


Measures for laid-off apprentices

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 NORWAY

Timeline

2020 **Implementation** 2021 **Discontinued**

ID number 38793

Background

New figures show that about 4 000 apprentices have been laid off as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Objectives

The objective of the policy development is to get as many apprentices as possible to take their trade or journeyman certificates without significant delays.

Description

There are normally several requirements for conducting trade and journeyman exams.

The government adopted changes regarding dispensation from the requirements for trade and journeyman certificates for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The goal is for the county municipalities to be able to conduct trade and journeyman exams for as many apprentices as possible. The same applies to final exams for apprenticeship candidates and internship candidates. The most important aspect is that no one should end up being left behind due to the pandemic.

One exception a county municipality can use is to deviate from the requirement that the entire examination board must be present at the start and end of the examination. Another possibility is that the apprenticeship can be shortened after the apprentice has passed the trade exam, if the apprentice has been laid off due to the COVID-19 crisis.

If the apprentice has been laid off, the county municipalities can offer alternative training in school, as long as permission is given by the infection control authority.

2020 Implementation

2021 Discontinued

The COVID-19 pandemic is no longer considered a threat in Norway, and measures in response to the COVID-19 crisis were discontinued.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Thematic categories

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Reinforcing work-based learning, including apprenticeships

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading


[News about the measure](#)

Related policy developments

2021 Discontinued

Consultation on temporary regulations based on the COVID-19 Crisis Act

The Ministry of Education and Research sent temporary regulations based on the COVID-19 Act on a hearing. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Norwegian Directorate of Health decided to close kindergartens, schools and other education institutions.

 NORWAY

Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Measures for laid-off apprentices: Norway.

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/38793>