

### SERVICE TAX

#### No service tax on vocational education course if offered by the Central/ State Government/Local Authority

CBEC has clarified that service tax is not leviable on vocational education/training/ skill development courses (VEC) offered by the institution of the Government (Central Government or State Government) or a local authority as in terms of section 66D (a), only specified services provided by the Government are liable to tax and VEC is excluded from the service tax.

However, if the VEC is offered by an institution, as an independent entity in the form of society or any other similar body, service tax treatment would be determined by either sub-clause (ii) or (iii) of clause (I) of section 66D of the Finance Act, 1994.

Sub-clause (ii) refers to “qualification recognized by any law” and sub-clause (iii) refers to “approved VEC”. In the context of VEC, qualification implies a Certificate, Diploma, Degree or any other similar Certificate. The words “recognized by any law” will include such courses as are approved or recognized by any entity established under a central or state law including delegated legislation, for the purpose of granting recognition to any education course including a VEC.

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Source: [www.cbec.gov.in](http://www.cbec.gov.in)

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Secretary

Indirect Taxes Committee

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

ICAI Bhawan A-29, Sector -62, NOIDA (U.P.)India