



UNDERVISNINGS  
MINISTERIET

Working  
together  
for a smarter  
Denmark

---

# Everybody should have an education

“

*Our goal is to create world-class education programmes, and provide all Danes with an education.*

A well-educated population is essential if Denmark is to be internationally competitive. That is why in the Danish Ministry of Education, we are working to give Danes the best opportunities to educate and qualify themselves. Our goal is to create world class education programmes, and ensure that all Danes receive an education.

A central element of our job is advising the Minister for Education on how to develop a coherent education policy.

We also manage the contents and financing of the policy, while supervising the education programmes and institutions within the ministry's area of responsibility.

In our work, we collaborate closely with managers, teachers, students and trade unions, emphasising the important role their experiences and suggestions have for education policy and its continued development and management.







---

# The responsibilities of the Danish Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education has the overall responsibility for the frameworks, regulations and supervision in the following areas:

## **Municipal primary and lower secondary schools**

Municipal primary and lower secondary schools offer mandatory teaching programmes from the pre-school year through to the ninth form. As a supplement, the pupils may take an optional tenth form. The municipal primary and lower secondary school is one of several types of schools called basic schools that give access to the youth education programmes.

## **Private elementary schools**

The private elementary schools are an alternative to the municipal primary and lower secondary schools and offer teaching programmes from nursery class through to the tenth form. In the private elementary schools, the teaching framework is more liberal. However, the teaching must be comparable to the requirements in the municipal schools.

## **Upper secondary education programmes**

An upper secondary education is a youth education that qualifies students for admission to higher education programmes.

There are four upper secondary education programmes: Upper Secondary School Leaving Examination (stx), Higher Commercial Examination Programme (hhx), Higher Technical Examination Programme (htx) and Higher Preparatory Examination Programme (hf).

## **Vocational education and training programmes**

A vocational education and training programme is a vocationally-qualifying, practice-oriented youth education. Therefore, it takes place partly in a practical training company, partly in a school. Starting August 2010, there will also be an opportunity to take an examination at the upper secondary level (eux) in connection with a vocational education and training programme.

A vocational education and training programme may be started immediately after basic school or later, or it may be pursued as a basic adult education (GVU). However, this presupposes that the student is over 25 years of age, has at least two years of work experience, and has school knowledge at least at a ninth form level.

---

### **Other vocationally oriented youth education programmes**

Within the vocationally oriented education area, there are four additional youth educations: the basic vocational education and training (egu), the production school programme, the engine driver programme, and the chiropodist training programme.

### **Academy profession programmes and professional bachelor education programmes**

Academy profession programmes are higher educations oriented towards specific professions or job functions. Professional bachelor programmes are professionally oriented, qualifying higher education programmes. Practical work experience is mandatory as a part of all the education programmes.

Diploma programmes and higher adult education programmes are adult programmes at a higher level. The levels correspond to the professional bachelor and the academy profession programmes respectively.

### **Education and teaching programmes for adults**

Education and teaching programmes for adults are continuing education for the purpose of qualifying the adult population for employment. The education and teaching programmes for adults are: Adult Vocational Training Programmes (AMU), General Adult Education

(AVU), Preparatory Adult Education (FVU), higher preparatory single subject courses (hf), and education for learners with dyslexia.

### **Non-formal adult education**

Non-formal adult education comprises private independent boarding schools and activities covered by The Act on Non-formal Adult Education Activity..

Private independent boarding schools are continuation schools, home economics schools, arts and crafts schools and folk high schools. Continuation schools offer teaching at the eighth, ninth and tenth form levels, and some home economics and arts and crafts schools offer teaching at the tenth form level. The main objectives of the courses given at the private independent boarding schools are the interpretation and meaning of life, adult education and general democratic education.

The Act on Non-formal Adult Education Activity regulates the grants to Non-formal adult education and volunteer associations, Day folk high schools and the University Extramural Department.

---

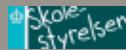
# The structure of the Danish Ministry of Education



## **The Department**

The Department has the overall responsibility for managing the various domains of the Ministry of Education and to ensure the best possible foundation for carrying out the Government's education policy.

*For more information, see [www.uvm.dk](http://www.uvm.dk)*



## **The Danish School Agency**

The Danish School Agency is primarily responsible for strengthening the quality of the primary and lower secondary schools. One means of achieving this is by monitoring the assured quality of the municipal schools, by supervising the private elementary schools, and by managing examinations.

*For more information, see [www.skolestyrelsen.dk](http://www.skolestyrelsen.dk)*



## **The Danish Education Support Agency**

The Agency's prime area of responsibility is the development and management of a series of education grant schemes for students, including the administration and payments of Danish Education Support (SU).

*For more information, see [www.sustyrelsen.dk](http://www.sustyrelsen.dk)*



## **UNI.C**

Uni.C attends to the development and operation of IT services to the education and research community. This agency also carries out a number of tasks in the fields of statistics and analyses.

*For more information, see [www.uni-c.dk](http://www.uni-c.dk)*