

Competence based qualifications and ECVET in Finland

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THESSALONIKI

VANTAA



Vantaa

varia
Vantaa vocational college

Vantaa Vocational College Varia

- Owned by and located in City of Vantaa
- Part of City of Vantaa's public services
- 3100 full-time students; 2800 young, 300 adults
- 1000 apprentices
- Staff 350; 270 teachers
- 5 locations around the City of Vantaa
- 8 departments
- Annual budget around 32 million Euros

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Competence based qualifications in Finland

- Finland has been developing competence-based qualifications since 1994
- System is intended to enable working-age adults to gain qualifications without necessarily attending formal training
- Competence test system which competence acquired is recognized and validated through various ways

Qualifications with 3 levels

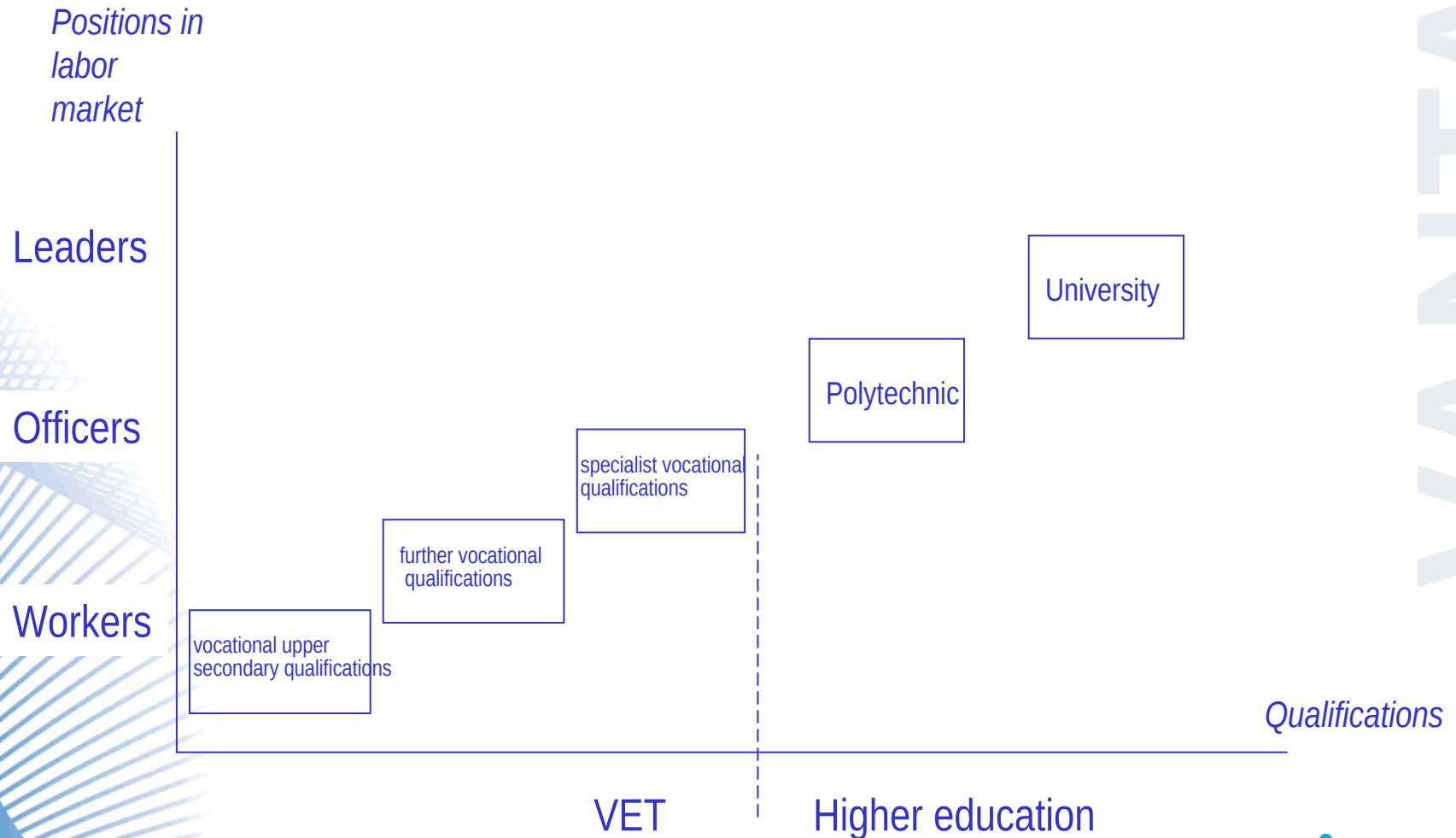
- Vocational upper secondary qualifications (qualifying for jobs in the relevant field)
- Further vocational qualifications (providing vocational skills required of professionals in the field)
- Specialist vocational qualifications (those who obtain these are competent in the most demanding tasks in the field)



