

The Challenge of Lifelong Learning

Many citizens wish to gain knowledge and enlarge their competences in various fields, because they realize that this is a way of positively developing one's identity and of redefining one's position in society and culture.

However, adult education does not only contribute to the development of an individual's identity. More and more people are well aware of the fact that we are living in a world of major social and economic change. Adult education helps them to adapt to this dynamic process and therefore constitutes an important means of social integration.

Nowadays you cannot expect that the knowledge acquired at school, at university or on the job will be sufficient for the rest of your life. Every adult must be ready to continually acquire new knowledge and skills and thus take responsibility for shaping his or her learning biography.

Adult education is a key factor for success on the road of lifelong learning.



Adult Education Today



Siegfried Schneider, Bavarian State Minister of Education

It is one of the particular strengths of the Bavarian system of adult education that it is able to react fast and flexibly to new social developments and challenges. The educational programmes of its organisations have therefore been extended over the last years. Bavarian adult education offers courses in fields which constitute the major social challenges of today:

- German language proficiency for migrants
- Modularized vocational training
- Key qualifications and skills
- Parental and family training
- Coping with crisis and conflict management



Karl Freller, State Secretary in the Bavarian State Ministry of Education

Thanks to their highly attractive programmes the organisations of adult education form a vital element of the educational landscape of Bavaria.

Educational Programme

The Bavarian organisations of adult education provide a wide range of high quality educational programmes which are demand-oriented and adapted to the specific needs of all our citizens.

The following classical fields count among the traditional strong points of adult education in Bavaria:

- Foreign language learning
 - Health education
 - Practical psychology and parenting
 - Cultural education
 - Society, politics, economy
- The institutions of adult education in Bavaria stand for high quality educational offers.
 - They reflect the diversity of society in Bavaria and shape their educational programmes from different points of view.
 - They have the freedom to define their course programmes and their curricula. Similarly, their organisational autonomy is guaranteed by the Bavarian law for the promotion of adult education.
 - Adult education in Bavaria draws on the exemplary voluntary commitment of many citizens.
 - Adult education is a key element of the educational landscape in Bavaria.



A collage made by the participants of one of the highly successful "Mum learns German" courses.

Officially accredited organizations of adult education

- Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Evangelische Erwachsenenbildung in Bayern (AEEB) www.aeeb.de
- Katholische Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft für Erwachsenenbildung in Bayern (KLE) www.kle-bayern.de
- Bayerischer Volkshochschulverband (bv) www.vhs-bayern.de
- Bildungswerk der Bayerischen Wirtschaft (bbw) www.bbww.de
- Bildungswerk des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes (dgb-bw) www.dgb-bildungswerk-bayern.de
- Bildungswerk der Vereinten Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft in Bayern (ver.di) www.verdi-bw-bayern.de
- Bildungswerk des Bayerischen Bauernverbandes (BBV-BW) www.bayerischerbauernverband.de