

Efficient guidance provision

POLICY DEVELOPMENT**REGULATION/LEGISLATION** LUXEMBOURG

Timeline

**ID number 28361**

Background

The government wanted to give particular priority to the support of learners, based on relevant and well-organised educational and vocational guidance. A second priority was school autonomy, supporting efforts to put in place a system of support measures adapted to their own learners.

Objectives

The objectives of the policy development were to first and foremost support schools, learners and their parents in the guidance process, and provide the most appropriate guidance system.

Description

In February 2016, the Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth announced changes in the guidance process. To ease 5th Grade (third year of lower secondary school) learners' choice between the many vocational programmes offered, a new guidance procedure was introduced in 2016/17. In the new approach, decisions about possible career paths are only made after extensive discussions between teachers, learners and parents throughout the cycle and the analysis of a series of documents. A new unit for curriculum development (*cellule de développement curriculaire*) in VET actively participates in revising the guidance procedure.

Furthermore, the Law of June 2017 provides a legal basis for the functioning of the House of guidance (Maison de l'orientation). A reference framework for school and professional guidance (*cadre de référence pour l'orientation scolaire et professionnelle*) has been set as a tool for secondary schools to structure and evaluate their existing guidance actions and initiatives, and, if needed, introduce new ones. The obligation for each school to define its own educational and vocational guidance approach while meeting the criteria defined in the reference framework, was introduced. In every secondary school, a guidance unit (*cellule d'orientation*) is responsible for the orientation process set out in the school's development plan; the unit must include at least two members of the teaching staff, two

educational or psychosocial staff and at least one guidance counsellor. The same law put emphasis on educating young learners to self-guidance.

The missions of the Centre for psychosocial and educational support (CePAS), were redefined in that perspective. CePAS is responsible for providing young people with self-guidance knowledge, methods and skills that enable them build their own personal and career plans. This involves offering psychological, social and educational consultations, helping learners identify their own resources, skills, preferences, aspirations and needs, and assist them in developing a personal and professional project. Target groups include young people not in education out of school, especially those wanting to reintegrate school. The Services of the House of guidance and CePAS work in collaboration with the National Youth Service's (SNJ) Local Youth Antennae (ALJ) providing guidance and initiatives for professional and educational reintegration to NEET population.

2016 Design

2017 Approved/Agreed

2018 Implementation

2019 Implementation

In 2019, the House of guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) published a reference framework for school and professional guidance (*cadre de référence pour l'orientation scolaire et professionnelle*), a tool for secondary schools to structure and evaluate their existing guidance actions and initiatives, and, if needed, introduce new ones. It is compulsory for each school to define its own educational and vocational guidance approach while meeting the criteria defined in the reference framework. In every secondary school, a guidance unit (*cellule d'orientation*) is responsible for the orientation process set out in the school's development plan; it is mandatory for each unit to have at least two members of the teaching staff, two educational or psychosocial staff and at least one guidance counsellor. Members of the guidance unit must follow continuing training for at least eight hours per year; training is organised by the coordination service of the House of guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) and Training Institute of National Education (IFEN).

2020 Implementation

Despite the pandemic, all guidance institutions managed to provide their services by implementing alternate ways of being in contact with people.

2021 Implementation

In May 2021, the House of guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) opened a platform made up of five thematic counters, although initially only three of them were opened because of pandemic. These three counters focus on the educational offer, for instance secondary schools' offer, wellbeing, writing a CV, as well as higher education, meaning access requirements, the application procedures and the recognition of diplomas. In addition, it concerned adult training and more specifically, general education courses, validation of prior experiential learning, resumption of studies, better reading and writing, and linguistic integration. The remaining two counters, not yet operational in 2021, should provide also a general overview of professions and VET such as trades, professions, first professional experiences, apprenticeship, and give information to youth concerning volunteering, au pair, internships, holiday jobs, accommodation, extracurricular activities, and administrative procedures.

The front-line counselling service on the platform could be followed up with sessions with specialised counsellors.

In 2021, the House of guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) implemented 'ZOOM - Professions and trades', a dedicated webpage on the discovery of professions and trades. Video testimonies of professionals, trainees, and apprentices were made available, as well as information regarding access criteria, working conditions and the

required skills and qualifications for each of the different professions and trades.

2022 Implementation

In 2022, the House of guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) officially opened the new multi-partner Guidance platform (after a limited opening in 2021) where citizens find information and advice to guide their paths towards education, training, or professional development. It acts as a clearance space that allows clients find relevant services they need and has five thematic entry points.

