

Portugal: Professional Recognition, Validation and Certification of Competences (Pro RVCC)

Type of provider

Education/Other: Qualification Centres (CentrosQualifica)

Structures of the National Qualifications System inserted in public schools, VET schools or other entities and organizations with human and financial resources and facilities to provide the development of this process. Each Centre has its areas of certification and so the candidate has to choose the one that matches their area of interest.

Objectives

The aim is to certify adults' skills acquired throughout their lives in formal, informal and non-formal contexts, issuing a Certificate of Qualifications, which proves and explains the professional competences held.

Assessment approaches

a. Based on a **Referential for Pro RVCC** (A set of concepts and a list of contents related to a given profession used in other assessment tools in order to verify what the competences are that a candidate has in a given profession. Its elaboration demands a deep analysis of a task, decomposing it in its constituent units called Competence Units), which has direct connection to the National Qualifications Catalogue;

b. Grid of self-assessment (The candidate has to indicate whether or not he/she can develop each activity stated in the grid (Competence Units) linked to the professional area of choice);

c. Reflexing Learning Portfolio (a dynamic portfolio developed throughout the Pro RVCC process and that, by the end of the process, will be presented by the candidate and evaluated by a jury of technical experts, tutors and evaluators);

d. Guideline for Technical Interview (This interview serves to clarify doubts that have persisted or that have not been clarified with the Portfolio, and can include either questions and/or practical exercises);

e. Grid of workplace performance observation (Used in cases where the candidate is assessed in his/her work place);

f. Evaluation sheet/Task characterization sheet (Used for tasks developed in simulated practice context).

Target group

Low Qualified/Need for upskilling

Adults, unemployed or not, who wish to see their professional skills recognized through a professional certification.

Potential transferability/ scalability

The transferability of the **Referential for Pro RVCC** can be possible if the professions have the same tasks in different countries and, if not, it can be adapted to the reality of each country.

Summaries or Basic elements of analysis

Before engaging in a Pro RVCC process, the candidates have to go through a first phase that consists, in general, of the analysis of their profile and identification of individual education and professional qualification projects, bearing in mind realistic options for continuing education and/or integration in the labour market. After doing so, candidates are forwarded to the ProRVCC process;

The **Referential for Pro RVCC** lists all tasks related to a given profession and if candidates show they can develop all those tasks (through their Portfolio and/or other tasks), they get Units of Competence, which will allow them to get professional certification by the end of the process; It is standardized, which means that all candidates are assessed through the same methods.