

Actuary SAA and Pensions expert with federal diploma (EBV) **Rights and responsibilities**

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Management summary

The professional designations "Aktuar" and "Versicherungsmathematiker" (actuary) are not protected in Switzerland, even where the person holding them is a member of the SAA. However, the Association has registered a trademark with the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property for the following titles:

Aktuar SAV, Aktuarin SAV
Actuaire ASA
Actuary SAA
Attuario ASA, Attuaria ASA

This permits only members of the "Actuary SAA section" to use the trademark as a title.

Anyone who has successfully completed the specialist examination for occupational pensions experts (recognised by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation [SERI]) may use the legally protected title "occupational pensions expert".

Areas of expertise

There are two areas of expertise:

Actuary SAA
Pensions expert (EBV)

a) Actuary SAA

In accordance with Art. 9 of the Statutes, there is an "Actuary SAA section". Members of this section are entitled to use the title "Actuary SAA" (Aktuar SAV, Aktuarin SAV, Actuaire ASA, Attuario ASA, Attuaria ASA) subject to examination regulations.

Art. 10, Section 1 of the Statutes regulates the criteria for admission to the section:

The candidate must be a full member of the SAA.

The candidate must have practised as an actuary in relevant fields for a number of years and possess the specialised knowledge required for work as an actuary in a position of responsibility.

Guidelines on admission to the section are laid down by the SAA Board.

In accordance with Art. 10, Section 3 of the Statutes, the candidate must agree to uphold the Code of Conduct of the Actuary SAA section.

In accordance with Art. 11 of the Statutes, there is also a disciplinary procedure for infringements of the Code of Conduct.

Members who bear this title are internationally recognised qualified actuaries within the meaning of the "Fully Qualified Actuary rules" in the Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE). In the International Actuarial Association (IAA), mutual recognition is the subject of special agreements between the member associations. Our association has yet to conclude such an agreement.

What does this mean for individual members?

In Switzerland:

Members practising as an "Actuary SAA" can demonstrate that they have a particular qualification.

They are responsible for monitoring themselves to ensure that they work only in areas in which they are qualified.

They must undertake continuing professional development.

Abroad:

In Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE) countries:

Any Actuary SAA wishing to work in one of these countries is obliged to join the respective local association. You can become a fully accredited actuary of the Member Associations of the countries in accordance with the current list in the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) of the AAE (see AAE homepage).

Any Actuary SAA must observe the obligations of the respective local association and the legislation of the respective country to the same extent as would a member who is a national of the country.

In other countries:

In the absence of agreements with our association in these countries, any Actuary SAA must regulate their activities on an individual basis.

Example US:

US residents and non-residents may apply to become members of the American Academy of Actuaries (AAA) (professional umbrella organisation of "full members" for the US, Canada and Mexico). If they are not members of the SoA, ASPA, CAS or CCA, they will need to provide evidence of their actuarial training and their familiarity with US law (registration procedure) on an individual basis.

The association fulfils its obligations to qualified foreign actuaries by means of the rules laid down in Art. 10 Section 2 of the Statutes: foreign actuaries may become full members of the Association and members of the "Actuary SAA section" if there is a mutual agreement between the relevant national actuarial associations.

Nationals of countries with whom we have no agreement must comply with the general procedure, whereby the regulation of the Actuary SAA degree programme applies in cases of unclear academic training.

b) Pensions expert (EBV)

The Statutes contain no specific provisions for EBVs. The Association is a member of the EBV Board of Trustees. This Board carries out the relevant specialist examinations and lays down the relevant regulations (Art. 2 Section 2 of the Statutes). Those who successfully pass the specialist examination may work as a recognised occupational pensions expert (Swiss federal diploma pursuant to the SERI).

EBVs may be admitted as full members of the Association, subject to a more in-depth examination by the Executive Board (Section 2 Guidelines for admitting members). Any Actuary

SAA who fulfils the relevant statutory requirements may also become members of the Swiss Chamber of Pension Fund Experts.

EBVs wishing to become members of the "Actuary SAA section" must have the same qualifications as other members.

Art. 11 of the Statutes (Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedure) also apply to members of the Section who are simultaneously EBV and/or members of the Swiss Chamber of Pension Fund Experts.

The following must be considered with regard to the international recognition of EBVs within the meaning of the "Fully Qualified Actuary rules" in the AAE:

An Actuary SAA does not automatically attain EBV status and must additionally pass the EBV examinations. This also applies to international activities.

EBVs are not automatically "fully qualified actuaries". They must attain the specialist qualifications if they wish to take advantage of the benefits of the Actuary SAA title in their international work. This may be done by completing the Actuary SAA degree programme, for example.

Protection of title

Actuary SAA

The association has registered the title as a trademark and is therefore the only body that can determine who may use the trade mark, which are the registered members of the "Actuary SAA section" of the association.

This guarantees the protection of the titles: Actuary SAA, Aktuar SAV, Aktuarin SAV, Actuaire ASA, Attuario ASA, Attuaria ASA.

EBV

The association is a member of Board of Trustees that carries out the modules and the final examinations for EBVs. Those who successfully pass the final examination may work as a recognised pensions expert (Swiss federal diploma EBV). The title is therefore protected by legislation.

Admission and responsibilities

The admissions policy, the Statutes and the Code of Conduct of the Actuary SAA section are available on the internet for an Actuary SAA. There is also a disciplinary procedure for infringements of the Code of Conduct.

The same applies for EBVs and the preceding title PVE.

The Code of Conduct for an Actuary SAA, the Code of Conduct SKPE and the regulations of the professional commissions dated 6 September 2014 (disciplinary procedure) comply with the corresponding international standards.

An Actuary SAA is an internationally recognised qualified actuary within the meaning of the "fully qualified actuary rules" in the AAE. After a brief waiting period, they may be admitted to other national associations without the need to pass further examinations. In the International Actuarial Association (IAA), mutual recognition is the subject of special agreements between the member associations. Our association has yet to conclude such an agreement.

With regard to the Swiss federal diploma EBV, the following applies:

An Actuary SAA does not automatically attain EBV status but must pass the final EBV examination. This also applies to international activities.

EBVs are not automatically "fully qualified actuaries". They must attain the specialist qualifications if they wish to take advantage of the benefits of the Actuary SAA title in their international work. This may be done by completing the Actuary SAA degree programme, for example.

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