

**FAQ related to the procedure for accreditation and declaration of Equivalence of foreign higher education qualifications to a degree and at an academic level pursuant to Royal Decree 889/2022 of 18<sup>th</sup> October.**

**1. General Information**

**a) Who can apply for this procedure?**

Any individual who holds an official degree or diploma granted within a foreign higher education system framework

**b) What is the deadline for submission of applications?**

There is no time limit for the submission of applications

**c) What type of degrees does this procedure apply to?**

This procedure only applies to official university degrees which are linked to completed studies.

For non-university degrees, you should contact the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training. The relevant information is available in the following website:

<https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/portada.html>

**d) What is the difference between seeking the validation, accreditation or equivalence of a Higher education degree?**

	<b>ACCREDITATION</b>	<b>EQUIVALENCE</b>	<b>VALIDATION</b>
<b>Official Recognition</b>	To a Spanish Bachelor's or Master's degree that gives access to a regulated profession in Spain	To an official Spanish university Bachelor's or Master's degree	Official higher studies, whether completed or not, to Spanish university incomplete studies
<b>Purpose</b>	Academic and professional	Academic	Academic to further studies
<b>Competent Authority</b>	Ministry of Universities	Ministry of Universities	An Spanish university

**e) I hold a degree in Health Sciences. Am I able to apply for this procedure?**

The Ministry of Health is the authority responsible for the recognition of Non EU Health Sciences degrees for professional purposes.

The relevant information can be found in the following link:

<https://www.sanidad.gob.es/profesionales/formacion/EspecialistasExtracomunitarios/homeExtracom.htm>

**f) I hold a two-year higher education degree after having completed High School. How can this be recognised in Spain?**

In general, degrees of less than three years duration cannot be accredited or considered equivalent to Spanish University degrees. However, you can request for the same to be validated against partial university studies in a Spanish university in order to further studies.

You can also seek the accreditation or validation of non-university studies before the education authorities of the autonomous communities of Catalonia, Galicia or the Basque Country, based on your address or before the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training.

**g) If I hold a Bologna degree issued by an EU university of higher education, do I still have to seek the accreditation or equivalence in order for it to be recognized in Spain?**

Yes, you do. Foreign degrees are not valid in Spain. If you wish your university degree to be recognised in Spain, you have the following options:

- If you want to be allowed to perform a regulated profession in Spain (Annex to Royal Decree 889/2022, of October 18<sup>th</sup>) the procedure to follow is **accreditation**.
- If your university studies give you access to other professions, you can request the academic recognition of your degree through the procedure of **equivalence** of a foreign higher education degree to a Bachelor's or Master's degree level.

**h) Am I able to validate university courses that have not been completed?**

In order to validate university studies courses which are being taken and you want to pursue in Spain you should contact the university where you will submit your application since they are the competent authorities in this matter.

**2. Prior to requesting the accreditation or equivalence**

**a) What is accreditation?**

If you wish to perform a regulated profession (such as the ones included in Annex to Royal Decree 889/2022 of 18<sup>th</sup> of October) in Spain, you will have to apply for accreditation since the declaration of equivalence to a degree at an academic level is NOT valid for professional purposes.

Accreditation can be sought for all the professions included in the following list:

- Medical doctor
- Veterinary doctor

- Nurse
- Physiotherapist
- Dentist
- Pharmacist
- Speech Therapist
- Optician/optometrist
- Podiatrist
- Occupational Therapist
- Dietician
- Psychologist General Health
- Engineer of Roads, Canals and Ports
- Mining Engineer
- Industrial Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer
- Agricultural Engineer
- Forest Engineer
- Naval and Ocean Engineer
- Telecommunications Engineer
- Architect
- Mining Technical Engineer
- Public Works Technical Engineer
- Aerospace Technical Engineer
- Agricultural Technical Engineer
- Forestry Technical Engineer
- Naval Technical Engineer
- Industrial Technical Engineer
- Telecommunications Technical Engineer
- Topography Technical Engineer
- Technical Architect
- Nursery Teacher
- Primary Teacher
- High School, Vocational Training and Language Teacher
- Lawyer
- Attorney

**b) What is a declaration of equivalence to a Bachelor's or Master's degree?**

An equivalence is the recognition at an academic level of a Bachelor's or Master's degree that might be required for exams or contracts within the public sector for a foreign degree. This might also be sometimes required by private companies in order to assess the respective academic level.

**c) Is it possible to seek the accreditation and equivalence at the same time for the same degree?**

Yes, it is possible. To that end, a separate application should be filed for each procedure.

**d) Is it possible to request the accreditation and partial validation at a university of the same courses at the same time?**

No, it is not possible. If you have sought for an accreditation and this was refused only then you can request a partial validation of your studies.

**e) Is it possible to request the equivalence and partial validation at a university of the same courses at the same time?**

Yes, it is.

**3. Specific Information on accreditation applicable to certain professions**

**I would like to accredit my degree to a Spanish official university degree that will give access to the regulated profession of High School Teacher in Spain. What should I do?**

Since in order to access a Master degree that will entitle the holder to practise this type of professions in Spain, full knowledge of the field must be proven, before applying for accreditation you have to take into account the following:

- If your studies include two degrees (Bachelor's and Master's) you will need to file a separate application for each of them, namely: a first application of equivalence at Bachelor's academic level for your first degree (in the event of a degree which gives access to a regulated profession in Spain you could request for an accreditation) and with your foreign Master's degree, an application for accreditation to the Spanish degree which gives access to the regulated profession of Physical Education High School Teacher.
- If your studies are covered by only one degree which encompasses both the specialty training as well as the pedagogical and didactical training, you will still have to file two separate applications, the first one to seek the equivalence to a degree at a Bachelor's academic level as well as an application for accreditation to the respective Spanish degree which gives access to the regulated profession of High School Teacher.

