

Persons holding qualifications gained outside of the Republic of Ireland (including those gained in Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom) must apply directly to the Department of Health and Children for validation of their qualification.

Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications, applies to all EEA nationals wishing to practise a regulated profession in an EU Member State other than that in which they obtained their professional qualifications, on either a self-employed or employed basis. Its intention is to make it easier for certain professionals to practice their professions in European countries other than their own but due safeguards are provided in the assessment of the qualification for public health and safety and consumer protection.

The Directive provides for an assessment on a case-by-case basis of the qualifications/ post qualification work experience of an applicant against those required to practise in the host member state if the professional activities covered are comparable.

The Department of Health and Children is the competent authority in Ireland for the assessment of the profession of Psychologist and is advised by the Psychological Society of Ireland.

An administrative process is also in place for the assessment of the qualifications of non-EEA nationals.

Further information on the both recognition processes is available at www.dohc.ie. All queries on the recognition of qualifications should be addressed to Validation_Unit @health.irigov.ie of telephone +353 (01) 635 4580.