granted in Switzerland **before 1 June 2002 (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 Switzerland 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 Switzerland:

Federal Office of Public Health FOPH
www.bag.admin.ch

Swiss Dental Association
www.sso.ch