

# The Norwegian Master Craftsman

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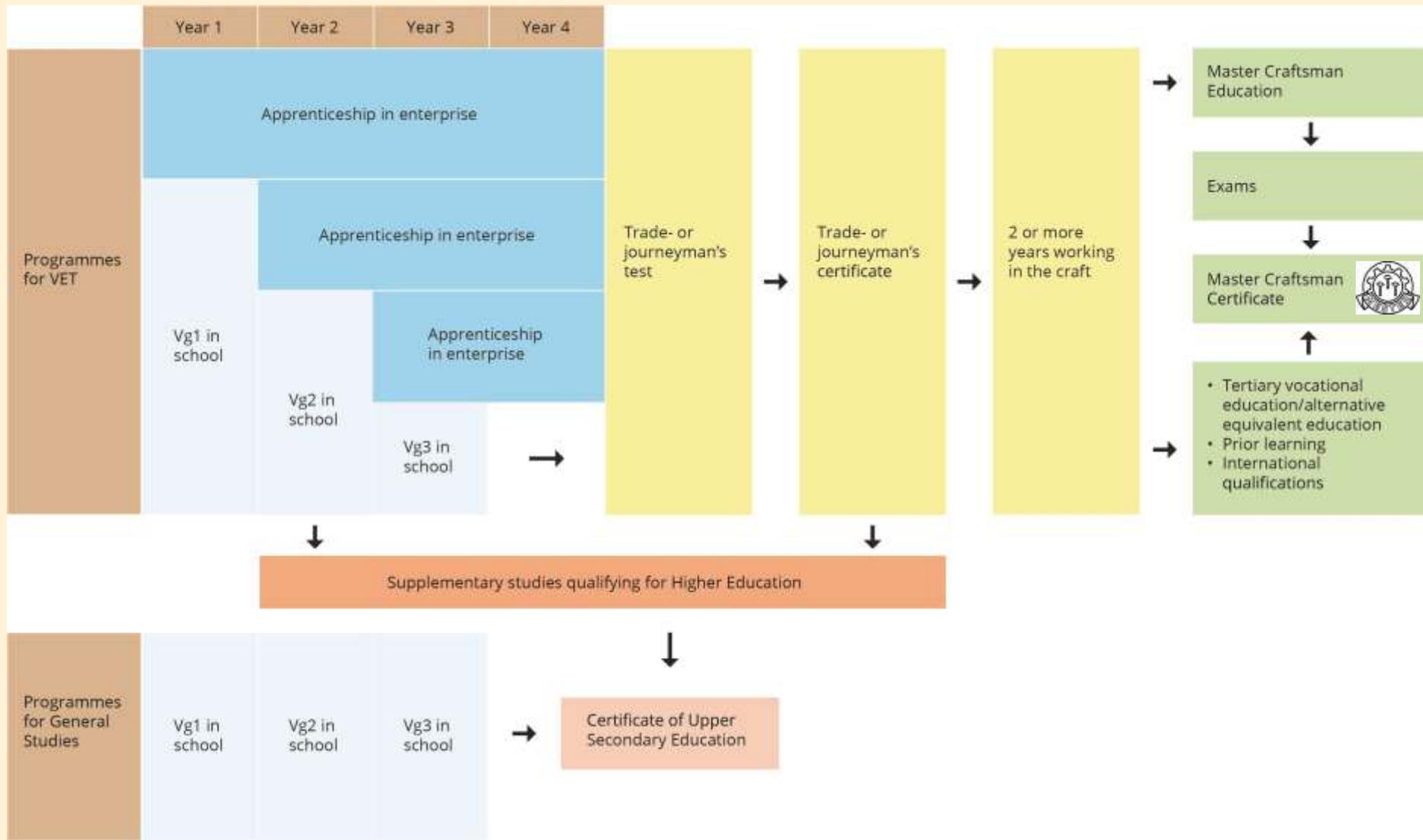
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# About us

