

Students' self-government bodies in VET schools

Ukraine

<https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2145-19#Text>

<https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/103/98-%D0%B2%D1%80#Text>

DESCRIPTION

According to Article 28 of the Law of Ukraine "On Education" and Article 23 of the Law of Ukraine "On Vocational Education", **public bodies of self-government, including student self-government bodies, may operate in VET institutions.** These student associations function **on a voluntary basis, in accordance with the provisions (statutes)** of student self-government of the educational institution, as approved by the general assembly of authorised representatives from the institution's groups.

The law does not specify a specific format for the activities of student self-government. Usually, the **highest body of student self-government is the general assembly or the student conference.** Additionally, executive bodies such as student council, student collective council, head council or parliament may be established, and they are accountable to the general assembly.

These students' associations consist of active, proactive and creative students eager for change. At the start of each academic year, **democratic elections are held in VET institutions to elect members to the self-government body.** The progress of the elections is covered both on the candidates' social media pages and the official website of the educational institution.

Student associations operate throughout the academic year according to their work plans that they develop themselves.

These plans typically include **events aimed at developing the "soft" skills and environmental skills of students.**

Thanks to student self-government, **the student community is able to implement its rights, duties, and initiatives through decision-making, the use of their own resources, and cooperation with the administration.**

A **representative** of student self-government body is also a member of the **scholarship commission** of VET institutions.

Additionally, the head of the student self-government body **approves the Rules of conduct** for students within the institution.