

# Right to an initial mapping and assessment within municipal adult education

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 SWEDEN

## Timeline

2023 Approved/Agreed

ID number 46950

## Background

The background to this change was that individual's education and skills needs to be acknowledged 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

As of 1st January 2023, the regulations regarding initial mapping and validation within municipal adult education were introduced in the Education Act. 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 Approved/Agreed

The legislative changes came into effect in the Education Act on 1 January 2023 and since then the national agency for education is supporting the municipalities implementing this 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](#)

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[The Bill Validation for lifelong learning](#)

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

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[Validation within municipal education for adults](#)

## 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

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“ ... ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Right to an initial mapping and assessment within municipal adult education: Sweden. 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/46950>