



# UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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## Division of Professional Licensing

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### CLARIFYING INFORMATION REGARDING INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

The Department of Commerce's Division of Professional Licensing welcomes new interest and enthusiasm from the community regarding recent changes in Utah's professional licensing laws for people educated or trained in a foreign country. Please review the following document for more information.

- The best and the only source of official information on recent changes to Utah's professional licensing laws can be found on the DOPL website at <https://dopl.utah.gov/internationally-trained-applicant-information/>. Anyone interested in learning more about these recent changes to the law should visit our website, specifically the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) tab. We also encourage people to fill out our [contact form](#) if they are interested in applying for any one of the several professional licenses DOPL regulates.
- Social media pages that discuss SB 43 (2022), SB 35 (2023), or any new changes to professional licensing laws are not official sources of information. Please be aware that any information on social media pages regarding these laws could be inaccurate.
- SB 43 and SB 35 do not offer work permits to internationally trained professionals. Please be aware that DOPL does not have the authority to issue work visas nor aid in finding employers or sponsors to obtain a visa. Obtaining work permits or visas is a separate process that should be undertaken with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). SB 43 and SB 35 are meant to reduce barriers for lawfully present immigrant professionals obtaining licensure.
- DOPL does not revalidate university or college degrees. Having your credentials evaluated for equivalency to Utah's standards is often a part of the licensing process. However, more steps are often needed. Additionally, depending on what license you are applying for, you may need to use a specific education evaluator.
- SB 43 and SB 35 provide agencies that issue professional licenses more flexibility in determining the competency and eligibility of foreign-educated professionals applying for licenses. This means that research on how this applies to each profession is ongoing. Please be aware that this will be a lengthy process, and the Division will provide more information per profession as it becomes available.
- Beware of scams: anyone offering to assist with the licensing application process for a fee is not affiliated with the state of Utah. We strongly advise exercising caution if you decide to pay anyone who claims to assist with the licensing process.
- English proficiency is required for some professions regulated by DOPL, and many professions require passing exams only offered in English. Some professions require applicants educated or trained in non-English languages to pass an English proficiency exam.