- Mesterbrevnemnda, **The Norwegian Master Craftsman Committee (MCC)**, a tripartite collaboration appointed by the **Ministry of Trade and Industry (NFD)**, which manages, develops and quality assures the Master Craftsman qualification. The committee consists of a leader, four members and four deputy members and meets six times a year.
- **The MCC Administration** has a staff of nine and operates the Master Craftsman scheme by the framework and plans set by the Master Craftsman Committee.
- **The Master Craftsman Qualification** is authorised in *the Act relating to Master Craftsman Certificates in Craft and other Industries (Lov om mesterbrev – 1986)*





# Vocational programmes:

- **Building and construction**
- **Design and craftsmanship**
- Electricity and electronics
- Healthcare, childhood and youth development
- **Agriculture, fishing and forestry**
- **Restaurant and food processing**
- Service and transport
- **Technical and industrial production**



# The Master Crafts

70 different crafts belonging to seven different trade groups:

- Car crafts
- Building and construction crafts
- Aesthetic crafts
- Graphic crafts
- Restaurant and food crafts
- Furniture and woodwork crafts
- Workshop handicrafts



# The Master Craftsman Qualification

- The Master Craftsman Qualification is a formal, higher vocational leadership qualification for craftsmen who want to further develop in their own craft. The qualification consists of three components:
  - a trade or journeyman's certificate in a master craft
  - a minimum of two years' relevant and versatile practice in the craft
  - a Master Craftsman education or equivalent.
- The Master Craftsman qualification is central when it comes to ensuring a fair and dependable trade industry for workers and consumers alike.



# The Master Craftsman

- A Master Craftsman has a high level of competence both as a professional expert and a leader. The qualification is earned through work combined with a Master Craftsman education or equivalent education, after obtaining a trade or journeyman's certificate in a master craft.
- As a professional expert, the Master Craftsman has competence that ensures professional quality in execution according to current laws, standards and norms. The Master Craftsman ensures innovative solutions in line with good craftsmanship and is responsible for professional development and training of apprentices and journeymen.
- As a leader, the Master Craftsman has the competence to establish and run small and medium-sized businesses based on profitability and sensible use of resources.



# The Master Craftsman Education

- The qualification is managed through public, national curricula for each individual master craft. The plans are approved by the MCC. The curricula are designed with learning outcome descriptions prepared in close collaboration with the crafts' guild organisations.
- The Master Craftsman education consists of three subject areas: Corporate Management, Professional Management and Professional Specialization. The education programme has a duration of 1 ½ to 2 years, is flexible and specially adapted for students who are in full-time employment.
- There are four educational providers; Folkeuniversitetet, Blimester.com, Norway's Green Vocational School - VEA and the Norwegian Master Craftsman Academy, which offer education in the master crafts according to the MCC's study plans and have an examination scheme and a voluntary quality assurance system approved by the MCC.



# Other paths to a Master Craftsman Certificate

- Tertiary vocational programmes
- Other educational programmes equivalent to the Master Craftsman education
- Prior learning
- Corresponding International qualifications





# Three Important Areas for Improvement



# 1. Promoting Master Craftsmen and Master Businesses

- Ensuring quality of data in the Master Craftsman Registry
- Exchange of data with other public registries
- Become a better resource for the Master Craftsmen and Master businesses
- Make it easier for consumers to choose reliable craftsmen and businesses



## **2. Recruiting more youths to vocational education**

Research indicates that in 2030 Norway will be short of up to 90 000 skilled workers unless we turn the trend around and ensure greater recruitment to the crafts



### **3. Placing the Master Craftsman Certificate on level 6 in the NQF**

Unlike many other European countries, Norway has not yet placed the Master Craftsman Qualification within its National Qualification Framework.

In a recent Questback, 76% of all Master Craftsmen agree that the most important thing for the MCC right now is working towards equating the Master Craftsman Qualification with academic education on a corresponding level.



# Get in touch

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