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# The Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System of Latvia

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## Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System

First definition of non-formal education in legal act was included  
in Education Law in 2001:

“non-formal education - educational activities in conformity with  
interests and demand organised outside of formal education”

In 2008 the government took a decision to ensure that  
professional qualification could be acquired through recognition of  
non-formal learning.

In 2010 the procedure for validation of non-formal and informal  
learning was established.



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# Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System

Since 2011 State Education Quality Service coordinates validation of the professional competence acquired outside formal education

Validation of professional competence is carried out by institutions that have received delegation from State Education Quality Service

Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No 146 "Procedure for the Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System" was adopted in 2011.



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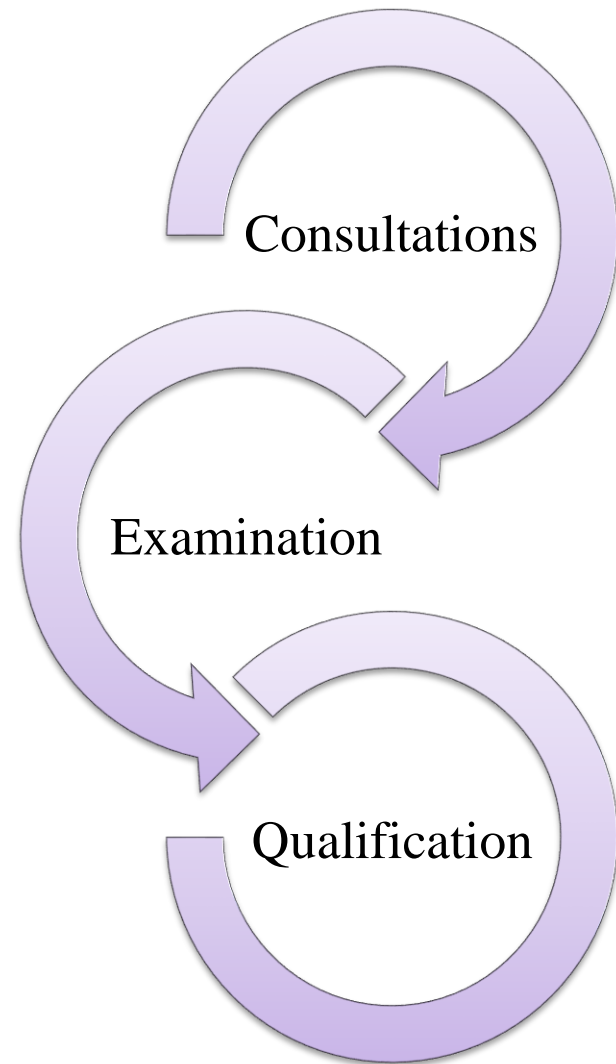
# The requirements

Validation of professional competences acquired outside formal education can be performed by **accredited education institutions.**

Vocational examination can be taken by a person who has **reached the age of 18, no prior education is required.**

Two consultations are provided for free.

Examination is for a **fee.**





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# The procedure

The professional qualification examination consists of **theoretical and practical part.**