The main principles regarding competence tests are as follows:

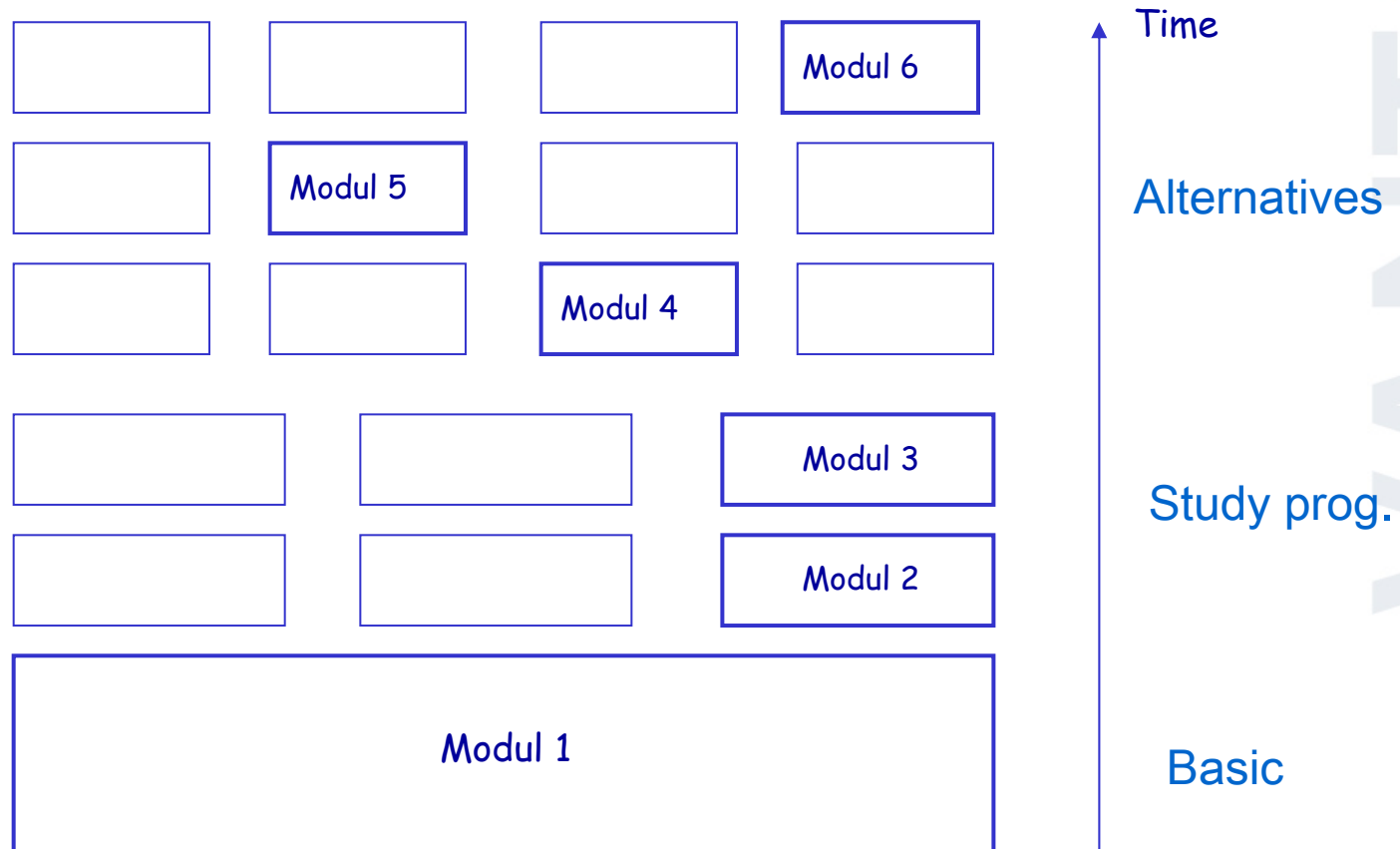
- Cooperation between employers, workers, and education sector when requirements of qualification are defined and competence tests are organized and assessed
- Independence of a qualification regardless of the way competence has been acquired
- Completing a qualification or a module demonstrating competence in a test
- Individualization of learning and the completing of the qualification

