In the German educational system, the access to higher education appears substantially limited for vocationally qualified individuals. Despite numerous initiatives and projects that aim to address issues such as managing diversity or encouraging mobility, for example ANKOM, non-traditional students account for less than two percent of the total number of students. However, as a result of on-going demographic changes and a new legal basis in Germany the provision of lifelong learning is of utmost importance. Universities need to develop appropriate learning schemes for a new target group of students with work-related biographies. The underlying project aims to carry out a comprehensive research of the situation of ‘Industriemeister’ as a part of non-traditional learners.