

Diploma Supplement

(template)

Diploma series <XX><X> Nr.<0000>
Joint diploma series <XX><XX> Nr.<0000>

This Diploma Supplement follows the model developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO/CEPES). The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data and ensure academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates etc.). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, the reason should be explained.

1. Information identifying the holder of the qualification:

1.1 family name(s);

1.2 given name(s);

1.3 date of birth (*day/ month/ year*);

1.4 student identification number or personal identification number.

Note. In case of a joint diploma, student`s identification number or personal identification number may not be indicated.

2. Information identifying the qualification:

2.1 name of qualification (*in original language*);

2.2 main field(s) of study for the qualification;

2.3 name (*in original language*) and status of awarding institution (in case of a joint diploma – in original language);

2.4 name (*in original language*) and status of institution administering studies in Latvian (in case of a joint diploma – in original language) (*if different from 2.3*);

Note. In case of a joint diploma, the countries represented by partner institutions shall be provided.

2.5 language(s) of instruction/examination.

3. Information on the level of the qualification:

3.1 level of qualification;

Note. Qualification level shall be indicated in accordance with information provided in Chapter 8 of Diploma Supplement, specifying the qualification level – Latvian professional qualification level, European/Latvian qualifications framework level or EHEA qualifications framework level. In case of a joint diploma qualification level shall be indicated in accordance with the agreement.

3.2 official length of programme (*years and credits*), start and end date of the acquisition of the programme;

Note. If a student is awarded credit points for learning outcomes achieved in prior education or professional experience, the number and date of commission's decision for recognition of learning outcomes shall be indicated, as well as the name of institution and study programme or its part or type of professional experience, time period and place, where learning outcomes are achieved, shall be indicated.

3.3 admission requirements.

4. Information on the contents and results gained:

4.1 mode of study;

4.2 programme requirements (*programme aims and intended results of studies*);

4.3 programme details (e.g. modules or units studied) and the individual grades/marks/credits obtained;

Note. In joint study programmes, by reflecting components (phases) of study programmes, it shall be indicated in which partner institution specific phase is acquired. If grading system differs in countries of partner institutions, assessment is indicated in accordance with description of national grading system, which is given in Chapter 8 of Diploma Supplement, of partner institution, where specific study component is acquired, if agreement has not provided another order.

4.4 grading scheme and, if available, grade distribution guidance;

Note. In case of a joint diploma, where the grading system differs in represented countries of partner institutions, it shall be indicated in compliance with an agreement.

4.5 overall classification of the qualification (*in original language*).

5. Information on the qualification:

5.1 access to further study;

5.2 professional status (*if applicable*).

6. Additional information and sources.

7. Certification of the supplement:

7.1 date;

7.2 given name(s), family name(s), signature(s);

