

Portugal: Adult Education and Training Courses (EFA Course)

Type of provider

Education

VET Schools and public education schools, Vocational Training Centres of the Institute of Employment and Vocational Training (IEFP) and other accredited training providers.

Objectives

The EFA Course gives learners the possibility of acquiring a school qualification and/or professional qualification, with the aim to (re) insert or progress in the labour market.

The EFA Course can confer a double certification (school and professional, which means learners get the basic education or secondary education and are able to directly enter the labour market), school certification only or just a professional certification:

- a. If the learner successfully completes an EFA Course corresponding to any training course, he/she will obtain a **Certificate of Qualifications**;
- b. If the learner gets a **Diploma** when successfully completing an EFA dual certification course, an EFA course for school qualification or when he/she completes only the technological training component (in cases where the learner already holds the school qualification);
- c. If the learner does not complete an EFA Course he/she will see the Competence Units (basic training component of the basic education courses) and the Short-term Training Units registered in an Individual Skills Book and will obtain a **Certificate of Qualifications**.

Adults who complete primary or secondary education through EFA courses can apply to higher education courses at universities.

Assessment approaches

Formative evaluation (allows obtaining information on the development of the learning) and also a summative evaluation (serves as a basis for the final certification).

The training is centred on reflexive processes and skills acquisition through a module entitled «Learning with autonomy» (basic level of education and/or professional certification) or a «Reflective Learning Portfolio» (secondary level and/or professional certification).

Target group

Adults of 18 years or older (exceptionally, attendance in an EFA Course may be approved for candidates under the age of 18, provided they are active in the labour market);

- Adults who want to complete 1st, 2nd, 3rd cycle of basic education or secondary education;
- Adults who want to get a professional certification.

Potential transferability/ scalability

This type of courses can add training and RVCC, depending on the learners' background.

Summaries or Basic elements of analysis

The EFA Courses are organized:

- a. In a lifelong learning perspective;
- b. In training pathways, designed on an initial evaluative diagnosis, carried out by the training entity of the EFA Course, or developed through a process of recognition and validation of the competences that the adult has acquired throughout life;
- c. In training courses developed in an integrated way, involving basic training and technological training or only one of these;
- d. In a modular training model, based on the training references included in the National Qualifications Catalogue.