Planning of VET in Finland



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Structure of qualifications

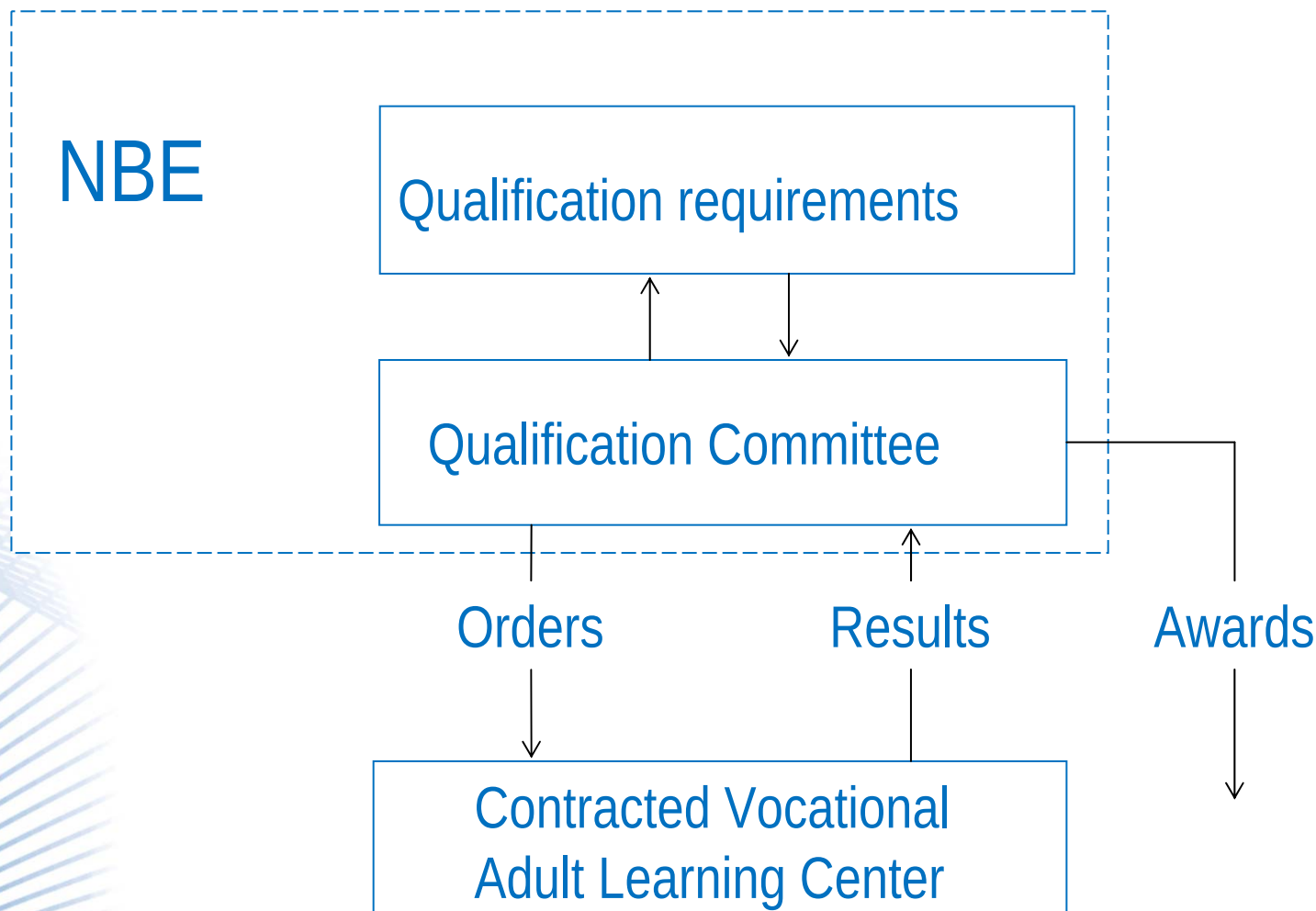


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Qualification Committee

- Qualification authority (competent institution)
- Decides the ways how competence will be recognized in qualifications it responses
- Makes contracts with educational institutions for competence tests
- Gives detailed orders for assessment including a documentation
- Controls the quality of competence tests

