

Cessation of activity as a certification service provider

If you are a certification service provider and you cease your activities, you must notify the competent body immediately.

Competent Department

- [Bundesnetzagentur für Elektrizität, Gas, Telekommunikation, Post und Eisenbahnen \(BNetzA\)](#)

Basic information

Certification service providers issue qualified certificates or qualified time stamps within the meaning of the Signature Act.

If you operate as a certification service provider and cease your activities, you must notify the competent body immediately.

You must ensure that

- the qualified certificates valid at the time of discontinuation of the activity are taken over by another certification service provider,
- the signature key holders concerned are notified of the cessation of activities and the takeover of the qualified certificates by another certification service provider, and
- the documentation pursuant to Section 10 of the Digital Signature Act is handed over to the acquiring certification-service-provider or to the Federal Network Agency.

If the qualified certificates are not taken over by another certification service provider, you must revoke them. If insolvency proceedings have been opened, you must also notify the competent authority immediately.

Requirements

An informal notification is required.

Procedure

Legal bases

- [Verordnung zur elektronischen Signatur \(Signaturverordnung; SigV\)](#)

- [Gesetz über Rahmenbedingungen für elektronische Signaturen \(Signaturgesetz: SigG\)](#)

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

2 months You should submit the notification at least 2 months before ceasing operation. By this time, you should also inform the signature key holders of the cessation of operations.

What are the costs?

The amount of the fees depends on the time spent. Expenses are added to this.