The road to Swedish registration
for you who are qualified in medicine outside of the EU/EEA
Your expertise as a doctor is needed in the Swedish labour market

This presentation describes the procedure for obtaining Swedish registration as a doctor.

For you who qualified in a country outside of the EU/EEA, the road to obtaining Swedish registration as a doctor can be long, involving study and different forms of practical work.

Arbetsförmedlingen can offer guidance while you are obtaining Swedish registration as a doctor.
Illustration 1. The road to Swedish registration for doctors qualified outside of the EU/EEA

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Application for assessment of foreign education at the National Board of Health and Welfare

You must send the following documents to the National Board of Health and Welfare:

1. A fully completed application form.
2. A civic registration certificate.
   The civic registration certificate may not be more than three months old.
3. A certified copy of a medical degree certificate, as well as a translation
4. A certified copy of documents in which the length and content of the education can be seen, as well as a translation.
5. A certified copy of a service certificate, as well as a translation, and possibly
6. A certified copy of a certificate of specialist competence, as well as a translation.

http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/ansokaomlegitimationochintyg/legitimation/utbildadiannatland/lakaresteg1
Application for assessment of foreign education at the National Board of Health and Welfare (cont.)

A certified copy
Means that a person certifies that the copy corresponds to the original that was shown to him or her, by writing directly onto the copy his or her signature, a clarification of the signature, and his or her address or telephone number. The translation must be in Swedish or English and be done by an authorized translator.

Remember that:

• Arbetsförmedlingen can pay for the translation of certificates and documents

• Copies that are sent to the National Board of Health and Welfare must be certified.
Illustration 2. **Route to fulfilling the language requirement within the introduction reform**

- **Arbetsförmedlingen**
  - Vocational Swedish
  - Work experience: Statement on language level, not language test
  - Right to introduction benefit

- **Municipality**
  - Swedish for immigrants SFI
  - SFI for academics
  - Swedish 3 SVA 03
  - Right to introduction benefit

- **Healthcare Swedish level C1 (Folkuniversitetet)**
  - Test in Swedish for healthcare (PSV)
  - At own expense

- **Swedish 60 HE credits at university**
  - Possibility to receive introduction benefit* and right to CSN funding

- **TISUS test**

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* It is possible to receive introduction benefit if the jobseeker is studying less than 50% of full-time at university.
Illustration 3. Route to fulfilling the language requirement outside of the introduction reform

- **Arbetsförmedlingen**
  - **Vocational Swedish**
    - **Work experience**
      - Statement on language level, not language test
      - Possibility to receive benefits via Af
  - **Municipality**
    - **Swedish for Immigrants**
      - SFI
    - **Swedish 3**
      - SVA 03
      - Possibility to receive CSN funding*
    - **Healthcare Swedish level C**
      - (Folk-universitetet)
      - Test in Swedish for healthcare (PSV)
      - At own expense
    - **Swedish**
      - 60 HE credits at university
      - Possibility to receive CSN funding*

The language requirement of the National Board of Health and Welfare fulfilled

* Not everyone has the right to receive CSN funding; a recipient must usually have lived and worked/studied in Sweden for two years. See the Student Aid Act (1999:1395)
Language studies to meet the language requirement

Some counties have specialised SFI training for professions that require registration or for academics. Arbetsförmedlingen’s vocational Swedish can also supplement the municipality’s Swedish training.

Ask your employment officer
Work experience or work during your language studies

**Work experience**

- Your language studies can be combined with work experience via Arbetsförmedlingen.
- The medical profession is regulated. You cannot carry out tasks as a doctor during your language studies. It may be possible to make observation visits via the so-called assessment of professional competence.
- Work experience can also be undertaken in other, non-regulated professions in healthcare, such as that of assistant nurse.

**Entry recruitment incentive/New start jobs**

- If you qualify for the entry recruitment incentive or for new start jobs, this could be an option on becoming employed.
- The medical profession is regulated. You cannot work as a doctor during your language studies.
- You can work within other, non-regulated, professions in healthcare, such as assistant nurse.

