



Flexible  
vocational  
learning  
pathways  
Case Finland





*The main principle is that competences can be acquired wherever, whenever and however as learning outcomes compare to the National Qualification Requirements.”*

*Hanna Autere*

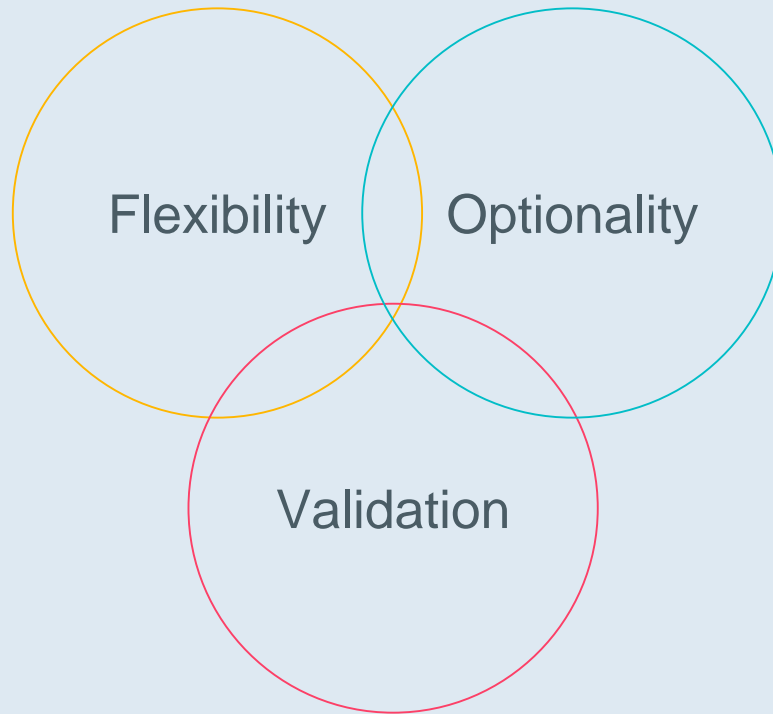
*Councillor of Education*



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# Individual learning and qualification pathways



... in close cooperation with working life



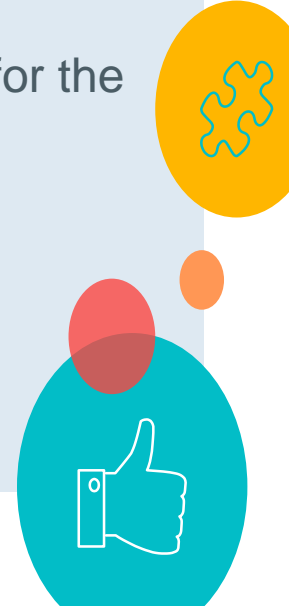


# Flexibility

## QUALIFICATION DESIGN

- Units of learning outcomes based on the operational entities of working life
- Each unit assessed independently in real working life situations
- No final examination

## INDIVIDUAL COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- The right guaranteed by law
  - Focus on acquiring missing skills
  - Best possible learning environments for the individual.
  - The support planned for the learner
  - Applying and starting flexibly
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# Optionality

## OPTIONAL UNITS

- Optional units help to individualise the qualification to meet the needs of individual and the working life
- Groups of learning outcomes from other programmes, qualifications or national/regional systems or countries.

## SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

- Guidance services provided to support the learners when choosing from different options

1.1.2018

Vocational Qualifications

Vocational units 145 cp

Common units 35 cp

# Validation of learning outcomes



- Learners may have obtained **relevant skills** in working life, another school, international study, work placement, family and leisure activities, or in digital media.
- Learning outcomes **assessed, validated, transferred** to the qualification
- Recognition of prior learning regulated by legislation.
- Prior learning that corresponds to the national qualification requirements.
- Recognition based on learning outcomes - not on learning time.
- VET provider decides



# How is quality assured?

- National Qualification Requirements Prepared In Cooperation With Working Life
- National assessment criteria for competence assessment
- Working life participates in assessment