2023 Implementation

In November 2023, the House of Guidance (*Maison de l'orientation*) launched a new website, www.orientation.lu. It brings together in one place all the resources and information related to academic and professional guidance. The site is designed for learners and their parents seeking a secondary school or information about higher education as well as for young entering professional life or adults looking to reskill or upskill.

The new website provides users with the following information and tools:

- Mengschoul.lu to find the secondary school that best suits the needs of the learners,
- Mäiberuff.lu: contains information on trades and professions and on their respective training programmes available in Luxembourg or abroad,
- Mengstudien.lu: the website of the Ministry of Research and Higher Education is aimed at secondary school and university students who wish to pursue higher education or who wish to return to it. It provides information on higher education in Luxembourg and abroad, admission requirements and application procedures for universities, the state financial aid for higher education and information sessions and events related to higher education.
- Lifelong-learning.lu: the reference site for lifelong learning managed by INFPC. It is a platform of contact between individuals and training bodies that offers an extensive catalogue of more than 12 000 courses provided by more than 300 training bodies. It also centralises information on training: news, law, practices, training environment.
- Academic and Professional Guidance: to obtain information about academic paths, the labour market, or changing professional paths.
- Open doors at secondary schools: to discover Luxembourg's secondary schools and their academic offer during open days,
- First Professional Experiences: The "Jobs & Stages" platform of www.jugendinfo.lu offers holiday jobs, student jobs (temporary contracts), and internships to young individuals and provides companies with the opportunity to publish their offers to recruit young talent.
- Job Market, Opportunities by Sector and Profession: Job board managed by the public employment service (ADEM) to monitor the evolution of the job market in Luxembourg.

2024 Implementation

In 2024, the law adopted June 2023, introducing a change in the organisational structure of guidance in secondary schools entered into force. Following this law, the missions of the School Guidance and Integration Unit ("Cellules d' orientation et integration") have been expanded to include the integration of newly arrived learners. The guidance teams are part of the newly created educational and psycho-social departments ("département éducatif et psycho-social"), consisting of:

- (a) the psycho-social and educational accompaniment service (SePAS);
- (b) the socio-educational service;
- (c) the ESEB (Educational and Social Support Service for learners with specific needs);
- (d) the school guidance and integration unit (COI); and, if applicable,

(e) the boarding school.

The School Guidance and Integration Unit (COI) is responsible for implementing the school guidance and integration process.

As VET is part of upper secondary education, the missions of the COI include guidance from lower secondary education to VET, as well as guidance on VET pathways, including into post-secondary VET.

Set by law, the guidance process is carried out according to the reference framework. This reference framework describes:

- (a) the objectives to be achieved by school guidance and integration;
- (b) the measures to be taken to achieve these objectives;
- (c) the specialised services or external stakeholders consulted to provide information on the socio-economic world;
- (d) the involvement of members of the school community in the school guidance and integration process.

The reference framework for school guidance and integration is developed by the Coordination Service of the House of Guidance, in collaboration with the Department for Coordination of Educational and Technological Research and Innovation, and the school integration and welcome service (SIA), and is approved by the minister.

The guidance procedures of the secondary schools are evaluated, in line with the reference framework and based on the school development plan, every 5 years.

Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education, Children and Youth
- House of guidance (Maison de l'orientation)
- Secondary schools

Target group

Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices
Young people (15-29 years old)
Young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)
Adult learners
Low-skilled/qualified persons

Thematic categories

Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Lifelong guidance
Ensuring equal opportunities and inclusiveness in education and training

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Ministry of Education, Children and Youth website - Guidance framework regulation](#)

Ministry of Education, Children and Youth website - press release

Legal Act - creation of the House of guidance (Maison de l'orientation)

Ministry of Education, Children and Youth website - Guidance platform (Espace orientation)

The new guidance platform of the House of guidance (Le nouvel Espace orientation de la Maison de l'orientation), 2021

The new guidance platform of the House of guidance (Le nouvel Espace orientation de la Maison de l'orientation), 2022

ZOOM - Trades and Professions

Website www.orientation.lu

Legal Act - the organisational structure of guidance in secondary schools

Related policy developments

2024 Implementation

Guidance-related projects

Since 2014, following the adoption of the Youth guarantee, the public employment service (ADEM) and the National Youth Service (Service national de la jeunesse, SNJ) on behalf of the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth have been implementing guidance-related projects, many of which were par



Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

2024 Implementation

Promoting apprenticeships

The Chamber of Commerce launched several initiatives to promote apprenticeship. In 2016, the Winwin promotion campaign was introduced, aiming to encourage companies to offer more training places for apprenticeship and uses apprentices and training companies as testimonials.



Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ ... ” **Cite as**

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