



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS

SKILLS TRAINING INFORMATION: SKILLING UGANDAN YOUTH FOR EMPLOYMENT



Department of
Guidance & Counselling

School Leavers should be aware that, due to soaring levels of youth unemployment (even for graduate youth), skills training is the best option available. Vocational Training focuses on non-academic studies, and aims at ensuring that all trainees get jobs. Training involves practical activities.

Those who enroll and graduate in skills training programs are easily employed into small or medium scale businesses, which are available throughout Uganda. The graduates can also set up their own businesses and become employers themselves. Besides getting employment, there are also available paths for further education for graduates of technical and vocational institutions. This can enable them to continue with Advanced Certificate, Ordinary Diploma, Advanced Diploma or Degree and Post Graduate studies.

Skills training is conducted in formal and non-formal skills training institution/setting; or through apprenticeship in various work stations like workshops, garages, building sites, saloons, industries, etc.

For the informal or apprenticeship training, the Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT), which is mandated to regulate skill training in Uganda, has provisions for accreditation of such courses.

DIT has also come up with modular courses or skills categorization in various trades, in various trades, outlining the competency and skills to be achieved for each module.

DIT started issuing the UVQF certificates and transcripts with effect from the year 2009 after the enactment of the BTVE Act 2008 and therefore phased out the issuance of trade test certificates. Employers should take note of the reforms in the BTVE subsector. With a reasonable degree of accuracy, DIT affirms to employers that every certified individual presenting a UVQF labeled Certificate is able to perform occupational tasks to the level of competence indicated on the certificate.

The advantage with apprenticeship programme or informal training is that it has flexible entry requirements, including age. The basic requirement is interest, self-drive and determination to learn a skill or an art. Inadequacies in other areas like numeracy and literacy skills can be addressed through the various Adult Education programmes available, including getting back to formal education pathway.

In Uganda, there are: Twenty five (25) Government-Aided Technical Schools. These admit Primary Seven (7) leavers. The training duration is 3 years for a Junior Technical Certificate. Sixteen (16) Community Polytechnics (CPs). These admit Primary seven leavers for 3 year Trade Technician programs. The graduates are employed in their communities. The training

programs are aimed at giving practical and innovative skills. Also, these polytechnics offer non-formal training programs, which are demanded by the communities, where they are located.

There are 83 Government –Aided Technical Institutions; 8 Nursing and Allied Health Training institutions.

It should be noted also, that, there are over 400 Technical and Vocational Training Private Providers in Uganda, which offer a mix of skills training programs, of different capacities and categories.

Technical and Vocational Training in Uganda is an overlapping three-tier system comprising:

- Craftsman level training offered by technical schools and institutes e.g. Nakawa Vocational Training Institute, Kampala.
 - 2 years full-time for Uganda Craft Certificate (part I)
 - 1-year advanced course for Uganda Advanced Certificate (part II)
- Technical level training offered by technical colleges, and
- Graduate Engineer level training offered by universities

Minimum requirements to applicants: O-level or its equivalent with good passes in English, Math and Sciences.

THE 78 VOCATIONAL OCCUPATIONS LISTED BELOW UNDER THE NEW CURRICULUM ARE CONDENSED UNDER AGRICULTURE, ART AND DESIGN, TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN, NUTRITION AND TECHNOLOGY, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Vocational occupations	3. Physical Education	4. Information Communication and Technology (ICT)	5. Art and Design	6. Agriculture	7. Entrepreneur	8. Nutrition and Technology	9. Entrepreneur	10. Entrepreneur
1. Performing Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musician • Dancer • Dramatist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netballer • Volleyball player • Basketball player • Handball player • Cricketer • Gymnast • Athlete • Swimmer • Table Tennis player • Badminton player • Hockey player • Rugby player 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Application User 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weaver • Knitter • Graphic Designer • Textile Designer • Interior Designer • Functional Decorator • Visual Painter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bead Artist • Sculptor • Potter • Ceramist • Makeup Artist • Tattoo Artist • Cartoonist • Tailor • Hair Dresser • Multimedia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meat processor • Dairy processor • Juice processor • Vegetable processor • Fruit processor • Diet therapist • Food Maker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art of Designer • Auto Electrical • Bncklayer • Caterer • Carpenter and Joiner • Computer Application Skills • Cook • Domestic Electrician • Fitter Machinist • Roadwork Plant Mechanic • Roadwork Plant Operator • Power lines Electrician • Landscape Gardener 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrepreneur • Horticulture Farmer • Bee Keeper • Hairdresser • PV Solar Technician • Fish Farmer • Poultry Farmer • Beautician • Sheet Metal Worker • Mason • Industrial Electrician • Motorcycle Mechanic • Knitter • Leather Designer • Motor Vehicle Mechanic • Painter and Decorator • Plumber • Office Secretary/ Stenographer • Tour Guide • Tailor • Welder • Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Technician • Tractor Mechanic • Customer Care Advisor • Emergency Care 	Provider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PV Maintenance Mechanic • Beat Artist • Electromechanical Technician • Potter • Phone Repairer • Herbalist • Bark Cloth Maker • Laundry and Linen Attendant • Hotel Room Attendant • Hotel Receptionist • Industrial Machine Mechanic • Weaver • Sculptor • Agro-Forester • Meat Processor • Dairy Processor • Cereal Farmer • Solar Pico Electrician • Juice Processor • Water Quality Control Technician • Borehole Maintenance Technician

The learners will undertake training in any of the above occupations from Senior 2 and by the end of Senior 3, candidates shall be registered with DIT to undergo occupational competence based assessment and certification in line with the Uganda Vocational Qualifications Framework (UVQF) before existing at Uganda Certificate of Education Examination (UCE) administered by Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB). By the end of Senior Four learners will have an option of either advancing along occupational line or proceeding at Advanced Level (Senior 5 and 6)

Note: The UVQF Certificate by DIT is recognized in the Uganda Education System and Labour Market.
A number of secondary schools around the country are already onboard in regard to implementing the dual curriculum

FORMAL EDUCATION PATHWAYS IN UGANDA

