

ARTICLE 19

Exemption or Reduction of Dues, Fees or Charges

1. If one Party's legislation provides that a person shall be exempt from paying all or part of an administrative fee for issuing a certificate or document required to apply its legislation, the same exemption shall apply to any fee for a certificate or document required to apply the legislation of the other Party. This exemption shall not apply if a medical report is required by the competent institution of a Party solely in support of a claim for a benefit under the legislation of that Party.
2. Documents of an official nature required for the application of this Convention shall be exempt from any authentication by diplomatic or consular authorities.

ARTICLE 20

Language of Communication

The Parties may communicate directly with one another in English, French, or Spanish.

ARTICLE 21

Submitting an Application, a Notice or an Appeal

1. The Parties shall treat applications, notices, and appeals concerning eligibility for, or the amount of, a benefit under the legislation of a Party which should, for the purposes of that legislation, have been submitted within a prescribed period to a competent authority or liaison agency of that Party, but which are submitted within the same period to a competent authority or liaison agency of the other Party, as if they had been submitted to the competent authority or liaison agency of the first Party. The date of submission of applications, notices and appeals to the competent authority or liaison agency of the other Party shall be deemed to be the date of their submission to the competent authority or liaison agency of the first Party.
2. The date that an application for a benefit is submitted under the legislation of a Party shall be deemed to be the date of submission of an application for the corresponding benefit under the legislation of the other Party, provided that the applicant at the time of application provides information indicating that creditable periods have been completed under the legislation of the other Party. The preceding sentence shall not apply to an application submitted before the date of entry into force of this Convention or if the applicant requests that the payment of the benefit under the legislation of the other Party be delayed.
3. The Party to which an application, a notice or an appeal has been submitted shall transmit it without delay to the other Party.