



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

Content:

What is “DigZert” 1
 DigZert verification..... 2
 FAQ..... 8

What is “DigZert”?

APS India will issue digitally signed verification certificates (“DigZert”) to all applicants who have successfully completed the APS evaluation procedure after April 24th 2023. The digitally signed APS certificate will replace the paper-printed certificates.

“DigZerts” will be issued in a secure PDF file format and are validated by a digital signature. The digital certificate will be delivered to you via the email address used during the APS registration process. When registering for APS, please make sure that you are using a valid email address that is accessible by you.

The digital certificate will be issued to all applicants who registered for the individual verification procedure. Applicants who are participating in a partnership or exchange program will not be issued certificates and are therefore not eligible for obtaining an individual digital certificate.

Like the previous paper-based version of the APS certificate, DigZert is equally recognized and accepted by German universities and institutions for the application process.

Please note: For your visa application through VFS you still must submit a paper printed copy of your digital certificate.

Sample

Akademische Prüfstelle
 Wissenschaftsreferat der
 Deutschen Botschaft Neu-Delhi
 Fassung gültig ab 24.04.2023

Zertifikat

Die Akademische Prüfstelle der Deutschen Botschaft Neu-Delhi
 hat am 20-04-2023
 die Überprüfung der Studienleistungsnachweise von
 Herrn [Name]

geb. am 0 [Geburtsdatum] in Mendpara Junagadh, Gujarat, Prüfnummer 0 [Prüfnummer]
 erfolgreich abgeschlossen.

Eine Hochschulzugangsberechtigung liegt vor.
 Das vorliegende Zertifikat wird ihm deshalb zur Bewerbung
 an deutschen Hochschulen und
 zur anschließenden Visumbeantragung ausgestellt.

Art des Zugangs: Direkter Zugang
 Studienfach: Electronics & Communications Engineering
 Hochschule in Indien: Gujarat Technological University
 Name des Colleges in Indien: Government Engineering College, Modasa
 Aktueller Ausbildungsstand: Bachelor Studium absolviert
 Absolvierte Semester: 8
 Ausbildungsdauer: 4 Jahre
 Notendurchschnitt: 7.3 CGPA
 Englischer Sprachnachweis: TOEFL 93

www.aps-india.de

Die Akademische Prüfstelle (APS) ist eine Serviceeinrichtung der Deutschen Botschaft
 in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienst (DAAD)



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

DigZert verification

There are two ways to verify your DigZert:

1. Verification using Acrobat Reader

Make sure you installed the latest version of Acrobat Reader on your device!

Download (external link) <https://www.adobe.com/acrobat/pdf-reader.html>

Open the downloaded DigZert via Acrobat Reader. At the bottom of the document, you will find the APS signature seal:

Ausbildungsdauer: 4 Jahre

Notendurchschnitt: 7.3 CGPA

Englischer Sprachnachweis: TOEFL 93

Click the APS
signature seal



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DAAD

Upon clicking the seal, the content of the digital signature will be displayed. A valid signature should contain the following information:






“DigZert”


Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

Choose “Signature Properties” to receive additional information.

Signature Properties

 Signature is VALID, signed by Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi.
Signing Time: 2023/04/25 16:41:21 +05'30'
Source of Trust obtained from European Union Trusted Lists (EUTL).

 This is a Qualified Electronic Seal according to EU Regulation 910/2014

Validity Summary

The document has not been modified since this signature was applied.
The certifier has specified that Form Fill-in, Signing and Commenting are allowed for this document. No other changes are permitted.

The signer's identity is valid.
Signing time is from the clock on the signer's computer.
Signature was validated as of the signing time:
2023/04/25 16:41:21 +05'30'

Signer Info

The path from the signer's certificate to an issuer's certificate was successfully built.
The signer's certificate is valid and has not been revoked.

[Show Signer's Certificate...](#)

[Advanced Properties...](#) [Close](#) [Validate Signature](#)



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

A click on “Show Signer’s Certificate” will reveal even more details about the digital signature:


Certificate Viewer

This dialog allows you to view the details of a certificate and its entire issuance chain. The details correspond to the selected entry.

