

# The Act on the national qualifications framework

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

**REGULATION/LEGISLATION**

 FINLAND

## Timeline

**2017 Completed**

**ID number 28207**

## Description

The Act on the Finnish national framework for qualifications and other competence (Act 93/2017) and the related government Decree (120/2017) entered into force in March 2017. The framework covers the entire education/qualifications system. In this framework, the qualifications, syllabuses and other extensive competence modules of the Finnish national education system were classified into eight levels based on learning outcomes. The referencing to the EQF was completed in December 2017.

### **2017 Completed**

The system has been established. The Act on the Finnish national framework for qualifications and other competence (Act 93/2017) and the related government Decree (120/2017) entered into force in March 2017. The framework covered the entire education/qualifications system. In this framework, the qualifications, syllabuses and other extensive competence modules of the Finnish national education system were classified into eight levels and the referencing to the EQF was completed.

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of Education and Culture

## Target group

### **Learners**

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices  
Adult learners

### **Education professionals**

Teachers  
Trainers  
School leaders  
Adult educators  
Guidance practitioners

## Entities providing VET

VET providers (all kinds)

## Thematic categories

### Transparency and portability of VET skills and qualifications

Using EU transparency tools (EQF, Europass, ESCO, ECTS, ECVET principles)

Comprehensive national qualification frameworks

## Subsystem

IVET CVET

## Further reading

[Cedefop publication - European inventory on NQF 2016: Finland](#)

## Related policy developments

---

**2020 Completed**

### Expansion of the national qualifications framework

In March 2018, the Ministry of Education and Culture set up a working group for the preparation and coordination of the expansion of the national framework for qualifications and other competence modules.

 FINLAND

#### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

---

**2019 Completed**

### Reforming the qualifications structure

As part of the 2018 reform the Ministry of Education confirmed in February 2017 the restructuring of vocational qualifications as of January 2019.

 FINLAND

#### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

---

2018 **Completed**

## Reform of the vocational qualifications requirements

There was a need to strengthen the learning outcomes approach of vocational qualification requirements, the modular structure of qualifications, flexibility and individualisation in learning paths and validation of prior learning.

 FINLAND

### Type of development

Regulation/Legislation

### Subsystem

IVET CVET

---

#### “ ... ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). The Act on the national qualifications framework: Finland. 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/28207>