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**EAER Ordinance
on the Minimum Requirements for the Recognition of
Study Programmes and Continuing Education and
Training at Professional Education Institutions
(MiR-PEI)**

of 11 September 2017 (Status as of 1 December 2021)

*The Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), based on Article 29 paragraph 3 of the Federal Act of 13 December 2002¹ on Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPETA) and on Article 46 paragraph 2 VPETA in connection with Article 41 of the Ordinance of 19 November 2003² on Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPETO),
ordains:*

Section 1 Study Programmes

Art. 1 Training objectives

¹ Study programmes at professional education institutions provide students with competences that enable them to independently carry out challenging technical and/or managerial tasks in their field.

² Study programmes place emphasis on practical training and encourage in particular the development of methodological and integrated thinking, analytical skills in relation to task formulation and the ability to apply acquired competences in real working situations.

³ Study programmes broaden and deepen general education competences.

Art. 2 Basic principles

¹ Study programmes relate to core syllabuses within the meaning of Section 3.

² Generally speaking, they build from the competences acquired by holders of a Federal VET Diploma.

AS 2017 5261

¹ SR 412.10

² SR 412.101

Art. 3 Forms of study and scope

¹ Study programmes may be attended on a full-time basis or on a part-time basis in parallel with one's professional activity.

² The following minimum number of learning hours shall apply to the following study programmes within the meaning of Article 42 paragraph 1 VPETO (learning hours):

- a. for study programmes building on competences acquired by holders of a Federal VET Diploma in the same field of study: 3600 learning hours; of which at least 2880 learning hours outside of practical training modules;
- b. for study programmes building on competences acquired by holders of a different upper-secondary level qualification: 5400 learning hours; of which at least 3600 learning hours learning hours outside of practical training modules.

³ Practical training modules comprise traineeships or professional activity carried out in parallel to one's studies. The latter is only valid if the professional activity in question relates to the field of study and the minimum workweek corresponds to at least 50 per cent of a standard full-time workweek.

Art. 4 Languages of instruction

Languages of instruction are a national language of Switzerland and English.

Art. 5 Final qualification procedure

¹ The final qualification procedure is comprised of at least the following:

- a. a final essay or project relating to professional practice; and
- b. oral or written examinations.

² Additional requirements relating to the final qualification procedure are established in core syllabuses.

³ The final qualification procedure will be carried out by examiners with professional experience in the given field. Examiners may be appointed by professional organisations.

Art. 6 Professional qualification and title

The professional qualification shall mention the study programme and the corresponding title [Name of profession] followed by the suffix «PEI» as shown in Annex 1.

Section 2 Continuing Education and Training Courses (CET)

Art. 7

¹ CET courses place emphasis on practical training. They enable participants to deepen existing knowledge in a specialised field, to acquire new knowledge to be applied in a new field of activity or to learn how to use new technologies and methods.

² The minimum requirement for admission to a CET course is a tertiary-level qualification.

³ CET courses last at least 900 learning hours.

⁴ They may be based on core syllabuses.

⁵ The qualification shall mention the title of the CET course and the corresponding title of the qualification followed by the abbreviation «CET PEI».

⁶ The CET courses based on a core syllabus are listed together with the corresponding protected titles in Annex 2.

Section 3 Core Syllabuses

Art. 8 Issuance and approval

¹ Professional organisations work with education and training providers to develop and issue core syllabuses. Together, they act as sponsors.

² The State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) approves core syllabuses.³

³ Once approved, the core syllabuses are listed together with the date of approval in Annexes 1 and 2.

⁴ SERI shall update the Annexes with each subsequent decision to approve core syllabuses.

Art. 9 Renewal of approval

Approval of core syllabus shall be revoked if sponsors fail to apply to SERI for renewal of approval within a period of seven years.

³ Amended by No I of the EAER O of 26 Nov. 2019, in force since 1 Jan. 2020 (AS 2019 4753).

Art. 10 Content

¹ Core syllabuses establish:

- a. the title of the study programme or CET course as well as the title of the protected qualification and English equivalent;
- b. the professional profile and competences to be acquired;
- c. the types of courses, together with learning hours and distribution of study time;
- d. coordination of classroom instruction and practical training modules;
- e. the content and requirements of the qualification procedure;
- f. the competences to be acquired from the practical training modules;
- g. the general education competences to be acquired, specifically in the areas of society, environment and economics.

² Core syllabuses establish the admission requirements for study programmes:

- a. what upper-secondary level vocational or general education qualifications serve as prerequisites;
- b. whether in addition to an upper-secondary level vocational or general education qualification, work experience or an aptitude test are required.

³ Core syllabuses may include criteria for the recognition of non-formal and informal learning.

⁴ Core syllabuses shall take into account internationally recognised standards of what constitutes professional activity.

Art. 11 Prerequisites for approval

SERI shall approve a core syllabus if the following requirements are met:

- a. The guidelines of the corresponding Ordinance are adhered to.
- b. There is a demonstrated need.
- c. There are no education policy conflicts.
- d. The core syllabus is supported throughout Switzerland.
- e. The content of the core syllabus takes into account the competences needed for the given professional activity.
- f. The intended title of the qualification is clear, not misleading and cannot be confused with the title of any other qualification.
- g. The sponsors have consulted the cantons and other relevant parties and have included the results of consultations in the application.

Section 4 Education and training providers

Art. 12 Management and facilities, teaching materials and aids

¹ The heads of study programmes and CET courses must have the required technical and managerial competences.

² Facilities, teaching materials and aids must match the requirements for high-quality instruction both in terms of technical content and training pedagogy.

Art. 13 Teaching staff

¹ Teaching staff possess:

- a. a higher education qualification, a professional qualification or equivalent qualification in the field of expertise that they will teach; and
- b. training in vocational pedagogy and didactics:
 1. 1800 learning hours for full-time teaching,
 2. 300 learning hours for part-time teaching.

² If no qualification under paragraph 1 letter a exists for a specific field, then the education and training provider may hire teaching staff who possess corresponding knowledge and experience.

³ Part-time teaching is understood within the meaning of Article 47 paragraphs 1 and 2 VPETO.

⁴ Anyone who teaches for an average of four hours per week shall not be subject to the provisions laid down in paragraph 1 letter b.

⁵ SERI shall issue core syllabuses for the training of teaching staff. This shall be done in keeping with Articles 48 and 49 paragraph 1 VPETO.

Art. 14 Syllabus, rules applying to studies and final qualification procedure

¹ Using the provisions contained in this Ordinance and the corresponding core syllabus as a frame of reference, education and training providers shall establish a training plan, decide on the final qualification procedure in detail and issue a studies regulation.

² The studies regulation shall cover in particular admission procedures, the structure of the study programme, advancement to subsequent levels of training and legal recourse.

Art. 15 Traineeships and relevant professional activity

¹ In study programmes that include traineeships, education and training providers shall be responsible for selecting the host companies where these traineeships are to take place.