VET in Germany’s education and training system

**TERTIARY LEVEL**

- **EOF 6**: PhD programmes, duration varies
- **EOF 5**: Master programmes, 2 years
- **EOF 4**: Bachelor programmes, 3-4 years
- **EOF 3**: VET programmes
- **EOF 2**: General education programmes

**ADULT LEARNING/CONTINUING TRAINING**

- CVET for employees
- Courses for unemployed and other vulnerable groups
- Training courses by private providers

**SECONDARY LEVEL**

- Lower secondary programmes, at Gymnasium, Realschule and Gesamtschule, 4 years
- Lower secondary programmes, at Hauptschule and Gesamtschule, 3 years (4 years in one federal state)

**POST-SECONDARY LEVEL**

- General education programmes, 2-3 years
- General education programmes with vocational orientation, 2-3 years
- School-based VET programmes, 1-3 years
- Apprenticeship programmes, 2-3.5 years

**NB:** This is a simplified chart, based on the unified approach used for the spotlights on VET in all EU-28 countries plus Iceland and Norway. ISCED-P 2011. EOF levels have not yet been defined for all qualifications. Source: Cedefop.