


New right to an initial mapping and assessment within municipal adult education

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 SWEDEN

Timeline

2023 Legislative process 2024 Implementation

ID number 46950

Background

On 1 January 2023, new regulations were introduced in the Education Act regarding initial mapping and validation within municipal adult education. The background to this change was that individual's education and skills needs to be acknowledge faster meet the needs of the labour market.

Objectives

The purpose of the legislative changes is to strengthen the role of validation within the education system and the labour market, ensuring that individuals' skills are recognised regardless of how they were acquired. The amendments also aimed to promote lifelong learning by creating a framework in which individuals can continuously update and develop their skills. Additionally, the changes sought to facilitate the supply of skills, allowing employers to more easily match the right competencies with the right jobs. Validation can also serve as a tool for inclusion, enabling both newcomers and others who are outside the job market to establish themselves more quickly by making their prior skills visible and acknowledged.

Improved validation is intended to contribute to a more efficient supply of skills, a quicker establishment in the job market, and greater opportunities for career transitions throughout working life.

Description

In 2023, regulations were introduced in the Education Act regarding initial mapping and validation within municipal adult education. The legislative proposals in the bill entail the following in brief:

- (a) a requirement is introduced for the local municipality to ensure that anyone wishing to have their skills mapped prior to education or assessment within adult education is offered an initial mapping;
- (b) a duty is established for the provider of adult education to ensure that a student in need of validation is offered this service;

- (c) the concept of validation receives a clearer definition;
- (d) it is clarified what is required in terms of documentation following a validation.

2023 Legislative process

The legislative changes came into effect in the Education Act on 1 January 2023.

2024 Implementation

The national agency for education is supporting the municipalities implementing the new legislation.

Bodies responsible

- National Agency for Education

Target group

Learners

Learners with migrant background, including refugees

Adult learners

Unemployed and jobseekers

Thematic categories

Governance of VET and lifelong learning

European priorities in VET

VET Recommendation

Flexibility and progression opportunities at the core of VET

Osnabrück Declaration

Establishing a new lifelong learning culture - relevance of continuing VET and digitalisation

Subsystem

IVET

Further reading

[Skollagen. The education act](#)

[The Bill Validation for lifelong learning](#)

[The implementation work at the national agency for education](#)

Related policy developments

2022 **Approved/Agreed**

National strategy for validation

In 2015, a National Delegation for Validation was appointed by the Swedish Government to follow up, support and promote coordinated development work in the area of validation at the regional and national level and to propose a national strategy for validation.

 SWEDEN

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ … ” Cite as

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). New right to an initial mapping and assessment within municipal adult education: Sweden. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2025). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2024 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/46950>