



Resolution published in: *Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No 56-2761, 2010
Unofficial text of the Resolution

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

RESOLUTION

**APPROVING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE LITHUANIAN QUALIFICATIONS
FRAMEWORK**

No 535, 4 May 2010

Vilnius

Pursuant to Article 10(2) of the Law on Vocational Education and Training of the Republic of Lithuania (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) 1997, No 98-2478; 2007, No 43-1627; 2009, No 93-3973; 2010, No 67-3338), Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (2008/C111/01) and with regard to Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment (OJ 2009 L 155, p. 17), the Government of the Republic of Lithuania has resolved:

Amendments to the preamble:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (30 08 2011)

to approve the Description of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework (as appended).

Prime Minister

Andrius Kubilius

Minister of Education and Science

Gintaras Steponavičius

APPROVED BY
Government of the Republic of
Lithuania
Resolution No 535 of 4 May 2010

DESCRIPTION OF THE LITHUANIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Description of the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework (hereinafter referred to as 'this Description') sets out the system of the levels of qualifications established in the Republic of Lithuania on the basis of competencies required for personal activities. According to the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework laid down in this Description, the qualifications established in the Republic of Lithuania shall be categorised, assessed and compared by linking the Lithuanian qualifications system, which covers the Lithuanian Qualifications Framework, qualification planning, implementation, recognition and management, with the qualification systems of other Member States of the European Union. The Lithuanian Qualifications Framework is in conformance with the Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of the European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (2008/C111/01) and the 8 levels of the qualifications framework established therein. The qualifications defined in this Description shall be ascribed to the qualification levels established in this Description, which specify the functional, cognitive and general competencies necessary for the performance of activities of similar complexity, autonomy and variability.

2. This Description was drafted with the aim to:

2.1. to categorise the qualifications established in the Republic of Lithuania, indicating separately the qualifications for work and/or for study;

2.2. to establish the conditions for adapting qualifications to the needs of the national economy and to coordinate the national economic, social and employment policies;

2.3. to ensure the clarity and accessibility of the processes of definition, acquisition, evaluation and recognition of qualifications;

2.4. to inform persons on the content, acquisition, development and/or change of qualifications necessary for various professional activities;

2.5. to enable the facilitation of workforce mobility on the national and international scale;

2.6. to encourage lifelong learning through the application of all the forms and methods of formal, non-formal and informal learning with the purpose of moving between different levels of qualification.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)

3. Definitions for the purposes of this Procedure:

High professional qualification shall mean a qualification attested by evidence of the qualification of higher education or, by derogation from this provision where so permitted by the Lithuanian legislation, a minimum professional experience of five years which is equivalent to the qualification of higher education and is necessary for the profession or sector specified in the employment contract or binding job offer.

The other terms used in this Description are defined in the Law on Vocational Education and Training of the Republic of Lithuania (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) 1997, No 98-2478; 2007, No 43-1627), the Law on Education of the Republic of Lithuania (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) 1991, No 23-593; 2011, No 38-1804), and the Law on Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) 2009, No 54-2140) as well as other legislative acts.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)

II. LEVELS OF QUALIFICATIONS

4. The Lithuanian Qualifications Framework shall consist of 8 levels of qualifications.

5. The levels of qualifications are arranged hierarchically, with regard to the underlying competence of the qualifications, the ways of acquiring the qualifications as well as the criteria defining the levels of qualifications:

5.1. complexity of activities shall be a qualification criterion used to describe the character of activities, the variety of tasks and the degree of responsibility;

5.2. autonomy of activities shall be a qualification criterion used to describe changes in the activity organisation and nature of subordination;

5.3. variability of activities shall be a qualification criterion used to describe activities in terms of changing technological and organisational environment.

6. Each level of qualifications includes the qualifications intended for the performance of activities of similar complexity, autonomy and variability.

7. (Repealed)

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)

8. Qualifications of levels I-IV shall be acquired by completing vocational education and training and/or general education programmes or by independent study or by gaining professional experience;

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette) 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)

9. Level V qualifications shall be acquired by completing training programmes intended for persons with a professional qualification as well as fixed-duration professional experience, higher education programmes not leading to a degree (except residency) and/or through professional experience and independent study.

