

Norwegian vocational education and training (VET)

TVET is part of the upper secondary education system. Upper secondary TVET in Norway consists of eight programmes that lead to more than 180 different trade- or journeyman's certificates.

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Most of these TVET programmes consist of two years of school-based education and training, followed by two years of apprenticeship in a training enterprise. The National Curricula lays the foundation for TVET in school and in the training enterprise. To complete a TVET qualification one must pass a practical and theoretical trade- or journeyman's exam.

During the two years in school, the pupil gets a general introduction to the vocational field and an opportunity to specialise in a chosen craft or trade. The teaching consist of general education, theoretical introduction to the vocational field, and practical training in school workshops and placements at enterprises.

The apprenticeship period gives the apprentice an opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge in a vocational field and prepare for the trade- or journeyman's exams. The apprenticeship period is divided between one year of training and one year of productive work for the training enterprise. How this is organised varies, in general apprentices will receive more training in the beginning of the apprenticeship.

Tripartite cooperation with the social partners is important in the design and development of the Norwegian TVET system.

Illustration of the Vocational education and training structure

