EU Doctor Matrix 2026

Working as a doctor in Austria, Germany, Sweden or Portugal: authority, language proof, costs, route to licence and deadlines at a glance.

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	Austria	Germany	Sweden	Portugal
Authority	Austrian Medical Chamber (Ärzteliste)	Licensing authority of the federal state	Socialstyrelsen	Ordem dos Médicos
Language proof	ÖÄK language exam (register with a B2 certificate), exemptions possible	Fachsprachprüfung, oriented to C1	C1 in Swedish, Danish or Norwegian (exam, Svenska 3, university-entry test or employer certificate)	Prova de Comunicação Médica (B2); certificate substitute not available in practice
Language proof cost	2026: €1,179.65 (indexed yearly)	varies by state, e.g. €595 to €600	depends on the proof chosen	€300
Route to licence	EU degree: automatic recognition. Third country: nostrification	EU degree: usually automatic. Third country: since 11/2026 usually the knowledge test	EU degree: recognition, then licence. Third country: knowledge test, clinical training, law course	Language proof, then registration with the Ordem. Third country: Reconhecimento de Grau at a public institution first
Certification / translation	Certified copies; foreign-language documents with certified translation	Since 11/2026: copies suffice; translation into German or English (sworn)	Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, English need no translation	Apostille or consular legalisation; certified translation into Portuguese (EU bodies: English, French, Spanish exempt)
Duration	no official figure	no official figure	third country, per Region Skåne: 2 to 4 years	no official figure
Deadline note	**3 documents max. 3 months old**	**Reform since 1 November 2026**	**Recognition possible before language proof**	**New guide 10/2025: B2 alone is not enough**
Ongoing specialist training	Credited on application by the ÖÄK, decision within 4 months of complete documents (§ 14 ÄrzteG 1998)	Credited on application under the state chamber's training regulation; training starts only with Approbation or temporary licence	Up to 4 years 6 months creditable, at least 1 year of ST in Sweden (HSLF-FS 2021:8, ch. 7)	No side entry: access via the Prova Nacional de Acesso; apply for equivalência in the first quarter of the Internato (Portaria 79/2018)

Next steps by country

Austria	Ärzteliste, nostrification, ÖÄK language exam	hippocratesmedia.com/en/work-abroad/austria/
Germany	Approbation, knowledge test since 11/2026, Fachsprachprüfung	hippocratesmedia.com/en/work-abroad/germany/
Sweden	Licence, C1 proof, AT and ST	hippocratesmedia.com/en/work-abroad/sweden/
Portugal	Ordem dos Médicos, Prova de Comunicação Médica, degree recognition	hippocratesmedia.com/en/work-abroad/portugal/

For Austria there is a workbook (in German) with route finder, documents and deadlines, email templates and 10 practice cases for the ÖÄK language exam: hippocratesmedia.com/en/work-abroad/austria/pack/ · Speaking practice with an Austrian doctor: hippocratesmedia.com/en/language-exams/coaching/

Official sources

ÖÄK: Informationen zur Aufnahme der ärztlichen Tätigkeit in Österreich (Infoblatt): https://www.aerztekammer.at/documents/261766/417644/Infoblatt_Informationen+zur+Aufnahme+der+%C3%A4rztlichen+T%C3%A4tigkeit+in+%C3%96sterreich.pdf/3ee852ef-24a7-5b8b-3575-f8363d0190e9
Österreichische Akademie der Ärzte: Sprachprüfung Deutsch (Termine, Gebühr, Ablauf, Musterbeispiele): https://www.arztakademie.at/sprachpruefung-deutsch
RIS: § 14 Ärztegesetz 1998, Anrechnung von Ausbildungszeiten (Fassung ab 01.06.2026): https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/NormDokument.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=10011138&Paragraf=14
Bundesgesundheitsministerium: Bundestag beschließt schnellere Anerkennung in Heilberufen (26.03.2026): https://bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministerium/meldungen/berufsanerkennung-heilberufe-bundestag-26-03-26
NiZzA Niedersachsen: Informationsblatt Fachsprachprüfung: https://www.nizza.niedersachsen.de/download/224582/Aerztin_Arzt_Informationsblatt_Fachsprachpruefung.pdf
Bundesärztekammer: (Muster-)Weiterbildungsordnung 2018, Fassung vom 03.07.2026: https://www.bundesaerztekammer.de/fileadmin/user_upload/BAEK/Themen/Aus-Fort-Weiterbildung/Weiterbildung/20260703_Muster-Weiterbildungsordnung_MWBO_.pdf
Socialstyrelsen: Educated within EU or EEA – before you apply for a licence: https://legitimation.socialstyrelsen.se/en/educated-within-eu-or-eea-before-you-apply-for-licence/
Socialstyrelsen: HSLF-FS 2023:19 (Språkkunskaper, 4 kap.): https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/contentassets/7b58197d64c749f2a3d6195152c598c3/2023-4-8471.pdf
Socialstyrelsen: HSLF-FS 2021:8 om läkarnas specialiseringstjänstgöring (konsoliderad, 7 kap. Tillgodoräknande): https://socialstyrelsen.se/kunskapsstod-och-regler/regler-och-riktlinjer/foreskrifter-och-allmanna-rad/konsoliderade-foreskrifter/20218-om-lakarnas-specialiseringstjanstgoring/
Region Skåne: Educated outside the EU/EEA in a profession requiring a licence: https://skane.se/en/career/educated-abroad/educated-outside-the-eueea-in-a-profession-requiring-medical-license
Ordem dos Médicos (Região Sul): FAQ Inscrição, Médicos com títulos obtidos no estrangeiro (Stand 02/2025): https://www.omsul.pt/Portals/0/MQ-FAQS-PT-OM-Medicos-Estrangeiros.pdf
Ordem dos Médicos, Região Sul: Guia da Prova de Comunicação und Kalender 2026 (Meldung vom 22.10.2025): https://www.omsul.pt/noticias/guia-da-prova-de-comunicacao-e-calendario-para-2026
Diário da República: Portaria n.º 79/2018, Regulamento do Internato Médico: https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/portaria/79-2018-114880294

"No official figure" means there is no reliable average, so we do not estimate. Fees and rules change; check them with the responsible authority before you apply. Hippocrates Media is independent and not affiliated with any authority or chamber named. Not legal advice.