



OULU ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE

*Cooperation partner for adult learners and working life*



## MANY PATHS TO INCREASE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

Vocational adult education and training offers various opportunities for adult learners and organizations to obtain the knowledge and skills needed in the ever-changing working life. Tailor-made education and training takes into consideration the individual needs of each organization.

Students study according to a personal learning plan where their previous education and work experience is taken into account and accredited. In addition to contact teaching, multiform learning and on-the-job training are used.

OAKK offers preparatory training for over 60 competence-based qualifications in the following field of vocational education and training:

- *building maintenance technology, heating and ventilation technology*
- *business and commerce*
- *cleaning services, household services*
- *construction and surface treatment technology*
- *earth construction, mobile crane operators*
- *electrical engineering*
- *machinery and metal technology*
- *restaurant services*
- *safety and security*
- *social and health care*

OAKK organizes also other vocational further education, career planning training and training for immigrants.

Forms of adult education and training:

- *Apprenticeship training*
- *In-service training*
- *Joint purchase training*
  - *RecruitmentTraining*
  - *PreciseTraining*
  - *ChangeTraining*
- *Labour market training*
- *Self-motivated education*





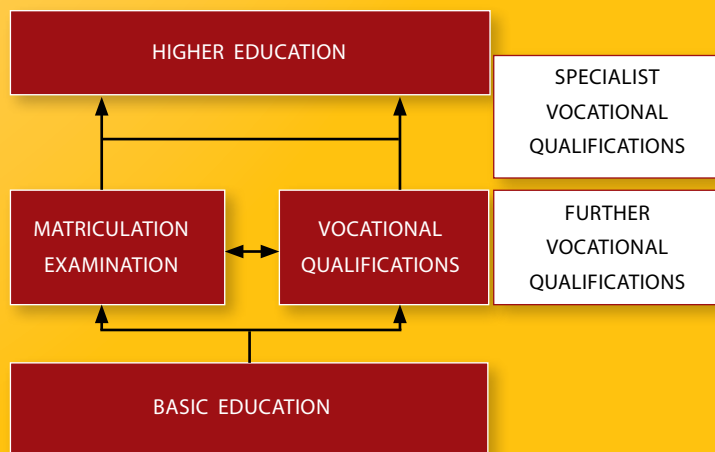
## COMPETENCE-BASED QUALIFICATIONS IN FINLAND

The competence-based qualification system became a part of vocational adult education in Finland in 1994. The first competence-based qualifications were completed in OAKK in 1996 and during years 1996–2010 a total of 6,294 qualifications have been completed.

The system consists of three levels: vocational qualifications, further vocational qualifications and specialist vocational qualifications. The system aims to develop professional competence in companies, life-long learning and the cooperation between working life and institutes. The qualification system is supervised and monitored by the Finnish National Board of Education and qualification committees.

In competence-based qualifications, vocational skills are demonstrated through competence tests, regardless of whether the skills have been acquired through work experience, studies or other activities. What matters most is vocational competence. Although taking part in competence tests does not require formal preparation, many participants participate in preparatory training according to a personal learning plan.

## COMPETENCE-BASED QUALIFICATIONS IN THE FINNISH EDUCATION SYSTEM



## OULU ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE IN BRIEF

Oulu Adult Education Centre (OAKK) is a limited company owned by Oulu, the largest city in Northern Finland. OAKK was founded in 1970.

OAKK is known as a versatile developer of working life. In addition to vocational adult education and training, OAKK offers other services, such as restaurant and catering services and manufacturing of prototypes and trial series. Various development projects together with the working life also belong to our daily operations.

### Figures in 2010:

- 7,342 students
- Average age of students: 35
- Completed competence-based qualifications: 842
- Personnel (31.12.2010): 192
  - teachers: 149
  - other personnel: 43
- Total turnover of 17 million euros

The Arctic Circle

● OULU



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