

## Innovative VET provider Award for the European Vocational Skills Week 2017



This award aims to identify a European provider of Vocational Education and Training (VET) that has contributed to VET excellence through innovative practices.

The European VET provider must showcase innovation and inspire other VET providers to create excellence in VET, making learners, trainers, companies and society all winners.

The award is organised by the European Commission, in cooperation with the expert group "Platform of European Associations of VET Providers".

### 1. Eligibility of VET providers

The award is open to public and private VET providers that fulfil the following requirements:

- **Their predominant activity** is to deliver initial or continued VET (at any EQF level from 1 to 5);
- The education and training delivered addresses young people and/or adults
- They are established in an EU Members State, a Candidate or an EFTA Country. Organisations that received an award in 2016 can participate again in 2017

### 2. Selection criteria:

**2.1** The following common selection criteria will apply to all awards, as set out on the website of the [Vocational Skills week](#):

- Illustrates excellence in VET;
- Impacts individual learners;
- Impacts organisational/planning strategy creation;
- Demonstrates energy and commitment;
- Is capable of being replicated elsewhere;
- Demonstrates involvement of various stakeholder in the planning and/or execution;
- Makes a contribution to promoting business competitiveness, quality, employment and/or innovation in VET policy;
- Has a European dimension, and/or positively influences the environment of the locality/region.

**2.2** In addition to the abovementioned common criteria, for this award, the following specific criteria apply:

1. The VET provider has relevant accreditations, certification or has received previous training awards
2. The VET provider delivers a new and innovative approach to learning that by its implementation shows a higher speed or quality of acquirement of knowledge, skills or competences in the context of an educational program that leads to a formal qualification or diploma.

3. The approach is based on educational research findings and/or practical experience rather than on convictions or assumptions; strategic and operational links with research institutions or partnerships, including companies, are particularly welcome.
4. The VET provider's approach should demonstrate proven benefits, in a holistic manner, i.e. for learners, employment, companies, society.
5. The provider's approach should demonstrate being attractive for learners, including their families, and reducing drop outs, also benefiting learners at risk, those with special needs, NEETS, migrants and other disadvantaged groups).
6. The provider's approach is aimed at and shows effects for employability; the latter is ideally proven by tools and systems for tracking employability (for both young learners and adults).
7. The provider implements state of the art technology (4.0, simulators, ICT enhanced learning, other digital tools, etc.).

**The criteria are cumulative. This means that, on the basis of the presented evidence, the award will be given to the provider that meets a maximum of the above criteria best. So, the VET provider does not need to meet all the criteria, but the more criteria the VET provider meets, the higher the ranking will be.**

### 3. Evaluation Committee

An Evaluation Committee will be created among members of the "Platform of European Associations of VET Providers". The European Commission will not participate in the selection procedure.

Depending on the number of applications to be assessed, sub-juries can be installed, each dealing with a part of the applications. The final decision will be made by the main jury.

No members of the jury will themselves nominate and/or are involved in nominations of providers by their association. If the institution of any of the jury members applies, the jury member will be replaced by another member of the association.

### 4. Additional information

Deadline for applications is **27 September at 23:59**. The name of the winner will be communicated around end October to all applicants. The winner organisation will be invited to the closing ceremony of the Vocational Skills week taking place on 24 November. No information will be communicated about the unsuccessful candidates.

For any questions please contact [EMPL-VET-PROVIDERS-ASSOCIATIONS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EMPL-VET-PROVIDERS-ASSOCIATIONS@ec.europa.eu) (mailbox).

The contact details of the applicants, also those not awarded, will be kept for other communication purposes linked to Vocational Education and Training.

### 5. Submission process

Applications for VET providers awards must be submitted through the EUsurvey platform by filling in this link <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/AwardVETproviders> Deadline is **27 September at 23:59**.

As an indication, the information to be provided in the on-line form concerns inter alia the following:

- Name and address of the VET provider
- Contact details (telephone and e mail)
- Description of the VET Centre

(Creation date, country, region, type of training courses, target, number of students, staff, trainers, website, other useful information to characterize generally the VET provider)

- Relevant accreditations, certification or previous training awards
- Research, links with Universities or Research Centres
- Links with companies and civil society (cooperation)
- Affiliation in VET Networks (National, European, International)
- International activities or orientation
- General description of the innovative nature of the institutions and what makes it new and innovative (See specific selection criteria 2.2 above )
  
- Please indicate how the provider meets the common selection criteria (See 2.1 above):
  
- Please give us a short justification about:  
“Why our VET provider Center/school/Institution should receive the European award of Excellence in VET, inspiring others”  
Why we are an Innovative VET provider Centre/school/Institution”

Link to European Vocational Skills week page :

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1261>

Information about the Awards

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=17862&langId=en>