

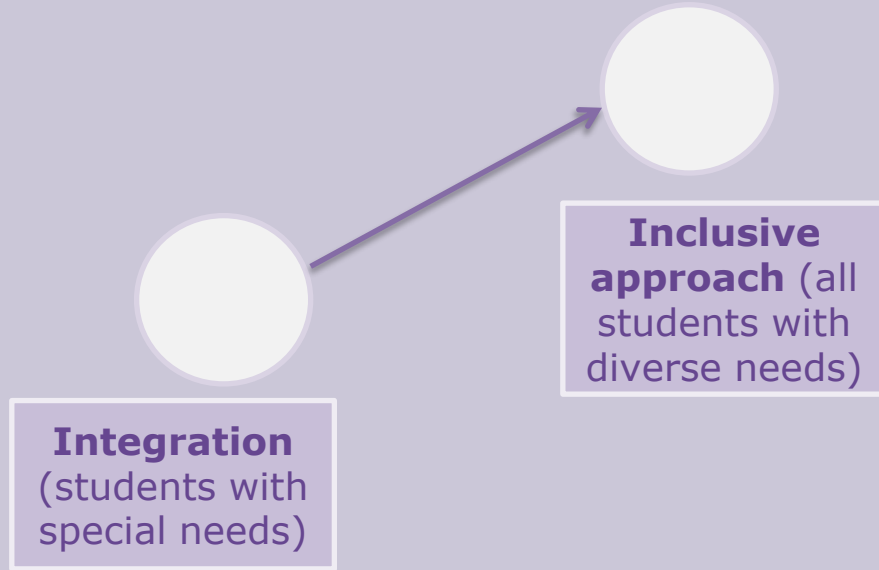


Izglītības un zinātnes
ministrija

Inclusion & Diversity in Education and Training: National Context

28/09/2023

LEGAL BACKGROUND



Education Law

Education quality - educational process, content, environment, and management which provides everyone with inclusive education and the possibility to reach high quality results according to the objectives brought forward by the society and specified by the State

Section 3. Right to Qualitative and Inclusive Education

(1) Everyone has the right to qualitative and inclusive education

REGULATIONS REGARDING THE STATE BASIC EDUCATION STANDARD

The compulsory content of basic education shall be implemented according to the following principles:

9.5. the educational institution develops organisation culture in which diversity on grounds of gender, ethnicity, religion, health condition, language, intellectual development, and other characteristics is respected by conforming to the prohibition of discrimination and differential treatment;

9.7. the educational institution creates a learning environment which is physically and emotionally safe, promotes the acquisition of socio-emotional skills and learning of the pupil and, is adjusted to the varied learning and development needs of every pupil.

SYSTEMIC CHANGES RESULTING FROM AMENDMENTS TO THE VET LAW

Documents certifying professional education and documents certifying professional qualifications are set apart, giving the opportunity e.g., obtain at least a qualification, if the general education exams have not been successfully passed and vice versa

The professional standard will also identify the parts of the qualification that are recognisable in the labour market, in order to receive a 'micro-qualifications' for the acquired knowledge and skills

Provided opportunity for the persons to be admitted to VET basic education or VET secondary education programmes through assessing their competencies, to introduce an individual approach

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: Goals to reach by 2027







National Development Plan of Latvia for 2021 - 2027



Education Development Guidelines 2021-2027: "Future Skills for Future Society"

Significant characteristics for the future education system of Latvia

Percentage of early school leavers , age group 18-24		7,3 % (2021, Eurostat)	5 %
Prevalence of children and young people with special needs attending general education institutions and programs out of the total number of special needs children and young people		59,26 % (2018, MoES)	70 %
15 year olds who have suffered from violence in an educational institution several times during a one month period		11 % (2018, OECD)	5 %
Policy outcomes on well-being: % of students reported being bullied at school		35 % (2018, OECD PISA)	23 % (2025)

- ✓ Individualised teaching approach
- ✓ Acquisition of skills which are balanced and appropriate for future needs
- ✓ Functional transformation of educational institutions ("learning organisations")
- ✓ Improved education management system

Education Development Guidelines 2021-2027 “Future Skills for Future Society”

Objective 1. Highly qualified, competent and excellence-driven teachers and academic staff.

