



UNION EUROPEENNE DES MEDECINS SPECIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

SECTION & BOARD OF SURGERY - GENERAL SURGERY DIVISION

Confirmation, authentication and re-issue of certificates

Fellows of the European Board of Surgery (General Surgery), whether obtained through the EBSQ Examination or by Honorary conferment may require confirmation of that their certificate is genuine.

The UEMS is a Belgian legal entity, registered in Belgium as a Non-Governmental Organization. It is not however a Belgian governmental institution. As such, the state of Belgium cannot legalize UEMS certificates.

Thus, the certificate authentication procedure at the UEMS Office is a simple confirmation of the authenticity of your certificate and not a legalization process. It serves to verify that you have fulfilled the most recent training requirements. While this confirmation does not add any specific value beyond attesting to your compliance with the latest European training standards, it can be beneficial in certain contexts.

The EU Policy and Coordination Officer at the UEMS can confirm the authenticity of your certificate by email.

Agreements do exist with specific countries that recognize UEMS certificates as mandatory examinations for their doctors.

However, other countries or organizations may require ‘authentication’ in the form of an additional stamp. **Authentication** is hereby defined as “**A confirmation that the document is officially genuine**”. This is not the ‘Legalization’ of the UEMS certificate, but just a certification of authenticity.

Procedure for authentication

In order for a UEMS certificate to be **officially authenticated for countries requiring such procedure**, it must be signed by the legal representative of a Belgian legal entity e.g. a notary at the Domus Medica Europaea who will sign the certificates on behalf of UEMS.

If applicants are interested in having their certificate, **here is the procedure to follow**:

1. The applicant sends the following documents to the UEMS Office (Ms Amelia Donighian, Rue de l'Industrie 24, 1040 Brussels, BELGIUM):
 - The original UEMS certificate (please note that only certificates issued by UEMS can be authenticated)
 - A copy of the UEMS certificate
 - A copy of a valid ID or passport
2. The applicant sends a scanned copy of his certificate and ID by email to coordination@uems.eu with details of postal address to which we will return the signed document. Please put as subject of the email “Authentication of UEMS Certificates – supporting documents”. **Provide details on the date you passed the exam and the medical specialty.**
3. The UEMS Office will then contact the organizers of the examination to confirm that the applicant has indeed passed the exam.
4. The UEMS Office will organize a meeting with the Notary to have the confirmed certificate signed.



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5. The UEMS Office will then send back the original certificate to the applicants or to someone duly mandated.

We kindly invite you to send the relevant documents by **October 31st 2023** at the latest (date as per postmark) should you wish to have your certificate signed this year.

The administrative fee for this procedure is 150€. The sending costs of returning certificate is also at the candidate's charge. Please indicate in your mail whether you would like your certificate to be sent back to you by **regular mail (up to 15€)** or by **courier (70€)**.

Once the certificate is signed, we will issue an invoice and ask you to pay by bank transfer. Once the payment is received, we will return the document back to you.

Re-issue of certificates

It is assumed that Fellows are responsible persons and are therefore trusted to take good care of their Certificates. New Certificates will not be re-issued in case of loss.

Find all the information on: <https://www.uems.eu/european-examinations/authentication-of-diplomas>