

## Access to education, training and qualification

### What to do to integrate a qualification path?

Any adult (regardless of his or her birthplace), who is over 18 years of age, and who does not yet have a upper secondary level of education, may apply to a Qualifica Centre.

### Where is information about Qualifica Centres' location available?

The Qualifica Centres' network is available for consultation at <https://www.qualifica.gov.pt/#/pesquisaCentros>

### How do Qualifica Centres work?

In the Centres there is a team of specialized professionals who will carry out a process of information, guidance and referral to an education and / or training pathway, adapted to the profile and needs of each adult. This pathway may involve a process of recognition, validation and certification of skills (RVCC) or training (adult education and training courses — school and/or professional or modular training — training actions enduring from 25h/50h to 300 h).

### What is the RVCC Process?

The RVCC process aims at recognizing the skills that every adult (aged 24 or over) has acquired throughout his or her life, in several contexts (scholar, professional, social, familiar, etc.), in relation to a standard of key-skills. To be awarded with a basic level certification (B1, B2 or B3) the adult should have acquired a diversified set of skills, gathered in 16 skill units (4 for each key skill domain: Citizenship and Employability; Mathematics for Life; ICT and Language and Communication — cf. Key-skill Standard Basic Level). To be awarded with an upper secondary level certification the adult should have acquired 44 of 88 competences. These competences are associated to 22 competence units (4 key competences each) and are distributed among 3 key competence areas: Citizenship and Professionality; Society, Technology and Science; Culture, Language, Communication – cf. Key-Skill Standard for Adult Education and Training – Secondary Level. Thus, the RVCC process makes it possible to certify school competences of

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grades 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, as well as, professional competences awarding level 2 or 4 of the National Qualifications Framework. For the latter, it is necessary that the adult has already obtained a certification of the 9th or 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### **What are the Education and Training Courses (EFA Courses)?**

Adult education and training courses (EFA courses) promote the acquisition of skills, aiming at awarding school certification of 4th, 6th, 9th or 12<sup>th</sup> grades and/or level 2 or 4 of the National Qualifications Framework. For the latter, it is necessary that the adult has already obtained a certification of the 9th or 12th grade.

#### **What is Modular Training?**

Modular training allows adults to attend a qualification pathway in a flexible way. It awards a partial certification that can be capitalized in order to obtain a school and/or a professional certification.

#### **Is it possible to attend an adults' qualification pathway in a foreign language?**

The Integration of adults in any of the education and/or training modalities presumes proficiency in Portuguese language, since all courses are conducted exclusively in Portuguese.

#### **The Qualifica Centres also provide referral for adults who need to learn Portuguese?**

Yes, the Qualifica Centres, while in the information, guidance and referral phase, carry out, if necessary, the referral to training actions destined to *Portuguese for speakers of other languages*".

#### **What is "Portuguese for Speakers of Other Languages" (PFOL)?**

Os cursos de Português para Falantes de Outras Línguas (PFOL) têm como objetivo dar resposta ao requisito de conhecimento da língua portuguesa previsto nos regimes jurídicos

para aquisição de nacionalidade portuguesa, concessão de autorização de residência permanente e estatuto de residência de longa duração, bem como à promoção do domínio da Língua Portuguesa, no âmbito da leitura, escrita e oralidade. O Português para falantes de outras línguas (Português para Todos) estrutura-se em 4 unidades de formação de curta duração de 50 horas cada, com dois níveis distintos: A (nível inicial) e B (continuação) e são promovidos pelos estabelecimentos de ensino da rede pública e pelos centros de emprego e formação do Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional (IEFP).

The *Portuguese for Speakers of Other Languages* (PFOL) courses aim to meet the requirement of the Portuguese language knowledge established in the legal regimes for the purposes of acquisition of Portuguese nationality, granting of permanent residence permit and long-term residency status. They also aim to promote Portuguese Language proficiency, within the scope of reading, writing and speaking. *Portuguese for Speakers of Other Languages (Portuguese for All)* is structured into 4 short-term training units of 50 hours each, with two distinct levels: A (initial) and B (continuation). They are promoted by the network of state schools and the centres for employment and training within the Institute for Employment and Vocational Training, I.P. (IEFP, I.P.).

#### **What are the documents needed for the integration in a qualifying pathway?**

It is necessary to submit:

- legal identification document allowing permanence in national territory or proof that the procedure to obtain, renew or extend this permanence has been initiated;
- A school and/or a professional qualifications certificate (in order to obtain equivalence of an education and training pathway carried out in the country of provenance, adults must provide proof of this schooling/training certificate to a Portuguese state school. Only once this equivalence has been obtained, it is possible to integrate the Portuguese education and training system).

#### **Access to education, training and vocational training for the children of EU workers (point (i))**

**Where should young people go in order to integrate a qualification pathway?**

Young people (up to 18 years old) should go to a school of the state school system to obtain school equivalence and to be later integrated into the Portuguese education and training system.

For further information: <http://www.dge.mec.pt/agenda-europeia-para-migracoes>

Link: <http://www.anqep.gov.pt/default.aspx>