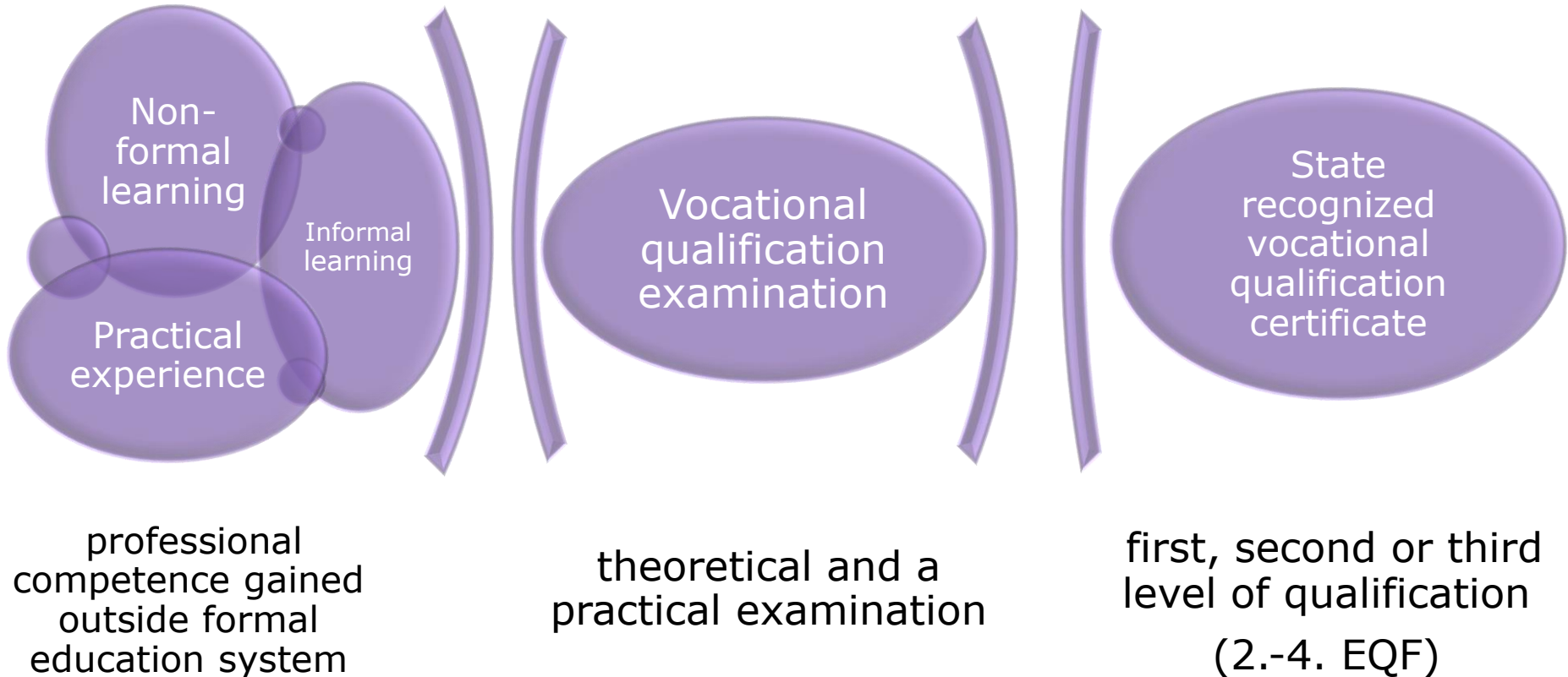
The professional competence gained outside formal education system is assessed according to the **first, second or third level of qualification** (2.-4. EQF) competence required during the professional qualification examination.

After a candidate has successfully passed the professional qualification examination, he/she receives a document certifying the State recognized vocational qualification – a certificate of vocational qualification.



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# The process





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# Information & consultations

## State Education Quality Service:

- ❖ consultations for candidates
- ❖ consultations for educational institutions.

## Examination institutions:

- ❖ two consultations regarding the requirements set in the occupational standard and the procedure of professional qualification exam
- ❖ arrangement of vocational qualification examination
- ❖ provide information about candidates to State Education Quality Service

## Sectorial Expert Councils:

- ❖ consultations to the candidates and educational institutions
- ❖ participation in vocational qualification examination



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# Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System

Currently more than 200 delegation agreements  
**with 46 vocational education institutions**  
are in force.

Applicants have the opportunity to validate their  
professional competence in **more than 170**  
**professional qualifications.**

Since 2011 **5462 people** have obtained  
professional qualification certificate through  
validation of their vocational competences  
acquired outside formal education.





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# Validation of the Professional Competence Acquired outside Formal Education System

The first applicant, who obtained a professional qualification certificate through assessment of the professional competence gained outside formal education system in Latvia, took the examination at Daugavpils Trade School in 2011

Number of persons who have validated of the professional competence acquired outside formal education system in last few years:

1157 persons in 2017

1453 persons in 2016

940 persons in 2015

643 persons in 2014

## **‘TOP – 5’ qualifications acquired in non-formal validation**

Qualification	Level of National Qualification Framework	Count of certificate of vocational qualification
Welder (4 different qualifications)	2	605
Firefighter rescuer	3	581
Social Worker	2	510
House Manager	3	415
State Police junior inspector	2	188



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# Thank you!

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