

Criteria for placing new competence modules in the Finnish National Framework for Qualifications and Other Competence Modules

The submitted proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the criteria defined in legislation and specified by the working group for framework expansion appointed by the Ministry of Education and Culture for the duration of 2018. The criteria apply to the competence basis, legal basis, task, degree of establishment, reputation and extent of the competence modules:

The competence basis and legal basis of the competence module

The competence modules placed in the framework must be competence-based and learning outcomes must have been determined for them. Provisions on the learning outcomes are laid down in a national act, or laid down in or by virtue of a national act by a competent body. The competence module is placed in the framework at the most suitable level overall (the principle of 'best fit'), based on learning outcomes.

Qualifications included in a foreign qualifications system or organised by international organisations will not be placed in the framework, even though such qualifications could be completed at Finnish educational institutions. There is no intention to place qualifications and syllabi removed from the qualification system into the framework.

As a rule, individual qualification modules included in qualifications are not placed separately in the framework even if these could be completed separately after completing a qualification; instead, these are placed at the same level as the entire qualification.

The task of the competence module and its degree of establishment and reputation

The competence modules placed in the framework must be either study modules specified as professional qualifications requirements for so-called regulated professions or such standardised, generally recognised and widely studied competence modules used for supplementing, updating or expanding a previously completed qualification or other competence, or which prepare for education leading to a qualification or for working life.

The extent of the competence module

The competence modules placed in the framework must be extensive competence modules comparable with qualifications or other extensive competence modules with a minimum scope of 30 competence points (ECVET) / credits (ECTS) as a rule. When other criteria are fulfilled and for justified reasons, modules comprising at least 20 competence points/credits may also be proposed to be placed in the



framework. As different administrative sectors as well as levels and forms of education use different grounds for scaling, and the scope of competence modules has not always been determined in competence points or credits, the definition of the European ECVET /ECTS credit transfer system used in vocational education and training / higher education can be used for help in determining the scope of the extent of the competence modules placed in the framework. Based on both of the credit transfer systems, the average competence achieved within a year is equivalent to 60 competence points/credits.

Further information: <https://www.oph.fi/qualificationsframework>