

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Level of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)	Level of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)	KNOWLEDGE – Knowledge is described as theoretical and/or factual	SKILLS – skills are described as cognitive (involving the use of logical, intuitive and creative thinking) and practical (involving manual dexterity and the use of methods, materials, tools and instruments)	COMPETENCES – PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL Competence is described in terms of responsibility and autonomy			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
-	NQF LEVEL 0 PREPARATORY LEVEL PRE-PRIMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has basic concepts about the surrounding world • follows a chronological order in performing familiar tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can understand and carry out simple tasks • creatively expresses the acquired basic ideas about the surrounding world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participates actively in simple, familiar activities • ability to perform tasks under the supervision of an adult 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can understand and communicate brief and simple oral information • works in a group, showing tolerance 	

	EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> familiarity with necessary primary education tools of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses familiar materials to fulfil tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knows the consequences/ results of one's own actions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> towards the other children in the group begins to express own independence as a new social role 	
EQF LEVEL 1	NQF LEVEL 1 GENERAL EDUCATION – PRIMARY STAGE OF BASIC EDUCATION	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	Competences			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has basic general knowledge of the world required for further training and lifelong learning knows basic rules for wellbeing and environmentally friendly behaviour has some basic general knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has practical skills required to carry out identical and simple tasks ability to apply the acquired knowledge to carry out specific educational tasks makes plausible suppositions based on the information the child has gathered about the world 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> works under close supervision, following instructions or a pattern with the help of the teacher chooses suitable means of information to carry out an educational task independently and/or in a group assesses own and others' actions with the help of the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> studies and works together with the others to gather and exchange information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> builds up confidence and develops skills for verbal and written communication protects own rights without violating those of others 	

EQF LEVEL 2	NQF LEVEL 2	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
	GENERAL EDUCATION – PRIMARY EDUCATION / FIRST DEGREE OF A VOCA- TIONAL QUALIFI- CATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has basic factual knowledge in a given field of study • knows how to extract, select and use simple information • has basic knowledge of important social spheres (family, school, working environment, small community, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has basic cognitive and practical skills required to carry out simple tasks, solve routine problems and do routine activities • applies a limited number of skills to carry out more complex tasks in familiar contexts • establishes simple correlations according to a set of criteria in the various fields of work or study • carries out simple operations by means of various instruments and easy-to-use machines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works with a relative degree of autonomy in familiar contexts, taking responsibility for the performance of the assigned task • works in unfamiliar contexts following the written or oral instructions of the task supervisor • knows the possibilities and risks of using the acquired technologies on one's own 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is aware of the possibility to continue his/her education and training • acknowledges the need to acquire some key competences (mother tongue, mathematics, computer literacy, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works in a group, accepts and expresses an opinion and/or criticism • orients oneself and acts adequately in a specific context • exchanges oral and written information • communicates successfully in a diverse social and cultural environment • carries out routine activities under unchanging circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carries out routine tasks under unchanging circumstances

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understands instructions similar to what has been previously taught • can explain the activities s/he has/not done and the reasons for this 				
EQF LEVEL 3	NQF LEVEL 3	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
	SECONDARY EDUCATION GENERAL EDUCATION / SECOND DEGREE OF A VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possesses extended knowledge in a given sphere of training, the different spheres of training or job • knows ways of searching, extraction, processing and use of different types of information; • has knowledge about the universal values, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independently carries out previously acquired tasks (behaviour) • takes a decision for a change following rules and instructions in case the work conditions change • carries out complex operations by means of various instruments, machines, apparatuses, measurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works independently under changing circumstances, takes responsibility to carry out the task assigned and evaluates own performance according to previously established criteria • takes a critical attitude in applying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can take decisions about his/her own education and future career development by self-evaluating his/her own competences/qualification • is aware of the possibility to continue his/her own education and training • readiness to participate in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicates effectively with colleagues, clients and direct supervisor • communicates in one's first and second foreign language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does comprehensive activities under changing circumstances

		<p>the democracy, and the civic society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has knowledge of the type of objects (raw materials, materials, instruments, machines, apparatuses and facilities) in a specific field, their properties, purpose and interrelation (technological sequence and requirements for performing various activities), sometimes their structure (composition) as well • expresses oneself using the corresponding terminology 	<p>devices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understands the meaning of instructions, tasks and explanations different from the ones previously studied • explains the activities s/he has done, proposing new solutions 	<p>independently the acquired technologies</p>	<p>trainings, recognizing the field in which it is necessary to acquire more knowledge, skills and competences</p>		
EQF LEVEL 4	NQF LEVEL 4	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and	Learning	Communicative and Social	Professional

