



NASJONALT FAGSKOLERÅD



**FAGSKOLEUTDANNING**

# THE NORWEGIAN COUNCIL FOR HIGHER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

- Advisory body appointed by the Ministry of Education and Research
- Representatives from private and public Higher Vocational Colleges, Business and Employer Associations, Trade Unions and Students

# UPDATE - REFORM FOR HIGHER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AS OF MARCH 2021

- Developments of the reform the past year
- Reform of Lifelong Learning
- How we got there – broad alliances and political work



# DEVELOPMENT OF THE REFORM THE LAST YEAR

- Intermediate reports of status halfway in the five-year reform – produced by the government
  - Status on the 48 measures
  - Evaluation of the financing system
- Government working on a strategy for the coming years
- National Council – report on further development
  - Plan for escalating the number of students
  - Model for financing of colleges and quality development
  - Model for meeting the needs in the workplace
  - Development of NQF to possible binary system with Higher Vocational Education on EQF level 5-7(8)
- New law this spring will open for Higher Vocational Education in the span from 1 to 120 credits

# REFORM OF LIFELONG LEARNING

- Passed in Parliament spring of 2020
- Emphasizes Higher Vocational Education
  - 10 different industry programs – the social partners define the needed skills in small credit courses – public funding
  - Flexible educational programs with focus on digital skills – public funding
- Target groups: Unemployed, laid off and those in need of upskilling
- The State Loan Fund – now also for employed adults seeking upskilling and reskilling

# CRISIS MEASURES TOWARDS THE PANDEMIC

- Extra 100 million euro in 2020 plus extra 100 million in 2021 towards up-skilling of unemployed and laid off
- Major parts of this directed towards Higher Vocational Education
  - 10 different industry programs – the social partners define the needed skills in small credit courses
  - Flexible educational programs with focus on digital skills
- 25% increase in students in regular studies of Higher Vocational Education from 2019 to 2020

# TIMEFRAME TO DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL REFORM

- 2013: The government set down a commission to write a green paper vocational education on a tertiary level
- 2014: The green paper is published
- 2016/17: The white paper is published and approved in the Parliament
- 2018: New law on Higher Vocational Education
- 2019: New regulations
- 2020: Reform of Lifelong Learning
- 2021: Revised law on Higher Vocational Education

# HOW DID WE GET THERE?

- Established a broad alliance
  - Privat and public Higher Vocational Colleges
  - Students
  - Social partners
- National Council for Higher Vocational Education
- Pro active work towards the Parliament, Ministry of Education and relevant Directorates
  - Working committees write reports
  - Meetings with decision makers on a bureaucratic and political level – presenting issues and suggested solutions
- Important learning from members of CHAIN5



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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