Statement of Comparability for university degrees from Timor-Leste

This guide provides information on the application for a Statement of Comparability at the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB).

Application – step by step

1. Make sure that the ZAB can issue a Statement of Comparability for your type of degree (see following page).
2. Fill out the application form on the ZAB website.
3. Print out the application form.
4. Sign the application form.
5. Compile the documents (photocopies and translations) that are required for your Statement of Comparability – our checklist will help you.
6. Send your application form along with the documents to the ZAB address on the front page of the application form by post.

Please note

Please do not submit original documents. Please only send photocopies. Whether documents need to be certified or translated is indicated in the checklist.

- regular photocopy – a photocopy which you can make yourself
- certified photocopy – a photocopy certified by a notary public or public authority

We will return your documents to you together with the Statement of Comparability. We assume no liability for unsolicited original documents.

Further information on certified photocopies and translations can be found on the ZAB website.

Please consider the environment and do not submit folders or plastic sheet protectors.
Which degrees can a Statement of Comparability be issued for?

A Statement of Comparability can be issued for the following degrees

- Bachalerato
- Licenciatura
- Mestrado

The ZAB can only issue a Statement of Comparability if your degree program and university were recognized at the time of your graduation.

A Statement of Comparability cannot be issued for the following qualifications

- Programa de Pós Graduação e Pesquisa

These are continuing vocational education programs that do not lead to academic degrees.

Checklist

This checklist helps you compile the required documents. You do not need to submit it with your application.

These documents are required for a Statement of Comparability

- Application form with your signature
- Official diploma in Tetum or Portuguese as a certified photocopy
- Translation of the official diploma into German as a regular photocopy
- Transcript of records for the entire degree program in Tetum or Portuguese as a certified photocopy
- Translation of the transcript of records into German as a regular photocopy

If your university issued the official diploma or the transcript of records in English, you may submit a regular photocopy of it instead of a German translation.

- Secondary school graduation certificate as a regular photocopy
- Identity document (passport or identity card) as a regular photocopy
These documents are required only if the following applies to you

Were your degree program and university accredited at the time of your graduation?

- Proof of accreditation as a regular photocopy

Is the mode of study (e.g. full time, part time, distance learning) not indicated in your documents?

- Certificate of the university stating the mode of study as a regular photocopy

Did you write a thesis and it is not indicated in your documents?

- Certificate of the university confirming the completion of the final thesis as a regular photocopy

Did you obtain any previous degrees?

The ZAB needs documents regarding your entire time in higher education. For example, if you need an evaluation of a master’s degree, you have to submit the documents regarding your bachelor’s degree, too.

- Official diplomas of all previous degrees in the original language(s) as regular photocopies
- Transcripts of records or Diploma Supplements of all previous degrees in the original language(s) as regular photocopies

Did you transfer credits from another degree program, vocational training, or other qualifications?

If you, for instance, transferred to another university, you have to submit the transcript of records of the previous university, too.

- Proof of the transferred credits as a regular photocopy

Has your name changed since your diploma was issued (e.g. through marriage)?

- Official proof of name change (e.g. marriage certificate) as a regular photocopy

Are you a recognized refugee or asylum seeker?

It may be necessary for the ZAB to check the authenticity of your documents. For this purpose, we may have to obtain information from the relevant institutions in
your home country. If you do not agree to this, we will require:

- Refugee ID or asylum notice as a regular photocopy

**Do you need the Statement of Comparability for a Blue Card application?**

- Employment contract or written confirmation of employment from the employer as a regular photocopy

**Additional documents & information**

If we need additional documents or information to evaluate your degree, we will contact you by email. Please check your email regularly.

**We are looking forward to your application.** If you have any questions, please consult the ZAB website or contact our support team.