	SECONDARY EDUCATION GENERAL EDUCATION / THIRD DEGREE OF A VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION			Responsibility	Competences	Competences	Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has in-depth factual and theoretical knowledge in a broad context within the fields of study or work • familiarity with ways of processing and using complex information • expresses verbal and written ideas, formulates instructions, tasks, explanations, using the corresponding terminology • develops evaluation criteria • has in-depth knowledge of democracy, civil society and international legal order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has a wide range of cognitive and practical skills to solve complex problems • has creative thinking and employs alternative methods and ways in familiar and/or unfamiliar situations or environment • considers and views task and problem results within a field of work or study from different angles according to previously established criteria • transfer of knowledge and skills between different fields of study or work in carrying out complex tasks and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows initiative and ability to set oneself goals, to plan, justify own actions and take responsibility for them • takes responsibility while monitoring or supervising the routine work of others • expresses a critical attitude and takes responsibility while applying the acquired technologies • overall attitude is one of responsibility and participation in public life • works independently under changing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can take decisions about one's own education and future career development on the basis of one's own competences /qualifications • is aware of further education and training opportunities • uses various ways of extending and updating his/her own vocational qualification • recognizes the need for staff training and offers them suitable opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works constructively in heterogeneous groups/teams, too • can communicate in one's first and second foreign language • effectively communicates with colleagues in different positions in the corporate hierarchy; negotiates orders • independently decides on the ways of successful public presentation of different types of information in a field of study or work • has mastered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carries out complex tasks in changing conditions and takes responsibility for the work of others

			<p>solving specific problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organizes an industrial process according to conditions that have become known during study • can carry out complex operations by means of instruments, machines, apparatuses, measurement devices • controls and helps staff, giving explanations or showing how to do a particular activity • evaluates the quality of the finished product and performance of the team members • develops an action plan using the available resources 	<p>conditions, taking responsibility to carry out both individual tasks and collective tasks entrusted to the team one is supervising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes a motivated evaluation of the team members and the quality of performance 		<p>mechanisms for constructive social participation and change, applying them in various activities and initiatives</p>	
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EQF LEVEL 5	NQF LEVEL 5 FOURTH DEGREE OF A VOCA- TIONAL QUALIFI- CATION	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has in-depth factual and theoretical knowledge in broad contexts within a field of study or work • knows how to process, use and analyze complex specific information • is familiar with the principles of planning, organization and control of processes in a particular field of activity • develops assessment criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plans, organizes and controls activities, including an industrial process • makes a motivated evaluation of the quality of performance • makes proposals for performance optimization • possesses business communication skills • carries out complex operations by means of various instruments, machines, apparatuses, measurement devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works independently under changing conditions, taking responsibility to carry out both individual tasks and collective tasks entrusted to the team one is supervising • bears responsibility for the performance of the team one is supervising • makes a motivated evaluation of team and the quality of performance • takes responsibility for the appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognizes the gaps in one's own knowledge, skills and competences and takes the necessary actions to improve one's own qualification by self-study and participation in seminars, trainings, etc. • uses various ways of expanding and updating one's own vocational qualification • recognizes the need for staff training and offers them suitable opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communicates effectively at different levels • manages the performance of working groups/teams • presents publicly different types of information • makes analyses, oral and written presentations, formulates instructions, tasks, and explanations, using the corresponding terminology both in Bulgarian and in a foreign language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carries out comprehensive tasks under changing circumstances, takes managerial responsibility for the performance of others and allocation of resources

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> controls and helps staff, providing explanations or demonstrating how to do a particular activity evaluates product quality and the performance of the team members develops an action plan, using the available resources makes proposals for improving the equipment, staff and the activities of the organization 	<p>use of the equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> feels a strong sense of responsibility and participates actively in public life 			
EQF LEVEL 6 / First cycle of QF-EHEA	NQF LEVEL 6 DEGREE OF A PROFESSIONAL BACHELOR	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has and uses detailed, theoretical and concrete practical knowledge in the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has mastered the methods and means in the field of study applies the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> takes responsibility for managing high performance teams and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> judges critically one's own preparation and the degree to which the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> analyses ideas, addresses problems and proposes solutions in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> gathers, processes and analyses data with the purpose of optimization

