

Greece: Certification of teaching competence of Trainers for Adults of non-formal

Type of provider

EDUC/OTHER : EOPPEP

Objectives

After September 2014, adult trainers in non-formal learning (as this is defined in Greece) need to have certified educational competence/proficiency to participate in non-formal learning programmes funded by public resources (Law 4115/2013). This includes the Institutes of Vocational Training (IEKs- ISCED 4).

The full implementation of the new certification system of adult trainers is believed to be necessary to meet the recent and future economic, social and educational needs.

Assessment approaches

It should be underlined that the certification process is accessible by all individuals who meet specific criteria. In order to enrol in the certification examinations, one has to meet certain criteria regarding educational attainment or proven professional experience. More specifically:

Eligibility criteria for the certification of Adult Trainers competence:

1. e-application of candidates with documentation - at the address: trainers.eoppep.gr. Candidates build up their portfolio of qualifications. Qualifications are supported by relevant documentation submitted to EOPPEP by candidates. Candidate qualifications are assessed against legislated standards and legibility criteria for the certification of their competence as Adult Trainers (e.g. Adult Trainers in the field of Agriculture, Accounting, IT, etc)

2. Certification exams (theoretical & practical part): EOPPEP manages the certification process via an integrated e- application. Exams are conducted in approved examination centres, in prefectures across the country. Trained assessors and supervisors are commissioned by EOPPEP for the certification exam process. Theoretical Part of certification exams: Data Bank of examination topics (in the field of training for adults). Duration: 1 hour. Candidates fill in the examination booklet (all candidate personal particulars are shield for reasons of transparency). Booklets are collected by the supervisor, are sealed and then delivered to EOPPEP for grading by specially trained evaluators.

Practical Part of exams: Presentation of a 20' simulation training 5' interview 20' simulation training is assessed by two specially trained assessors commissioned by EOPPEP.

Assessors Requirements: Assessors are selected by EOPPEP from the EOPPEP's Register of Assessors Eligible Assessors are registered in EOPPEP's national register. Holding a Master's Degree or PhD in the field of Adult Learning or Lifelong Learning or Continuing Education or Continuing Vocational Training or Education Policy. Possessing 5 years of relevant professional experience or significant educational experience in their professional field.

Assessment approaches (rest)

3. Certification of Adult Trainers: Validation of Certification exams results: The Board of EOPPEP: validates the results of the certification exams (for both the theoretical and practical part) and decides upon the awarding or not of the certification of competence to candidate Adult Trainers.

4. Compiling of the qualifications of the Certified Adult Trainers in an e-platform (e-portfolio): Upon granting of certification, Certified Trainers are registered in the Register of Adult Trainers, holding the Certification of Competence. The data of the Certified Adult Trainers are uploaded to the EOPPEP Data Base, with free public access.

Ministerial Decree on «Certification System for the Competence of Adult Trainers of non formal education» (Official Government Gazette B' 2844/23.10.2012) The Ministerial Decision defines the establishment of a Certification Committee, comprising of:

1. One (1) representative from EOPPEP, serving as President of the Committee
2. One (1) representative from the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning (Ministry of Education)
3. Two (2) Academics, in the field of Adult Learning or Lifelong Learning or Continuing Education or Continuing Vocational Training or Education Policy
4. Two (2) representatives from Social Partners (one from the employers' organization and one from the employees) with an educational and/or professional profile in Adult Learning

Target Group

Trainers for Adults of non-formal education.

Potential transferability/ scalability

The case seems more flexible and transferable to other contexts.

Summaries or Basic elements of analysis

Assessment in Greece traditionally involves written tests. This seems to be the main methodology in most relevant (although not comprehensive) processes of validation that one can currently find in the country. Nevertheless, (for IVET graduates, professionals of private security without formal qualifications) adult trainers of non-formal learning, assessment also entails a practical part, which involves oral tests, case studies analysis, demonstration of skills and competences and teaching simulation.

In the assessment stage for adult trainers, the practical part also involves a presentation of a teaching plan (simulation of teaching), through a 20-minute implementation of a teaching plan by the examinee at a group of nine co-candidates, who undertake the role of 'trainees'. The presentation is assessed in situ by two competent assessors. A DVD is recorded in the event the candidate should be reassessed. After the presentation, the examinee is interviewed by two Assessors and the Supervisor.