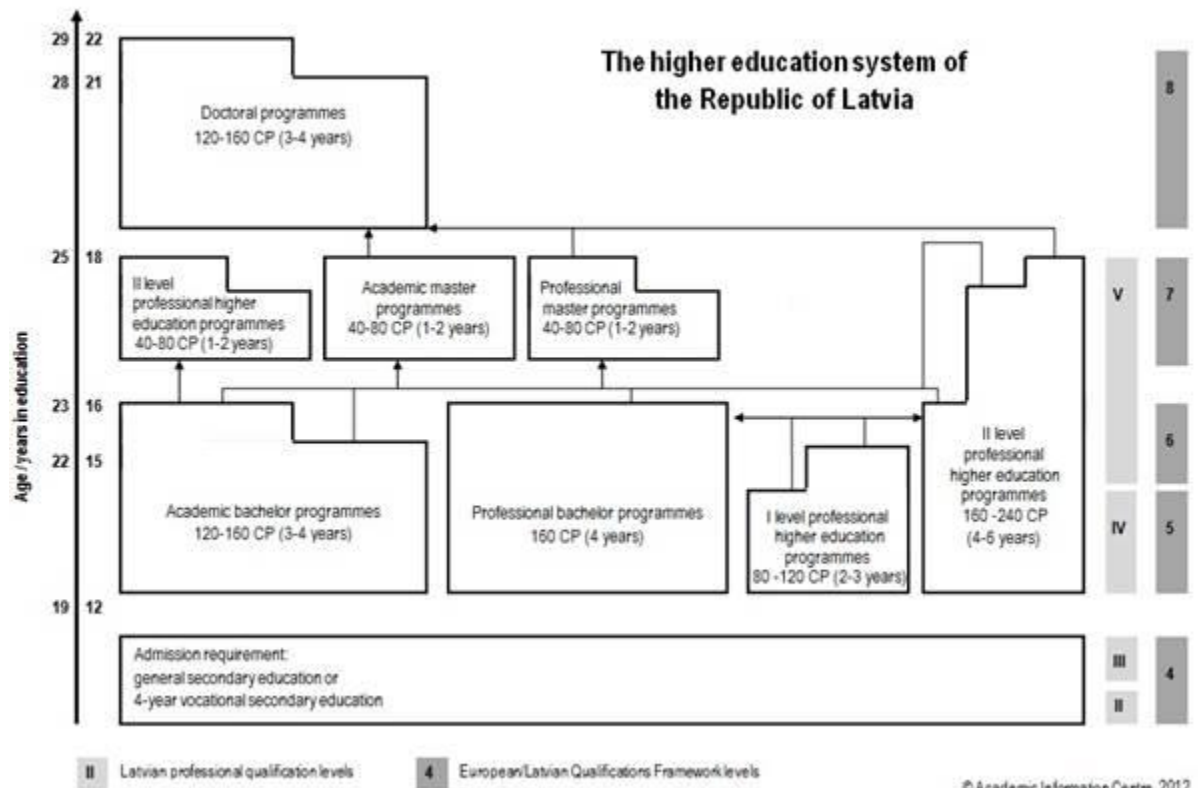
7.3 position(s) of the person(s), certifying the Supplement;

7.4 official stamp or seal.

Note. In case of a joint diploma a seal or stamp is not required.

8. Information on the national higher education system.

Certificate of general secondary education and diploma of vocational secondary education gives the right to continue education at higher education level. However, the universities/colleges are free to set specific admission requirements, e.g. additional subjects that had to be taken at the secondary school level to qualify for admission to a particular programme.



According to the Latvian legislation, higher education programmes are placed in the Latvian Qualifications Framework (henceforth – LQF) and comply with eight levels of the European Qualifications Framework (henceforth – EQF).

The Placement of Higher Education Certifying Education Documents in the LQF and EQF

Education documents certifying higher education	LQF and EQF level
Diploma of first level professional higher education	5
Bachelor's diploma Professional Bachelor's diploma Diploma of professional higher education, diploma of higher professional qualification (second level professional higher education, the length of full-time studies – at least 4 years)	6
Master's diploma Professional Master's diploma Diploma of professional higher education, diploma of higher education, diploma of higher professional qualification (second level professional higher education, the total length of full-time studies – at least 5 years)	7
Doctor's diploma and Doctor's diploma of professional doctoral degree in arts	8

Higher education system comprises both academic higher education and professional higher education. *Bakalaur's* (Bachelor's) and *maġistr's* (Master's) degrees are awarded both in academic and professional higher education programmes.

The objectives of the **academic higher education (HE)** are to prepare graduates for an independent research work, as well as to provide theoretical background for professional activities.

Academic programmes leading to a *bakalaur's* (Bachelor's) degree comprise 120–160 credit points (henceforth – CP)¹ (160–240 ECTS). The duration of full-time studies is 6–8 semesters (3–4 years).

Academic programmes leading to *maġistr's* (Master's) degree comprise 40–80 CP (60–120 ECTS). The duration of full-time studies is 2–4 semesters (1–2 years).

Total duration of full-time Bachelor's and Master's studies is at least 5 years.

Academic education programmes are implemented according to the state standard of the academic education.

The objectives of the **professional HE** are to provide in-depth knowledge in a particular field, preparing graduates for design or improvement of systems, products and technologies, as well as to prepare them for creative, research and teaching activities in this field.

Professional HE programmes leading to a *professional bakalaur's* (Bachelor's) degree are designed to ensure a professional competence, they comprise at least 160 CP (240 ECTS) including practical placement of ≥ 26 CP (39 ECTS). The duration of full-time studies is at least 8 semesters (4 years).