**4. Upon applying for accreditation or equivalence**

**a) When can I apply?**

The Royal Decree 889/2022 of 18<sup>th</sup> October comes into effect on 8<sup>th</sup> November. Applications can be submitted from that date onwards.

**b) Where can I submit the application for accreditation or declaration of equivalence of my university degree?**

The application must be submitted online in the Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities. Once the application is duly registered online, you will be able to follow up your application status.

**Accreditation** – Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities is as follows:

<https://universidades.sede.gob.es/procedimientos/portada/ida/3513/idp/1029>

**Declaration of Equivalence** - Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities is as follows:

<https://universidades.sede.gob.es/procedimientos/portada/ida/3513/idp/1030>

**c) If I have already submitted an application pursuant to Royal Decree 967/2014, of November 22<sup>nd</sup>, can I still submit a new application?**

Yes, you can submit a new application for accreditation and/or declaration of equivalence related to the same degree, subject to the following conditions:

- That you have not been yet notified of the hearing procedure related to the former application.
- That the new application includes a request of withdrawal of your former proceedings. A sample form for such withdrawal request can be found in the above mentioned website.

In this event and, as long as payment of the former application has been completed, you will be exempt of payment of the new fee.

It is advisable to attach proof of payment of the former application.

**d) I do not have a digital certificate; can I still submit my application?**

Yes, you can submit your application for either accreditation or declaration of equivalence through the Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities (option User Access)

NOTE: You will have to ensure that all the personal information included in the application matches the information on the submitted identity document. Once the details are recorded and the application submitted these details cannot be amended.

**e) What documents should accompany my application for accreditation or declaration of equivalence of my university degree?**

When filing the application through the Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities, you will be instructed regarding the documents that will need to be attached as per the submitted degree.

**f) What requirements should the above mentioned documents meet?**

It is not required to have copies of the documents attested since, as per the sworn statement required, the documentation to be submitted should be original.

- a. The documents should be official and issued by the respective competent authorities
- b. If and when required, the original academic documents should be duly attested. The respective attestation should be affixed on the original document.

- c. If required, the documents should be accompanied by an official translation into Spanish by any Spanish diplomatic or consular representation overseas or by the diplomatic or consular representation in the country of issue of the said document or by a sworn translator officially registered in Spain.

**g) Where can I source official sworn translators?**

You can refer to the following website link:

<https://www.exteriores.gob.es/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/Paginas/Traductores-Interpretes-Jurados.aspx>

**h) How can I pay the 107 fee as per Model form 790?**

When filing your application through the Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities, you will be instructed on the steps for the payment of the 107 fee either online or using Model form 790.

All the information related to payment can be found in the following link:

<https://www.universidades.gob.es/portal/site/universidades/menuitem.21ef60083f296675105f2c10026041a0/?vgnnextoid=7845dec5fc9b7710VgnVCM1000001d04140aRCRD>

	<b>Payment by Transfer to Banco de España</b>	<b>Form 107</b>	<b>Payment Gateway (through internet)</b>
Place where the payment is made from	Outside of Spain	In Spain	From anywhere
Requirements	Proof of the applicant's identity	Spanish NIE/NIF	NIF/NIE + Digital certificate
<b>IMPORTANT:</b> In all cases it is essential to identify the payment with the full name of the accreditation and/or declaration of equivalence's applicant			

Please do not proceed to make the payment until you have verified the correct procedure required. Once the fees have been paid, these will not be reimbursed unless there is an error on the part of the Administration.

**i) Is it possible to pay the said fee from overseas just with my passport?**

Yes, it is. The payment of fees from overseas shall be done by way of bank transfer in favour of the Ministry of Universities to the account in Banco de España restricted for collection of overseas fees:

**IMPORTANT:** Banco de España does not allow payments done in person in any of their branches.

**IBAN: ES16 9000 0001 2002 5310 8022**

**BIC: ESPBESMMXXX**

The amount transferred should cover the total fees, excluding transfer charges or any banking commission. Should the total transfer amount not cover the total fees the procedure required will not commence.

Full name of the applicant of the accreditation and/or declaration of equivalence shall be duly included.

**j) Is it possible the payment of form 107 without NIE or NIF?**

Either a NIE or a NIF will be required as well as the name of the applicant of the accreditation and/or declaration of equivalence.

**k) How can I obtain a certificate that proves my Spanish language proficiency?**

Only those certificates issued by Instituto Cervantes or officially approved Language Centres will be admitted.

**5. After having applied for the accreditation or equivalence:**

**a) How can I check the status of my application for the accreditation or equivalence through the Electronic Site?**

You will be able to check the status of your application through the Electronic Site of the Ministry of Universities.

This way you will be able to follow the status of your application from any electronic device with internet connection at any time thus guaranteeing the strict compliance of your rights in terms of personal data protection.

**b) I have received a notification for the amendment of my application filed under Royal Decree 967/2014 of November 21<sup>st</sup>. How do I submit the requested documents?**

In this case only you will have to submit the said documents via the Register office.

**c) Do the latest declarations of equivalence name the respective branches of knowledge and specific field?**

No, they do not. The declaration of equivalence issued by Royal Decree 889/2022 of 18<sup>th</sup> October only refer to the university academic level of Bachelor and Master's.