

Opening up VET to general upper secondary education students

POLICY DEVELOPMENT**REGULATION/LEGISLATION** NORWAY

Timeline

2015 Pilot **2016 Pilot** **2017 Legislative process** **2018 Completed****ID number 28777**

Background

In 2013, the white paper, *On the right track: facilitating enrolment in VET*, had pointed out that, while upper secondary VET students may change their pathway after the second year and continue with general education, there was no system allowing for general education students to move to VET without having to apply to start VET studies from the beginning.

Description

Based on the conclusions of the white paper, the Directorate of Education and Training has piloted a model enabling learners to move to VET after completing a year at upper secondary general education. Pilots were carried out in the building and construction programme. The pupils who have completed one year at upper secondary general education have devoted many more hours to learning Norwegian, maths, science, English and social studies than first year pupils in vocational education. In one year, general education pupils learn the same as vocational students learn in two years in these subjects. Consequently, these hours can now be used in the second year of upper secondary school to catch up with trade-specific programmes the vocational learners have studied in the first year. A reform proposal was set up and submitted for public consultation in 2017, and adopted in 2018. It was implemented from the school year 2018/19. It is optional for the county municipality to establish this scheme.

2015 Pilot**2016 Pilot****2017 Legislative process****2018 Completed**

Bodies responsible

- Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

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

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET

“ ... ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). Opening up VET to general upper secondary education students: Norway. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2024 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28777>