

ENHANCEMENT OF CAREER GUIDANCE FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING RECIPIENTS OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

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Abstract. This research evaluates the career guidance services provided by the Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka for vocational training recipients. The research uses a survey methodology to assess satisfaction levels and perceived benefits. The study aims to identify areas for improvement and formulate practical recommendations to improve the quality of career guidance services. Representative sample was selected from instructors and trainees, both current and past. A sample comprises of 83 administrators and 66 trainees replied to a multiple-choice questionnaire. The results were analyzed using Microsoft Excel. The results show that there is a serious need for engaging students early in their VTASL experience, with a preference for support throughout their training journey as well as the urgent need for the career guidance infrastructure enhancement. Respondents also prefer a friendly approach and creating an attractive environment that may foster positive attitude toward career guidance. The findings are valuable for policymakers, educators, and career guidance officers in vocational education, enabling informed decisions about the refinement and development of career guidance services. The research serves as a foundation for further research and advancements in career guidance within vocational education settings.

Keywords: Career guidance, Vocational education, Career guidance officers, Vocational Training Authority