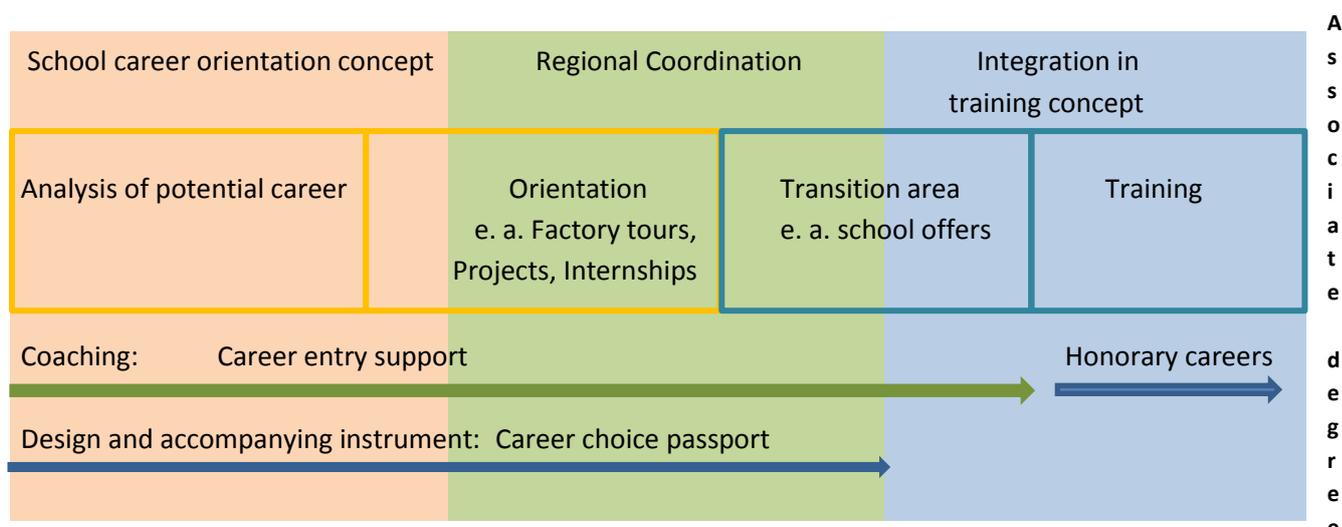


Education chains in Germany



What is the aim of the Initiative Educational Chains?

Involved actors of the *Initiative Education Chains* help young people to prepare themselves specifically for their graduation and professional entry. The aim is to improve the transition to the world of work in the interests of young people and to secure the next generation of skilled workers.

Transition from school to work

The transition from school to work poses a great difficulty for many students, especially for *Secondary-I-School* students. At this important juncture in the occupational biographies of young people, support is required so that as many people as possible are enabled to participate in working and working life.

Therefore, the focus of the provincial government is on increasing the ability to train and career choice of the students.

It is the task of the schools to carry out targeted vocational orientation measures in accordance with their school-form-specific educational mandate with the support of chambers, business, companies, the Federal Employment Agency and other extra-curricular partners. They develop a cross-curricular concept for vocational and study orientation.

The aim of all measures is to secure the ability to train through early practice-oriented and systematic vocational and study orientation and to strengthen the vocational choice competence of the students in order to counter the increasing shortage of skilled workers.

Possibilities for vocational orientation and vocational training on practice days are i. a.

- Work experience programs
- Company visits
- Teaching in cooperation with vocational schools
- Work-related projects
- Student companies
- Practice-oriented learning phases within the subject teaching.

The cooperation with the vocational guidance of the employment agencies, the vocational schools and the enterprises has a special value in the process of the successful organization of the transition from the school into the occupation.

The targeted systematic occupational orientation in Lower Saxony is based on measures of basic vocational orientation, such as competence assessment procedures, company internships, company surveys and student companies, and measures of in-depth vocational orientation, which ensure improved preparation of young people for the transition from school to work.

With the procedure "Competence Analysis Profile AC Lower Saxony" the competences and strengths of the pupils are determined. In addition, the Second-I schools are required to develop a cross-curricular approach to vocational orientation, which, depending on the type of school, provides 30, 60 or 80 practice days to improve the students' ability to learn and choose their profession through practical experience in companies or vocational schools.

In the 9th grade, pupils have the opportunity to choose a practical vocational focus as a vocational training measure in close cooperation with the vocational schools or one of the profiles foreign languages, technology, business as well as health and social issues. The targeted support of pupils in need of assistance in the transition from school to work is financed by socio-educational specialists at primary, secondary I and secondary II schools.