

## Certification of research institutions

As a rule, we distinguish between research institutions which require certification and research institutions that do not require certification. Research institutions that do not require certification are institutions which are operated by a public body to an extent of at least 50%.

If a research institution has been certified and in the case of research institutions which do not require certification a simplified entry procedure for researchers who are staying for less than 6 months is possible. In case of stays of more than 6 months researchers may apply for a "[Settlement Permit – Researcher](#)".

A list of all [certified research institutions](#) is published on the website of the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

There you can also find a list of [research institutions that do not require certification](#).

Research institutions which do not require certification and are interested in being published are invited to send an excerpt from the commercial register or a comparable document documenting that the research institution is operated by a public body to an extent of at least 50 % to the Federal Ministry of the Interior (Department III/4 [bmi-iii-4@bmi.gv.at](mailto:bmi-iii-4@bmi.gv.at)).

### **How can a research institution obtain certification?**

Research institutions which are interested in obtaining certification can apply for it at the Federal Ministry of the Interior:

- A well-founded application must be submitted to the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Department III/4, PO Box 100, 1014 Vienna.
- An expert opinion on the research purpose of the institution issued by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency must be enclosed with the application. The application form for the expertise can be downloaded from [www.ffg.at](http://www.ffg.at) and contains all information required to apply for expert opinion. A decision about applications for expert opinion submitted in full can be made within a fortnight.

It must be evident in particular from the application and the documents enclosed that

- the institution carries out research (see expert opinion)
- it fulfils the requirements of other federal or provincial regulatory constraints for operation of research institutions

Moreover, they have to state in the application how many international researchers are expected to work at the research institution per year. If all requirements are met, the certificate will be issued for a period of five years.