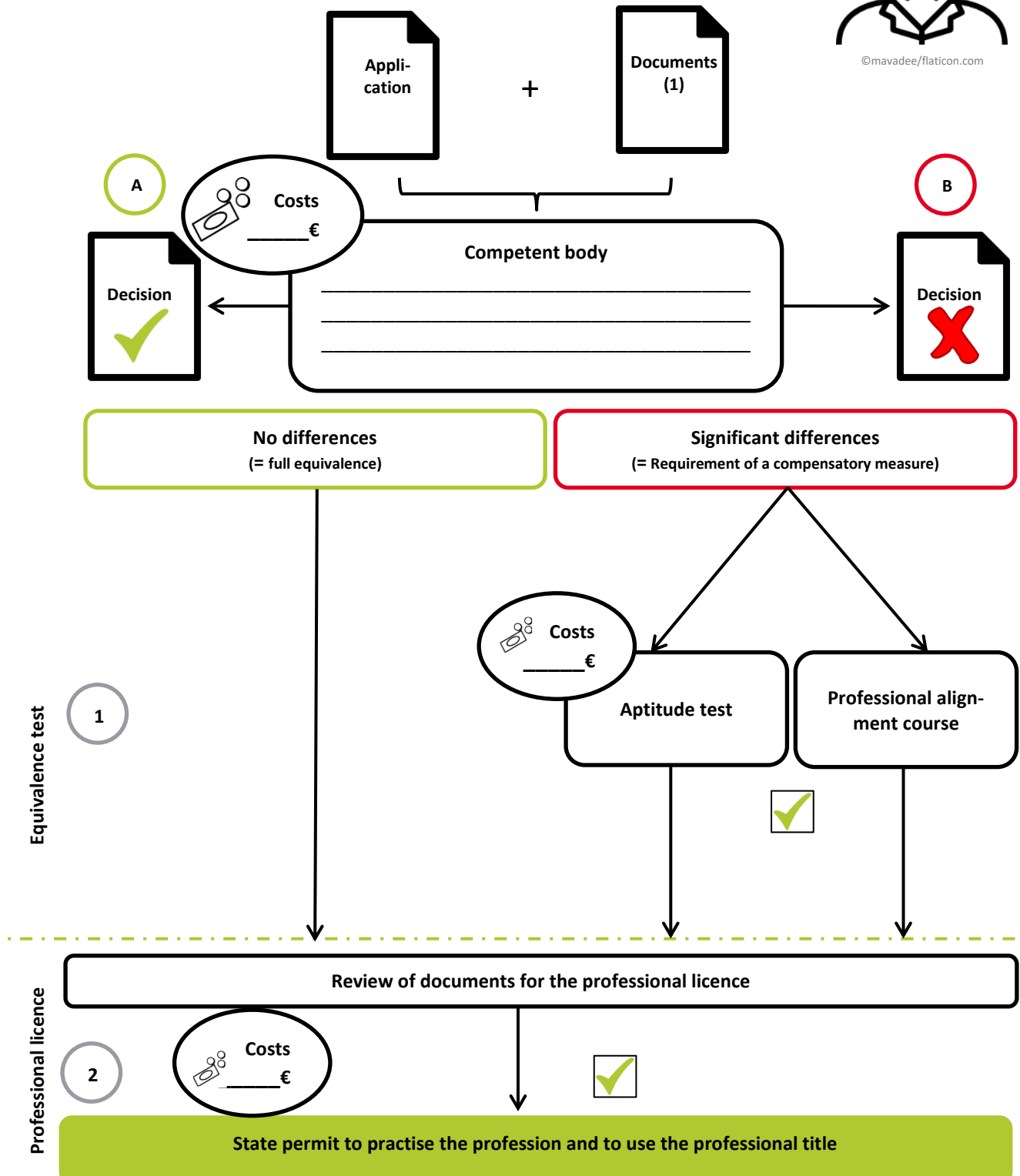


Nurses for the elderly, respectively, healthcare and paediatric nurses with qualifications from the EU, the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland: The path to professional recognition

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In order to be allowed to work as a nurse for the elderly, respectively, a healthcare and paediatric nurse in Germany, you need a state permit that entitles you to use the job title and to practise the profession. In order to obtain this permit, you must have it checked whether your qualification from abroad is equivalent to a German qualification as a nurse for the elderly, respectively, a healthcare and paediatric nurse. Automatic recognition is **not** possible in specialised nursing professions.

To do this, you must submit an application to a “Anerkennungsstelle” (recognition body). This certifies a person’s professional recognition. Processing the application costs money. The review of your application takes place in two steps:

1. **Review of equivalence:** The recognition body checks whether the content of your vocational training corresponds to a German qualification as a nurse for the elderly, respectively, a healthcare and paediatric nurse. The individual equivalence test is carried out by means of a vocational training comparison. In the event of any significant differences, you have the right to choose between a professional alignment course and an aptitude test for the vocational training measure.
2. **Review of the professional licence:** The recognition body checks whether you are granted a professional licence. This will only be checked once the content check has been completed. You may only work as a nurse for the elderly, respectively, a healthcare and paediatric nurse in Germany if you are granted permission to use the professional title.

You must submit an officially certified copy of the following documents:

Documents for the assessment of equivalence (1)	Documents for the professional licence (2)
• Completed application form	• Language certificate
• Curriculum vitae	• Official certificate of good conduct (“amtliches Führungszeugnis”)
• Training certificates and final certificates	• Certificate of health-related suitability
• Proof of identity	•
• Evidence of professional experience	•
•	•

(A) Decision on full equivalence

Once you have submitted your application, the recognition body will check the documents submitted. In doing so, it compares whether there are differences between your vocational training and the vocational training in Germany (content check). Verified professional experience will be taken into account during the review. The competent body will send you the result in a decision by post. If there are no differences between your vocational training and the vocational training in Germany, then you will receive a decision on full equivalence. This means that your professional qualification is equivalent to the German qualification as a nurse for the elderly, respectively, a healthcare and paediatric nurse.

(B) Decision regarding significant differences

However, it may also be the case, that there are differences between your vocational training and the vocational training in Germany. You can choose whether to take an aptitude test or complete a professional alignment course of no more than three years. The examiners may ask you about your deficits during the aptitude test. In other words, only regarding the missing content. In a professional alignment course you have the opportunity to already perform practical activities. This takes place under the instruction of a qualified professional. If you have successfully completed the aptitude test or the professional alignment course, you will receive a notification of full equivalence.