

**THE PRIME MINISTER**

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**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

**Independence - Freedom - Happiness**

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No. 436/QĐ-TTg

Hanoi, March 30, 2020

## **DECISION**

**INTRODUCING PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS OF  
VIETNAMESE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR 2020 - 2025 PERIOD**

### **THE PRIME MINISTER**

*Pursuant to the Law on Government Organization dated June 19, 2015;*

*Pursuant to the Law on Higher Education dated June 18, 2012;*

*Pursuant to the Law on amendment to the Law on Higher Education dated November 19, 2018;*

*Pursuant to the Government's Decree No. 99/2019/ND-CP dated December 30, 2019 elaborating and providing guidelines for a number of Articles of the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of the Law on Higher Education;*

*Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1981/QĐ-TTg dated October 18, 2016 approving the structural framework of the national educational system;*

*Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1982/QĐ-TTg dated October 18, 2016 approving the Vietnamese Qualifications Framework;*

*At the request of the Minister of Education and Training.*

### **HEREBY DECIDES:**

**Article 1.** Promulgated together with this Decision is the plan for implementation of higher education qualifications of the Vietnamese Qualifications Framework (VQF) for the 2020 - 2025 period (hereinafter referred to as “the Plan”).

**Article 2.** This Decision takes effect from the date on which it is signed.

**Article 3.** Ministers, heads of ministerial-level agencies, heads of Governmental agencies, chairpersons of People's Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities, higher education institutions and relevant organizations and individuals shall implement this Decision./.

**THE PRIME MINISTER**

## PLAN

### FOR APPLICATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS OF VIETNAMESE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR 2020 - 2025 PERIOD

*(Enclosed with Prime Minister's Decision No. 436/QĐ-TTg dated March 30, 2020)*

Implementing the Prime Minister's Decision No. 1982/QĐ-TTg, the Prime Minister promulgates a plan for implementation of higher education qualifications of the Vietnamese Qualifications Framework (hereinafter referred to as “higher education qualifications”) with the following contents:

#### I. OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS

##### 1. Objectives

Implement higher education qualifications to provide the basis for formulation and approval of standards for higher education programs, which shall facilitate renovation of training activities and assurance of quality of higher education in Vietnam; establish the connection with national qualifications frameworks of other countries in the region and around the world; provide mechanisms for transition between education levels; and promote a learning society and lifelong learning.

##### 2. Requirements

- a) Specify the tasks of Ministries, Ministerial-level agencies, Governmental agencies and People’s Committees of provinces and central-affiliated cities (hereinafter referred to as “ministries and local governments”) for them to direct and organize implementation of higher education qualifications in a consistent and effective manner, ensuring compliance with regulations of the Law on Higher Education and Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education.
- b) Clarify responsibilities of relevant associations, enterprises, higher education institutions and supervisory authorities for implementation of higher education qualifications.
- c) Establish a legal framework to provide consistent guidelines on implementation of higher education qualifications for higher education institutions, ensuring standardization, modernity, practicality, inheritance, connection and diversity in establishment of standards on knowledge acquired from training programs, promotion of international integration and recognition of degrees between countries.

#### II. MAIN TASKS AND SOLUTIONS

##### 1. Formulation and promulgation of documents for implementation of higher education qualifications

- a) Ministry of Education and Training shall formulate and promulgate regulations on standards for higher education programs in accordance with the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education before the end of the third quarter of 2020.
- b) Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with relevant associations, enterprises, ministries and local governments in formulating and promulgating guidelines for advisory councils for academic disciplines to develop standards for training programs of each academic discipline before the end of the fourth quarter of 2020.

c) Ministry of Education and Training shall formulate and promulgate instructional documents for higher education institutions to review and modify the structures and contents of their training programs and methods for implementation thereof in accordance with the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education and employers' requirements before the end of the fourth quarter of 2020.

d) Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with relevant ministries in studying, reviewing and amending or promulgating regulations on quality assurance and accreditation suitable to training program standards according to the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education and VQF before the end of the fourth quarter of 2021.