	<p>IN.. 180 ECTS credits</p>	<p>field of study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes a critical analysis of principles and processes 	<p>acquired knowledge and practical experience in a professional way, adopting innovative, unconventional approaches and making well-justified decisions</p>	<p>resources, including in extreme situations during site operation and structure management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has creative thinking and practical skills in project development and implementation, considering the influence of a variety of factors • takes responsibility during site operation • can evaluate one's own and other people's performance • manages teamwork and provides professional trainings to staff 	<p>acquired knowledge is consistent with the knowledge required by the profession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • defines one's own educational needs to improve one's own qualification and/or gain further professional qualifications 	<p>professional contexts to equals and seniors higher up in the hierarchy as well as to non-specialists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formulates a convicting opinions based on qualitative and quantitative facts, arguments and criteria • presents one's own views on particular and global issues clearly, judges and accepts the arguments of interlocutors • demonstrates commitment and solidarity towards others • can communicate effectively in some of the most commonly used 	<p>and/or final solutions or innovative ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contributes to the completion of operative tasks in conventional and unconventional situations • settles social, moral and ethic issues, especially in teamwork and trainings
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						European languages	
EQF LEVEL 6 / First cycle of QF-EHEA	NQF LEVEL 6 BACHELOR'S DEGREE <i>240 ECTS credits</i>	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has extensive and in-depth theoretical and factual knowledge in a field of study, including knowledge relating to the latest achievements • interprets the acquired knowledge independently, relating it to facts and critical perception, comprehension and formulation of theories and principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • able to use methods and means which allow for the accomplishment of complex tasks • applies logical thinking, shows creativity and takes novel approaches in carrying out unconventional tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possesses a capability for administrative management of complex professional activities, including teams and resources • assumes responsibility for taking decisions in adverse circumstances under the influence of a variety of interacting factors which are hard to foresee • shows creativity and initiative in management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assesses one's own qualifications properly by evaluating the knowledge and skills acquired so far, recognizing the need for expanding and updating one's own professional qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear formulation and expression of ideas, problems and solutions before experts and non-experts • expresses an opinion and shows understanding of issues, using methods based on qualitative and quantitative descriptions and evaluation • has a broad outlook on life and shows understanding and solidarity towards others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gathers, classifies, assesses and interprets data in a field of study to fulfil specific tasks • applies the acquired knowledge and skills in new and unfamiliar contexts • capable of making analyses in broader or interdisciplinary contexts • adopts new strategic approaches; formulates and expresses own

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognizes the need for staff training with the purpose of increasing staff effectiveness 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can communicate effectively in some of the most commonly used European languages 	opinion about social and ethic issues arising during work
EQF LEVEL 7 / Second cycle of QF-EHEA	NQF LEVEL 7 MASTER'S DEGREE ➤ Master's degree after obtaining a Professional Bachelor's degree <i>120 ECTS credits</i> ➤ Master's degree after obtaining a Bachelor's degree in the same professional field	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a wide spectrum of theoretical and practical knowledge, part of which is specialized knowledge in the respective field, which serves to broaden the knowledge acquired during the previous education stage knows and expresses theories, concepts, principles and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a wide range of practical and cognitive skills in different fields of study required to understand abstract problems and develop creative solutions carries out problem diagnostics carries out problem diagnostics and solving, based on contemporary research through integrating knowledge from 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can build administrative and organizational structures, independently manage teams to find solutions to complex problems in unpredictable contexts with a variety of interacting factors and possibilities demonstrates operational mastery in managing change in complex contexts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> systematically and thoroughly evaluates one's own knowledge, recognizing the need for acquiring more knowledge demonstrates a high degree of autonomy, easily orients oneself to complex educational content, adopting own approaches and methods to master it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can express one's own opinion in a simple and clear way, formulates problems and proposes possible solutions before expert and non-expert audiences, using a large number of techniques and approaches develops and presents well-argued opinions about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> gathers, processes and interprets specialized information required to find solutions to complex problems in a field of study integrates a wide spectrum of knowledge and sources in new and relatively unfamiliar contexts

