

Guide to the coupon system

A coupon system (“klippekort”) will come into effect for specific categories of students from 1 January 2018. The Danish government has introduced the system to encourage participation in Danish language lessons and timely completion of language courses.

The coupon system means that you have a certain number of months in which to complete each of the modules in your Danish Course. A complete Danish Course (“Danskuddannelsen”) consists of 6 coupons (“klip”). If you spend more time on a module than allocated in the relevant coupon, you begin using the next coupon. You will then have spent one coupon and started on coupon 2. Once you complete the module by passing the module test, the rest of that coupon becomes void. So when you begin the next module, you will be using coupon 3. In essence, you lose a coupon if you spend more time completing a module than the relevant coupon allows. It is not possible to transfer time from other coupons to your current one.

The coupons in the system have the following durations for all Danish Courses:

- Module 1 takes 4 months
- Module 2 takes 5 months
- Module 3 takes 7 months
- Module 4 takes 8 months
- Module 5 takes 9 months
- Module 6 takes 9 months

The coupons for a complete Danish Course add up to 42 months (3.5 years) in total. These must be spent in the 5 years in which you are entitled to Danish language training.

Today, the average time to complete most modules at VSK is less than 4 months. So under normal circumstances, most students would have no problem completing a Danish Course without losing coupons. But for some students, it can take longer to complete a course. It is therefore important that both student and teacher make sure that the student follows classes as scheduled and does not fall behind in order to pass the module test in the timeframe of the active coupon.

Breaks in Danish language courses:

Many people need to take breaks from their Danish language training because of holidays, travel to home countries, parental leave, illness, or busy periods at work. But if you are part of the coupon system, you must be careful to take your break at the right time and to notify the language school immediately.

A coupon will not be halted because a student takes a break, has parental leave, goes on holiday or falls ill during the course of a module. Holidays and other breaks are possible between modules, but not during an on-going module. Once you start a module, you should complete it. Otherwise you risk losing a coupon. So if you are a coupon student, it is important to plan your holidays and other breaks to be in between the Danish Course modules.

And with the coupon system it is even more important to inform the language school about any breaks you will need after passing your module test. Otherwise, the next coupon begins automatically once you pass your module test. And its allotted time starts ticking if you have not given notice about taking a break.

In very special cases only can language training be extended by the municipality, e.g. if a student has been seriously ill for an extended period and therefore unable to participate in the course.

Who is part of the coupon system?

The following categories of students are part of the system:

- employees
- students
- persons that are family reunified with an employee or student
- au pairs
- border commuters (also known as S-students).

Students who are referred from their home municipality to the Danish Course as part of an integration programme or employment programme are not part of the coupon system. Students who pay for their own courses are also not part of the coupon system.

If you are in doubt or have any questions about the coupon system rules, please contact a counsellor at the language school. [You can send a message asking to be contacted by clicking HERE](#)

Frequently Asked Questions:

What happens to students who are in the middle of a module when the coupon system comes into force on 1 January 2018?

Students who are enrolled in a module by 31 December 2017 will be part of the coupon system once they have completed that module – passing their module test – and begin the next module.

What happens if you begin Danish language training at a higher module than module 1?

If you are placed in the Danish Course in modules 2 or 3 instead of module 1, you also begin with coupon 2 or 3 respectively, and with the relevant number of months for the module in question. Earlier coupons are void.

What happens with the coupon system if your status changes from one student category to another during your Danish Course?

You will become part of (or cease to be part of, as the case might be) the coupon system when you begin the next module after your status has changed. If you become part of the coupon system, you will be placed on the coupon that corresponds to the module you are about to begin.

What happens if you move to another language school?

You can only change language schools when you have just passed one module and is about to begin the next. When you begin at your new language school, you will still have your remaining coupons to use there.

Are you entitled to Danish language training once you have passed the Danish Exam?

No, you cannot still attend language classes in the Danish Course you were enrolled in once you have passed the Danish Exam for that Danish Course. Any remaining coupons are void. However, it is possible to e.g. pass your Danish Exam 2 while enrolled in Danish Course 3, and continue your Danish Course 3.

You should also be aware that other opportunities for Danish language training may be available to you apart from the regular Danish Courses, e.g. FVU (Preparatory Adult Education).

Is it possible to sit the Danish Exam if you have run out of coupons?

Yes. You will always be allowed to continue the last module 6 (modules 5 and 6 for Danish Course 3) until you are able to sit the accompanying Danish Exams even if your coupons are all spent. The reason is that the Danish Exams are only held twice every year, so it is not always possible for you to sit the exam while your coupon is still valid.

What happens if the language school is closed?

If the language school is closed for 2 weeks or more the coupon system is paused. This would for instance be the case during Easter holiday or summer vacations. A closure of the language school does hence not affect the coupon system.

What happens during cancellations of classes or official holidays?

The coupon system is not paused in case classes are cancelled or the language school is closed for a public holiday less than a week. The language school endeavours to avoid cancellations, but classes are nevertheless cancelled from time to time. The language school is closed on the public holidays and the courses are planned in accordance with this, so the vast majority of students will complete the module within the respective coupon.

Any other questions?

If you have any other questions or doubts about the above, please contact a counsellor at the language school. [You can send a message asking to be contacted by clicking HERE](#)