

Generic qualifications

To apply for employment within an international organisation, you need to fulfill the following requirements:

Internal selection criteria

Many positions may be restricted to nationals of member or signatory states (nationalities sought will usually be indicated). They may also be limited to geographical or gender quota representation. The UN has a mandate to achieve 50/50 gender parity at all levels by the year 2010, and for that reason, certain vacancy announcements mention that women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Education

University degree (generally a MA degree) or higher technical diploma.

Professional experience

Several years of relevant working experience are necessary: at least five (5) years for mid-career vacancies, two (2) to three (3) years for entry-level positions. Some professional experience in a developing country is definitely an asset and often required.

Relevant experience	United Nations	Related organisations
Between 0 and 2 years	P1	A1
At least 2 years	P2	A2
At least 5 years	P3	A2/A3
At least 7 years	P4	A3
At least 10 years	P5	A4/A5
At least 15 years	D1	A6
At least 20 years	D2	A7

Language

The UN has six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, English, Russian and Spanish). The official **working** languages are English and French. Knowledge of another language may be required for certain positions, and one would do well to note the level required: «excellent» means fluent and implies a perfect command of the language; «working knowledge» means ability to work independently in the language, prepare any type of document (from a letter to a report), actively participate in meetings and discussions in the language indicated; «limited knowledge» means able to function on the telephone, read work-related texts, draft brief reports, follow meetings and discussions choosing, nevertheless, another of the UN official languages to speak.