The Point of Single Contact Rheinland-Pfalz (https://eap.rlp.de)

The Point of Single Contact (PSC) Rheinland-Pfalz is a public body with the following brief:

- to support people who want to start up or manage a company in Rheinland-Pfalz
- to assist people who want to have their foreign qualifications accredited

It helps people to obtain the official approvals and permits they need in any given case.

The services of the PSC Rheinland-Pfalz are free of charge, irrespective of whether the inquirer is requesting information or asking for help with making applications for approvals. It may be necessary, however, to pay for the actual approval procedures.

Authorities' finder for companies

The PSC Rheinland-Pfalz helps domestic enterprises in all sectors of industry to obtain regulatory approvals and permits, focusing particularly on new business start-ups. It also supports foreign companies which want to set up business here or which are looking to operate across borders.

The PSC Rheinland-Pfalz issues information about the relevant regulations, the appropriate authorities, the means of access to public registers and databases, the existing procedural laws and the establishments which can help with applications or assist with the formalities required to take up or exercise an occupation. It can also process a number of approval procedures for the applicants, thereby sparing them from having to contact the relevant authorities themselves. In this case it also checks that the relevant deadlines are met in administrative procedures.

There is more information on the Internet about the role of the PSC Rheinland-Pfalz in helping companies to navigate their way through official procedures: https://eap.rlp.de/en/behoerdenlotse-fuer-unternehmen/.

Recognition of foreign vocational qualifications

People seeking accreditation of their foreign professional qualifications or training certificates in order to take up a post in a regulated profession or to become self-employed in Rheinland-Pfalz can also turn to PSC Rheinland-Pfalz for help.

Regulated professions are professions for which a specific certificate of training must be produced before being allowed to take up the occupation. Regulated professions mainly include care professions (elderly carers, nurses), academic medical professions (doctors, pharmacists), education professions (preschool teachers, schoolteachers, special needs teachers, remedial teachers) and social care professions (education welfare workers, social workers). In some professions the use of the occupational title is regulated first and foremost. This is particularly true of the occupational titles of architects (Innenarchitekt [interior architect], Landschaftsarchitekt [landscape architect] and Stadtplaner [town planner]) and engineers.

There is more information on the Internet about the role of the PSC Rheinland-Pfalz in helping people to have their foreign professional qualifications recognised: https://eap.rlp.de/en/arbeiten-mit-auslaendischem-berufsabschluss/. 
Points of Single Contact in Europe

All the Member States of the European Union and the EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) have also set up PSCs (Points of Single Contact). They are available if you want to operate as a service provider in other EU countries.

Exporting services to other EU countries

A service enterprise is required to obtain official approvals and permits before it can operate in another Member State of the EU. Under Directive 2006/123/EC (EU Services Directive), it is part of the remit of the PSC in any EU Member State to help enterprises with this very process en route to meeting the regulatory requirements in the relevant country.

The PSC in any given case helps companies from other EU Member States to negotiate their way through the official channels, advising them about the formalities required to operate in another EU country and relieving them of some of these formalities.

For access to the PSCs of the individual Member States, please visit https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/services/services-directive/in-practice/contact_en.

PSC Rheinland-Pfalz contact details

The work of the PSC in Rheinland-Pfalz is based in the two "Struktur- und Genehmigungsdirektionen (SGD) Nord und Süd" [north and south structural and approval administrations]:

- PSC/EAP at the SGD Nord, Stresemannstraße 3-5, 56068 Koblenz, eap-sgdnord@poststelle.rlp.de, tel.: 0261 120-2222, fax: 0261 120-882222
- PSC/EAP at the SGD Süd, Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 14, 67433 Neustadt an der Weinstraße, eap-sgdsued@poststelle.rlp.de, tel.: 06321 99-2233, fax: 06321 99-32233

You can also contact the relevant PSC office via the PSC Rheinland-Pfalz website: https://eap.rlp.de/en/contact/contacting-the-psc/.