

Certificates and grading scales

Here you will find information about the different types of certificates, the Norwegian grading scale and validity.

ARTIKKEL | SIST ENDRET: 26.04.2023

Certificates

Certificate of primary and lower secondary education (vitnemål for grunnskolen)

A certificate of primary and lower secondary education is issued as documentation of completed primary and lower secondary education.

Pupils are assessed in non-continuing subjects at the end of their period of education and training. The marks represent the competence which they have attained, based on the description in the curriculum for each subject. A final mark for order and conduct is set at the end of the 10th year.

Certificate for upper secondary education and training (vitnemål for videregående opplæring)

A certificate of upper secondary education and training provides documentation of the successful completion of a 3-year course of education and training that gives access to university studies and documentation of vocational competence.

Absence is listed in terms of days and single hours for each year level. The reason for absence can be given on the certificate.

Certificate of competence (kompetansebevis)

A certificate awarded as documentation that a student/apprentice has completed three or five years of upper secondary education, but has not met the conditions for the award of a diploma or a trade or journeyman's certificate.

A certificate of competence can also be issued, if required, for all education and training, at whatever level, regardless of whether it was successfully completed or not.

Validity

To be valid, the certificate must

- contain the name and date of birth (11 digits)
- contain information about the location, school and date it was issued
- be signed by two persons.
- have the certificate number inscribed at the bottom left, consisting of a V for "vitnemål" (certificate) or K for "kompetansebevis" (certificate of competence), the school's organization number, the year and a serial number of 5 digits

A description of the syllabus taught on the basis of local curricula and/or other additional information is enclosed with the certificate.

Grading scales

General grading scales

- 6 – six (exceptionally high degree of competence in the subject)

- 5 – five (very high degree of competence in the subject)
- 4 – four (high degree of competence in the subject)
- 3 – three (fair degree of competence in the subject)
- 2 – two (low degree of competence in the subject)
- 1 – one (very low degree of competence in the subject)

In certain subjects, forms of assessment other than numerical marks are used, like the the assessment form "Participated" instead of numerical marks. The relevant national curriculum stipulates which subjects and which forms of assessment that such alternative forms apply to. For private schools entitled to government subsidies a corresponding stipulation is found in the school's curriculum approved under the Private School Act.

Craft certificate and journeyman's certificate (practical part)

For the practical part of the craft certificate and journeyman's certificate, a tripartite grading scale is used:

- passed with distinction
- passed
- failed

For an examination mark, there shall also be an indication as to whether the exam form was written ("S" for "skriftlig"), oral ("M" for "muntlig"), oral-practical ("MP" for "muntlig-praktisk") or practical ("P").

The certificate may contain annotations on specific subjects. There may also be annotations that apply to the certificate as a whole.

Order and conduct

Marks for order and conduct are given as follows:

- good
- fair

- poor

Translations

Below you find translations of standard phrases in Norwegian certificates of education.

Text on top of certificate

Norwegian (bokmål)	English
Navn	Name
Fødselsnummer	Personal ID no.
har i åååå bestått	has in yyyy passed
har i åååå gjennomgått grunnskoleopplæringen	has in "YYYY" completed primary and lower secondary education
har gjennomført opplæring som omfatter	has completed education/training in
i utdanningsprogram for	in the education programme for
fullført	completed
bestått	passed
og har oppnådd generell studiekompetanse	and has achieved general university admissions certification
og har bestått fagopplæring	and has passed vocational training
og har oppnådd yrkeskompetanse	and has achieved vocational competence
Fortsettelse fra side 1	Continued from page 1

Heading of subjects

Norwegian (bokmål)	English
Omfang	Hours
Kode	Code
Fag	Subject
Standpunktkarakter (Standpunkt-karakter)	Final assessment grade (Final grade)
Eksamenskarakter (Eksamens-karakter)	Examination grade (Exam grade)
Eksamensform (Eks. form)	Examination form (Exam form)
År	Year
Merknader	Comments

Fellesfag	Common core subjects
Felles programfag	Common program subjects
Valgfag	Elective subject
Valgfrie programfag	Optional programme subject
Uspesifiserte programfag	Unspecified programme subjects
Prosjekt til fordypning	In-depth study project
Individuell opplæringsplan	Individual training plan

Grades and times

Norsk (bokmål)	Engelsk
en, to, tre, fire, fem, seks	one, two, three four, five, six
God	Good
Nokså god	Fair
Lite god	Poor
S (skriftlig)	Written
M (muntlig)	Oral
MP (muntlig-praktisk)	Oral-practical
P (praktisk)	Practical
BM (bestått meget godt)	Passed with distinction
B (bestått)	Passed
IB (ikke bestått)	Failed
Deltatt	Participated
Bestått	Passed
Ikke bestått	Not passed
Godkjent	Approved
Fritatt	Exempt
IV (ikke vurderingsgrunnlag)	No basis for assessment
IM (ikke møtt)	Failed to appear
V (vår)	Spring
H (høst)	Autumn

Text on the bottom of certificate

Norwegian (bokmål)	English
Sum omfang	Total hours

Orden	Order
Adferd	Conduct
Fravær	Absence
dager	days
timer	hours
trinn	level
Sted og dato	Place and date
Skole	School
Rektor	Head teacher
Side ... av ...	Page ... of ...