Role of Qualification Committee



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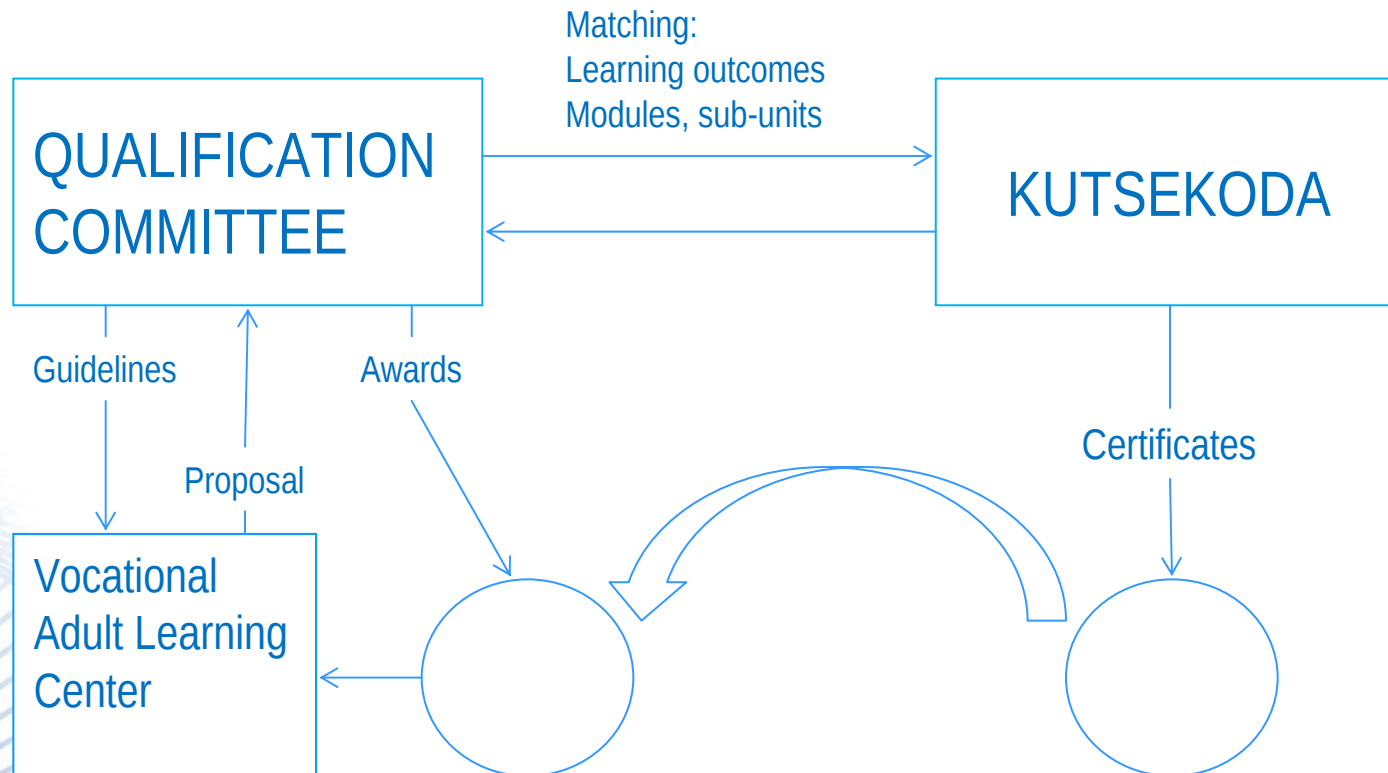
Mobility between Finnish and Estonian labour markets

- Easy traveling; ferry trip between Helsinki and Tallinn takes only 1,5 – 2 hours
- There is not any big cultural differences between nations
- Languages are quite close and it is easy to learn basics
- There is many working opportunities specially on service field
- Difference of salaries is still quite big

Co-operation between qualification authorities

- Competence based qualification system in both of countries
- National awarding bodies (competent institutions) in both of countries
- Systems are run by a needs from companies and working-life has big role when planning qualifications
- System has seen as a part of economical strategies of nation
- Main purpose is offer support to local enterprises

Validation of learning outcomes assessed in other country



Guidance from Qualification Committee

- Direct orders how to make a proposal for validation of learning outcomes which are assessed and documented in Estonia (incl. list of documents needed to be enclosed with proposal)
- Ready-made table where contracted Institutions can see matching of modules and/or sub-units between qualifications
- Common meetings and annual training for teachers and trainers from contracted Institutions

Changes needed in National Requirements provision to fit ECVET

In current Requirements are shown by modules:

- Credits (will be moved to points)
- Expected competence (probably some updating will be done)
- Criteria for assessment (will be shown a bit different order, see next slide)
- Practices how one can prove his/her competence in module (no changes)

Targets of assessment vs. learning outcomes

