

# Professional (Technical and Vocational) Education

Vocational education is a system of training qualified workers. Vocational education is a component of the educational system of Ukraine. It is a complex of teaching and organizational arrangements aimed at helping people to acquire knowledge, abilities, and skills in their chosen vocational areas.

Vocational education is acquired in vocational educational institutions under a day-time, evening (shift-based), intra-extra mural, distance learning, and external study arrangement, on the job and off the job, and under individual curricula. The pre-requisite for vocational education is a basic or complete secondary education.

## Types of vocational educational institutions:

- vocational educational institution of a specific specialization profile;
- vocational school of social rehabilitation;
- higher vocational school;
- vocational lyceum;
- vocational lyceum of a specific specialization profile;
- vocational school of arts;
- vocational and technical school of arts;
- higher vocational and technical school of arts;
- school-agro-industrial firm;
- higher school-agro-industrial firm;
- school-factory;
- vocational and technical education center;
- vocational education center;
- production training center;
- training and re-training center for workers;
- vocational training facility;
- training center and others.

The academic year in vocational educational institutions may not exceed 40 academic weeks. During the term of study, students are required to pass current, subject-oriented, intermediate, and exit knowledge quality control. The exit knowledge quality control takes place at the end of the study cycle and envisages qualification examinations that include:

- trial qualification work meeting specific vocational qualification requirements for graduates of a vocational educational institution of the appropriate accreditation level; and
- the need to defend a graduation work or project, or an equivalent creative work.

Vocational education has different stages. Such stages are reflected in respective qualification levels, specialization complexity levels, and educational levels. Each stage of study in a vocational educational institution has its theoretical and practical completion and confirmed by awarding the graduates (students) the qualification degrees of Qualified Worker and Junior Specialist in accordance with their acquired professional knowledge, abilities, and skills.

A graduate of a vocational educational institution who successfully passes the qualification examinations is awarded the qualification degree of *Qualified Worker* of the appropriate category in the selected specialization field.

A graduate who completed a course of study in an accredited higher vocational school or vocational center of a specific accreditation level may be awarded the qualification degree of *Junior Specialist*.