

Revising VET exams

POLICY DEVELOPMENT **REGULATION/LEGISLATION**  POLAND

Timeline

2018 Approved/Agreed **2019 Implementation** **2020 Implementation**
2021 Implementation **2022 Implementation** **2023 Implementation**
2024 Implementation

ID number 28752

Description

Changes to VET examinations were introduced in November 2018 as part of the broader changes to Poland's VET system. According to the Law of 22 November 2018, all students are required to take a State vocational examination or a journeyman's examination as a condition of school graduation (until now this has been optional). Changes were also introduced to the form of exams (e.g. theoretical part in an online form), the process of preparing examination tasks (e.g. possible participation of employers) and procedures relating to the examination, the requirements set for examiners and releasing some examination tasks to the public. The changes are intended to increase the attractiveness and quality of the exams and to strengthen their role as a quality assurance mechanism, and, as a consequence, are expected to have a positive impact on teaching quality. For instance, the obligatory exam will allow for a more complex diagnosis of the quality of teaching, while schools/teachers will not be able to discourage weaker students from taking the exams.

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| 2018 Approved/Agreed |
| 2019 Implementation In August 2019, the Ministry of National Education introduced a new Regulation providing the detailed conditions and manner of conducting vocational examinations, which reflects the changes in the VET system introduced in November 2018. |
| 2020 Implementation The measure was operational and ran as a regular practice. |
| 2021 Implementation The measure was operational and ran as a regular practice. |
| 2022 Implementation |

The measure was operational and ran as a regular practice.

2023 Implementation

Regulation on the detailed conditions and manner for conducting vocational examinations and for confirming vocational qualifications was amended in 2023. It provides that Sectoral Skills Centres (SSCs):

- will have the capacity to serve as examination centres for both the theoretical and practical components of vocational assessments;
- will not operate as centres for examinations that certify professional qualifications;
- will not be authorised to conduct qualifying vocational courses, where participants, upon course completion, also undertake a vocational examination.

2024 Implementation

Regulation on the apprentice exam, master craftsman exam, and verification exam conducted by craft examination boards was amended in 2024.

The update adapts the templates for journeyman certificates, master diplomas, verification exam certificates, and duplicates to meet anti-counterfeiting standards required for public documents.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of National Education
- Ministry of National Education (until 2021)
- Ministry of Education and Science (from 2021 until 2024)

Target group

Learners

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

Education professionals

Teachers

Entities providing VET

Companies

Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Engaging VET stakeholders and strengthening partnerships in VET
Further developing national quality assurance systems

Modernising VET offer and delivery

Diversifying modes of learning: face-to-face, digital and/or blended learning;
adaptable/flexible training formats

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Act of 22 December 2018 amending the Education Law, the Act on the Education System and other acts \(Journal of Laws 2018, item 2245\)](#)

[VET reform continues](#)

[Regulation of the Minister for National Education of 28 August 2019, on the detailed conditions and manner for conducting vocational examinations and for confirming vocational qualifications \(Journal of Laws 2019, item 1707\)](#)

[Regulation of the Minister for National Education of 16 December 2019 amending the Regulation on the apprentice exam, master craftsman exam and test exam \(egzamin sprawdzajacy\) conducted by craft examination boards \(...\) \(Journal of Laws 2019, item 2468\)](#)

[Regulation of the Minister for Education of 16 April 2024 amending the Regulation on the apprentice exam, master craftsman exam and test exam \(egzamin sprawdzajacy\) conducted by craft examination boards \(...\) \(Journal of Laws 2024, item 600\)](#)

[Regulation of the Minister for Education and Science of 27 September 2023, amending the Regulation on the detailed conditions and manner for conducting vocational examinations and for confirming vocational qualifications \(Journal of Laws 2023, item 2058\)](#)

[Announcement by the Minister for Education of 27 February 2024 on the publication of the consolidated text of the Regulation of the Minister for National Education on the detailed conditions and manner for conducting vocational examinations and for \(...\)](#)

Related policy developments

2018 Approved/Agreed

2018 law reforming VET

The new act:

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Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2023 Completed

Strengthening employers' participation in the examination process

In 2016, the education ministry started an ESF co-funded project to develop new vocational test items with employers' support. The objective of the project was not just to develop the

items but to strengthen the participation of employers in the examination process.

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Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” **Cite as**

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28752>