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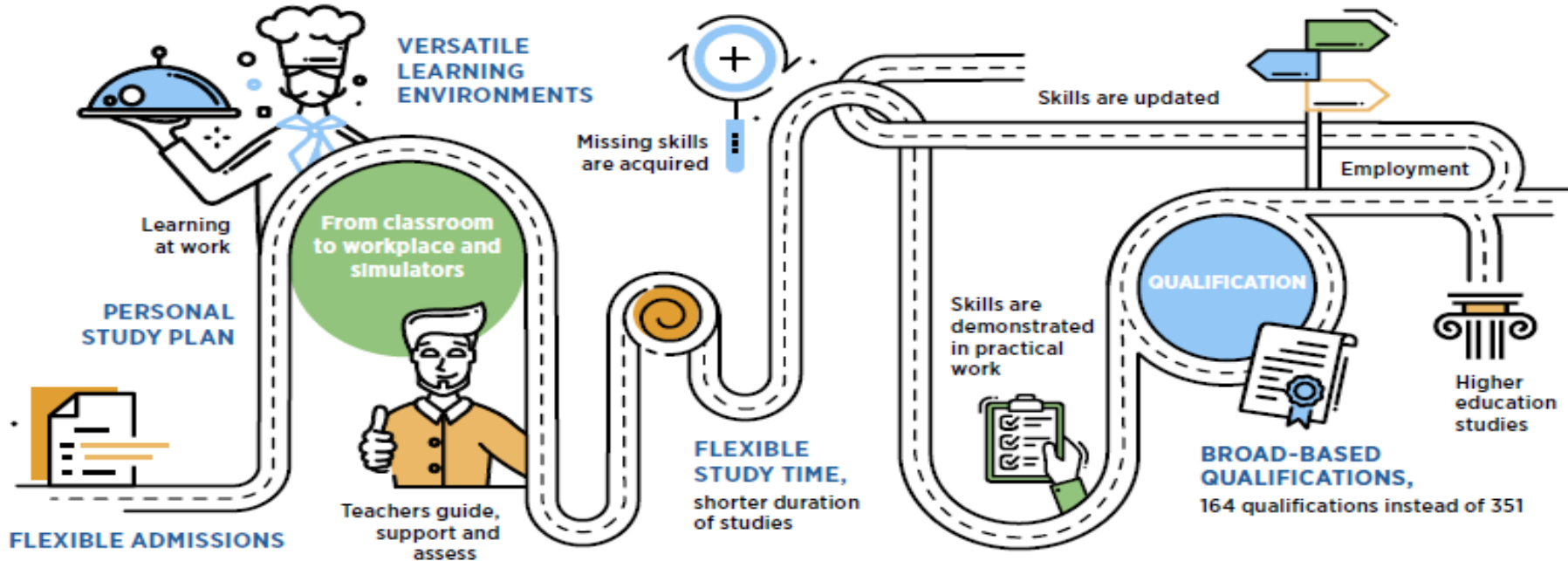
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## Documentation:

- Education Provider Register
- ECVET /Mou/LA/ Europass Mobility
- **Coming up – National register**

# NEW VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING as of 1 January 2018

Working life is undergoing changes. New occupations keep emerging and old ones disappear. Technology advances. Earning logics are renewed. Students' needs are becoming even more individualised. Skills need to be updated throughout careers.



## FUNDING THAT ENCOURAGES EFFECTIVENESS

Students complete their studies, graduate, find jobs or continue studying



## A SINGLE ACT, A SINGLE LICENCE TO PROVIDE EDUCATION

No boundaries between young people and adults



## LESS BUREAUCRACY AND MORE AUTHORITY

for education providers





# Examples of flexible study pathways at

**sedu**

**Individual  
competence  
development  
plan**

"Cross country skiers"  
who enjoy hands-on  
work approach

"Duathlonists"  
combining study and  
work

"Orienteers" – searching  
for checkpoints but  
sometimes meeting  
obstacles

"Sprinters" with prior  
learning and/or  
motivation to speed up

**Qualification  
/Certificate  
awarded by the  
education  
provider**





# Thank you!



Kirsi Lounela

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