10. Level VI qualifications shall be acquired by completing cycle one of university or college studies and, in the cases and according to the procedure specified in the legislation – by completing study or requalification programmes not leading to a degree and/or through professional experience and independent study.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

11. Level VII qualifications shall be acquired by completing cycle two of university studies or integrated study programmes, in the cases and according to the procedure specified in the

legislation – by completing study or requalification programmes not leading to a degree and/or through professional experience and independent study.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

12. Level VIII qualifications shall be acquired by completing doctoral studies and/or, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation, through professional experience and independent study.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

12¹. Qualifications of levels VI-VIII shall be treated as the high professional qualification.

Paragraph added:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

13. In accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation, qualification sub-levels linked to professional experience may be introduced in each of the qualification levels for the purposes of promoting professional development of employees.

14. The Lithuanian Qualifications Framework does not prevent persons whose professional qualification has been recognised pursuant to the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Recognition of Regulated Professional Qualifications (*Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette) 2008, No 47-1747*) from accessing the labour market in the manner prescribed by the legislation.

Amendments to the paragraph:

No 657, 08 06 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

15. The levels of Lithuanian qualifications are described in the Annex.

III. APPLICATION

16. The provisions of this Description shall apply to:

16.1. the management of the Register of Studies, Training Programmes and Qualifications, other national and institutional registers as well as information systems;

16.2. the development and approval of professional standards and vocational training standards;

16.3. the development and implementation of formal vocational education and training or higher education programmes;

16.4. the evaluation of the abilities acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning;

16.5. the provision of information and consulting on the issues of the Lithuanian system of qualifications;

16.6. the evaluation and recognition of qualifications acquired in the country and abroad;

16.7. the attribution to the respective qualification levels of qualifications acquired before the approval of this Description and during the period preceding the reorganisation of the vocational education and training and higher education programmes pursuant to the Framework;

16.8. the issue of qualification certificates to persons.

New version of the Annex:*No 986, 24 08 2011, Valstybės žinios (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)*

Annex to the Description of the Lithuanian
Qualifications Framework
(as amended by Resolution No 986 of the
Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 24
August 2011)

LIST OF LITHUANIAN QUALIFICATION LEVELS

Level of Lithuanian qualifications	Description of the qualification level
I	<p>The qualification is intended for activities consisting of one or several simple specialised actions or operations. The activities require the ability to apply basic knowledge characteristic of the activities performed.</p> <p>The environment of the activities is clear, the activities are performed in line with detailed instructions, some cases require intense supervision, guidance and assistance.</p> <p>The situations, actions and operations constituting the activities are regular and constantly repetitive.</p>
II	<p>The qualification covers the activities consisting of actions and operations intended to solve simple problems. The activities performed require the application of the main factual knowledge characteristic of the activities.</p> <p>The activities performed require supervision, guidance and assistance.</p> <p>The activities and operations constituting the activities are regular.</p>
III	<p>The qualification is intended for activities consisting of actions and operations in narrow areas of activities. The activities may include several or more specialised activity tasks that require the application of well-known and tested solutions. Performance of the activities involves the ability to apply the knowledge characteristic of the activities performed pertaining to the facts, principles and processes of the activity area.</p> <p>The activities are carried out autonomously, under the guidance of an employee of a higher qualification and subject to external performance quality control.</p> <p>The activity environment may require the ability to adapt to simple context changes.</p>
IV	<p>The qualification is intended for activities consisting of actions and operations in relatively broad areas of activity. The activities are performed by carrying out</p>