Professional HE programmes leading to a *professional maģistrs (Master's) degree* comprise no less than 40 CP (60 ECTS) including practical placements of ≥ 6 CP (9 ECTS). The duration of full-time studies is at least 2 semesters (1 year).

Total duration of full-time Bachelor's and Master's studies is at least 5 years.

Graduates of both types of *bakalaurs (Bachelor's) degree* have access to Master's studies, graduates of the *maģistrs (Master's) degree* – to doctoral studies.

Degrees obtained in medicine, dentistry and pharmacy professional studies (5 and 6 years of studies) are referenced to the *maģistrs (Master's) degree* and the graduates can continue their studies in doctoral level programmes.

In the professional HE there are other types of programmes apart from Bachelor's and Master's study programmes.

- *First level professional HE (college) study programmes* that lead to the 4th level professional qualification (LQF level 5). Programmes comprise 80–120 CP (120–180 ECTS), and these programmes are mainly targeted at labour market, yet the graduates can continue their studies in second level professional HE programmes.

- *Second level professional HE study programmes* that lead to the 5th level professional qualification (LQF level 6–7). These programmes can comprise either at least 40 CP (60 ECTS) for holders of *bakalaurs (Bachelor's) degree* or at least 160 CP (240 ECTS) for secondary school leavers. In both cases programmes should include a practical placement and graduation examinations. If study programme comprises 160 CP (240 ECTS) and the compulsory part of a *bakalaurs (Bachelor's) programme*, graduates obtain access to Master's studies.

Doctoral studies. Since January 1, 2000 a single type of doctoral degree – *doktors* – is awarded in Latvia. The degree of *maģistrs (Master's degree)* is required for admission to doctoral studies. *Doktors (Doctoral) degree* is awarded after public defence of doctoral thesis and successfully passed exams in the chosen scientific branch or sub-branch. The doctoral thesis has to include original results of the research and new cognitions in the scientific discipline and may be a result of three to four years of doctoral studies at a higher education institution or an equivalent amount of independent research. The doctoral thesis may be a dissertation, a set of scientific publications or a monograph. The rights to award the *doktors (Doctoral) degree* are delegated by decision of the Cabinet of Ministers to promotion councils established at the universities. The procedure for awarding the *doktors (Doctoral) degree* is controlled by the Commission of the Scientific Qualification.

Since April 1, 2018, a professional doctoral degree in arts is awarded in Latvia. Admission to professional doctoral program in arts requires a Master's degree. A professional doctoral degree in arts is awarded to a person after acquiring an accredited professional doctoral program in arts and after the development and defense of a doctoral theoretical research and artistically creative work. A professional doctoral degree in arts is awarded by the State Examination Commission.

Grading system. Degree of achieved study results is assessed by 10-point degree system or PASS/FAIL.

10-point Degree System

Achievement level	Grade	Meaning	Approx. ECTS grade
very high	10	izcili (with distinction)	A
	9	teicami (excellent)	A

high	8	ļoti labi (very good)	B
	7	labi (good)	C
medium	6	gandrīz labi (almost good)	D
	5	viduvēji (satisfactory)	E
	4	gandrīz viduvēji (almost satisfactory)	E/FX
low	3–1	negatīvs vērtējums (unsatisfactory)	Fail

Quality assurance. According to the Latvian legislation, state-recognized degrees/diplomas may be awarded upon the completion of an accredited programme in an accredited HE institution holding a state-approved [Satversme](#) (by-law) or college statute. Decisions on programme accreditation are taken by the Study Accreditation Commission, while those on the institutional accreditation – by the Higher Education Council.

More information:

1. On educational system – <http://www.izm.gov.lv>
2. On recognition diplomas – <http://www.aic.lv>
3. On study possibilities in Latvia – <http://studyinlatvia.eu>
4. On Study Direction Register – <http://svr.aic.lv/Form.aspx?id=contacts>
5. On European education systems and policies – <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/>

¹ Latvian credit point is defined as a one-week full-time study workload. An average workload of a full-time study year in most HE programmes is 40 credit points. Latvian credit point system is compatible with ECTS. The number of ECTS credits is found by multiplying the number of Latvian credit points by a factor of 1.5.

Instead of the Minister of Education and Science – Minister of Environmental Protection and Regional Development E.Sprūdžs