


The trade certificate at work: new pathway towards the trade and journeyman's certificate

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 NORWAY

Timeline



ID number 28774

Description

This is a new pathway for acquiring trade and journeyman's certificates. It is targeted at low-skilled adults in employment. The distinctive principle of the scheme is to provide workers with upper secondary education and training while on-the-job, so they can continue earning their living. They are exempted from some of the core subjects and from part of the written test when applying for the certificate. The model was successfully piloted in five counties from 2011 to 2014 and then positively evaluated. The scheme was on public consultation in May 2017 and was implemented as a new national pathway in 2018.

2015 Pilot
2016 Pilot
2017 Pilot
2018 Implementation
2019 Implementation
2020 Implementation The new pathway has been implemented by the county municipalities.
2021 Completed The training and receiving of trade certificate at work is now regulated by the Education act and implemented as a national scheme.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Research (KD)
- Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training

Target group

Learners

Adult learners

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

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

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Official information - trade certificate at work](#)

[White paper 16 \(2015-16\)](#)

“ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). The trade certificate at work: new pathway towards the trade and journeyman's certificate: 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/28774>