The regulations and guidelines of the National Board of Health and Welfare (SOSFS 1997:14) on the delegation of tasks within healthcare and dental care govern which tasks a foreign doctor may carry out before becoming registered.
Illustration 4:1. Continued route to registration for doctors without further training (non-specialists)

- Fulfilled language requirement
- While waiting for supplementary training or the medical knowledge test
- Training via Arbetsförmedlingen – activity support
- Regular studies – CSN funding
- Introduction activities – introduction benefit
- Possibility to work as an assistant nurse
- Possibility to receive CSN funding*
  - University studies terminate introduction benefit
- Supplementary education 1 year
- Medical knowledge test (the TULE test)
- Possibility to make observation visits ahead of the medical knowledge test

* Not everyone has the right to receive CSN funding; a recipient must usually have lived and worked/studied in Sweden for two years. See the Student Aid Act (1999:1395). Everyone who is participating in the introduction reform has the option of applying for student aid.
While waiting for the foundation programme

- Work as a junior doctor - wage
- Regular studies - CSN funding
- Education via Arbetsförmedlingen – activity support

Foundation programme - wage

Course in social and constitutional knowledge

Application for registration

* Not everyone has the right to receive CSN funding; a recipient must usually have lived and worked/studied in Sweden for two years. See the Student Aid Act (1999:1395).

Everyone who is participating in the introduction reform has the option of applying for student aid.
Observation visits ahead of the medical knowledge test and/or probationary service

Assessment of professional competence, work experience and observation visits
To gain an insight into the Swedish healthcare system, it can be useful to have undertaken work experience or observation visits, or to receive an assessment of professional competence. There are several different types of work experience that you can receive via Arbetsförmedlingen.

Ahead of both the medical knowledge test and probationary service, you can carry out work experience. This can provide you with the contacts and references you need to obtain a probationary service position. It is also possible to carry out observation visits as a part of a professional competence assessment ahead of the foundation programme.

During the work experience period, you do not yourself carry out the tasks of a doctor. Rather, you are participating in an observation visit, in which you “shadow” a doctor.

If the work experience takes place in the form of a professional competence assessment, the place of employment can receive compensation for a supervisor. This can make it easier to find a position.
The medical knowledge test
(the TULE test)

Aim and intention
In order to assess your medical competence, you must take a medical knowledge test at Swedish degree level.

You must have fulfilled the language requirement of the National Board of Health and Welfare. The purpose of the test is to confirm that your basic medical knowledge corresponds to the content of a Swedish medical degree.

Through a contract between the National Board of Health and Welfare and Karolinska Institutet (KI), KI has undertaken to arrange this test, in consultation with the National Board of Health and Welfare.

Application
More information and the application form can be found on the website of KI at www.ki.se. The test is held twice a year (in February and in September).

Supplementary education – instead of the TULE test
Instead of taking the medical knowledge test, you can participate in a one-year supplementary education
The education includes a course in social and constitutional knowledge, and so you do not need to attend a special course in this before applying for registration.

READ MORE ON SLIDE 14
Supplementary education for doctors qualified outside of the EU/EEA

Supplementary education – Instead of the TULE test
Instead of taking the medical knowledge test, you can participate in a one-year supplementary education at the University of Gothenburg, Linköping University or Karolinska Institutet. A pass in this course is equivalent to a pass in the TULE test. For more information, contact the educational establishment concerned.

Requirements for participating in the education
A medical degree from a country outside of the EU/EEA and Switzerland, a decision made by the National Board of Health and Welfare approving an investigation in the form of a test of knowledge for doctors (TULE) and Swedish 3 or equivalent, with a minimum grade of pass.

Application and course start
The application is made at www.studera.nu between 15 March and 15 April. The course starts in the autumn term.
Financial support during the supplementary education

Recent arrivals, not part of the introduction assignment:
Student aid from CSN. Not all recent arrivals have the right to receive student aid. Usually, persons who have lived in Sweden for more than two years and have a permanent residence permit can apply for student aid. See www.csn.se for more information.

Recent arrivals within the introduction assignment:
The right to an introduction plan is terminated if the supplementary education gives the right to receive student aid (studies exceeding 50% of full-time). Everyone who is part of the introduction assignment has the option of applying for student aid, regardless of their length of stay in Sweden.
The foundation programme (AT)

Applying for the foundation programme (AT)
After completion of the one-year supplementary education or a pass in the medical knowledge test, you must, following a decision from the National Board of Health and Welfare, apply for the foundation programme (AT). You apply for a position on the programme under the same conditions as doctors who are educated in Sweden. A wage is paid during the foundation programme.

Work experience cannot be considered to be equivalent to the foundation programme, because this is a regulated employment, in accordance with the regulations of the National Board of Health and Welfare (SOSFS 1999:5) on the foundation programme for doctors.

