Use of Labour market intelligence for improvement of quality of study programmes and their relevance to the market needs in Latvia

Jolanta Silka

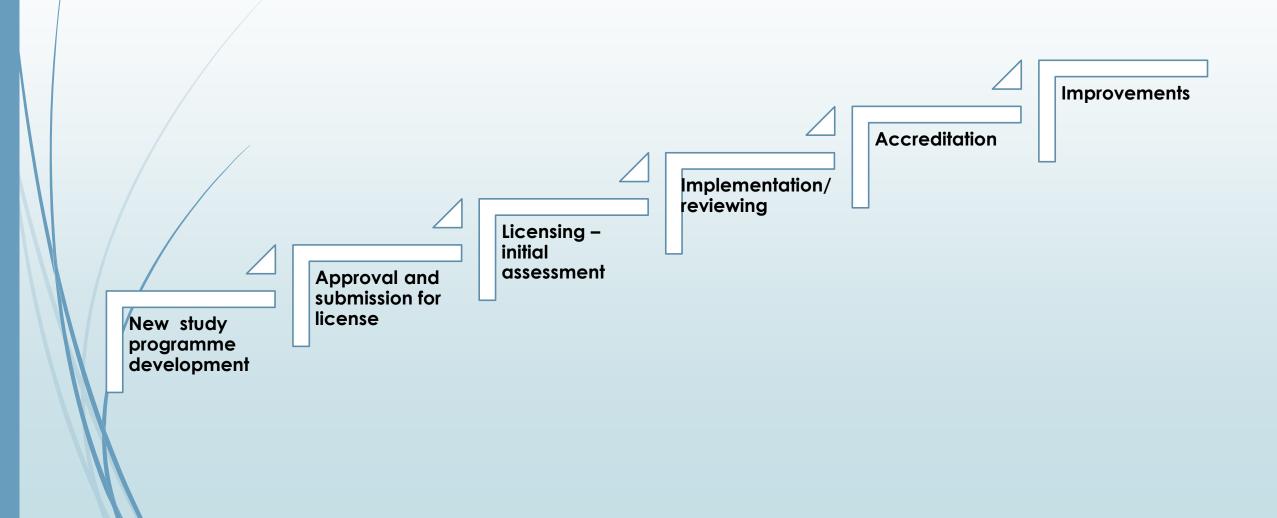
Deputy Head

Quality Agency for Higher Education

Higher Education in Latvia

	Type of programme	Duration	ECTS	LQF/EQF level	To be awarded after completion of programme
	1st level professional higher education (colleges)	2-3 years	120 – 180	5 (short cycle)	Professional qualification
	Academic Bachelor	3 years	180	6	Bachelors degree
/	Professional Bachelor	4 years	240	6	Professional Bachelors degree and professional qualification
	Academic Master	2 years	120	7	Masters degree
	Professional Master	1 – 2 years	60 - 120	7	Professional masters degree and professional qualification
	2nd level professional higher education	at least 4 years	from 240	7	Professional qualification
	Doctoral programmes	3- 4 years	180 - 240	8	Doctors of science degree (or professional doctors degree of arts)

Study programme cycle



Study programme: learning outcomes in compliance with labour market demands

- Involvement of employers (development/improvement/traineeship)
 - Latvian Confederation of Employers provides expertise
 - Sectoral Councils of Experts is a consultative body set up with the aim of
 promoting the qualitative preparation of specialists necessary for the existence
 and development of the sector.
 - Professional organisations/associations provides expertise and opinion
- Ministry of Economics "Report on medium and long-term forecasts on labour market needs"
 - Current situation at the labour market
 - Medium and long term forecasts based on economy development and demography scenarios

