

### Background

Saxony-Anhalt is home to approximately 68,000 people with a migration background. Diverse factors result in the fact that unemployment is about twice as high among migrants as it is among the working population without migration backgrounds. Many of them hold professional degrees or other valuable credentials which are frequently not recognised in Germany. Providing that professional recognition and qualification procedures are implemented, demographic change and the resulting skills shortage can create opportunities for individuals with migration backgrounds to enrich the labour market with their expertise. Against this background, it is essential to tap all available potential, especially that of migrants.

### Network structure

During the 2015-2018 funding phase, Saxony-Anhalt's regional coordinator is joined by eight service centres created in order to develop a comprehensive range of services operating at local level. These offer the area's integration stakeholders, employment agencies, job centres, Chambers(of Commerce and Industry), companies, migration services and migrant organisations training and counselling and dovetail the regional support networks in a manner which results in a transparent, precisely-tailored range of information and counselling services.

- Service Centre IQ "Recognition and qualification counselling"
- Service Centre IQ "Qualification in the context of the Recognition Act"
- Service Centre IQ "Intercultural orientation/opening, antidiscrimination and diversity"

The funding programme "Integration through Qualification" is directed at the sustained improvement of labour market integration for adults with migration backgrounds. The programme is funded by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the European Social Fund (ESF). Strategic partners in the programme's implementation are the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Federal Employment Agency (BA).

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**Service Centre IQ**  
"Qualification in the context  
of the Recognition Act"

Qualification as an educational specialist  
for kindergartens and after school care centres  
in Saxony-Anhalt

The funding programme "Integration through Qualification (IQ)" is financed by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the European Social Fund (ESF).



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## Who is suitable to participate in the bridge training scheme to become an educational specialist?

Do you have a degree in the field of education, social work or related disciplines?

Have you applied for credential recognition for your degree in Saxony-Anhalt, or do you intend to do so? Additionally, do you have at least B1 language proficiency level?

Are you interested in working at kindergartens and after school care centres? Then we can offer you a **free qualification** from autumn 2015 onwards.

Since 2015, the Network IQ has been offering a new training course for **educational specialists** (in accordance with § 21 of the Federal Child Care Funding Act (KiFöG)). The qualification consists of three modules:

- Language course from proficiency level B1 to B2
- Specialist further training
- Work experience placement at a kindergarten or after school care centre

The qualification creates opportunities for your professional employment as a pre-school teacher in Saxony-Anhalt and increases your chances of success as regards such positions.

## Why was the bridge training scheme for educational specialists developed?

From 2015 onwards, the Network IQ is prioritising the theme “Qualification in the context of the Recognition Act”. This falls under the remit of the Service Centre IQ “Qualification in the context of the Recognition Act”, as well as that of various sub-project partners. The aims are to achieve both full recognition of existing foreign credentials and improved opportunities on the labour market for migrants.

The training scheme will ensure that an increased number of multilingual, interculturally-qualified specialists will be placed at the disposal of children’s day-care facilities interested in employing them. The aim is the advancement and care of children in day-care facilities via qualified professionals.



The service centre is sponsored by the SPI GmbH (Institute of Social Education). The Institute is firmly established in Central Germany and has extensive experience of the realisation of integration projects. The bridge training scheme for educational specialists is being implemented in collaboration with the AWO-Akademie Mitteldeutschland (Workers’ Welfare Association Academy for Central Germany).

## How will the bridge training scheme be implemented?

**Bridge training scheme for educational specialists** (in accordance with § 21 of the Federal Child Care Funding Act Saxony-Anhalt (KiFöG)):

Your individual requirements and the certificate of recognition will be taken into account during the qualification’s implementation.

Participation in the following is possible:

- Module 1 - Specialist language level B2 (prerequisite: language proficiency level B1)
- Module 2 - Specialist further training in accordance with § 21, para. 3 KiFöG (60 hours)
- Module 3 - Work experience placement (up to a maximum of one year at a kindergarten or after school care centre)

Individual participation in the planned modules will take place on a flexible basis. Successful participation in the three modules will be verified and certified.

Participation is **free of charge**, and is aimed at migrants with university degrees in education, social work and related disciplines, and at those with technical college degrees in education.

After completing the qualification, you will be able to work at children’s day-care facilities (kindergartens, after school care centres) as educational specialists.

In addition to the provision of socio-educational support for participants, their professional options after the qualification’s completion will be individually identified and pursuit of the same encouraged.