

Directive for the regulation of the pathways from
Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)
in to Higher Education Institutions (HEI)

Ministry of Education
Dec.2007

Directive to regulate the pathways from TVET into HEI.

WHERE AS the main objective of TVET is to produce skilled, motivated and adaptable work force in order to satisfy the labor market needs of the countries towards its economical development;

WHERE AS, the TVET system should not have a restrictive effect in terms of academic career to those who have the potential to undertake further studies:

NOW THEREFORE, the Ministry of Education pursuant to the power given to it under Art 14(1) of Proclamation No.471/2005 has issued this Directive.

1. Short Title

This Directive may be cited as “the Directive for pathways from Technical and Vocational Education and Training into Higher Education Institutions”

2. Objectives

This Directive shall have the following objectives:

- 2.1 ensure that the main objectives of TVET is the production of basic and middle level skilled work force;
- 2.2 spelling-out the requirements to be fulfilled by TVET graduates for purpose of enrolling to Higher Education Institution; and
- 2.3 drawing up the vertical integration between TVET and Higher Education Institutions

3. Definitions

In this Directive:

- 3.1. “**TVET Training**” means an educational and training programme which enables the trainer to acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes in a specific field for the benefit of his/her employment or self employment.
- 3.2. “**Ethiopian TVET Qualification Framework**” means a document which specifies levels of competences for various skills by taking into account the comprehensiveness of the skill, required responsibility, integration, transparency, flexibility and independence.
- 3.3 “**Pathway to Higher Education**” means a system of transformation for TVET graduates who completed the first level of secondary education; who are eligible to sit for occupational testing; who provide service for two years after graduation and who earned a grade point prescribed by the Ministry of Education to be a pass mark in higher education entrance examination.
- 3.4 “**Occupational Standard**” means a range of competences that should be achieved through TVET in order to enable a person to engage on a given occupation. It is against which an individual performance is assessed.

3.5 "**Center of Occupational Testing**" means a center established under the Regional TVET authorities or the private sector which serves as a center of competence, capacity building for TVET and activities relating to consultancy and research pertaining to the TVET system.

3.7 "**Bridging Course**" means a course prepared in the form of module and offered to TVET graduates in view of preparing them to pass university entrance examination.

3.8 "**Higher Education Entrance Examination**" means a country wide examination which will be offered after completion of bridging courses for purpose of determining enrollment to higher education.

4. Admission Requirements

Based on this Directive, applicants who meet the following requirements shall be eligible to continue their further education at higher education institutes in a field they passed the occupational testing.

4.1 submission of evidence that the applicant has completed 12th grade (under the old curriculum) or 10th grade under the New Education and Training Policy.

4.2 extra-ordinary performance in occupational testing which is prepared on a national level on the basic of occupational standards.

4.3 evidence of at least two years work experience on the field of training after graduation.

4.4 evidence of performance showing pass mark in higher education entrance examination.

5. Responsibility of the executive organs

This Directive will have significant impact in providing opportunities for citizens to develop their career through establishing pathways from TVET to higher education institutes. Nevertheless, the involvement of various stake holders is imperative for the proper implementation of this Directive. The following executive organs shall have the prominent role in this regard:

5.1 Ministry of Education

5.1.1 it shall notify to examinees as to the dates of registration and exam.

5.1.2 it shall register candidates eligible to sit for exam; conduct the examination and make the exam results official.

5.1.3 it shall periodically revise the cut off point for passing the entrance exam

5.1.4 it shall determine the content of the Bridging Courses and prepare the same.

5.1.5 it shall prepare assessment tools.

5.1.6 it shall offer training for assessors and assignment tools developers.

5.2 Regional TVET Authorities

- 5.2.1 They shall oversee the proper administration of the Occupational Testing.
- 5.2.2 They shall periodically report results of Occupational Testing to the Ministry of Education and other relevant organs.

5.3 Centers of Competence

- 5.3.1 They shall identify occupations for which Occupational Testing is to be conducted.
- 5.3.2 They shall verify documents of applicants and determine eligibility to sit for exams.
- 5.3.3 They shall accredit institutions, enterprises or companies for occupational testing after ascertaining that the entities possess the requisite structural and material set-up.
- 5.3.4 They shall undertake regular inspection on the accredited testing centers.
- 5.3.5 They shall communicate the list of candidates who passed occupational tests in order that the appropriate organ would issue them certificate of competence.
- 5.3.6 They shall collect service charge which is fixed by Regulation or Directive for conducting occupational test.

5.4 Higher Education Institutes

- 5.4.1 They shall, by taking into account the contents of the Bridging Course, prepare entrance examination jointly or through their representative organs. Entrance examinations shall be kept confidential until the date of the exam.
- 5.4.2 They shall submit the prepared exams to the appropriate organ in due time.

6. Expectations from Examinees

- 6.1 making the necessary preparations for entrance exams on the basis of the Bridging Courses.
- 6.2 making payment for sitting to take entrance exams.
- 6.3 undertaking their own preparations for future studies at higher education institutes once they pass the exam.

7. Bridging Courses

Bridging courses shall consist of subjects which were not covered in their previous studies but are important for higher education studies and for passing the entrance examinations. As completion of bridging courses is not a pre-condition to sit

for entrance exam, candidates may arrange their own mode of studying for bridging course (such as self-learning, distance education or extension study etc.)

8. **Entrance Examination**

8.1 Entrance exam shall be administered all over the country once in a year under the management of the Quality Assurance and Examination Agency for General Education. The examination shall be prepared on the basis of the Bridging Courses. Examinees shall be issued with a certificate which shows the result they scored in the exam. Pass mark shall be fixed, periodically, by the Ministry of Education. Examinees shall undertake their own preparation for the exam.

8.2 An entrance exam result earned at a certain period shall not serve for admission after the expiry of three years from the date it was administered.

8.3 Every examinee who sits for an entrance exam will be required to take all the subjects included in the entrance exam.

8.4 An entrance exam result shall only serve for a single admission.

9. **Miscellaneous provisions**

9.1 A Directive which was issued for path way to diploma graduates from Agricultural colleges to higher education institutes shall remain in force.

9.2 Without prejudice to Art 9.1 above, any directive which is inconsistent with the present Directive shall be inapplicable in matters covered by this Directive.

10. **Effective date**

This Directive shall be entered into force on 29 Dec 2007.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION