



*“Adults’ teachers implementing successful and innovative models for employment and social inclusion; enhancing our European educational heritage and their consolidated values”*

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ADULT

### EDUCATION IN SPAIN

Adult Education (EPA) includes from the processes of literacy and achievement of basic education to training aimed at access to employment and other training activities for social, cultural, political and economic participation.

#### ✓ **Purpose of the EPA and recipients:**

The purpose of the EPA is to offer all persons over 18 years of age the possibility of acquiring, updating, completing or expanding their knowledge and skills, for their personal and professional development.

Exceptional access to the EPA: over 16 years of age who request it and who either have an employment contract that does not allow them to attend educational centres in the ordinary regime, or are high-performance athletes.

#### ✓ **Specific objectives EPA:**

- Acquire basic training, expand and renew the knowledge, skills and abilities of adults and facilitate access to the different teachings of the educational system.
- Improve your professional qualification or acquire preparation for the exercise of other professions.
- Respond adequately to the challenges posed by the progressive aging of the population, ensuring older people the opportunity to increase and update their skills.
- Develop their ability to participate in social, cultural, political and economic life and exercise their right to democratic citizenship.
- Develop programs to overcome the risk of social exclusion, especially in the most disadvantaged sectors.
- Promote effective equality of rights and opportunities between men and women.
- Acquire, expand and renew the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for the creation of companies and for the performance of business activities and initiatives.

#### ✓ **Training offer:**

##### **a) Training providers:**

The training offer of the EPA includes different courses and programmes, offered by the educational, labour and local administrations:

##### 1. Training offer of educational administrations

The training offer of the educational administrations is regulated by the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MEFP) in the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, and by the Ministries or Departments of Education of the autonomous communities in their respective management areas.

The autonomous communities regulate and manage the teachings of Adult Education (EPA), since:





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- have administrative ownership of the centers in their territory
- create and authorize centers
- manage the staff
- develop teaching programming
- They manage distance or blended education.

The training offer of the educational administrations is mainly developed in:

- ❖ **Specific Adult Education Centres (CEPAS)**, authorised to provide all levels of education for adults; they also assume a role of dynamisation of the environment, being available to carry out socio-cultural animation activities.
- ❖ **Adult education classrooms** are specific centres authorised to provide some of the levels of adult education. Some depend administratively on the CEPAS.
- ❖ **Ordinary centres (IES)**, modules III and IV of Secondary Education for Adults and the distance Baccalaureate are teaching in this centres.
- ❖ **Educational units in penitentiary centres:** They are attached to an Adult Education Centre or to an educational centre where on line teachings of Compulsory Secondary Education are offered.

In Spain there are a total of 2,360 Adult Education Centres.

## 2. Training offered by the Labour Administrations

The training offer of the labour administrations is regulated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Economy with the collaboration of the State Public Employment Service (SEPE), and by the Autonomous Communities with the collaboration of their respective autonomous employment services.

Vocational training courses for employment may be promoted by:

- ❖ **Public administrations competent in the matter through their own centres** (National Reference Centres, publicly-owned Integrated Vocational Training Centres and other centres with the appropriate facilities and equipment), or by means of agreements with public entities or companies.
- ❖ **Business and trade union organisations**, and other entities that are beneficiaries of training plans aimed primarily at employed workers.
- ❖ **Companies** that carry out training actions for their workers or for unemployed people with a commitment to hiring.
- ❖ **Integrated Vocational Training Centres** and other public or private training centres or entities that provide training aimed at obtaining Certificates of Professionalism.
- ❖ **Other training centres or entities** that provide training not aimed at obtaining Certificates of Professionalism.



### 3. Training offer of Local Administrations

Local administrations are particularly involved in the organisation of training provision, especially through the Folk high schools, and in the granting of subsidies.

The EPA is also present at local level, including in rural areas where adult education is provided in public and private centres, which include:

- ❖ Folk high schools
- ❖ Social initiative centres.
- ❖ trade unions
- ❖ local authorities
- ❖ Universities for the elderly.

These centres are often also available for other socio-cultural activities.

#### b) Training providers:

The training offer aimed at adults is very wide and diverse, ranging from literacy processes and achievement of basic education to training aimed at access to employment or leisure activities. This offer is made up of different teachings and programs, offered by the educational, labor and local administrations.

#### - Training aimed at increasing achievement in basic skills:

- Basic education for adults
  - Initial teachings: level I of literacy and level II of knowledge consolidation
  - Secondary education for adults
- Non-formal education programs for the development and reinforcement of basic skills
- Language teaching: for the acquisition of user levels and obtaining the certifications corresponding to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

#### - Training aimed at obtaining an official qualification in adulthood

- Post-compulsory and higher education:
  - Post-compulsory education: Baccalaureate for adults and Intermediate and higher level Vocational Training (FP).
  - University teachings.
- Access tests, certification and to obtain an official degree.
  - Tests for access to teaching leading to a degree:
    - Access tests to intermediate and higher level training cycles,
    - Access tests to higher artistic education.
    - Entrance exams to university education (for people over 25 years old, over 40 years old and over 45 years old).
  - Language certification tests, without having completed the corresponding education.
  - Tests for obtaining the title of: graduate in Compulsory Secondary Education, Bachelor, Technician and Superior Technician of Vocational Training.



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### **- Training aimed at the transition to the labor market:**

There are 3 types of professional training for employment aimed at providing an immediate response to the different individual needs and the productive system:

- Training scheduled by companies for their workers.
- Training offer of the competent administrations for employed workers, made up of the sectoral training programs and the transversal training programs, as well as the professional qualification and recognition programmes.
- Training offer of the competent administrations for unemployed workers, which includes training programs aimed at covering the needs detected by the public employment services, specific training programs and training programs with hiring commitments.