

Information

Studying without a formal Higher Education Entrance Qualification

Am I eligible to apply as a vocationally qualified individual?

Dear applicant,

You are eligible to apply as a vocationally qualified individual if do not have a secondary school diploma which explicitly states that you are entitled to study at an institution of higher education (e.g. *Fachhochschulreife* or *Abitur* or equivalent) but you meet one of the following requirements:

1. If you have completed upgrading training, i.e. vocational training of at least two years duration and related advanced training organized by a self-regulatory organization (*Kammer*), trade and technical school (*Fachschule*) or equivalent institution with a basic training course of at least 400 contact hours:

This includes the following graduates:

- a) Chamber of Skilled Crafts (*Handwerkskammer*): Master craftsmen, certified engineer and those with equivalent qualifications
- b) Chamber of Industry and Commerce: Qualified professionals (e.g. *Fachwirt/in*, *Fachkaufmann/-frau*, *Betriebswirt/in* or equivalent)
- c) Health sector: individuals who have completed advanced training in the fields of health care, social care or social work
- d) Individuals who have graduated from a 2-year program at a trade and technical school (*Fachschule*) in North Rhine-Westphalia. The program must build on previous vocational training and work experience, official recognition (*staatliche Anerkennung*) is usually granted.

- ➔ In this case (1) you are eligible to apply to all degree programs at TH Köln.

2. If you have completed vocational training of at least two years duration and following this, worked in your trained field for at least three years:

- ➔ In this case (2) you are eligible to apply without further assessment to all degree programs at TH Köln-University of Applied Sciences that relate to your field of training.

(If you wish to apply to a degree program not related to your trained field and occupation, please refer to case 3.)

Additional information as well as the application form for vocationally qualified individuals is available from Central Students' Advice Bureau's website (in German): <http://www.th-koeln.de/beruflichqualifiziert>

3. If you have completed vocational training of at least two years duration and following this, worked for at least three years, possibly not in your trained field:

- ➔ In this case (3), admission to degree programs in unrelated fields may be possible if you pass an entrance examination.

Additional information as well as the entrance examination application form is available at:
<http://www.th-koeln.de/zugangspruefung>