


Scholarship pilot for skilled workers

POLICY DEVELOPMENT**PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE** **NORWAY**

Timeline

2020 Pilot **2021 Pilot** **2022 Pilot** **2023 Pilot** **2024 Completed****ID number 38983**

Background

Piloting scholarship for skilled workers is a measure suggested in the skills reform launched in 2019 and is in keeping with the priorities of the government to consider incentive schemes for lifelong learning.

Objectives

The objective of the pilot is to gain knowledge about how financial incentives can influence participation in further education and training for skilled workers and whether it has an important connection to the labour market.

The pilot should show if a scholarship scheme makes a vocational career more attractive and if it motivates skilled workers to invest in further education and training.

Description

Skilled workers were selected as the target group because they leave working life relatively early and traditionally seldom participate in continuing education. The pilot will be based on a random selection where one group is selected to receive information about further education for skilled workers and offers of a scholarship, while another group will only receive information about further education. A third group will receive no information and is used as a control group.

The pilot will include selected skilled workers in the age group 30-57, including both those who are, and those who are not, working.

The selected participants will have the same rights as every student to apply for other loans and scholarships in addition to this new pilot scholarship.

The suggestions for the pilot went to public consultation in 2021; the pilot is expected to run until August 2023 leading to a possible decision to implement the scholarship as a measure on a more permanent basis in 2024 (the earliest).

2020 Pilot

The pilot started

<p>The pilot started.</p>
<p>2021 Pilot</p> <p>Recruitment of participants has started.</p>
<p>2022 Pilot</p> <p>The pilot is ongoing.</p>
<p>2023 Pilot</p> <p>The pilot ended and the evaluation started.</p>
<p>2024 Completed</p> <p>The pilot was evaluated, and the results were published on 18 January 2024.</p> <p>The main findings include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) scholarship and customised information may increase the number of skilled workers in continuous education (b) 2.5 % of skilled workers who did not receive any kind of incentives chose to take more education (c) offers of both scholarships and targeted information increased the number of applicants to continuous education to 3 %. (d) only targeted information about education choices also had a positive effect, with 2.7 % participating in continuous education. <p>A second evaluation will be initiated and will examine the completion rate of the skilled workers participating in this pilot.</p>

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)

Target group

Learners

Adult learners

Older workers and employees (55 - 64 years old)

Persons in employment, including those at risk of unemployment

Other

Skilled
workers

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning

Financial and non-financial incentives to learners, providers and companies

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

European priorities in VET

Osnabrück Declaration

Establishing a new lifelong learning culture - relevance of continuing VET and digitalisation

Subsystem

CVET

Further reading

[Link to the public consultation](#)

[Link to evaluation of pilot - scholarship for skilled workers](#)

Related policy developments

2024 **Legislative process**

The skills reform - lifelong learning

Work on the reform started in 2019 and will develop further in the years to come. The government has initiated several measures to reach the objectives of the reform:

Stimulating individuals and companies to invest in education and training through:

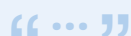
 NORWAY

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET



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