

# National admission service for vocational colleges

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

## Timeline

**2020 Design** **2021 Implementation** **2022 Completed****ID number 29065**

## Background

The Ministry of Education and Research launched a number of measures to strengthen vocational colleges (EQF level 5) in the 2016 white paper: *Skilled workers for the future*. One measure was a renewal of the admission system for vocational colleges.

## Objectives

The goal is to increase the number of students applying for vocational education at EQF level 5 and for more students to complete vocational education by developing an application through the Norwegian Universities and Colleges Admission Service. It aims to make the vocational colleges more visible as an education pathway and ensure a more efficient and predictable application process.

## Description

The Norwegian Directorate for ICT and Joint Services in Higher Education and Research (UNIT) has coordinated the work to develop and implement a joint website, where the education programmes of all vocational colleges (EQF level 5) can be presented, and application opportunities be more visible. It is expected to provide applicants one access point to all information about vocational colleges and their programmes. The information is to be presented on the portal for all applications to higher education in Norway.

A specific group, made up of both private and public vocational colleges and students, is to contribute to the development of the admission system.

### 2020 Design

A joint system is available from 2020 and anyone who wished to study at a public vocational college could submit their application through the Norwegian Universities and Colleges Admission Service. Private vocational colleges that want to make use of the Admission Service can do so on a voluntary basis.

The first national admission for public vocational colleges was carried out in April 2020, making the vocational colleges a more visible choice among the several higher education pathways. The processing of applications was more efficient and predictable

and on par with the application process for universities and university colleges. It is foreseen that private vocational colleges may choose to participate, or to organise their own admissions.

### **2021 Implementation**

All public higher vocational colleges organised their admissions through the National Admission Service for Vocational Colleges.

### **2022 Completed**

All public higher vocational colleges organised their admissions through the National Admission Service. The private higher vocational colleges had now the opportunity to choose whether they wanted to organise the admission through the national service or locally.

## **Bodies responsible**

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)

## **Target group**

### **Learners**

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices  
Young people (15-29 years old)  
Adult learners

### **Education professionals**

School leaders

## **Thematic categories**

### **Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation**

Promotion strategies and campaigns for VET and lifelong learning  
Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

## **Subsystem**

CVET

## **Further reading**

[Link to information about admission to higher vocational education](#)

[Link to the Norwegian Universities and Colleges Admission Service](#)

[Link to hearing of new measures](#)

## **Related policy developments**

**2025 Completed**

## VET-related priorities in the political platform of the government

Following the elections of autumn 2017, the government announced its priorities on 14 January 2018. For upper secondary VET, they included:

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### Type of development

Strategy/Action  
plan

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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**2023 Completed**

## Skilled workers for the future: white paper, 2016

The 2016 white paper, *Skilled workers for the future*, contained 48 measures on how to make post-secondary VET more attractive as a profession-oriented, fully equivalent alternative to higher education.

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plan

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IVET CVET

### “ ... ” Cite as

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