

Regional social contract

Agder

2016- 2020



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FYLKESKOMMUNE



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Introduction

An increased completion rate for students in upper secondary school and training is a national goal, as well as on a regional level. The work force in Agder consists of skilled craftspeople, and is among the counties with the most apprentices per 1000 inhabitants. Yet we must be prepared for the transitions that that lies ahead. It is necessary to maintain and secure recruitment of highly qualified craftspeople. Completing upper secondary training is important for an individual's adaptability and opportunity to make a lasting connection to a competence driven job market. A healthy supply of apprenticeships is a prerequisite for this kind of work.

About half of all youths apply for vocational programmes after lower secondary school. In the transition between in-school training and an apprenticeship there is a challenge that too few applicants receive offers to enter into an apprenticeship. A prerequisite in order to secure the supply of future craftsmen is a better completion rate in upper secondary training. More apprentices should complete their training with either a certificate of apprenticeship or a Journeyman's certificate.

In-service training provides the best training for future craftspeople. As the local business community is going through challenging times the County Council is offering youths and adults with a right to upper secondary training and education (but without an offer of apprenticeship) the opportunity to complete their training towards a certificate of apprenticeship in schools. Together with the parties of working life the County Council will further develop a model for vocational training in school, as a means to improve the completion rate and contribute in to more apprenticeships.

Aims

The overall aim of the new national social contract is that:

All qualified applicants should be offered an apprenticeship.

The local aims are:

1. Increase the number of apprenticeship contracts and In-service training establishments.
2. All youth or adult applicants with a right to upper secondary training should be offered an apprenticeship either with a business or in school.
3. Increase the number of adults who attain a certificate of apprenticeship/Journeyman's certificate
4. Increase the number of apprentices who within the estimated time, and adapted to the individual's abilities and potential, complete their training with either a certificate of apprenticeship/Journeyman's certificate or a certificate of competence.
5. Adjust the volume in which schools are able to provide adequate school places related to the needs of the job market.

Follow-up and the road ahead

The parties' overall aim for the social contract is to as well as possible secure recruitment to vocational studies. The needs of working life are best taken care of when more students complete their education. The social contract's intention is to obligate authorities and the parties of the working life to base vocational training into all relevant branches, and procure as many apprenticeships as possible for the students who require it. The plan of action for completion is enclosed to the main document.

Through the regional social contract networks within the various branches of businesses are to be established in order to generate more apprenticeships and training enterprises. The networks are to map out plans of action/agreements within the various branches with aims conformed to the individual branch. These plans of action/agreements will be included as an enclosure to the main document upon completion. Yrkesopplæringsnemndene of Aust- and Vest-Agder (tribunals appointed by the county councils relating to vocational studies) are important arenas for these kinds of networks. As part of following up the agreement a report will be made annually in order to describe and evaluate the development within apprenticeships and In-service training establishments as well as the completion rate of vocational training. In addition, an annually evaluation meeting will take place with parties in this contract and the parties of the individual branches of business enterprises in order to evaluate the status quo and the road ahead.

Shared obligations

In order to complete the aims of the local social contract relevant activities will have to be arranged. This involves common obligations/contributions from all parties:

- Devise, implement and evaluate own plan of action annually. New and innovative solution are being sought for in the cooperation between the parties.
- Require positions for apprentices in connection with public procurements (apprenticeships clause) when possible and prudent.
- The involved parties will work to establish In-service training establishments in order to increase the number of apprentices including other and new vocational programmes which they already offer.
- The involved parties will work towards recruiting a larger amount of business enterprises to the apprenticeship system.
- Support the county councils' commitment to provide In-service training establishments or 3. Year vocational training in school to all qualified applicants.
- Contribute with ideas to the process of ensuring the supply of applicants and the process mediation relating to vocational training.
- Draw attention to vocations with a lack of apprenticeship applicants.

- Work to improve the status of vocational studies by involving *yrkesopplæringsnemnda* (tribunals appointed by the county councils relating to vocational studies), and involve media into initiatives which promote vocational training with In-service training establishments.
- Contribute to establish agreements within various branches of industry in compliance with national guide lines.
- Contribute to make training with In-service training establishments to be completed within the estimated time, adjusted to the individual's abilities and potential.

Agder, 2016

Aust-Agder fylkeskommune

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Fylkesmannen i
Aust- og Vest-Agder

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