

Qualifica passport

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 PORTUGAL

Timeline

2017 **Approved/Agreed** 2021 **Implementation** 2022 **Implementation**
2023 **Implementation** 2024 **Implementation** 2025 **Implementation**

ID number 35807

Background

The government introduced the *Qualifica* programme, which is an integrated strategy promoting adult training and qualification.

The *Qualifica* passport is a key tool of the *Qualifica* programme and a complementary instrument to the national credit system.

Objectives

The main objectives of the *Qualifica* passport are to:

- (a) promote flexible qualification pathways;
- (b) promote participation and recognition of lifelong learning;
- (c) raise VET awareness among employers.

Description

The *Qualifica* passport is a guidance instrument and personalised register of all qualifications, achieved learning outcomes and competences acquired or developed by an individual. It is a key instrument of the *Qualifica* programme, enabling the evaluation of everyone's training, as well as allowing the identification of possible missing components and aiming to build a tailored training pathway. It is an instrument available in electronic format that allows adults to list their education and professional progression and helps their further development.

2017 Approved/Agreed

The *Qualifica* passport was launched in 2017. Since then, in total 107 876 *Qualifica* passports have been issued and 289 749 users registered. In 2020, based on ANQEP data, 39 039 *Qualifica* passports were issued and 120 740 users registered.

2021 Implementation

In 2021, 41 759 *Qualifica* passports were issued and 135 387 users registered.

In November 2021, training courses were held for the *Qualifica* centre teams, Guidance to qualification pathways: *Qualifica* passport, forwarding and monitoring of pathways.

2022 Implementation

In 2022, 120 046 new users of *Qualifica* Passport were registered.

2023 Implementation

In 2023, 123 021 new users of *Qualifica* Passport were registered.

2024 Implementation

Based on data from the online information system for the management of training provision (SIGO), from January to December 2024, 134 153 new users were registered and activated.

Over the last few years, the number of new users has significantly increased. This increase is related to the growing number of people enrolled in the *Qualifica* centres, which play a central role in mobilising adults to foster their qualifications.

2025 Implementation

During 2025, until September, 125 124 new users were registered and activated. The majority of users were female (57%) and the age group between 30 and 44 years old stood out the most.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security (MTSSS)
- Ministry of Education (until April 2024)
- National Agency for Qualification and Vocational Education and Training (ANQEP)
- Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation (MECI) (since April 2024)

Target group

Learners

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

Adult learners

Older workers and employees (55 - 64 years old)

Unemployed and jobseekers

Persons in employment, including those at risk of unemployment

Thematic categories

Transparency and portability of VET skills and qualifications

Learners' possibilities of accumulation, validation and recognition of learning outcomes acquired non-formally and informally

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Permeability between IVET and CVET and general and vocational pathways, academic and professional higher education

Lifelong guidance

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Ordinance \[Portaria\] No 47/2017, of 1 February 2017](#)

[Qualifica Passport website](#)

[Resolution of the Council of Ministers \[Resolucao do Conselho de Ministros\] No 32/2019, of 14 February 2019](#)

Related policy developments

2025 Implementation

Modular training courses

Modular training courses (*Formação Modular Certificada*) are addressed to adults aged 18 and over, employed or unemployed, who do not have the appropriate qualifications to enter or progress in the labour market, especially, those who have yet to complete basic or upper secondary education

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2025 Implementation

Adult education and training courses

Adult Education and Training courses (EFA) are a flexible training pathway of variable duration, according to the certification level.

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2025 Implementation

Qualifica programme

The *Qualifica* programme is based on:

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Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2019 Approved/Agreed

Changes in employee CVET

Legislation passed in 2019 introduced changes in the labour code on continuing training. Employees have the right to a minimum of 40 hours (previously 35 hours) of continuing training per year.

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

CVET

2025 Implementation

Recognition, validation and certification of competences (RVCC)

Ordinance No 232/2016 consolidated the rules of RVCC, introduced *Qualifica* centres, described a simple process of creating and authorising them, strengthened the teams of professionals in these centres and expanded the network.

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Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2025 Implementation

National credit system for VET

In 2017, Portuguese legislation introduced a National credit system for VET in line with ECVET principles, which was intended to support permeability between VET pathways and higher education, as well as mobility within Europe. A major priority is that the system supports adult qualifications.

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/35807>