



Innovative VET Provider Award 2020

This award aims to identify a European organisation, provider of Vocational Education and Training (VET provider) 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".

The 2020 Innovative VET provider award will include a section for those organisations who wish to apply also for an additional **special award on distance and e-learning solutions**. This is for VET providers that use or develop VET content for distance learning in an innovative way.

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 continuing VET
- 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.

2. Selection criteria:

The following criteria apply for this award:

1. The VET provider has relevant accreditations, certification or has received previous 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.
3. The approach is based on educational research findings and/or practical experience; 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 uses or develops state of art technology (4.0, Artificial intelligence, simulators, Virtual Reality/Augmented reality, robotics and programming, IoT, etc)
8. This year, the Jury will give extra points to the applicants offering opportunities in the field of green or digital transition, in line with the Commission's priorities for 2019-24 "[A European Green Deal](#)" and "[A Europe fit for the digital age](#)".

Section 2.1 – Special award on distance and e-learning solutions

For those VET providers who wish to participate also to the Distance and e-learning special award, the application form provides the opportunity to add on the following elements. The VET provider:

1. delivers and implements an innovative and user-friendly approach to online and distance learning resources for VET, for **quality of learning** acquired, also for upskilling and reskilling;
2. uses effectively a range of learning environments including those offered through companies providing an **innovative use** of distance learning (e.g. gaming, interactive and live learning environments, living labs, simulators, innovative online learning platforms)
3. The approach should **support** learners, in particular those that **lack basic digital** skills and **are less familiar with the benefits of online learning** tools as well as provide appropriate **support** to teachers and trainers enhancing their own digital competences;
4. has possibly relevant **accreditations** for online learning, uses digital credentials or certifications (e.g. micro-credentials like digital badges) or skills assessment and assessment of prior learning

The criteria are cumulative. This means that, on the basis of the presented evidence, the nominees will be the providers that meet 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 better the chances to be selected.

3. Evaluation Committee

An Evaluation Committee will be created among members of the "Platform of European Associations of VET Providers".

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 for two nominees will be made by the main jury.

No members of the jury will themselves nominate and/or are involved in direct 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. Selection procedure

The jury will select the two best applications and these 2 nominees will be invited on 12-13 November 2020 for an Award Nominees Celebration, in Germany. Travel and accommodation for the nominees to participate in the ceremony will be covered by the European Commission.

The public will be able to choose from the two best applicants their favourite one between September and November (**through on-line voting**).

On 12-13 November, during the Award Nominees Celebration in Berlin, the winner will be announced (as a result of combined votes of the Jury and the on-line voting by the public)

The Jury will also select the winners for the distance and e-learning special award. The selection(s) of the Jury will be made known on the site of the European Vocational Skills Week.

No information will be communicated about other applicants that will not be awarded .

For any questions, please contact EMPL-VET-PROVIDERS-ASSOCIATIONS@ec.europa.eu (mailbox).

5. Submission process

Applications for the VET provider award must be submitted through the EUsurvey platform by filling in the form that can be found here: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/VETprovaward2020>

Deadline is **20 June**.

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 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
- (If available) video presentation of the organisation
- General description of the innovative nature of the institutions and what makes it new and innovative (See selection criteria under 2 above)

For those VET providers who wish to participate also to the Distance and e-learning special award, an additional section is available in the application form, to explain the innovative tools and methodologies they use/develop for distance learning.



European
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DATA PROTECTION

Any personal data communicated to the European Commission by the applicants for the purposes of the selection process shall be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data.

[Privacy statement](#)