

**Call for Papers**

**2<sup>nd</sup> BIBB Conference on the**

**Economics of**

**Vocational Education and Training**

**Markets • Institutions • Systems**

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2019**

**in Siegburg, Germany**

The labour markets of many industrialised countries are facing extensive technological and demographic changes. Digitalisation, networking, and robotics all transform the world of work and with it the demand for skills and qualifications. This development is accompanied by a decreasing number of young people undertaking vocational training. Instead, school graduates are increasingly pursuing academic qualifications. Furthermore, many regions are struggling to integrate refugees and people with a migration background into the labour market.

Vocational education and training (VET) is often valued for its ability to help young people transition smoothly from education to employment. VET also allows those already employed to adapt to the changing demands of their fields. Despite an increasing amount of research in this area, many questions in the field of the *Economics of VET* remain unanswered. These questions pertain to both the decision to invest in VET and the outcomes thereof on the individual, firm- and state levels.

The international conference on *Economics of VET* therefore strives to bring together the theoretical and empirical work of researchers addressing topics such as the following:

- How do technological change and digitalisation affect the supply of and demand for VET qualifications in the labour market?
- How do labour market institutions and policies influence training participation of firms and individuals?
- What type of government efforts aimed at increasing the participation of firms and individuals in VET are effective and efficient?

- How can VET provide skills to older employees?
- How do training markets react to exogenous shocks?
- What role can VET play in the successful integration of refugees and migrants?
- How do individual-level preferences and personality traits affect the decision for or against VET?
- What can we learn from VET systems in other countries with different economic and institutional conditions?

We encourage the **submission of extended abstracts** (1000 to 1200 words) or **full papers** presenting new empirical or theoretical evidence on these and related topics. The official language of the conference is English.

Authors are encouraged to submit their accepted conference papers for publication in the special issue "*The Economics of Vocational Education and Training*" of the peer-reviewed journal "**Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training**" (<https://ervet-journal.springeropen.com/eovet>).

Keynote speakers:

[Thomas Dohmen](#) (University of Bonn)

[Gerard Pfann](#) (Maastricht University)

[Heike Solga](#) (WZB Berlin Social Science Center)

#### Important dates:

- Submission of abstracts and papers via email to [economicsofvet@bibb.de](mailto:economicsofvet@bibb.de) **until the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2019**
- Acceptance decisions will be communicated by **31<sup>st</sup> of July 2019**
- Registration is open between **1<sup>st</sup> of August** and the **28<sup>th</sup> of October 2019**

#### Scientific Committee

**Simon  
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#### Contact information:

For enquiries regarding the contents of the call, please contact [economicsofvet@bibb.de](mailto:economicsofvet@bibb.de).  
For further information, see <https://www.bibb.de/en/91832.php>.