Show all certification paths found

▼ D-TRUST CA 2-21-2
Deutsche Botsch...

Summary | Details | Revocation | Trust | Policies | Legal Notice


 Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi
Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi

Issued by: D-TRUST CA 2-21-2 2021
D-Trust GmbH

Valid from: 2023/04/17 15:04:25 +05'30'

Valid to: 2026/04/27 15:04:25 +05'30'

Intended usage: Non-Repudiation

 This certificate is Qualified according to EU Regulation 910/2014 Annex III

The private key related to this certificate resides in a Qualified Seal Creation Device (QSCD)

Export...

i The selected certificate path is valid.

The path validation and revocation checks were done as of the signing time:
2023/04/25 16:41:21 +05'30'
Validation Model: Shell

OK



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

Certificate Viewer

This dialog allows you to view the details of a certificate and its entire issuance chain. The details correspond to the selected entry.

Show all certification paths found

▼ D-TRUST CA 2-21-2
Deutsche Botsch...

Summary | **Details** | Revocation | Trust | Policies | Legal Notice

Certificate data:

Name	Value
Signature algor...	SHA384 ECDSA
Subject	st=New Delhi, serialNumber=DTR23...
Issuer	2.5.4.97=NTRDE-HRB74346, cn=D-...
Serial number	48 9C 31 63 D0 6E FB 42 FD FE 21...
Validity starts	2023/04/17 15:04:25 +05'30'

cn=Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi
ou=Wissenschaftsreferat, Akademische Prüfstelle
o=Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi
c=DE

i The selected certificate path is valid.

The path validation and revocation checks were done as of the signing time:
2023/04/25 16:41:21 +05'30'
Validation Model: Shell

OK



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

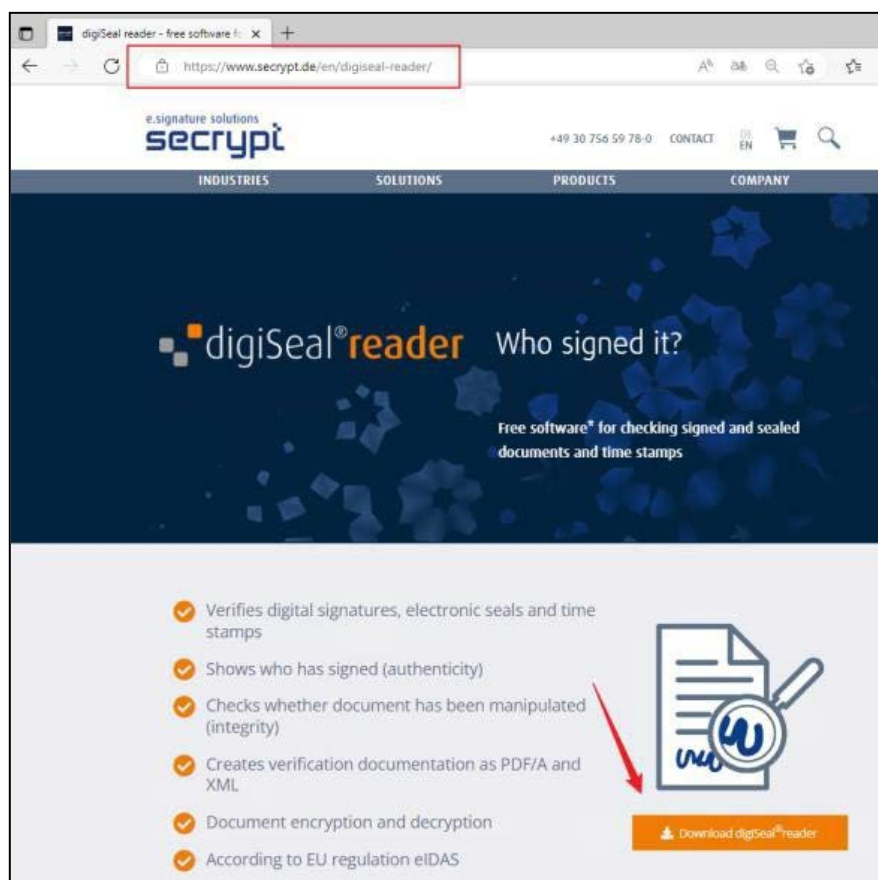
Stand: April 2023

2. Verification using digiSeal Reader

digiSeal Reader is a software developed by the company “secrypt”. It may also be used for the verification of digital APS signatures.

