

# Creating a unified enrolment system for VET and HE institutions

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

PRACTICAL MEASURE/INITIATIVE

 LITHUANIA

## Timeline



ID number 28335

## Background

In the past, when admission to VET programmes was organised by institutions themselves, there were doubts about the objectivity of this kind of process, as well as about transparency, the proper accounting of entrants and protection of personal data. Although the admission process was common to all, it was burdensome for entrants, who had to come to the VET institution within a prescribed period to submit an application and other required documents. With a long history of centralised admission in higher education, the need for this has also become apparent in VET.

## Objectives

The main goal of policy in this area is to make entry into VET programmes as accessible, understandable and transparent as possible in the age of digital technology and the internet. The aim is to create preconditions: make data on accession to programmes systematically organised, properly accounted for and easily comparable; ensure the transparency of the accession process; and facilitate and make the process of planning admission to VET programmes more effective.

## Description

In May 2017, the electronic system used for admission to higher-education establishments was extended to VET institutions, which had previously organised the admissions process on their own. Since then, the system has covered 19 universities, 21 colleges and more than 70 VET institutions. As in the past with traditional education, admission to VET institutions in the early years of the centralised system was organised only once, in the summer. However, as early as 2018 the decision was made also to open up to winter admissions. These would be intended mainly for those who had dropped out of the general education system or did not have the opportunity to study in the higher-education institutions they entered.

**2017 Implementation**

## **2018 Implementation**

## **2019 Implementation**

An important step in establishing centralised admission to VET institutions was taken through enshrinement of the need for this in Article 18 of the VET Law (2017), which entered into force in full in 2019. The 2017 VET law also stipulated that in planning measures for admission to VET institutions, economic and social development needs at State and municipal levels must be taken into account, while an assessment should be made of information relating to monitoring of national human resources, proposals surrounding regional development councils and the scope of State finance. To this end, an automated tool for admissions planning and management has been developed, with general user rights assigned to the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, and consumer rights to all State VET institutions and several private VET schools that receive funding.

The centralised admission system is now limited to formal VET programmes, which have been placed under the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. But discussions continue and it may be agreed by the end of 2020 to use the system to admit students for non-formal VET programmes administered by the Lithuanian Employment Service. Such a measure would require additional expansion and updating of the planning and management tool.

## **2020 Implementation**

In 2020, the new VET initiative of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports was launched. Admission to VET institutions is now organised in two stages. One takes place in February, so that students who have dropped out of higher education can immediately start studying at VET institutions without losing half a year. They can have recognised study subjects acquired at universities and colleges related to the chosen VET programme. Other entrants who have completed the secondary education programme can also participate in the admission. The second admission stage starts in summer.

## **2021 Implementation**

In 2021, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports started the new initiative for admission to VET institutions: the first round of admission started in early February, the second round (main admission) took place between June and August. An additional admission round continued in November so that applicants could apply to those State-funded training programmes that still had vacancies. The unified enrolment system also opened the possibility for learners from general education to apply for the separate VET modules.

## **2022 Implementation**

In 2022 the main admission (winter and summer stages) and the additional admission took place in 56 state VET schools, one non-state VET school, one multifunctional centre, one gymnasium and two higher education colleges. During the general admission to VET institutions in 2022, general admission system 'LAMA BPO' received 28 680 applications of candidates. During the general admission in 2022, 20 506 entrants signed vocational training contracts.

## **2023 Implementation**

In 2023, during the winter phase of admission (the first round of enrolment starting on February) 1 149 persons were admitted to formal VET programmes across 18 VET institutions (about 6% of total admissions). The winter admission enables learners, who for example have dropped out their previous learning path, to start over in VET without having to wait until next September.

## 2024 Completed

The unified enrolment system for VET and HE has become a standard practice and has proven to operate successfully.

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport

## Target group

### Learners

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

## Thematic categories

### Governance of VET and lifelong learning

Establishing and developing skills intelligence systems

### Transparency and portability of VET skills and qualifications

Learners' possibilities of accumulation, validation and recognition of learning outcomes acquired non-formally and informally

### Supporting lifelong learning culture and increasing participation

Providing for individuals' re- and upskilling needs

## Subsystem

IVET CVET

## Further reading

[The electronic system for admission to VET institutions](#)

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[VET Law \(2017\) \(only in Lithuanian\)](#)

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[Cedefop ReferNet Lithuania \(2018\): single access point for vocational training and HE programmes](#)

## Related policy developments

### 2025 Implementation

## Development of experimental vocational training programmes

According to the Government Strategic Analysis Centre (STRATA) study *University, college or vocational training institution?*, based on data retrieved from the 2013/14 school year to the 2018/19 school year, the number of students who chose to study in vocational education institutions to

**Type of development**

Regulation/Legislation

**Subsystem**

IVET CVET

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“ ... ” **Cite as**

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<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28335>