

Reskilling and other measures for people with disabilities

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 LATVIA

Timeline

2016 Implementation

2017 Implementation

2018 Implementation

2019 Implementation

2020 Completed

ID number 28396

Background

Long-term unemployment is a significant challenge for the Latvian labour market, so a topical issue is the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market, as well as low motivation of the target population.

Objectives

To integrate the long-term unemployed into society by engaging them in permanent employment or relevant training, thus reducing a risk of social exclusion.

Description

In January 2016, the State Employment Agency (NVA) started the ESF 2016-21 project Support for the long-term unemployed. The target group of the project is those who have been unemployed for 12 months or more, or who have addiction problems that impede finding a job.

Professional rehabilitation for people with disabilities is provided by the Social Integration State Agency. In February 2017, the Cabinet of Ministers approved new procedures by which a person receives State-funded professional rehabilitation services and professional suitability determination services. Each programme participant is trained for a new profession, determined according to the type and level of functional disorders and their previous education and professional qualification. In September 2017, an amendment to the Procedures for organising and financing active employment measures was adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers, aiming to set requirements and costs for participation in the Motivational programme targeted at supporting long-term jobseekers with disabilities. This programme, and a social mentor's support, are part of the ESF project Support for long-term unemployed (2015-21) implemented by NVA (the State Employment Agency). The Regulations also stipulate that:

- (a) a support assistant is provided to the disabled by the local government;
- (b) sign-language services are provided;
- (c) special transport expenses for the young unemployed person with disabilities are

- covered;
- (d) personal support services for persons with mental disabilities are covered by the practice places.

In 2017, the Government amended the Youth guarantee scheme, introducing measures for the validation of competences acquired through non-formal and informal learning as well as specific support measures for learners with disabilities (mental disorders), including grants for the purchase of equipment and technical aids to adapt learning places.

2016 Implementation
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2018 Implementation
2019 Implementation The measure is operational and runs as a regular practice.
2020 Completed The project Support for the long-term unemployed was completed on 30 June 2020. The project has achieved an outcome indicator of 99.9%: 18 332 people out of the planned 18 345 have engaged in the project activities.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Science
- Social Integration State Agency
- State Employment Agency (NVA)

Target group

Learners

Learners with disabilities

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET CVET

Further reading

[Provisions governing the organisation and financing of active employment measures and preventive measures to reduce unemployment and the principles governing the choice of implementers, legal text \(in Latvian\)](#)

[Activation measures for the long-term unemployed, legal text \(in Latvian\)](#)

Related policy developments

2021 **Completed**

The 2015-17 implementation plan for the 2014-20 Education development guidelines

The implementation plan adopted in June 2015 provides directions for improving the access to education and preventing early school leaving from general and vocational education, especially for young people subjected to social exclusion.

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Subsystem

IVET CVET

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28396>