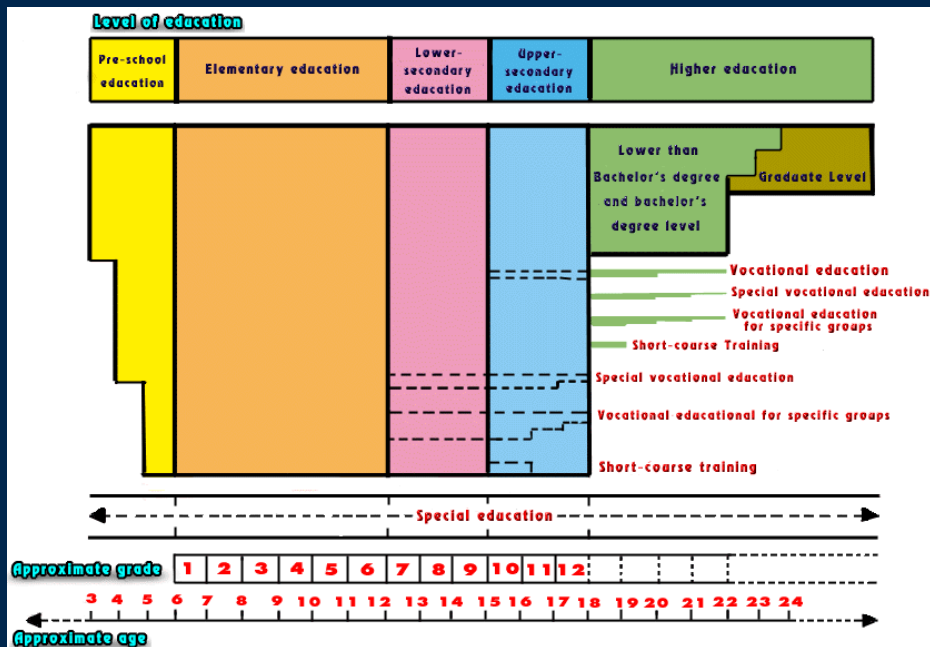


# Vocational and Technical Education in Thailand



Thailand Education System

## Overview

Formal Technical and Vocational education under the Ministry of Education, i.e. Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC) is conducted at three levels: upper secondary, leading to the lower certificate of vocational education; post secondary, leading to a diploma or vocational associate degree; and at university level leading to a degree. Most recently, reforms are in place to remodel the system towards a Thai Vocational Qualification (TVQ) which provides a new competency based framework around industry practice and needs.

There are several issues and challenges that TVET in Thailand are facing, including (1) partnership with the industries, private sectors, and other government organization; (2) to development of competency-based curriculum, (3) development of media, innovation, laboratory, school in the factory, factory in the school, and software house, (4) establishment of vocational qualification and occupational standards or competency standards, (5) development of participative management system, and (6) improvement of the image of vocational education.

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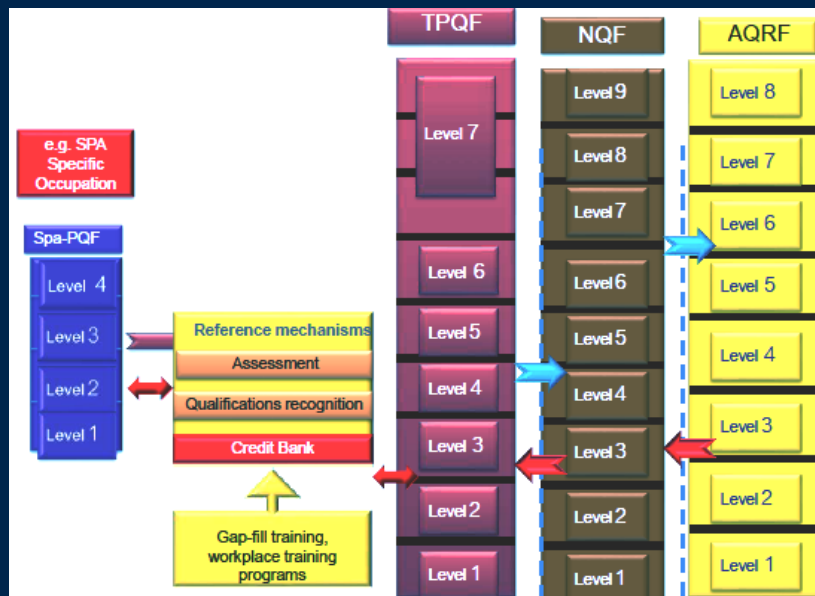
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Under the Prime Minister's supervision, there is TPQI (Thailand Professional Qualification Institute) with the missions to develop professional qualifications system, support industries in developing competency standards, accredit and monitor organizations that assess workers' competencies, awarding professional qualifications, and collaborating with vocational and higher education institutes in developing curricula from competency standards.

Under the Ministry of Labor, there is a Department of Skills Development (DSD) with the missions to train and develop skills for new graduates coming to labour market, create opportunities for employment, and upgrade skill for employees. DSD offers vocational skills training, occupational skill standard promotion, and skill development promotion and coordination.

OVEC, TPQI, and DSD collaborate in workforce development based on needed education qualifications, assessment, and gap-fill training respectively. In terms of standards, OVEC is referring to competency-based curriculum training; TPQI is referring to competency-based occupational standards; and DSD is referring to National Skill Standard.



Thailand National Qualification Framework in comparison with ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRf) and Thailand Professional Qualification Framework

Sources: MoE, Thailand, (2010), *Thailand education system*  
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Thailand Professional Qualification Institute). (2014). *Competency Standards and Vocational Education In Thailand*.