New study programmes for teachers, networking, professional development (competence framework), support (methodological, mentoring) and motivation mechanisms, remuneration

Objective 2. Modern and qualitative education offer focused on the development of skills that are much appreciated in the labour market.

New competency-based curricula, modernisation of the infrastructure and study environment of the education institutions

Objective 3. Support for the growth of everyone.

Early diagnostics for children from five years of age, support for the reduction of early school leaving, availability and competence of support staff, strengthening cooperation with parents, establish emotionally safe and positive environment, social scholarships for HE students, increased participation of adults in education, especially those less involved in the learning process

Objective 4. Sustainable and efficient management of the education system and resources.

Optimal school network (incl. special edu), education quality monitoring system (indicators on inclusive environment: accessibility, safety and well-being, infrastructure and resources)

General Edu

Professional Edu

Adult Edu

Tertiary Edu

EU Funds 2021-2027 support for Inclusive Education development

EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND PROACTIVE SUPPORT

To reduce risks of disorder formation of children's development, behavior (for children who are starting training in mandatory pre-school education from five years of age)

- Methodological tools
- Methodological support for teachers
- Assistive technology
- Support staff



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM RISK GROUPS

To reduce the risk of early school leaving

- Preventive and intervention measures
- Interest education and non-formal education activities
- Pedagogical improvement for prevention of violence and abuse
- NEET youth, etc. children and young people at socio-economic risk

COOPERATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Holistic support for student learning and career development

- Involvement of parents; career management for families
- Coordination of services for targeted assistance: prevention, inclusion, early warning system
- Integrated measures for social inclusiveness and integration at the municipal level

QUALITY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Learning and methodological materials
- Learning environment and equipment

Support for Ukrainian civilians in Latvia

Inclusion of Ukrainian minors in Latvian schools

- Collaboration with municipalities (301 school involved in all regions)
- Individual learning plans
- Riga Ukrainian Secondary School (more than 160 in all levels of general education)
- Non-formal education (camps, creative workshops)
- Support for Ukrainian teachers (pedagogical materials, support for the multilingual education, Latvian language courses free of charge)
- State funding (learning materials, individual support)
- EU Funds (for the development of individual competences of learners, for the reduction of early school leaving, exchange of best practices)

Support for Ukrainian students

- **Scholarship:** 140 EUR per month, granted to Ukrainian civilians who do not qualify for Erasmus+
- **Support under Erasmus+ mobility programme:** Erasmus+ scholarship - 1050 EUR per month, granted to Ukrainian civilians who started their studies in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 and continued in EU, including Latvia, duration of the mobility up to 12 months.

Support for Ukrainian researchers and academic staff

- Latvia-Ukraine bilateral programme: 6 projects approved, project implementation period 2 years
- Research fellowship for Ukrainian researchers: 900 EUR per month, administered by the State Education Development Agency

Language Reform in General Education in Latvia



- Support for local teachers if more than 30% of pupils in the class do not speak Latvian as their mother tongue, incl. teaching assistants in special education programs

- Replacement of teaching/training tools and learning materials



Support for schools in providing the learning in the official language

- A successful transition of 14% primary and 20% basic school pupils [*the percentage of educatees in minority programmes*] to learning in Latvian language within three years
- Professional development courses on strengthening ethnic environment – Latvian identity and Latvian language skills for at least 4040 teachers (pre-primary and primary)

Latvian Language Training Support for Adults



The Society Integration Foundation and **Riga Municipality** invites inhabitants to apply for **free of charge Latvian language courses**. The aim of these courses is to help the adults to acquire Latvian language within A, B and C levels



Latvian Language Agency organizes **in-service training for 4040 teachers** who work in a linguistically varied environment; **intensive courses** for learning Latvian language and culture; development of a **digital self-assessment and digital self - learning tool**



EU funds support for universities will be provided for the expansion of the Latvian language learning offer by **training Latvian as foreign language for adults teachers**, preparing 30-40 teachers per year