


National centre for vocational education and training

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 NORWAY

Timeline

2022 Design

2023 Design

2024 Approved/Agreed

2025 Implementation

ID number 43650

Background

It is an ambition of the government's political platform of 2021 (Hurdalsplatform) to establish a national centre for vocational education and training. The political platform contains the priorities of the incumbent government.

Objectives

One of the overall goals of the government is that more young people and adults choose, complete and stay qualified for vocational education and training (VET) or higher vocational education. It also aims to strengthen the quality and development in VET at all levels and to see vocational education as a continuous pathway from one education level to the next. A national centre for vocational education and training (EQF4) and higher vocational education (EQF5) can be a measure to achieve the desired development.

Description

In autumn 2022, an expert working group was appointed by the Ministry to look at the mandate and possible funding for the centre. The working group consisted of representatives of the Ministry of Education and Research, the social partners and the Directorate for Education and Training. Based on the working group's results, the government decided to establish an expert group from representatives of all relevant organisations and stakeholders, chosen for their expertise.

2022 Design

An expert group started to map potential tasks and develop suggestions on how to organise the centre, with the report to the Ministry of Education and Research expected by 1 October 2023.

2023 Design

The report was presented on 20 October 2023. The majority of the expert group recommended a national centre for vocational education and training and outlined different models for organising it. The group emphasised that the centre must be

independent and visible, have the necessary resources and have clear mandate.

The Government was studying the recommendations and assessing whether a centre could be a point of contact for regional, national and international actors within vocational education and training.

Responsibility for the content and structure of upper secondary education, and for the students' and apprentices' rights, shall continue to lie with the county authorities and national authorities.

2024 Approved/Agreed

The state budget for 2025 suggests allocating NOK 10 million (EURO 857 345.80) for establishing the centre. The centre is intended to be a driving force for innovative thinking and long-term strategic work to increase the relevance and quality of vocational education and training. In the year of establishment, five million are to be used to establish operations, and five million to make the first research acquisitions.

2025 Implementation

The recruitment process started in February, and by May, the first director was appointed, bringing leadership experience from both public and private sectors and expertise in collaborating with educational authorities, government, and industry. The centre was officially opened on 20 August 2025 by the Minister for Education in the city of Molde. The centre's role is, amongst others, to gather and share knowledge that can improve quality and relevance in vocational education at all levels.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices
Young people (15-29 years old)
Adult learners

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Coordinating VET and other policies

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

European priorities in VET

Osnabrück Declaration

Resilience and excellence through quality, inclusive and flexible
VET

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[News item about the national centre for VET](#)

[Report on national centre for vocational education and training](#)


[New item about the centre opening](#)

Related policy developments

2025 Completed

VET-related priorities in the political platform of the government

Following the elections of autumn 2017, the government announced its priorities on 14 January 2018. For upper secondary VET, they included:

 NORWAY

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” Cite as

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/43650>