Denmark has a long-standing tradition of lifelong learning and improving the competences of the workforce beyond compulsory stages of education. In fact, the notion is very much that learning is a lifelong occupation.

In 2011, nearly one in three of the population in the age bracket 25-64 years participated in educational activity, counting both publicly funded, workplace internal and private education programmes and courses in connection with employment or in some form of leisure-time education.

Adult general education and vocational education and training range from non-formal education to qualifying general education and continuing vocational training.

Generally, the syllabus and examinations are adapted to the experience and interest of adults and in some cases they may obtain recognition for prior formal and non-formal learning. The programmes are structured in such a way that the level of qualification can be compared to levels in the mainstream education system.