

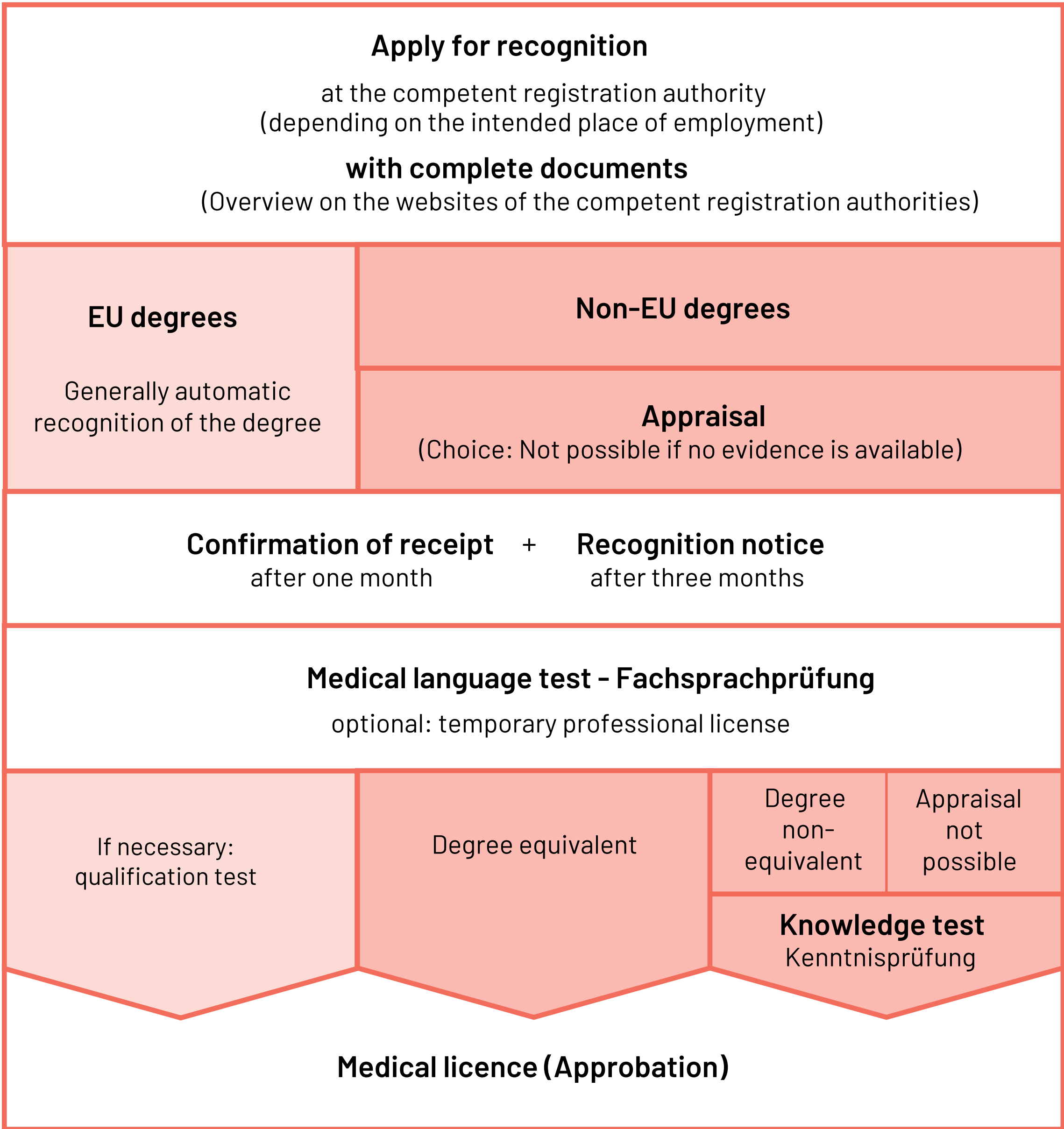
Attaining the German “Approbation” for foreign physicians



First steps: Apply for medical license

- Acquisition of very good general German language skills (level B2–C1) – help provided by federal employment agencies and job centers
- Compilation of complete documents including certified copies and translations of all certificates. Important: Only applications with complete documents can be processed
- Application for medical license (“Approbation”) to practice as a physician at the competent registration authority. These state authorities will register applicants for the medical language and knowledge test, accordingly. On the website www.anerkennung-in-deutschland.de you can find the competent authority for a certain federal State
- The competent registration authority informs about costs involved. There is a possibility for financial aid
- Gain insights, tips, and contacts regarding the recognition process and your career start in Germany – in our information seminar "Paths to Recognition"

Steps to the medical license (“Approbation”)



Good to know

- Without an “Approbation” or a “Berufserlaubnis” (work permit), the medical profession may not be practiced
- Education completed in the EU is usually automatically recognized. However, the recognition still has to be officially applied for
- If the education is completed in a non-EU country, a temporary work permit may be requested from the competent body before obtaining the license to practice. This requires the successful completion of the a medical language test. Physicians with a temporary work permit may only practice under the supervision and guidance of a licensed physician
- A knowledge test (“Kenntnisprüfung”), organized by the state chambers of physicians, is carried out if the education is not equivalent to the German standards. The knowledge test can be repeated twice, so an intensive preparation is important
- In almost all federal states, the medical language test (“Fachsprachprüfung”) is taken by state chambers of physicians (“Ärzttekammern”)
- Academic degrees or PhDs conferred in foreign accredited institutions may be hold. Unless the degree has been obtained in the EU, the awarding institution must be included in parentheses. A conversion of foreign acquired degrees or titles into domestic is not permitted
- After obtaining the „Approbation” the recognition of specialist title can be applied for at a state chamber of physicians. For this documents including further education contents and times have to be ubmitted to State Chambers of Physicians, which determines content and training hours eligible for recognition.
- The German healthcare sector welcomes qualified physicians in numerous clinics and practices, research institutions and public health departments