



Credential Evaluations- When are they needed? Questions to ask

Why should the evaluation be done?

Evaluation should be done to compare a foreign degree to U.S. degree from a university in a different country.

Who is requesting the evaluation?

Find out what evaluators they use. Different professions, different licensing bodies different school, different employers have different requirements.

The individual has to speak with the organization requesting the evaluation because in the United States all credentials evaluations have to be approved by the national education association.

If you are working with someone who wants to go back to school, how ready are they to enter the program?

- What is the program?
- What is the English proficiency level of the person you are working with?
- What are the other requirements for getting into the educational program and how close is the person to meeting those requirement?

What is the professional background of the person you are working with? For those people who have technical background in engineering, computer or some science, it may be more useful for them to have the evaluation done just to show employer that they have the technical training to do the job.

What types of jobs will the person be applying for —is it an entry level job that will require them to use their professional skills?

If you are planning to use your credential for job entry, it's important to check with your employer before you pay for credential evaluation because most evaluation expire after two year and are expensive.

Does the person have work authorization, and if not, when do they expect to get it?

For most individuals, it's important to know when they will receive their work authorization so they can save for their own credential evaluation to start or to take college level classes.

Can the person afford to cover the cost of the evaluation, or can other organization pay for it? Or adult education network can provide the cost?

For most individuals the cost of credential evaluations is expensive, it's best to know who is offering scholarships to cover the cost because some organizations have funding available for qualifying candidates.

Are the transcript or diploma in English or will they need to be translated?

If documents are in a foreign language they need to be translated in English. The House of Languages (http://www.houseoflanguages.com/) can provide the service. Visit their website for more details.

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