

# Directorate of Education Act

2015 No 91 10 July

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**Date of entry into force: 5 August 2015 with the exception of Article 1 and Articles 4 to 7: entry into force 1 July 2015; date of publication in the Law Gazette: 4 August 2015.**

Any reference in this Act to “the Minister” or “the Ministry” not accompanied by express mention of or reference to a specific field of responsibility shall be understood as being a reference to the **Minister of Education, Science and Culture** or to the **Ministry of Education, Science and Culture** as responsible for the implementation of this Act.

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## ■ Article 1 *Role*

The Directorate of Education is an administrative agency which operates in the field of education with a mandate to increase the quality of schooling and support progress in education in accordance with law and government policy, best available evidence, and international benchmarks.

The role of the Directorate of Education is to carry out tasks in the field of education in accordance with this Act and as directed by the Minister.

## ■ Article 2 *Organisation*

The Minister shall appoint a Director for a five-year term. The Director must possess an academic degree and expertise in the Directorate’s field of responsibility.

The Director shall be responsible for ensuring compliance by the Directorate with legislative and regulatory requirements and with the relevant terms of reference.

## ■ Article 3 *Advisory Committee*

The Director shall be assisted by an Advisory Committee composed of seven members appointed by the Minister for a four-year term. Two committee members, one of which shall serve as Chair, shall be appointed without nomination, one shall be appointed on the nomination of the Association of Local Authorities in Iceland, one on the nomination of the Association of Icelandic Upper Secondary Schools, one on the nomination of the Rectors’ Conference of Higher Education Institutions, one on the nomination of the Icelandic Teachers’ Union, and one on the nomination of the [National Parents’ Association] ‘Home and School’. Alternate members shall be appointed in the same manner. The Director participates in the meetings of the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee shall meet once every year, and more frequently if the need arises. The Committee’s Chair shall call its meetings.

The Committee’s task is to provide consultancy to the Director regarding the Directorate’s long-term policies.

## ■ Article 4 *Expert panels*

For the Directorate’s main fields of activity, the Director shall set up expert panels composed of persons with specialist knowledge in each respective field. The expert panels shall provide consultancy and assistance to the Directorate. The Minister shall issue a Regulation on the establishment and operation of the expert panels.