	<p>60 ECTS credits</p> <p>➤ Master's degree after obtaining a Bachelor's degree in another professional field</p> <p>120 ECTS credits</p> <p>➤ Master's degree in a subject which stipulates education only in this degree</p> <p>300 ECTS credits</p>	<p>observation of certain laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has highly specialized practical and theoretical knowledge, incl. avant-garde knowledge, which serves as a basis for originality in developing and applying new ideas and solutions • demonstrates critical understanding of the knowledge in the field of study and interdisciplinary relationships 	<p>new or interdisciplinary fields, which are related to implementation of research and introduction of innovations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes an adequate assessment of situations with insufficient or limited data and unpredictability • develops new and various skills as a response to emerging knowledge and practices • freely employs innovative methods and instruments in solving complicated and unpredictable problems in a specialized field of work • finds and supports arguments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows creativity and innovation in projects development • initiates processes and organizes activities which require very good coordination • formulates policies and demonstrates leadership skills for their implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses a variety of methods and techniques to master complex subject areas • has a rich conceptual apparatus and is capable of conceptual and abstract thinking 	<p>social processes and practices, making justified proposals for their improvement or change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • can communicate effectively in some of the most commonly used European languages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make reasonable evaluations and finds solutions in complex interactional contexts • demonstrates adequate behaviour and interaction in professional and/or specialized contexts • ability to solve problems by integrating comprehensive sources in unfamiliar contexts with insufficient information • can initiate changes and manage development processes in difficult contexts • becomes
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			<p>in solving interdisciplinary problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows initiative in a field of work and study in complex unpredictable contexts which required finding solutions to problems with a number of interacting factors 				involved in important scientific, social and moral problems arising during work or study processes
EQF LEVEL 8 / Third cycle of QF-EHEA	NQF LEVEL 8 DOCTOR'S DEGREE <i>No ESTC credits required</i>	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	COMPETENCES			
				Autonomy and Responsibility	Learning Competences	Communicative and Social Competences	Professional Competences
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has and uses specialized and systematic knowledge to make a critical analysis and synthesize new ideas • proficiently employs the methods of scientific research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to form and manage networks or teams, allocate time and manage human and financial resources, find solutions to complicated problems by employing new technological methods and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates and interprets new knowledge on the basis of own research or other scholarly activity • uses the new knowledge to demonstrate an ability to expand the scope of existing scientific 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has a capacity for a systematic acquisition and understanding of a considerable amount of knowledge about the latest scientific achievements or a field of professional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • show qualities and transferable skills which require an enhanced sense of personal responsibility and self-initiative in complex and unpredictable circumstances as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has a profound understanding of the techniques used for scientific and complex academic research • makes a thorough evaluation of complex issues

		<p>in a field of study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to broaden and improve current knowledge in a field of study as well as its interaction with close scientific areas • demonstrates knowledge with the highest degree of complexity and carries out original research • demonstrates knowledge and understanding at the highest possible degree not only of chosen field of study but also in neighbouring scientific areas • demonstrates and applies knowledge through the degree of 	<p>instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quickly gathers, extracts, classifies, synthesizes and assesses the required data both from detailed and scarce sources • ability to solve and overcome serious problems in a research field and/or innovation, improve standard models and approaches, develop innovative solutions by combining a variety of original strategies and technologies, manage unsuccessful attempts and continue developing, improve standard models and approaches • has methods and means to foresee 	<p>areas and recognizes the need for live publications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to evaluate the merits of own research • ability to make up, design, implement and adapt a contemporary research process in conformity with scholarly norms 	<p>practice</p>	<p>well as in professional or similar contexts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to conceptualize, design and implement projects with the purpose of generating new knowledge, applying and understanding the latest achievements as well as to adapt the project design to unpredictable circumstances • can communicate effectively in some of the most common European languages 	<p>in a field of study, often in the absence of extensive data, and presents one's own ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively before experts and non-experts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capacity to continue conducting fundamental or applied scientific research at increasingly complex levels, contributing to the development of new techniques, ideas or approaches
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		complexity of the conducted, recognized and well-founded academic research	<p>changes and problems, disregard the context and think innovatively, develop and propose reasonable plans, put into effect new ideas, acquire quickly new skills and qualities, foresee technological and creative development, write and present new scholarly and technical documents (scientific articles, summaries, reports, figures, graphs, etc.); communicate through different media in front of diverse audiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has the following skills: resilience, entrepreneurial spirit, tenacity, strictness, adaptability and intellectual flexibility				
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