

Innovative VET provider Award for the European Vocational Skills Week 2019

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".

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
- 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 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 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.

The jury will select the two best applications and these 2 nominees will be invited on 17-18 October 2019 to Helsinki for an evening Award Nominees Celebration.

The public (through on-line voting) will be able to choose from the two best applicants their favourite one, in the Autumn.

On 17-18 October in Helsinki Ms. Marianne Thyssen the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility will announce the winner (as a result of combined votes of the Jury and the on-line voting by the public)

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 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. Additional information

Deadline for applications is **10 June** . The name of the nominees will be communicated in September/October.

Two nominees will be invited to Helsinki, Finland on 17-18 October 2019. Travel and accommodation to participate in the ceremony will be covered by the European Commission. No information will be communicated about the unsuccessful candidates.

For any questions please contact 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 promoting excellence in VET. Organisations may opt-out at any time, if wished https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-skills-week/privacy-statement_en

5. Submission process

Applications for the VET provider award must be submitted through the EUsurvey platform by filling in this link <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/VETprov2019> Deadline is **10 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 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 selection criteria under 2 above)
- A short justification about:
 “Why our VET provider Center/school/Institution should receive the European award for innovative VET provider, inspiring others”
 Why we are an Innovative VET provider Centre/school/Institution?”

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.

The applicants agree to the use and publication on the European Commission web pages, social media platforms, promotional materials and print publications of the data contained in the application form.

The applicants agree to have their contact details added to the VET and AL stakeholders database (see privacy statement https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-skills-week/privacy-statement_en)

Should the applicants have any queries concerning the processing of their personal data, they shall address them to the European Commission, EMPL-E3-DATA-PROTECTION@ec.europa.eu

Link to European Vocational Skills week page :

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/vocational-skills-week/>