

# Changes in teachers' careers

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 PORTUGAL

## Timeline

2016 Approved/Agreed 2017 Approved/Agreed

ID number 28503

## Background

Education is a strategic pillar for promoting economic development and social inclusion and cohesion. Education professionals should meet high standards and enjoy professional stability. This is fundamental to developing a high-quality, democratic and inclusive education system.

## Objectives

To introduce necessary measures for the selection and recruitment of teachers, trainers, specialised technicians and other education professionals by the Ministry of Education.

## Description

The Teaching career law for pre-school, basic and secondary education has been reviewed. Since 2016, the skills and knowledge examination (*Prova de avaliação de conhecimentos e capacidades*) has no longer been in force. The entry requirements for teacher training courses have been increased and the system for employing temporary teachers has been reformed, allowing an annual renewal of fixed term contracts for up to five years.

In 2017, legislation modified the selection, recruitment and mobility regime of teachers from primary to upper secondary education in public institutions under the control of the Ministry of Education. However, teacher training legislation was not changed.

2016 Approved/Agreed

2017 Approved/Agreed

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education (until April 2024)
- Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation (MECI), since April 2024

# Target group

## Education professionals

Teachers  
Trainers

# Thematic categories

## Teachers, trainers and school leaders competences

Attractiveness of the teaching and training profession/career

# Subsystem

IVET

# Further reading

[Law \[Lei\] No 16/2016, of 17 June 2016](#)

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[Decree-Law \[Decreto-Lei\] No 28/2017, of 15 March 2017](#)

# Related policy developments

**2025 Implementation**

## Teacher continuing professional development

Dispatch No 779/2019 aims to define the priorities of continuing education for teachers. Training actions should focus on:

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### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

### “ … ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Changes in teachers' careers: Portugal. 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/28503>

