



SOLNA, Sweden

Professional Driver Training

Key facts

From 2017 cities in the Stockholm and Upsala regions in Sweden, including the City of Solna have provided a programme for professional driver training students to become either a bus or truck driver. The programme, which provides both theoretical and practical training, was developed to meet the needs of employers and future employees in the region. The case is an example of how to put in place tailor-made competence development aligned with local labour market needs.

Timeframe and funding	The programme was launched in 2017 and runs for an unlimited time. It is funded by transfers from the national/regional government.
City population	82,429
Governing body	Solna City Council
Link	https://yrkesforarkurser.se/

Main objectives

The key objective of the programme is:

- To provide theoretical and practical training to students to become bus or truck drivers and thus to meet the need of the employer in the region.

Content and mode of delivery



As a part of the programme, the students learn how to drive a bus or a truck, along with knowledge of all the laws and regulations that the profession requires. During the training, the students are also given the opportunity to take theory and driving tests according to the Swedish Transport Administration's requirements for driving licence certificates and at the end of the programme, the student will receive grades in completed courses. The programme also involves workplace-based learning (internships) that allow the students to develop their knowledge and skills in a real work environment, and offers opportunities for networking in the profession and the chance to apply for jobs. This part of the programme has, however, been challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The programme is offered for all individuals who have a basic knowledge of the Swedish language, has a driving licence valid in Sweden and is at least 21 years of age. Before admission, all applicants have to participate in a survey, carry out a driving test in a passenger car and carry out a language test in Swedish. In addition, a personal interview will be conducted, following which the final admission takes place. The training is free of charge, but students have to pay for course literature, work clothes and shoes, test costs for theory and driving tests etc. The number of students in the programme has increased over the past years. Today, five schools educate about 500 students a year from around 30 different municipalities in the Stockholm and Upsala regions.

Stakeholders



The main stakeholders in the project are:

- Municipalities
- Private companies
- The City of Vénissieux

The stakeholders share the interest to deliver a high-quality programme that can provide companies with highly qualified employees. In 2021 one municipality, the City of Solna, is coordinating the admission work and the application for funding.

Key challenges, success factors & transferability



One of the key challenges with regard to the implementation of the programme has been identifying the prospective students, as training as professional driver was not the first or natural choice of many of those seeking education.

According to the city, a key success factor of the programme has been the close collaboration with the right companies in the region.

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