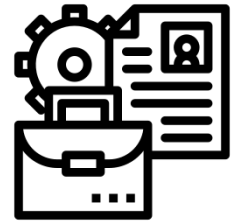
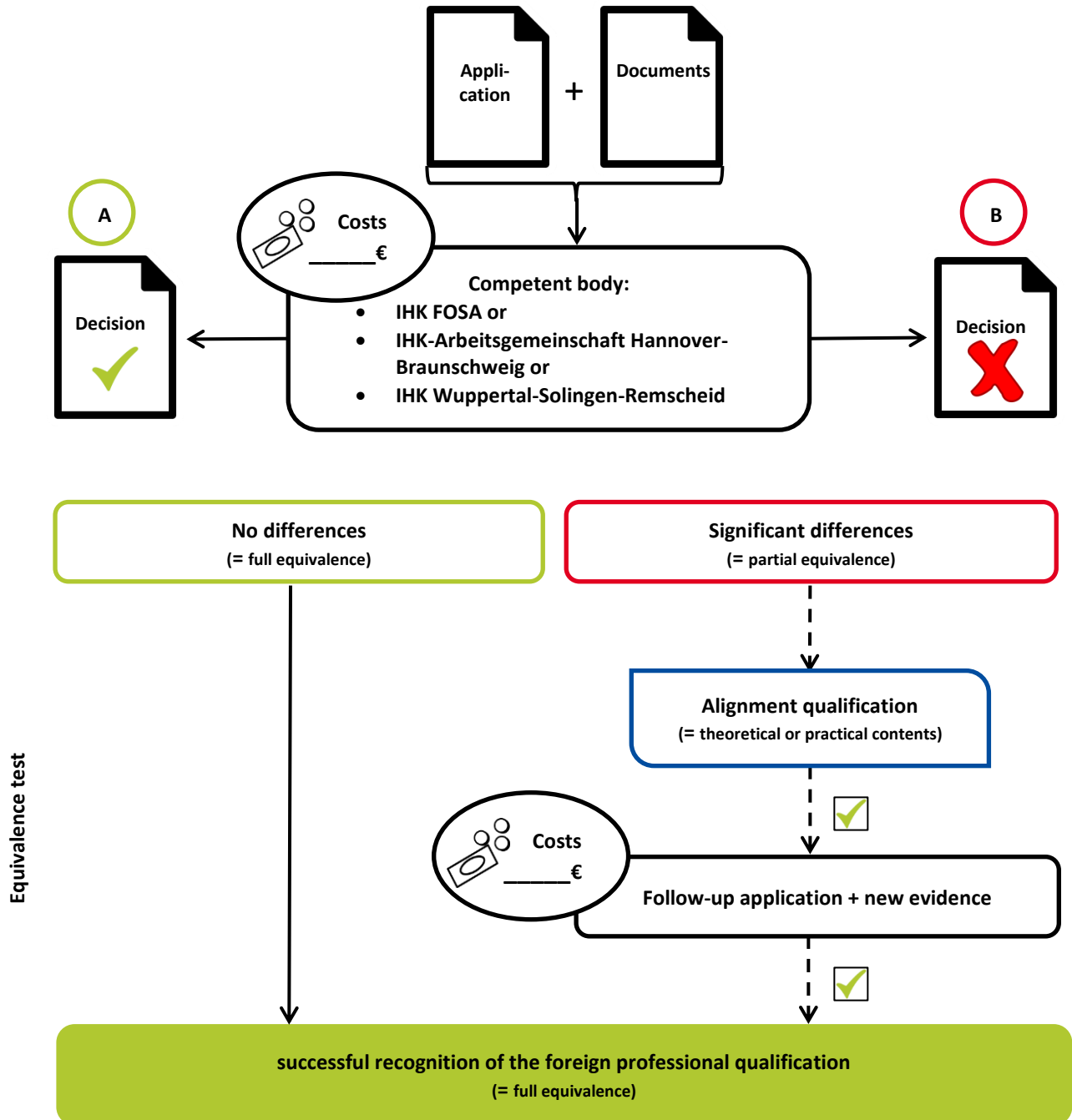


Professions within the jurisdiction of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK): The path to professional recognition

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Your intended reference profession is: _____

In order to be allowed to work in your profession in Germany, you do not need to undergo professional recognition, as this reference profession is not regulated. However, one of the advantages of recognition is that employers can better assess your knowledge and skills, and that subsequent further training opportunities are open to you.

In order to get professional recognition, a check must be conducted as to whether your professional qualification from abroad is equivalent to a German professional qualification. To do this, you must submit an application to the IHK FOSA. The IHK FOSA is the competent body for the recognition of professions in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK) sector in Germany. Only the IHK Hannover, the IHK Braunschweig and the IHK Wuppertal process the applications themselves. Processing the application costs money.

You must submit these documents:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Completed application form | • Proof of identity |
| • Curriculum vitae | • Education certificates (officially certified copy) |
| • Proof of professional experience or other qualifications (e.g. of further training) | • if you still live abroad: Proof of intention to work in Germany (not for EU/EEA/Swiss nationals) |
| • | • |

(A) Decision on full equivalence

Once you have submitted the application, the competent body will check the documents submitted. In doing so, a comparison is made as to whether there are differences between your vocational training and the vocational training in Germany (in terms of content, time and formal examination). Proven professional experience will also be taken into account in 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.

(B) Decision on partial equivalence

However, it may also be that the competent body only accepts parts of your vocational training. Then there are differences between your vocational training and the vocational training in Germany. Your decision will then state that you *can* take an alignment qualification. The alignment qualification can be done in a company or at an educational service provider; it all depends on your key differences. Depending on the differences and the location, the alignment qualification can cost money, be free of charge or you can even earn some money in the process. If you have taken the alignment qualification, then you can submit a follow-up application. The follow-up application costs money. You will then receive a decision on full equivalence.