Study programme: learning outcomes in compliance with labour market demands

Occupational (profession) standard

knowledge, skills and competences to be acquired

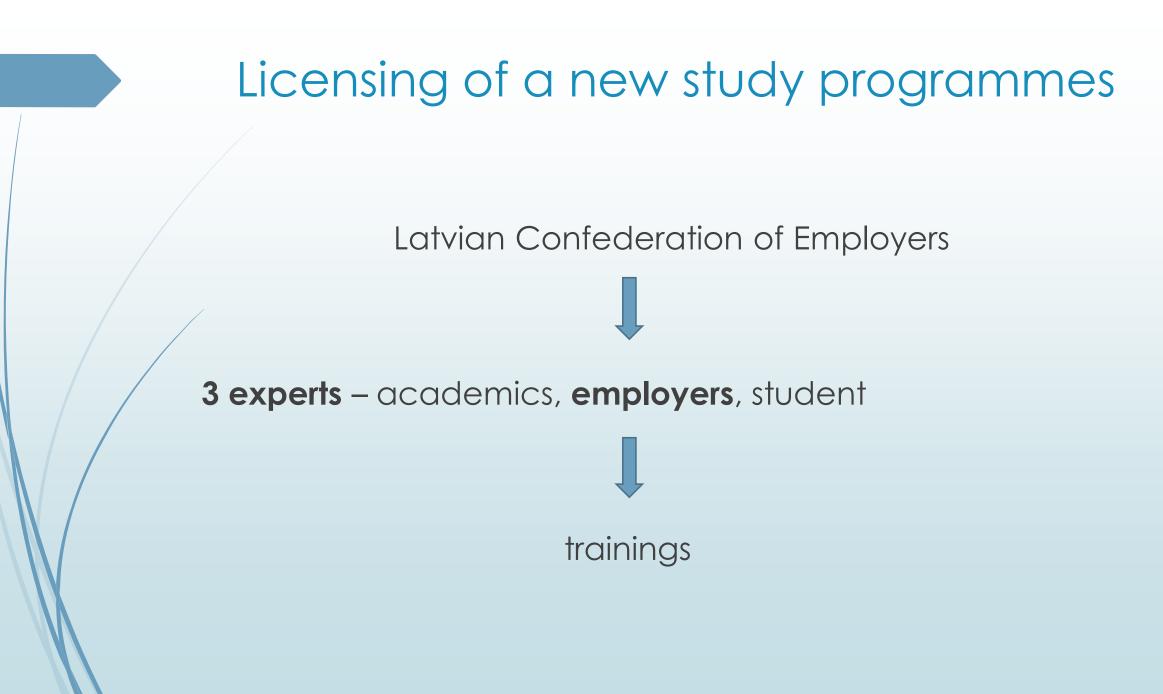
Sectoral Councils of Experts delegate industry experts to the development of occupational standards, requirements for professional qualifications, and evaluate and give an opinion on occupational standards and elaborate proposals on requirements for obtaining a professional qualification

State Education standard

Traineeship

Labour market needs

Module for development of entrepreneurial professional competence (innovations, organization and foundation of companies, management methods, business economics, basics of project development and management, accounting and financial accounting system, knowledge of regulation of labour market legal relations, including on social dialogue in society, as also knowledge of other innovations in business or institution management. The module is implemented mainly through competence training, business games and similar practical methods



Licensing of a new study programme

Assessment criteria/ aspects:

- Justification of the development of a new study programme and its development process
- Compliance of the study programme with the trends of the relevant industry in the countries of the European Union and in the world
- Description of the public, employers, employers' organisations and other organisations of the relevant **industry involvement** in the process of development and further improvement of the study programme
- Provision of traineeship for students
- Employment opportunities of the graduates are based on the labour market demands which is confirmed by the employers of the relevant industry; and they are in compliance with the medium- and long-term demand and development trends of the labour market and the relevant industry and compliance of the skills and competencies acquired by the graduates with the medium- and long-term development trends of the labour market and the relevant industry.
- The study programme complies with the national standard of academic education or the standard of professional higher education
- If professional qualification is acquired after the completion of the study programme, the programme complies with the occupational standard

Accreditation

5 experts – 2 foreign, 1 academics, **1 employer**, 1 student

Assessment criteria/aspects:

- Management (compliance with trends and industry demands / processes of development and revision of the relevant study programmes)
- The effectiveness of the internal quality assurance system (are the interested parties involved in the determination of the policy?)
- Cooperation (incl.cooperation with employers and employers' organisations of the relevant industry)
- Content of the study courses/modules (in compliance with the relevant industry, needs of the labour market and scientific trends/ compliance of the study courses/modules with the aims of the study programme and study results to be achieved)
- Students' traineeship (do students obtain the required skills in the course of traineeship according to the study results to be achieved in the study programme?)
- Topics of the students' final works (topics are relevant and in compliance with the needs of the labour market and scientific trends?)
- Results of the graduates and employers' opinion surveys
- Employment opportunities of the graduates (are the graduates employed in the field of the acquired degree/professional qualification or in other field? / Employment forecast and opportunities of the graduates of the study programme)

Information and Data available

	www.aika.lv www.svr.aic.lv	Latvian Agency for Higher Education Register of Study Directions (for accreditation and licensing)		
	https://www.viis.lv Ministry of Education and Science	State Education Information System (all levels of education) Register of Educational Institutions Register of learners Register of Teachers Academic Staff Register Register of Educational Programmes Register of Students (since 2018) Register of Graduates (since 2018)		
/	https://sciencelatvia.lv Ministry of Education and Science	State Information System of Science and Research (since 2017) research institutes, scientists/ researchers, projects, Funding, scientific works, publications, grants etc.		
	Annual Reports Ministry of Education and Science	Higher Education Institutions submit statistics to the Ministry and Central Statistics Bureau (agreed forms)		

Thank you

jolanta.silka@aic.lv