Level of Lithuanian qualifications	Description of the qualification level
	<p>several or more specialised activity tasks, solutions to which are not always tested or known. Performance of the activities involves the ability to apply factual and theoretical knowledge characteristic of a broad context related to the activity areas.</p> <p>The activities are performed autonomously, assuming the responsibility for the quality of the procedures and outcomes of performance. With the acquisition of experience, the qualification allows the transfer of practical skills to the staff of lower qualifications as well as supervision of their activities.</p> <p>The activity environment requires the ability to adapt to the developments predetermined by the context change, which is normally foreseeable.</p>
V	<p>The qualification is intended for activities distinguished by integrated coordination of activity tasks in different activity areas. The activities include the evaluation of the competencies of lower-qualification employees and training thereof. The activities require coordination of comprehensive knowledge of the activity area with general knowledge in dealing with various specialised activity tasks in several different activity areas.</p> <p>The employee performs the activities independently and is supervised only as regards the evaluation of results. The activity tasks are set by an employee of a higher qualification, who frequently grants the employee performing the activities the discretion as to the choice of methods and measures to complete the tasks. The employee supervises the activities of lower-qualification staff, plans and assigns activity tasks, oversees the performance of the activities, provides consulting and verifies the performance quality.</p> <p>The technological and organisational requirements of the activities as well as their environment are constantly changing, the changes are often unforeseeable and may be related to new areas of activity.</p>
VI	<p>The qualification is intended for complex activities distinguished by a variety of tasks and their content. Different means and methods are employed when dealing with problems in various areas of professional activities. Therefore, the performance of activities requires the application of broad theoretical knowledge based on the results of new fundamental and applied research or necessary for the introduction of various innovations.</p> <p>Activities are performed independently, selecting the methods for task completion and organising the work of the respective staff for the completion of the set tasks. Thus, the qualifications in this level include the ability to plan activities with respect to the set tasks, to analyse and record the activity results and to submit reports to activity coordinators, to modify activities based on the activity result analysis and specialist recommendations, and to carry out different project activities.</p> <p>The activity environment requires the ability to adapt to constant and normally unpredictable changes predetermined by the progress of knowledge and technologies in a specific professional sphere. The qualification allows the</p>

Level of Lithuanian qualifications	Description of the qualification level
	enhancement and extension of professional knowledge and, following the self-assessment of the activities, enables independent learning (development of cognitive competencies) as required by the changing professional activities.
VII	<p>The qualification is intended for complex activities consisting of various interconnected tasks that may cover several related professional activities. Therefore, the performance of activities requires expert evaluation and application of the latest knowledge of the professional activities and similar or related areas, discovery of new facts in conducting applied research into the professional activities, and <i>creative application of theoretical knowledge and research results</i>.</p> <p>The activities are performed by means of independent setting of the tasks in the respective activity area and taking independent decisions aimed at activity enhancement and improvement. A peculiar characteristic of the activities is the supervision of other employees' activities. Thus, the qualifications of this level cover the abilities to independently carry out applied research, provide consulting <i>in the activity area, coordinate projects aimed at the improvement of the qualifications of others as well as introduction of innovations, and to analyse and present the activity results</i>.</p> <p>Due to the advancement of the knowledge, technology and labour organisation in various activity areas, the activities of this level and their environment undergo intense changes, the developments are difficult to predict, and the activities consist of <i>constantly changing combinations of tasks. Thus, the activity changes require the ability to adopt innovative solutions based on research results as well as the evaluation of alternative solutions and possible social and ethical consequences of the activities</i>.</p>
VIII	<p>The qualification is intended for activities of exceptional complexity, distinguished by the development of new knowledge, ideas, technologies, as well as work practices, methods and processes. Consequently, the activity demands the discovery of new knowledge in the activity areas on the basis of fundamental and applied research findings, integrating knowledge in different activity areas. The activities are characterised by <i>strategic activity objectives that may cover several different activity areas or research subjects</i>.</p> <p>The activities are strategically planned by assuming the responsibility for the results and quality of other employees' activities and independent strategically important decision-making. The training and consulting of the specialists in the respective activity area is another characteristic. Thus, it is necessary to have the ability to <i>adopt strategic decisions of public significance, to independently plan and conduct fundamental and/or applied research, to transfer the latest knowledge (to share know-how) to specialists in the respective area and to coordinate scientific and applied research projects</i>.</p> <p>Intense and unpredictable changes in the activities and their environment require readiness for constant developments, openness to innovation, a positive</p>

Level of Lithuanian qualifications	Description of the qualification level
	attitude towards the development of the organisation and society, the ability to address issues originally in the light of their context, and the ability to initiate and make changes in various areas of activity and public life.

Amendments:

1.

Government of the Republic of Lithuania, Resolution

No 657, 08 06 2011, *Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette), 2011, No 71-3402 (11 06 2011)

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO 535 OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA OF 4 MAY 2010 APPROVING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE LITHUANIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

2.

Government of the Republic of Lithuania, Resolution

No 986, 24 08 2011, *Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette), 2011, No 107-5057 (08 30 2011)

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO 535 OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA OF 4 MAY 2010 APPROVING THE DESCRIPTION OF THE LITHUANIAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK