



PYTHAGORAS

Thessaloniki, Greece

Vocational Training &
Lifelong Learning Center

COMPANY PROFILE

Founded in **1966**, Educational Group **PYTHAGORAS** is the undisputed leader in professional education and training in Northern Greece numbering **more than 50,000 graduates**.

Pythagoras was **the first private educational body to introduce vocational training and certification** in the fields of Computing, Management, Computerized Accounting, Graphic Arts, Computer Software Development, in Greece. The brand Pythagoras became for generations synonymous with specialized vocational training and a gateway for professional success among its graduates.

Its course was based on a **unique concept**: A high level quality of professional education and lifelong training in fields with high employability prospects for the future.

In its 50 years of operation, Pythagoras rigorously followed all the changes of the Hellenic education system and the requirements for vocational education and training, preserving its leading position.

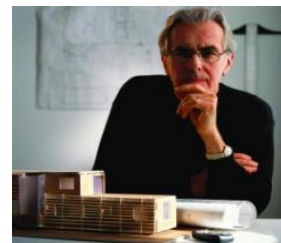
In 2000 Pythagoras Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning Centre was founded in order to research the training needs of regional and national labor markets in order to provide advanced training programs based on new educational methods and technological innovations and to create strong bonds and partnerships with Professional Associations and the Government Institutions.

Nowadays **PYTHAGORAS** provides comprehensive services for the development of human resources which are addressed to companies, organizations, employees of the private and public sector, self-employed and unemployed. We thus assure the prerequisites that lead to the success of employment policies and increase business competitiveness.

PYTHAGORAS is certified by the National Certification Agency for Qualifications and Career Guidance (former EKEPIS) with certification code 11101831, having one of the top rankings for vocational training in Greece based on the evaluation of the Ministry of Education. Furthermore Pythagoras is certified by the Center for Security Studies-KEMEA of the Ministry of Internal and Administrative Reconstruction. It is also an official supplier, in the fields of adult training and consulting, of the prefectures of: Central Macedonia, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, Peloponnese and Central Greece.

The quality of our services is certified according to the requirements of the International Standard **ISO 9001: 2008**

The company's headquarter is in Thessaloniki, the second larger city in Greece.



OUR OBJECTIVES

PYTHAGORAS's objectives are:

- ✓ The provision of training, education, consulting and career orientation services.
- ✓ The satisfaction of the trainees' needs for the acquisition of new knowledge, dexterities and capacities.
- ✓ The upgrade of the professional qualifications of the workforce.
- ✓ The acceleration of the workforce's adaptation in the shaped new data.
- ✓ The realization of actions promoting occupation of unemployed people and people due to be fired.
- ✓ The realization of actions aiming at including and re-including in the Labor market Socially Vulnerable Groups (People with Special Needs, detoxified individuals or individuals under detoxification, immigrants, individuals with cultural or religious particularities, unemployed people for a long period of time, repatriates, trafficking victims, refugees and asylum applicants, imprisoned and released from prison, HIV positives, juveniles, victims of family violence, homeless, people in a state of, and, threatened by poverty and other disadvantaged individuals)
- ✓ The conduct of researches and the realization of studies in co-operation with institutions of the wider public sector, of the private sector and of the European Union.
- ✓ The co-operations and the joint undertaking of research and professional training activities with national and foreign institutions.
- ✓ The participation in European Union networks aiming at know-how and technology transfer in the company's fields of activity.
- ✓ The provision of technical support and consulting to social, professional, economic institutions, Trade Unions, Universities, Institutions etc.
- ✓ The organization and co-organization of day events, informative campaigns and sensitization events, in fields of social inclusion and promotion in the labor market of unemployed people or individuals belonging to socially vulnerable groups.
- ✓ The conduct of promotional activities, publicity and sensitization in fields related to unemployed and socially vulnerable groups.
- ✓ The battle of unemployment and the development of equal employment opportunities.
- ✓ The promotion of the economic and social cohesion.

PARTNERSHIPS

PYTHAGORAS Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning Centre has realized partnerships with local enterprises, industries, Universities, local and national authorities, transnational partners and institutions from the private and public sector. We also collaborate directly with 4 Chambers and more than 16 associations of professionals and labour unions. We cooperate directly with more than 600 enterprises around Greece and indirectly with more than 1200 via their Chambers or Associations.

