ABOUT FCSA

Foreign Credentials Service of America (FCSA) is a private company established in 1987 for the purpose of assisting individuals, corporations, and educational entities in the interpretation and comparative evaluation of international academic credentials. Not only does FCSA provide high quality academic equivalency reports at extremely competitive rates, it also serves as a continuing source of leadership and expertise in the field of international education.

What Is An Academic Credential Evaluation?

American universities, prospective employers, licensing boards, etc., face a considerable challenge when presented with academic credentials awarded outside of the U.S. The simple fact is that there is no globally recognized set of standards for academic achievement. Educational practices and standards vary from one country to the next - in many cases standards will even vary from region to region in a single country. Therefore what qualifies as a high school diploma or a bachelors degree in one location may not meet the standards embraced elsewhere. In situations where a person's educational achievements are the single most important mark of qualification - whether one is speaking of college/university enrollment, employment, professional certification, or immigration processing - applicants from outside the U.S. face a significant disadvantage if those faced with the task of evaluating the submitted documents are unable to interpret them.

To address this problem, consortia of educational experts have researched academic practices worldwide and developed sets of standards that make it possible to establish a fair and equitable comparison of educational achievement across international borders.

An academic credential evaluation, therefore, is a document that describes a person's educational background and establishes its U.S. equivalency. Researched and written by an expert in comparative educational analysis, it effectively serves as a "translation" of academic credentials from one educational system into another.

Why Select FCSA?

Foreign credentials evaluation at FCSA is based on the following principles: The first is that the professional background of the organization as reflected by depth and breadth of experience in administering an international credential evaluation operation, its participation in professional activities and leadership in the field, and a record of contributions to the study and application of applied comparative education are the best indicator of the quality of the organization. The second is that the organization in question adheres to a set of recognized standards, in our case EDGE. The FCSA Board has agreed to apply for membership in an accrediting organization when such a group has a membership application process that is conducted not by other members of the association but by an independent entity without a vested interest in who should or should not belong to such a group.

FCSA can provide you with evaluations that are based on the most recent research in
the field, on placement recommendations not founded on opinion but on nationally approved standards (AACRAO/EDGE), and are backed by the reputation and experience of nationally recognized leaders and experts in the field.

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