

## IMPORTANT! Student Visa – new requirements

The Consular Section of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland Pretoria urgently needs to bring to your attention the most recent regulation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

According to this regulation the list of documents required to apply for a student visa has been extended.

### 1. POLISH AUTHORITIES DECISION RECOGNIZING A FOREIGN EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATE

Except all the currently required supporting documents, every applicant should additionally submit a **decision recognizing a certificate** (or other document or confirmation of the educational qualifications or the entitlement to continue education), **acquired within a foreign education system and confirming the right pursue higher education in the Republic of Poland** (Pl: *Decyzja o uznaniu świadectwa uzyskanego za granicą za dokument potwierdzający w Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej wykształcenie średnie oraz prawo do ubiegania się o przyjęcie na studia wyższe*).

This requirement is derived from the art. 93(3) of the law of 7 September 1991 on Education (Journal of Laws Nr 95, unit 425). The above mentioned decisions recognizing foreign certificates are issued by a relevant educational board (*kurator oświaty*) in the Voivodeship where the student intends to study.

Details concerning the procedure of obtaining the decision can be found on the website of the Polish Minister of Education:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja/recognition-of-foreign-school-certificates-and-diplomas-in-poland>

Contacts details of the educational boards:

BIAŁYSTOK kuratorium@kuratorium.bialystok.pl

BYDGOSZCZ kurator@bydgoszcz.uw.gov.pl

GDAŃSK kuratorium@kuratorium.gda.pl

GORZÓW kuratorium@ko-gorzow.edu.pl

LUBLIN kurator@kuratorium.lublin.pl

ŁÓDŹ kolodz@kuratorium.lodz.pl

KATOWICE kancelaria@kuratorium.katowice.pl

KIELCE kurator@kuratorium.kielce.pl

KRAKÓW kurator@kuratorium.krakow.pl

OLSZTYN wmkurator@ko.olsztyn.pl

OPOLE kontakt@kuratorium.opole.pl

POZNAŃ sekretariat.wko@ko.poznan.pl

RZESZÓW kuratorium@ko.rzeszow.pl

SZCZECIN kuratorium@kuratorium.szczecin.pl

WARSZAWA kuratorium@kuratorium.waw.pl

WROCŁAW kuratorium@duw.pl

More Information can be found on the following websites:

<https://nawa.gov.pl/en/recognition/recognition-for-academic-purposes/applying-for-admission-to-first-long-cycle-studies>

<https://kwalifikator.nawa.gov.pl/>

<https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja/kuratoria-oswiaty>

### **EXCEPTIONS**

The above-mentioned requirement **DOES NOT** apply to:

- students of second-cycle studies (Master's degree) and higher,  
and / or
- holders of the CAMBRIDGE General Certificate of Education - Advanced Level (at least 3 A Levels),  
which is recognized for entrance to universities,  
and / or
- other educational documents that confirm the completion of secondary education in the European Union, European Economic Area (EEA) or OECD member states.

### **2. LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE**

Students from countries where English is not an official language need to submit **a certificate of English language proficiency at least at B2 level**. The list of such certificates is available at the following link:

<https://nawa.gov.pl/images/Banach-2022/At.-3-list-of-recognized-English-language-certificates-Banach-2022.docx>

IN CASE OF QUESTIONS OR DOUBTS CONTACTING THE POLISH UNIVERSITY WHERE THE STUDENT INTENDS TO STUDY IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. UNFORTUNATELY THE CONSULATE IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN THIS MATTER.