TRAINING SERVICES

PYTHAGORAS Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning Centre is an institution that respects the principles of the Lisbon Strategy promoting lifelong learning as crucial factor of economic growth, competitiveness and social inclusion. Our goal is implementing training courses whose aim is both the acquisition by specialized training skills certified in accordance with international and European standards, and the acquisition of specific skills and attitudes; thus, enabling the trainees to become active members of a rapidly evolving society, gaining confidence and certainty for the future.

The fulfilment of this aim, with quantitative and qualitative criteria, is ensured via the cooperation with certification bodies, which certify the validity and accordance with recognized standards (standards) of knowledge and skills, in each educational theme. The certification bodies in collaboration with **PYTHAGORAS** aim at:

- The rapid acquisition of skills
- Enhancing confidence
- The meaningful evaluation of knowledge and the activation of human resources and quality with modern teaching methods
- The creation of strains able to meet the needs and requirements of business with the acquisition of certified knowledge
- Enhancing and supporting learners employees to facilitate their access to Information Society and thus promoting the labour market with certified knowledge and skills.

Educational Methods and Techniques

PYTHAGORAS recognizes the importance of choosing the appropriate educational methods and techniques for each training program, since the contents of both the object of training and the characteristics of trainees vary, depending on the program. So, if the intention is to teach an innovative and well- designed object, it must be followed by the appropriate methods and techniques.

Our expertise in the field is proved by the fact that Pythagoras is not only a certified by the Ministry of Education examination centre for the certification of adult trainers but also the center that realizes the larger number of specialized training programs for Adult Trainers in Greece.

Specialized Areas of Experience

PYTHAGORAS realizes a number of lifelong educational programs and is adequately resourced with a variety of qualified scientists coming from different disciplinary areas. It's Specialized Areas of Experience in vocational training and lifelong learning are:

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| ✓ Finance and Administration | ✓ Tourism & Customer Service |
| ✓ Computer Sciences | ✓ Culture & Sports |
| ✓ Environment–Renewable Forms of Energy | ✓ Agriculture & Agro-tourism |
| ✓ Health and Welfare Services | ✓ Transport |
| ✓ Pedagogy | ✓ Mass Media & Communication |
| | ✓ Technical Professions |

PROGRAMS

Realized National Programs

PYTHAGORAS Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning Centre has realized numerous Vocational Training Programs during its long *operation*. In particular, it has participated in the following Operational Programs: Operational Program “Employment and Vocational Training» of the Ministry of Employment, Operational program “Competitiveness” of the Ministry of Development, OAED, Peripheral Operational Programs, Operational Program “Information Society”, Security Techniques, Training of Trainees, e-learning, etc.

PYTHAGORAS Vocational Training & Lifelong Learning Centre serves as an authorised ACTA and VELLUM certification bodies testing centre and works closely with numerous recognised agencies in international collaborations and research programmes, the ultimate goal being the provision of top-quality professional training.

Since 1966 we have trained more than 50.000 adults who were women, men, unemployed, employed, self-employed and Socially Vulnerable groups (immigrants, refugees, expatriates, women imprisoned etc.)

Training Programs for the Unemployed

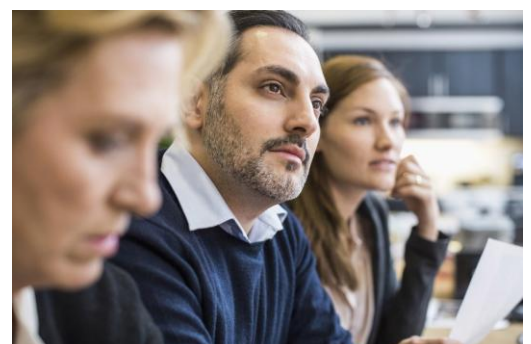
The center implements vocational training programs for unemployed, which aim to develop their skills and to improve their employability. Such programs are:

- ✓ Vocational Training voucher for young unemployed
- ✓ Vocational Training voucher for young unemployed in the sector of Tourism
- ✓ Vocational Training Programs for vulnerable social groups
- ✓ Vocational Training Programs on Information and Communication Technologies
- ✓ Training voucher for unemployed in the Health sector
- ✓ Vocational Training voucher for redundant employees from major group of companies such as ALDI, NUTRIART, FOKAS etc.

