

DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

for the recognition of the professional qualification authorising to practice the health profession of **OPTICIAN**, attained in a non-EU country, both by non-EU citizens and by EU citizens, citizens from the Swiss Confederation and citizens from EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway).

(The same application form is valid for non-EU citizens whose qualification has already been recognised in another EU Member State)

1. Copy of a valid Identity Document (ID) displaying the signature of the person concerned. If the personal data in the provided documents are different from the currently valid personal data, the applicant will provide appropriate certification, attesting that the identity documents refer to the same person.
2. If the application is not submitted directly by the person concerned, this one can delegate a trusted person (natural person or service company) to submit the application on his or her behalf and/or to follow the assessment procedure. In this case, for non-EU citizens, the delegated person/company will provide specific mandate, where signature of the delegator must be authenticated by the Italian Consular Authority located in the country of provenance, or by any Italian municipal officer or notary. For EU citizens, the delegated person/company will provide specific mandate, with original non-authenticated signature of the delegator and attaching copy of the IDs both of the delegator and the delegate.
3. Authenticated copy* of the specific degree whose recognition the person is applying for, accompanied by an individual certificate issued by the Institution/University where it was attained, and specifying the legal duration of the graduation course, as well as the detailed list of the examinations passed. For each examination, the certificate will state:
 - a) how many **hours** were attended (specifying the difference between theoretical education and practical internship)
 - b) if the education and training programme is described in terms of **credits**, it is necessary to state how many education and training hours (not including the number of hours devoted to individual study) are necessary to achieve one credit.

This Administration reserves the right to ask for an authenticated copy of the individual study programme, with indication of the person's name and study years attended for the achievement of the qualification whose recognition the person is applying for, if this will be deemed necessary for the assessment of his or her training path.

4. Authenticated copy* of the specific professional qualification authorising to practice the profession, if required in the country where the qualification was attained.
5. Authenticated copy* of enrolment in the specific professional Register/College, only if registration is required in the country where the qualification was attained.
6. 'Declaration of value' **in original**, plus photocopy, issued by the Italian Diplomatic or Consular Authority located in the country issuing the degree whose recognition the person is applying for. This document will state:
 - a) that the degree was issued by a competent Authority in the country where it was attained;
 - b) access requirements to the degree course (basic level);
 - c) that the degree is a professional qualification authorising to pursue the profession in the country where it was issued;
 - d) duration (in years) of the degree course;
 - e) authenticity of the signature on the degree, and validity of such degree (if this certificate of authenticity is not provided, it is necessary to ask for the legalisation of the degree, carried out by a competent Authority);
 - f) professional activities the person is entitled to practice in the issuing country on the basis of this degree.
7. Certificate attesting the absence of any restrictions of a criminal nature, preventing the applicant from pursuing the profession. This certificate must be issued by a competent Authority of the country where the applicant pursues the profession. It must be submitted **in original**, and issued no earlier than 3 months before the submission of the application. If the applicant declares never having pursued the profession before, only this Certificate will be required.
8. Certificate/s detailing any professional activities carried out by the applicant after achieving the qualification whose recognition he or she is applying for (including internship periods).
9. Authenticated copy* of certificate/s attesting any postgraduate course attendance or degrees.
10. **ONLY IF THE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION ATTAINED IN A NON-EU COUNTRY HAS ALREADY BEEN RECOGNISED IN ANOTHER EU COUNTRY, OR IN THE SWISS CONFEDERATION, OR IN EEA COUNTRIES (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway),** the following additional documents will be provided:
11. Authenticated copy* of the recognition provision issued by the EU Member State, the Swiss Confederation or the EEA country (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway);
12. **Original** certificate issued by the competent Authority of the country where the qualification has already been recognised, specifying:

a) if this first recognition complies to art. 2 paragraph 2 of Directive 2005/36/EC and to the requirements set by art. 3 paragraph 3 of the same Directive;

b) which procedures and methods have led to the qualification's recognition (e.g.: aptitude test, adaptation period, training programme's integration in terms of studied subjects etc.).

13. Curriculum vitae, dated and signed.

14. Payment of a stamp duty of € 16,00, to be put on the application form.

GENERAL NOTES AND WARNINGS:

The **legalisation** of professional qualifications attained in a non-EU country is accepted if it is carried out either by the Italian Diplomatic/Consular Authority, located in the country where the qualification was issued, or by means of an Apostille (according to The Hague Convention of 5 October 1961).

If the original document is not written in Italian, it will be provided with a **translation** into Italian. This translation must be certified by the Italian Diplomatic or Consular Authority located in the country where the document was issued. Otherwise, the translation must be sworn by a translator and certified by the competent Italian Judicial Authority.

* If an authenticated copy is required, only EU citizens can provide documents on unstamped paper, according to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, together with a Substitute Declaration in lieu of Attested Affidavit (Self-Declaration), to be filled in according to the provisions of the above-mentioned decree. Abiding to law in force, this Administration will carry out sample checks on the truthfulness of the submitted self-declarations.

Non-EU citizens can have copy of their documents authenticated by the Italian Diplomatic/Consular Authority located in the source country, or by any notary or clerk of court located in Italy, or by any Italian municipal office.

Colour copies are not accepted.

This Administration will send any communication regarding the procedure to the address provided in the application form. Therefore, it is up to the applicant to communicate any changes in his or her address **timely**, via mail.

This Administration will not be liable if notices are not received because of transfer, or wrong indication of the receiving address by the applicant, or return to sender for overdue mail holding.

Remember that pursuing a health profession in Italy before the qualification is recognised by the Italian Ministry of Health is a criminal offence.