

Austria – Luxembourg, Recommendation on the Implementation of the Cultural Agreement (Anerkennungsempfehlung Luxemburg)

Status: May 2022

The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research subsequently summarizes the present legal basis as well as the recommendations on the assessment of school and higher education qualifications of Luxembourg. In this, reference is made to the Cultural Agreement between the Republic of Austria and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, BGBl. No. 372/1972 (Federal Law Gazette), in the version of the Protocol, BGBl. No. 588/1986, hereinafter called „Cultural Agreement“; the Decree on Recognition for Luxembourg Students (*Luxemburger Anrechnungs- und Anerkennungsverordnung*) – LuxAnrVO, BGBl. No. 589/1986, as amended; and the results of the consultations of the Permanent Mixed Committee in the framework of the 10th meeting on 15 November 2002 in Vienna on the continuation of the cooperation between Austria and Luxembourg in the fields of science and research.

1. Admission to studies:

- a. Secondary school leaving certificates and other certificates from Luxembourg which grant a university entrance qualification are considered equivalent to Austrian secondary school leaving certificates as defined by the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region („Lisbon Recognition Convention“), BGBl. III No. 71/1999 (Art. 3 para. 3 of the Cultural Agreement). The university entrance qualification is valid to the extent shown in the confrontation table in the Annexe to the Cultural Agreement. This is a provision particular to art. 64 para. 1 lit. 1 of the Universities Act 2002 – UG, BGBl. I No. 120/2002, and art. 4 para. 5 lit. 3 of the Universities of Applied Sciences Act – FHG, BGBl. No. 340/1993, both as amended; the equivalence of the secondary school leaving certificate with regard to the general university entrance qualification is provided ex lege. As regards the Annexe, there have taken place some changes of denominations, which, however, do not have the character of substantial changes.
- b. In addition to possession of a general university entrance qualification, proof must be furnished on passing the supplementary examinations for certain study programmes provided for in the University Entrance Qualification Decree – UBVO 1998, Federal Law

Gazette II No. 44/1998, as amended, otherwise they shall be taken as additional examinations (special university entrance qualification due to art. 65 UG).

- c. Secondary school leaving certificates from Luxembourg are recognized as a proof that the holder has an adequate knowledge of the German language which is sufficient for studying in Austria (art. 3 para. 4 of the Cultural Agreement). This is a provision particular to art. 63 para. 1 lit. 3 UG and art. 4 para. 4 FHG.

2. Tuition fees

Students of Luxembourg have, with regard to the payment of tuition fees, equal status to that of Austrian citizens (art. 3 para. 3 of the Cultural Agreement) and will therefore be treated like all other EU citizens according to art. 91 para. 1 UG.

3. Recognition of examinations

- a. Austria recognizes the examinations taken by students of Luxembourg in the framework of the „*Cours Universitaires*“ in Luxembourg for relevant fields of study (for that, refer to the Decree on Recognition for Luxembourg Students), provided that the successful pass has been proved by the „*Certificat*“ of the „*Cours Universitaires* of Luxembourg (art. 3 para. 1 of the Cultural Agreement). The ECTS credit points are of specific relevance for the assessment. Outside the scope of the Decree mentioned above, recognition can take place on a case-by-case basis (art. 78 UG).
- b. Austria recognizes the examinations taken by students of Luxembourg at the „*Institut Supérieur de Technologie*“ in Luxembourg as first diploma examination or its equivalent for relevant fields of study (for that, refer to Decree on Recognition for Luxembourg Students), provided that the successful pass has been proved by the „*Diplôme*“ of the „*Institut Supérieur de Technologie*“ (art. 3 para. 4 of the Cultural Agreement). Likewise Austria recognizes the „*Diplôme du premier cycle universitaire*“ of the „*Centre Universitaire*“ in Luxembourg as first diploma examination or its equivalent for relevant fields of study. The ECTS credit points are of specific relevance for the assessment. Outside the scope of the Decree mentioned above, recognition can take place on a case-by-case basis (art. 78 UG).

4. Competent authority

For the purpose of admission to studies, it is recommended to all applicants to get into contact with the university or with the management of the university of applied sciences at which admission is sought, as soon as possible. The guidelines of the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research have only the character of a recommendation; the actual decision on the admission has to be taken by the rectorate of the given university or management of the given university of applied sciences within the legal framework.