


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

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 NORWAY

## Timeline

2020 Legislative process 2021 Discontinued

ID number 38790

## Background

The Ministry of Education and Research sent a draft, on a short hearing, of temporary regulations on adaptations to the legislation on kindergartens, primary education, universities and colleges, vocational schools, educational support and integration as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19.

## Objectives

The aim of the hearing is to clarify what rules will apply during the outbreak of COVID-19, to ensure that the rights of children, young people and adults in education and integration are safeguarded as much as possible.

## Description

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. With kindergartens, schools and other education institutions closed, it would be impossible to fulfil all the rules of the Ministry of Education in full. To ensure that children, young people and adults would be protected as much as possible in education and integration during the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a need to clarify which rules would apply. Further, there was a need to lay down rules on how the exemption in the decision to close, which had legal basis in the Infection Control Act § 4-1, should be treated to fulfil the purpose of the exemption and, at the same time, take into account the resource situation of municipalities, schools and kindergartens and children's legal security.

There was also a need for the Ministry of Education and Research to deviate from the ordinary rules to prevent negative economic consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak for both private individuals and to prevent redundancies in the school and kindergarten sector. The temporary regulations proposed by the Ministry of Education and Research were directly related to the situation surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19. It was important to implement the changes quickly to clarify which rules would apply and to avoid negative consequences. Therefore, it would not be possible to implement the proposed changes through the normal legislative process.

When it came to amendments to the Education Support Act, the ministry wanted to consider whether it would also be necessary to submit an ordinary law proposition to the Norwegian parliament, which would allow for amendments in the longer term.

### 2020 Legislative process

#### 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  
Young people (15-29 years old)

## Thematic categories

### Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Coordinating VET and other policies

### Modernising VET offer and delivery

Diversifying modes of learning: face-to-face, digital and/or blended learning;  
adaptable/flexible training formats

## Subsystem

IVET CVET

## Further reading

[Link to public consultation](#)

## Related policy developments

### 2021 Discontinued

#### Measures for laid-off apprentices

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.

 NORWAY

**Type of development**

Practical  
measure/Initiative

**Subsystem**

IVET

---

“ … ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Consultation on temporary regulations based on the COVID-19 Crisis Act: Norway. 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/38790>