

Prolongation of EuroPriSe Expert Admission

Introduction: EuroPriSe Expert admission demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of legal and/or technical aspects of European data protection law. Continuing privacy education is a mandatory requirement for a EuroPriSe Expert. He or she must also keep track of all relevant developments within EuroPriSe (e.g., updates to certification criteria or procedures).

General rule: EuroPriSe Experts are allowed to conduct EuroPriSe evaluations for a period of three years after first admission. Prolongation of admission is granted if the EuroPriSe Expert successfully conducts a EuroPriSe evaluation of an IT product or IT-based service or if he or she participates in a EuroPriSe Expert Enhancement Workshop. In both cases, the validity of the admission is prolonged by three years.

Successful conduct of an evaluation: With award of the initial EuroPriSe certificate for an IT product or IT-based service to an organisation, the admission of the experts in charge – who successfully conducted the evaluation – is prolonged automatically (provided that the previous admission is still valid). The same holds true for the admission of experts who contributed massively to an evaluation even if another expert took the lead. Since recertification often involves only relatively little efforts for the EuroPriSe Experts concerned, successful finalisation of a recertification project regarding a product or service does not result in the prolongation of the respective experts' admission (as a rule). The same holds true for the successful conduct of a EuroPriSe (re-)evaluation of a website.

Participation in an Enhancement Workshop: Participants of EuroPriSe Enhancement Workshops are provided with valuable information on EuroPriSe best practice recommendations and guidelines as well as developments in the European Privacy Seal certification program. For prolongation, an expert is expected to register for the workshop prior to expiration of his or her current admission. The workshop is to be attended within 2 months after the previous admission ends (as a rule). Typically, EuroPriSe Expert Enhancement Workshops are held twice a year.

Note: EuroPriSe reserves the right to replace the Enhancement Workshops with web-based trainings that must be completed successfully in order for the admission to be prolonged or to offer such web-based trainings as an additional means for prolongation at some point in the future (if appropriate).

Calculation of new validity date: In case of a prolongation, the new validity date is calculated as follows: Start date is the date of the successful finalisation of a EuroPriSe evaluation (date of seal award) or the date on which the expert participated in a EuroPriSe Expert Enhancement Workshop. The new validity date is determined by adding three full calendar years to the start date. If for example the seal is awarded on June 15, 2016, prolongation is granted until June 14, 2019. If the expert is involved in another certification project and if the respective EuroPriSe certificate is awarded on August 16, 2016, admission then ends August 15, 2019.

Note: It is not possible to accumulate several prolongation causes to the effect that the expert's admission is valid for a longer period than three years. In concreto: Having a look at the above example once again, this means that when calculating the new validity date on occasion of the second prolongation cause on August 16, 2016, the relevant start date of the calculation is August 16, 2016 rather than June 14, 2019.

Additional requirements for prolongation: All further prerequisites for expert admission must remain valid for prolongation, namely:

Professional experience: Precondition for prolongation of admission is that the expert still spends a considerable share of his or her professional activities with legal and/or technical aspects of European data protection law.

Reliability: Reliability of experts is another prerequisite of initial admission and prolongation of admission. An expert is not reliable if he or she has been convicted of major crimes or breaking regulations on data protection or if he or she lives in unsatisfactory financial circumstances or has been dismissed as an expert by an accreditation body before.

Liability insurance coverage: Finally, experts must still provide for sufficient liability insurance coverage regarding any damages that may result from their evaluation tasks.

Details on these additional requirements can be found in a separate fact sheet on EuroPriSe Expert Admission which is available at <https://www.european-privacy-seal.eu/EPS-en/Expert-Admission-Workshops>.

Formalities:

Self-Declaration: Prolongation requires a self-declaration from experts with respect to proficiency, reliability and liability insurance coverage. EuroPriSe CA provides the respective form to experts who successfully conducted an evaluation or participated in an Enhancement Workshop.

Other formalities: Prolongation will be granted in writing or via fax or email. The Expert will be granted an additional one-page document (certificate) confirming the prolongation of his or her admission on request.

Annual fee: EuroPriSe Experts are subject to an annual fee that covers inter alia free participation in one Expert Enhancement workshop during one admission cycle (three years). Payment of the fee as such does not result in the prolongation of an expert's admission. However, if an expert does not pay the annual fee in due time, EuroPriSe may withdraw the expert's admission.

Questions: If you are in doubt whether you meet the prerequisites for prolongation of your admission as EuroPriSe Expert, please inquire with EuroPriSe.

For all inquiries on this matter please contact: ca@european-privacy-seal.eu.