



National Commission for
**Further and
Higher Education**
Malta

NCFHE COMMUNICATION
NCFHE/06/2020

Title: The National Occupational Standards

To: All Licensed Providers

From: CEO, NCFHE

Date: 16/06/2020

Dear colleagues,

As you may know, the National Commission for Further and Higher Education is entrusted to implement the validation of non-formal and informal learning regulations as per subsidiary legislation 327.432. The validation of informal and non-formal learning is a process which identifies, assesses and formally certifies the knowledge, skills and competences which individuals develop throughout their lives by means of participation in non-formal and informal meaning. As part of this, there are sector skills units which are boards made up of 7 representatives in the sector including: chairperson, two members representing the education sector, two members representing the economic sector, member representing a government's board or authority and a union representative. The main aim of these sector skills units is to develop **National Occupational Standards**.

The **National Occupational Standards** are a set of job-related standards which highlight the performance expected when carrying out a specific occupation at a specific level. These standards are pegged to the Malta Qualifications Framework and are thus compiled using the Learning Outcomes approach, which is achieved by stipulating knowledge, skills and competences. The National Occupational Standards are for roles up from MQF level 1 up to MQF level 5 in seven different areas:

1. Automotive
2. Building and Construction
3. Education Support (Childcare)
4. Hair and Beauty
5. Health and Social Care
6. Hospitality and Tourism
7. IT
8. Printing and Digital Media

Consequently, it is important that these National Occupational Standards are taken into consideration during the development of new programmes. The programme application (submitted in the areas where there is an existing National Occupational Standard) must reflect the same MQF level and the basic learning outcomes outlined in the performance criteria of the National Occupational Standards.

A list of all the National Occupational Standards published by the NCFHE is available from the following link: https://ncfhe.gov.mt/en/services/Pages/All%20Services/vinfl_nos.aspx

Further information on the validation of non-formal and informal learning can be requested on validation.ncfhe@gov.mt.

Regards,

CEO, NCFHE