Remember that:
There can be considerable competition for a position in the foundation programme. The waiting time between a pass in the medical knowledge test or the completion of the supplementary education and finding a place in the foundation programme varies between different parts of the country. It is therefore recommended that you apply for a temporary position as a junior doctor at the same time.
Advertisements for positions in the foundation programme
Positions in the foundation programme, which are created and announced by the county councils, are advertised together twice a year, in weeks 9 and 38, in Läkartidningen, a newspaper for doctors, at www.lakartidningen.se. The final date for applications is usually two weeks after the announcement, but this can differ between counties.

County councils and hospitals often advertise positions in the foundation programme on their own website. There is nothing to prevent a county council from announcing foundation programme positions on other occasions, so it can be a good idea to check in Läkartidningen throughout the year.

The Swedish Medical Association also arranges foundation programme fairs, at which those looking for a position are welcome. See www.slf.se/Kalendarium/
Illustration 5. Continued route to registration for doctors with further training (specialists)

- Fulfilled language requirement
  - Period between fulfilling the language requirement and probationary service
    - Regular studies – CSN funding
    - Introduction plan – introduction benefit
  - Possibility to have observation visits ahead of probationary service
    - Arbetsförmedlingen Activity support
- Probationary service (Work experience)
  - Activity support
  - Possibility to receive introduction benefit
- Probationary service (Employment)
  - Wage/New start job
  - Possible supplementation in accordance with the decision of the National Board of Health and Welfare
- Course in social and constitutional knowledge
- Application for registration
Probationary service

Probationary service can be carried out as an employment or as a work experience that is decided by Arbetsförmedlingen.

An employment is, of course, preferable, because in addition to providing a wage, an employment offers greater responsibility and better pre-conditions for demonstrating your medical expertise, and thereby better pre-conditions for passing the probationary service.

The aim of probationary service is to assess whether your medical expertise is at an equivalent level to that of Swedish registration. It does not assess specialist competence.

It is often difficult to find a position for probationary service. Consequently, it is important to ask Arbetsförmedlingen for support in applying for and obtaining a probationary service position. It is however your responsibility to find a position.

New start jobs

If you have the right to participate in new start jobs, this could be an option during your probationary service period.
Course in social and constitutional knowledge

The course in social and constitutional knowledge is free of charge and compulsory for doctors who are trained outside of the EU/EEA.

The course is held at the Department of Public Health Sciences at Karolinska Institutet and at the Sahlgrenska Academy at the University of Gothenburg. In Gothenburg, the course is called “Hälsö- och sjukvårdsrätt med författningskunskap” (Healthcare law with constitutional knowledge), and provides 5 higher education credits.

The course in social and constitutional knowledge is also part of the one-year supplementary education.

A pre-condition for participating in the course is that you have received approval from the National Board of Health and Welfare and that you have fulfilled the language requirement.

Application
The application is made via an application form on the website of the National Board of Health and Welfare at http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/ansokaomlegitimationochintyg/legitimationochintyg/utbildadiannatland/lakaresteg4
Work as a junior doctor

It is possible to work as a doctor with a deputy position (i.e. as a junior doctor):

- You have carried out the supplementary education, or passed the TULE test.
- You who have received approval from the National Board of Health and Welfare to carry out probationary service may during the period of probationary service be employed in a deputy position under supervision.

New start jobs
This position can be in the form of a new start job.
Application for registration

Submit the following documents to the National Board of Health and Welfare:

1. A fully completed application form
   The form can be found at:
   http://www.socialstyrelsen.se/ansokaomlegitimationochintyg/legitimation/utbildadiannatland/lakaresteg5

2. A civic registration certificate
   The civic registration certificate may not be more than three months old.

3. A certificate of service for the foundation programme (“AT-boken”). Relevant for you who have carried out the foundation programme.

4. The application fee is paid into the bank giro account 790-3750.

Note that you should only write your personal identity number in the message box (without a hyphen or a space), nothing else.

The registration diploma is an original document that is only issued once. If this diploma becomes lost, confirmation of your authorisation can be given in the form of a certificate.
Contributors to this information:

- The Swedish Medical Association, www.slf.se
- Karolinska Institutet, www.ki.se
- Stockholm County Council, www.sll.se
- The County Administrative Board of Stockholm, www.lansstyrelsen.se
- The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, www.skl.se
- Arbetsförmedlingen