


Development funds for higher vocational education (EQF level 5)

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 NORWAY

Timeline

2019 Implementation

2020 Implementation

2021 Completed

ID number 28972

Background

Norway will need up to 100 000 more skilled workers by 2030 and, in addition, there are presently major changes happening in the Norwegian economy and business world. The Norwegian government's vision is to make vocational education at EQF level 5 even more attractive, with more students and larger academic environments. In 2016, the Ministry of Education and Research published a report to the parliament (Storting) containing 50 different measures to improve the vocational college sector in terms of quality, academic environment, student welfare, funding and management. One of the measures was to establish a scheme for funding development measures for vocational education (EQF level 5).

Objectives

The objective is increased quality in higher vocational education (EQF level 5) through updated education and equipment for schools to educate students who meet the needs of the world of work.

Description

The government allocates annually funds to strengthen the quality of vocational education. The funds contribute to increased quality in the vocational education programmes. The funds enable vocational schools to develop new offers, buy new equipment and develop digital teaching materials. One of the requirements for funding is cooperation between the school and the business community.

2019 Implementation

Annual application rounds for the development funds suggested.

2020 Implementation

This became an annual scheme.

2021 Completed

The measure is operational and runs annually as a regular practice.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)
- Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills
- Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (Diku) (until 2021)

Target group

Learners

Young people (15-29 years old)
Adult learners

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Developing and updating learning resources and materials

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Financial and non-financial incentives to learners, providers and companies

Subsystem

CVET

Further reading

[Homepage development fund](#)

“ … ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Development funds for higher vocational education (EQF level 5): 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/28972>