

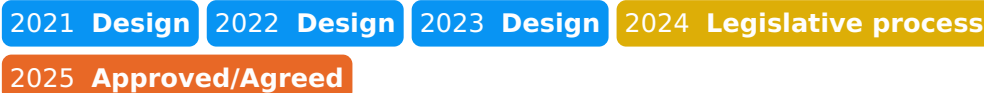
Easing transition from unemployment to adult education through data sharing

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 SWEDEN

Timeline



ID number 38807

Background

Swedish municipalities are responsible for organising municipal adult education and for the welfare of all its citizens. The Public Employment Service (PES) is a State agency responsible for operationalising labour market policies and for reducing unemployment rates. There are obstacles to streamlining a transition for the individual from unemployment to education due to different mandates, responsibilities and integrity regulations.

Objectives

The objective of the measure is to ease the transition from unemployment to municipal adult education, which includes VET at upper secondary level.

Description

In 2021, the National Agency for Education and PES have been tasked by the government to analyse information exchange between the spheres of education and the labour market, with the objective to ease the transition for the unemployed to municipal adult education. Their mission includes analysing cost-effective means of sharing information, what data are needed and how it can be used, proposals for legislative revisions and if needed, proposals for operationalised support at the local level to ease the transition to study for the unemployed.

2021 Design

In November 2021, the Public Employment Service (PES) and the National Agency for Education sent the report of the analysis of information exchange between the spheres of education and the labour market to the government (the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Employment).

2022 Design

In 2022, the report is reviewed by the government.

2023 Design

No activities registered during 2023.

2024 Legislative process

In 2024, the Ministry of Employment has investigated the issue in a memorandum and the government is preparing proposals for new legislation, which then needs to be approved by the Swedish parliament.

2025 Approved/Agreed

In 2025, the Riksdag approved the government's proposal to improve the exchange of information between the Swedish Public Employment Service and municipalities regarding job seekers who need training within municipal adult education.

The proposal means that a municipality will be obliged to provide certain information about job seekers to the Swedish Public Employment Service. The information may, among other things, be needed to offer training that is adapted to the job seeker's needs.

The government also proposes that the Swedish Public Employment Service be allowed to process personal data to provide the information needed within the municipalities' activities relating to municipal adult education.

The legislative amendments will enter into force on 1 March 2026.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research
- Ministry of Employment

Target group

Learners

Young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)
Unemployed and jobseekers

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

European priorities in VET

Osnabrück Declaration

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

Subsystem

Further reading

[Missions of the National Agency for Education in the budgetary year 2021](#)

[Missions of the Public Employment Services in the budgetary year 2021](#)

[Report on transition from unemployment to adult education.](#)

[The decision by the Riksdag](#)

Related policy developments

2022 Discontinued

Knowledge boost initiative: action plan for adult education

The Action plan for adult education (*Kunskapslyftet*, the knowledge boost) was introduced in 2015. It is aimed at supporting the Swedish government's goal of lowering unemployment rates. Relevant legislation/regulation and funding arrangements have been changed/adopted.

 SWEDEN

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Easing transition from unemployment to adult education through data sharing: Sweden. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/38807>