Download (external link) <https://www.secrypt.de/en/digiseal-reader/>

Download and install the digiSeal Reader software to your device.



Open your digital certificate with the digiSeal Reader software.

The software automatically checks the imported digital signature. The result of the signature check will be displayed.



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

The screenshot shows the digiSeal reader interface with a document titled "Beispielzertifikat_sig.pdf (signed)". A dialog box titled "Document Signature(s)" is open, displaying the following information:

Verification result

Signature successfully verified.
- File is not modified.
- File sealed with qualified certificate.

Signed file: [Beispielzertifikat_sig_Revision_01.pdf](#)
Date of verification: 2023-04-26, 07:33:24 GMT
Verification Report: [Beispielzertifikat_sig.pdf_Verification.pdf](#)

Signature information

Signer	Time of signing GMT
Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi	2023-04-25, 11:11:21

Certificate details

Seal type
Qualified electronic seal according to eIDAS Regulation EU No 910/2014

"Deutsche Botschaft Neu-Delhi" signature details

Accomplished verifications

- File signature** (mathematical verification).
 - File is not modified.
 - File sealed with qualified certificate.
 - Applied algorithms proper at signing time.
 - Applied algorithms proper at verification time.
- Certificate and path** (signature and validity verification).
 - Certificate and path successfully verified.
 - Chain (SigG profile)
- Certificate status** (OCSP / CRL).
 - Certificate status successfully verified.
 - Signature certificate: Valid (OCSP produced at 2023-04-26, 07:33:20 GMT)
 - Issuer certificate: Valid (OCSP produced at 2023-04-26, 07:33:20 GMT)

gesiegelt von:
Deutsche Botschaft
Neu-Delhi
am: 25.04.2023
mit:
digiSeal[®]
by secript
www.aps-india.de

DAAD

Die Akademische Prüfstelle (APS) ist eine Serviceeinrichtung der Deutschen Botschaft in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienst (DAAD)

signed | 1 / 1 | 26.04.2023 | 13:04



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

FAQ

Could I print out the DigZert and use it like a paper certificate for my university application?

No. DigZert is an electronic document that should only be used for digital communication. A printout be included with visa application used during your VFS visa appointment, however.

The digital signature is not displayed when opening the DigZert file.

The digital signature is not clickable in your web browser. You require either Acrobat Reader or digiSeal Reader to verify the digital signature. Sometimes errors occur when opening the DigZert using older versions of Acrobat Reader. Please make sure, you have the latest version of Acrobat Reader or digiSeal Reader installed on your system.

I didn't receive your email with my certificate. What should I do?

Please ensure that you are providing a valid and accessible email address during the APS registration process. We will not be able to change your email address once your account has been created.

Can I use this digital certificate to apply for more than five universities?

Certainly! As this is an electronic document, please feel free to use it for applying to as many German universities as you wish.

Are digital certificates valid indefinitely?

Due to EU regulations on digital seals, the signature on the digital certificates will expire after three years, starting from the day they were issued. Should you require an updated APS certificate after three years, please get in touch with us.



“DigZert”

Digitally signed APS certificates

Stand: April 2023

My passport number has changed after receiving the APS certificate. I cannot apply for an VFS appointment. What should I do?

Please schedule the appointment using your old passport number – the one that you mentioned on your APS registration form. During your VFS visit, you should carry both your expired and your new passport.

I found a (spelling) mistake on my digital certificate. How can I get it corrected?

Please send an email to info@aps-india.de, stating “DigZert Mistake” in the title of your email. We will issue a new certificate should there be an error.