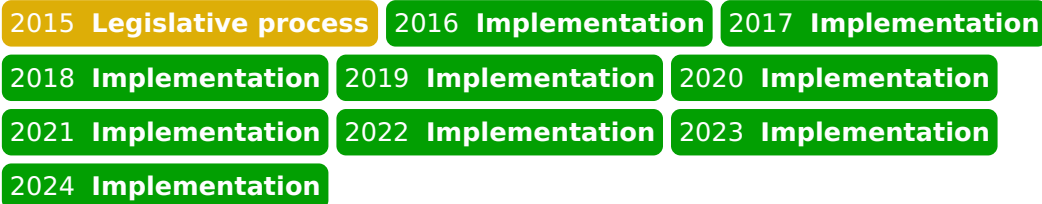


# Francophone qualifications framework for lifelong learning

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT****REGULATION/LEGISLATION** **BELGIUM-FR**

## Timeline

**ID number 28034**

## Background

The Francophone qualifications framework for lifelong learning (*cadre francophone des certifications pour l'apprentissage tout au long de la vie*, CFC) had been fully developed and linked to the European qualifications framework (EQF) at the end of 2013. The CFC is based on learning outcomes and comprises all levels, but distinguishes between qualifications awarded within and outside formal education and training. As it takes into account principles that also underpin the Flemish qualifications framework, it might help improve inter-regional transparency.

## Objectives

- (a) To promote continuity and progressiveness within citizens' learning paths by:
  - (i) facilitating the organisation of those paths between providers from education, training and competences accreditation;
  - (ii) facilitating joint paths between initial and lifelong training;
  - (iii) promoting, within each path, the recognition of formal and informal knowledge.
- (b) To strengthen the inherent quality of education, training and competences accreditation processes by ensuring each qualification matches perfectly the CFC-CEC level it has been granted.
- (c) To increase the visibility of the French-speaking community certifications in Belgium and in the EU and, by doing so:
  - (i) to facilitate the set-up of connections between the certifications from different countries and regions allow citizens and employers to use CFC as a tool to understand and compare the levels of certification from different countries, regions, and education and training systems;
  - (ii) to allow citizens and employers to use CFC as a tool to understand and compare the levels of certification from different countries, regions, and education and training systems.

## Description

The Francophone qualifications framework for lifelong learning (CFC) was formally adopted in February 2015. A steering and positioning authority has been operational since 2016. This body is tasked with managing the implementation of the CFC, including positioning qualifications. In the first stage of implementation, only qualifications delivered by public providers will be included. The qualifications directory was opened in August 2017, making it possible to position qualifications for a period of two years under a transitional procedure, after which a new application will have to be submitted for final positioning. The need for this progressive approach comes from the differences between existing systems, which implies agreements for criteria shared by all providers. The positioning phase has started, aiming to reach a critical mass of qualifications that is needed for parties to use the framework.

<b>2015 Legislative process</b>
<b>2016 Implementation</b>
<b>2017 Implementation</b>
<b>2018 Implementation</b>
<b>2019 Implementation</b> In 2019, the framework was operational and ran as a regular practice.
<b>2020 Implementation</b> At the end of 2020, almost 200 qualifications for education and vocational training had been positioned from level 2 to level 5. The 450 graduates from the Belgian higher education system were placed at level 6 of the CFC. The master degrees were placed at level 7. The CESS (upper secondary certificate) has been positioned at level 4 of the CFC.
<b>2021 Implementation</b> In 2021, 158 qualifications were positioned, bringing the total of positioned qualifications to 344 (254 related to vocational training and 88 related to education).
<b>2022 Implementation</b> In 2022, 53 qualifications were positioned, bringing the total of positioned qualifications to 397 (284 related to vocational training and 113 related to education).
<b>2023 Implementation</b> In 2023, 46 qualifications were positioned, bringing the total of positioned qualifications to 443 (318 related to vocational training and 125 related to education - 318 certifications organized and issued by vocational training operators and the skills validation consortium; 125 certifications organized and delivered by the education sector, including the positioning of the generic grades of PhD's, Masters, Bachelors and BES).
<b>2024 Implementation</b> At the time of reporting the data for 2024 were not yet available.

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of the French Community

## Target group

### Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices  
Adult learners

### Other stakeholders

Social partners (employer organisations and trade unions)

## 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

[Decree of 15 May 2015](#)

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[The Francophone Qualifications Framework](#)

### “ ... ” Cite as

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