## 2. Formulation and promulgation of standards for higher education programs

a) Ministries shall establish advisory councils for academic disciplines, which consist of top experts of higher education institutions and/or research institutes, higher education managers and representatives of businesses and human resources management bodies, before the end of the fourth quarter of 2020 to develop and propose standards for higher education programs to the Ministry of Education and Training for appraisal and promulgation before the end of the fourth quarter of 2022. To be specific:

- Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with relevant associations, enterprises, local governments and ministries in establishing advisory councils for education sciences and pedagogy; business and management; law; life science; natural science; mathematics and statistics; computer and information technology; engineering technology; engineering; manufacturing and processing; architecture and construction; agro-forestry-fishery; veterinary medicine; social and behavioral sciences; journalism and communications; transport services; and environment and environmental protection;

- Ministry of Health shall take charge and cooperate with relevant associations, enterprises, ministries and local governments in establishing an advisory council for healthcare studies;

- Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism shall take charge and cooperate with relevant associations, enterprises, ministries and local governments in establishing advisory councils for studies of the arts, tourism, hospitality management, sports, personal services and social services;

- Ministry of Public Security shall take charge and cooperate with other ministries and local governments in establishing an advisory council for security studies;

- Ministry of National Defense shall take charge and cooperate with other ministries and local governments in establishing an advisory council for national defense studies.

b) Ministry of Education and Training shall establish councils for appraisal and promulgation of standards for training programs of each academic discipline before the end of the third quarter of 2023.

## 3. Review, update and development of higher education programs for implementation of VQF

a) Ministry of Education and Training shall provide directions and guidelines on training in implementation of higher education qualification for managers and lecturers of higher education institutions before the end of the fourth quarter of 2021.

b) Higher education institutions shall review and modify the structures and contents of their training programs and methods for implementation thereof, draw up syllabi, compile textbooks and begin to provide training based on the updated training programs in accordance with the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education and employers' requirements before the end of the fourth quarter of 2024.

c) Higher education institutions shall enhance the capacity of lecturers and officials in charge of training program development, ensure training quality and carry out accreditation according to regulations of the Law on Amendment to certain Articles of Law on Higher Education before the end of the first quarter of 2025.

#### 4. Preparation of ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) Referencing Report for higher education qualifications

a) Ministry of Education and Training shall establish an advisory council for preparation of an AQRF Referencing Report for VQF higher education qualifications before the end of the third quarter of 2020.

b) Before the end of the second quarter of 2025, the advisory council shall prepare and submit an AQRF Referencing Report for VQF higher education qualifications to the Ministry of Education and Training, which shall approve this report and cooperate with the Ministry of Labor - War Invalids and Social Affairs in sending it to the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework Committee.

#### 5. Promotion of communications regarding implementation of higher education qualifications

a) Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with relevant ministries and local governments in formulating and launching plans for communications regarding implementation of higher education qualifications based on their respective competences in state management of higher education and annual operational plans.

b) Higher education institutions shall formulate and launch plans for communications within their establishments regarding implementation of higher education qualifications based on their annual operational plans.

#### 6. Inspection and supervision of implementation of higher education qualifications

Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with relevant ministries and local governments in inspecting and supervising implementation of higher education qualifications in higher education institutions on an annual basis.

### **III. FUNDING**

1. Central government budget shall cover the tasks performed by central government authorities, which shall be incorporated into the annual state budget estimate submitted to the National Assembly for decision.

2. Higher education institutions may use legal funding sources according to regulations of laws for the assigned tasks.

3. Other funding sources as per the law.

### **IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

1. In the fourth quarter of 2020, Ministers, heads of Ministerial-level agencies, heads of Governmental agencies, Chairpersons of provincial People's Committees and principals of higher education institutions shall formulate plans for implementation of the tasks assigned in the Plan *intra vires*.

2. Ministers, heads of Ministerial-level agencies, heads of Governmental agencies, Chairpersons of provincial People's Committees and chairpersons of councils of higher education institutions shall direct, inspect and expedite implementation of the Plan and their own implementation plans.

3. Ministry of Education and Training shall take charge and cooperate with ministries and local governments in supervising, expediting and inspecting implementation of the Plan, submit periodical reports on such implementation to the Government and Prime Minister and propose necessary solutions for consistent and effective implementation of the Plan.

4. Professional associations, enterprises and other relevant parties shall participate in implementation of higher education qualifications according to the directions and proposals of in-charge central government authorities and local governments intra vires.

5. Ministry of Finance shall take charge and cooperate with the Ministry of Education and Training in calculating and allocating funding as well as providing guidelines on inspection and supervision of use of funding and on expenditure norms for implementation of higher education qualifications according to existent regulations of laws.

6. During the implementation of the Plan, any amendment considered necessary should be proposed to the Ministry of Education and Training for compilation and reporting to the Government, which shall consider and make the final decision./.

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