Methodological approaches to the development of assessment standards
Qualification standards

a) **assessment standards** – determine assessment requirements, can also determine assessment criteria, performance criteria, assessment methods, requirements for composition and management of the examining committee authorized to give qualification, etc.;

b) **professional standards** – determine requirements of a labor market to a profession, can also determine tasks and responsibilities/types of work that a qualification holder is allowed to perform, and also competencies necessary for its performance. Professional standards serve as a foundation for the development of two other types of standards;

c) **training standards** – determine requirements for a training process and its results, can also determine expected training results in accordance with a training program.
An assessment standard is used aiming to:

- establish uniform requirements for a process (procedure) of assessment and acknowledgment of personal training results that should be followed by all subjects responsible for assessment and acknowledgment of training results for the purpose of giving professional qualifications
- ensure reliability, objectiveness, and validity of various assessment practices that are used during certification
- develop assessment and monitoring materials (assessment tools) for conduction of a qualification assessment (qualifying examination)
- manage qualification assessment
The foundation for assessment standard development is a professional standard. An assessment standard should represent only those qualifications that were arranged to be included in a professional standard. It cannot involve content unauthorized by professional standards.

**An assessment standard is developed for a professional qualification**

The smallest unit of an assessment standard, which can be certified and included into the Register of qualifications, – professional competence (or labor function/type of work).

**Professional qualification**

- is developed by selecting corresponding units of professional standards (labor functions)
- for each of the selected units of professional standards the corresponding competences and the required knowledge and skills are matched.
- assessment methods and criteria are determined individually for each particular professional competence.
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

Module/ partial qualification (NQF level, scope)

Assessment standard
THE CONTENT OF ASSESSMENT STANDARD (1)

1. **General information on qualification** (name of qualification upgrade, registration number in the Register of qualifications, level of the National Qualifications Framework, scope, certification order…)

2. **Admission to assessment/ prerequisites** regarding admission of a person to assessment (certification)

   • availability of a minimum level of education – the completion of a formal training program of a particular level (for example, general secondary education, availability of a vocational technical training certificate or a higher education diploma, etc.);

   • availability of a certain previous qualification, including partial qualifications determined by a professional standard;

   • completion of a certain training program (for example, requirements to which are determined by an institution that gives qualification, receiving approved training within programs developed in accordance with the standards of professional training, attending refresher courses, etc.)

   • professional experience supported by portfolio (it should also be indicated which information should be included in a portfolio. In particular, availability of justification documents, for example, a seaman’s seagoing service record book, reference letters from an employer or third parties, internship certificates, etc.);

   • any requirements or work results that support assessment methods (for example, usage of a portfolio, project work as a support for demonstration of practical skills during assessment)
3. Assessment methods (qualifying examination)

- completion of a formal basic professional training program
- completion of a formal professional retraining program or a qualification upgrade (continuous professional training)
- confirmation of non-formal or informal training (completion of a non-formal program of continuous professional training)
- accumulation of acquired partial qualifications (in conjunction with certificates of competency)

4. Assessment management

- Stages of assessment conduction (assessment of submitted documents, professional examination, practical skills demonstration)
- Description of competence assessment methods (requirements/ key parameters for the organization of an examination are indicated)
5. Assessment criteria

- Professional competences assessment criteria
- Comprehensive (general) competences assessment criteria

6. Performance rating (by every assessment method)

- without a grade/ score: acquired competence is assessed by the assessment criteria in accordance with a determined level, in case the result corresponds to or exceeds the level – it is considered satisfactory (passed) (a result is assessed on a 2-point scale – «yes» or «no»)
- by grading scale (for example, on a scale of 1-12 points) along with setting a passing test grade «pass/ fail»
- weighing coefficients are applied
7. Requirements for assessment arrangements

- A place where an assessment is conducted
- Work equipment (workspace, equipment, appliances, instruments, materials, personal protection equipment, etc.) (information is provided from a corresponding professional standard)

8. Working conditions and requirements for the composition of a qualification committee

Recommendations regarding the work of a committee and, if considered necessary, requirements for its composition and estimators are indicated.

9. Normative references

A list of regulatory and legal documents (standards), which represent the foundation for an assessment standard (according to which an assessment is conducted), is presented.)
10. Related qualifications

Information regarding the units of standard assessment that can be certified (labor functions/types of work, professional competences) is provided.

11. Glossary of assessment standard terms

Terms (assessment methods) that are used in the assessment standard are defined.
Thank you for attention!

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