

## Professional training organizations: kick-off for the new certification based on the national quality framework

AFNOR Certification received authorization from COFRAC to certify professional training organizations according to the national quality standard published at the beginning of June.

They now have eighteen months to provide proof that they have formalized a quality approach, a *sine qua non* condition for continuing to operate on the conventional market.

Saint-Denis, September 23, 2019 – [AFNOR Certification](#) is launching a new service intended for players in the professional training market wishing to show that they carry out their activity with a constant concern for quality. This new stamp bears the name RNQ certification, named after the national quality framework, a reading grid made up of 7 criteria and 32 indicators. AFNOR Certification took part in its construction, under the aegis of the Ministry of Labor and its General Directorate for Employment and Vocational Training (DGEFP).

### A certification obligation as of January 1 , 2021

This framework, set in stone by a decree of June 6, 2019, must serve as a common core around which professional training providers are invited to build their quality approach, in the spirit of the law "For freedom to choose your professional future" of September 5, 2018. This text, which completes a reform initiated in 2014, asks professional training providers to present quality certification by January 1, 2021 (2022 for learning centers) to continue operating on the conventional market. Otherwise, they run the risk of being delisted and losing their funding.

### The view of an independent third party

With RNQ certification, a training organization takes an additional step in the formalization of its quality approach, since it relies on an independent third-party organization to judge the seriousness of this commitment. Until now, it could be limited to self-declaration, within the framework of the Datadock system. "AFNOR Certification took the lead during the Datadock, by offering several differentiating signs to service providers wishing to display their rigor. In particular [NF Service Training](#) and [AFAQ ISO 9001 applied to professional training organizations](#), two distinctive signs which, even today, give their holders a head start on the 2021 obligation," indicates Philippe Bourdalé, quality product manager at AFNOR Certification.

These two brands retain their “premium” positioning in an offer now organized around the new certification based on the national quality benchmark, incorporating the main requirements but with a higher level of rigor. Organizations that already hold one or the other will benefit from reduced audit times for the new certification. Furthermore, AFNOR Certification can assess free of charge whether they are close or, on the contrary, far from the requirements of the new standard, using an [online self-assessment test](#). A [series of educational workshops are being held throughout France](#) to inform professionals.

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## About AFNOR Certification

AFNOR Certification is the leading activity of the AFNOR group in France thanks to its certification and evaluation services for systems, services, products and skills. A subsidiary of the AFNOR association, AFNOR Certification offers a local service thanks to 40 agencies on five continents and 14 regional representations in France. It mobilizes 1,850 qualified auditors to meet the needs of its clients on nearly 60,000 sites around the world. AFNOR Certification runs the NF certification system and offers several signs of confidence such as AFAQ certification, the Diversity and Professional Equality labels, the Tested and approved by seniors system and the European Ecolabel. [www.afnor.org](http://www.afnor.org)

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