Training Programs for Employees & Entrepreneurs

PYTHAGORAS implements a wide range of training programs for employees in various fields such as:

- ✓ Training Programs for Private Security Personnel
- ✓ Training Programs for Safety Technicians
- ✓ Training Programs for Staff in food Industry
- ✓ Training Programs for Adult Trainers
- ✓ Training Programs for Energy Inspectors
- ✓ Training Programs for Employees of Small Business
- ✓ Training Programs for Professionals Facing the Economic Crisis



CONSULTING & CAREER COUNSELLING SERVICES

According to the principles of lifelong learning, vocational-training cannot be limited to a simple adaptation of the individual in a specific post, but needs the continuous enrichment and enlargement of its content in order to provide equal opportunities to local professional evolution, in national and transnational level. **PYTHAGORAS** not only provides education and training, but also supports the trainees through an integrated career service. Therefore, **PYTHAGORAS** has incorporated the provision of counselling in order to support every unemployed person to participate in programs that it realizes, but also to provide information on the current situation and prospects in the labour market for all people concerned. So, it contributes to the promotion of the employment process for all groups, through the promotion of the evaluation in personal and professional level.

In the modern environment of professional insecurity and high mobility it is particularly important to provide Integrated Services of Career Counseling, services that are dynamic interventions to mobilize the unemployed, to facilitate their integration into the labor market and to offer career guidance to employees. **PYTHAGORAS**, through a coherent system of digitized tools and personalized services that has developed aims to effectively support the unemployed or employees:

- To gain better understanding of the characteristics of his personality, interests, skills and values, i.e. those factors that affect their educational and occupational choices.
- To learn to search process and evaluate information and to explore alternative career pathways, aiming at professional development.
- To establish a personal action plan to join the labor market or to redefine his career in accordance with their personal needs and current labor market conditions.

PYTHAGORAS's Integrated System for the provision of Career Counseling includes:

1. Assessment tools for the assessment of personality factors, emotional intelligence, arithmetic and language skills, abstract and creative thinking and professional values.
2. Personalized services of Career Counseling and Entrepreneurial consulting by experienced and highly qualified consultants.
3. Networking services with other organizations providing information, training, and social services, according to individual needs.
4. Co-operation with companies and realization of internships

OTHER CONSULTANCY SERVICES

PYTHAGORAS provides a wide range of integrated consultancy services to the public and private sectors in the following areas:

- 1. Human Resources development:** institution and capacity building of the public sector in the fields of labor, employment, VET and security sector
- 2. Education and lifelong learning:** educational reform, strategic planning, evaluation of educational programs and projects, monitoring and evaluation of the trainees' educational course

3. Labour markets and Employment Promotion: employment promotion, gender issues, diversity management, youth in the labor market, active employment measures

4. Public administration reform: training, functional reviews, streamlining administrative procedures, strategic planning in the public sector, e-governance

5. Socio-economic development: local and regional development planning, SME development, competitiveness and entrepreneurship, policy analysis

6. Management of EU programmes: EU funding initiatives for individuals and enterprises

7. Sub contracting of work packages in approved EU projects

8. Marketing planning and publicity activities

OUR PEOPLE

PYTHAGORAS is staffed by 14 highly trained scientific and technical employees who have the necessary qualifications and skills to provide value-added services.

Our human resources are distributed in the following sections:

- ✓ Administration
- ✓ Department of Programs for the unemployed
- ✓ Department of Programs for employees
- ✓ Department of Career Counselling
- ✓ Department of European Programs
- ✓ Department of Development
- ✓ Secretariat
- ✓ Accounting Department



In addition, **PYTHAGORAS** has a wide network of adult educators, experts and other special associates so it can respond immediately with responsibility, quality and efficiency to the ever changing needs and demands.

European Programs Department

The European Projects Department of **PYTHAGORAS** provides Consulting Services and relevant information about available and active EU programs and potential funding opportunities to organizations and individuals. We stand by our clients throughout the lifecycle of their projects: from the identification of the appropriate sources of funding and identifying the appropriate program to the design of a fully structured project proposal, till the effective implementation and management of their projects.

We also collaborate as sub contracting partners of work packages in approved EU programmes such as Erasmus+ with several universities and institutes in Greece, Europe and beyond.

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