



# European Glossary on Education

Volume 2 – Second edition

## Educational Institutions





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## **Educational Institutions**

Eurydice  
The information network on education in Europe

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# PREFACE

Every education system uses its own specific terminology to describe the characteristics of its organisation and operation. In trying to understand and make reliable comparisons of how the various education systems in Europe really work, we are often confronted with questions of terminology. The development of precise 'markers' for reference purposes is thus absolutely essential for better mutual understanding and to encourage good quality communication in an enlarged Europe in which student and teaching staff mobility, as well as the openness of education and training systems to the world at large, are essential aims of cooperation.

For these reasons, the Eurydice Network in 1999 launched a new series entitled the *European Glossary on Education*. Four volumes have already been published. They are concerned respectively with examinations, qualifications and titles (a second edition appeared in 2004), educational institutions (2000), teaching staff (2002) and management, monitoring and support staff (2003). Preparation of a fifth volume on formal decision-making, management and consultative bodies is under way.

This edition of the volume on educational institutions in Europe constitutes an update of the 2000 edition. It covers the 25 Member States of the European Union, the three EFTA/EEA countries, Bulgaria and Romania.

The *Glossary* offers a detailed presentation of the terminology used at national level to designate institutions at all educational levels. This second edition covers institutions which provide adult education, as well as those for pupils and students with special educational needs.

It sets out the official or most widely-used terms specific to a particular national education system in a way that will enable readers to conveniently locate their definitions and form a better understanding of the reality behind one system compared to another. A guide to the use of the *Glossary* is presented by way of introduction. It contains all relevant definitions and outlines the different aspects covered in the explanatory note on each term.

The Eurydice European Unit is very grateful to all National Units in the Network for their invaluable contribution to the quality of this publication.

The presentation, drafting and publication of the volume are entirely the responsibility of the Eurydice European Unit.

By making this *Glossary* available to all who attempt to compare, understand or translate terms specific to the field of education, the Eurydice Network hopes to make a further contribution to the greater transparency of education systems in Europe.

Patricia Wastiau-Schlüter  
Head of the Eurydice European Unit  
October 2005



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# Introduction

This second edition of Volume 2 of the *European Glossary on Education* comprises **670** national terms used **in the 2004/05 school year** to designate **categories or types** of educational institution in the education system that cater for pupils, students and adult learners.

The terms included refer to institutions providing:

- pre-primary education (education-oriented programmes whether provided in a school or other setting);
- primary education;
- secondary education;
- post-secondary education;
- tertiary education;
- education for pupils with special educational needs (SEN);
- adult education institutions (A.Ed.).

The glossary only **includes** institutions offering full- or part-time education and training which is provided in a school setting or alternates with practical training in a company or training centre.

In many countries, institutions at primary, secondary or even tertiary level **also** offer adult education programmes in evening classes. These details are not mentioned in the glossary. However, if an institution offering mainstream education also provides daytime adult education, it is indicated in the explanatory note. Institutions exclusively intended for adult education have a separate entry in this glossary but only if their courses lead to recognised qualifications.

Military academies are only included in the glossary if their courses lead to officially recognized formal qualifications.

The glossary is **neither** a directory of individual institutions, **nor** a list of courses of study available within a particular stage, or cycle, of education.

It **does not include specific terms which denote:**

- pre-primary settings in which staff do not have a compulsory teaching qualification or another specialised qualification in education;
- institutions that provide solely in-service training, or distance learning institutions;
- private non-subsidised institutions (**receiving very little or no support from the public sector**).

\*\*\*

In order to be accessible to a wide range of readers, the terms relating to educational institutions are presented in two parts.

In the **first section** the reader will find **all** the terms listed in alphabetical order for **all** countries and educational levels. Only the main terms, standard abbreviations and synonyms are included in the alphabetical list. Besides the explanatory note on the term, the information given for each entry includes a country reference, the most common grammatical forms of the basic term, and the level of programmes offered by the institution.

The **second section comprises summary tables**. These are presented by country. The terms are classified by level of education. Three categories of institution are distinguished: institutions providing mainstream education, separate schools for learners with SEN and adult education institutions. Abbreviations and synonyms are shown in brackets. The symbol (●) after a term means that institutions of this type may provide adult education as **part** of their role. Certain details of specific characteristics are shown below the summary tables where this is likely to contribute to understanding of the national situation.

The advantage of this dual structure is that it offers different routes of access to information. Readers who know a term but do not know what it means can search in the alphabetical list to find the name of the country, the explanatory note and related terms. However, if, for example, they need to search for all the terms used in a given country to refer to any particular level of education, they may consult the national summary table and can then return to the alphabetical table for a fuller definition of each of the terms.

# User's guide

## **Gimnazia (Гимназия)**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazii

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged from 15 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of lower secondary education at **▶ Osnovno utchilishte** and **▶ Progimnazia**. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally and municipally funded. No fees are payable. Private establishments are self funded. This institution can be attached to an *osnovno utchilishte*. Students who pass the compulsory final examination receive the certificate *diploma za zavurcheno sredno obrazovanie*, which gives access to vocational post-secondary training at **▶ Profesionalen kolej** or to tertiary education at **▶ Academia (+)**, **▶ Kolej**, **▶ Universitet**.

## **Main terms (in original language)**

For the purposes of the glossary, an *educational institution* is defined as a legal entity in its own right, recognised by the State as fulfilling the required conditions laid down in the relevant legislation and educational regulations, and whose staff possess recognised qualifications in education. Departments or subdivisions of an institution, like a faculty of a university for example, are not mentioned unless the independent faculties have a status equivalent to that of a university.

Terms appear in the nominative singular form, unless only the plural is used.

The expression appears in the official language of the country. Greek and Bulgarian terms are transliterated into the Roman alphabet with the term in the Greek or Cyrillic alphabet in parentheses.

Only the official terms for educational establishments are used and not specific names of establishments. Thus, *primary school*, *gymnasium*, *grande école* are included as *types* of establishment, but specific institutions of these types (*London Road Primary School*, *Gymnasium St Servatius*, *École Nationale d'Administration*) are not.

Common or conventional denominations and synonyms have been included if they are widely used and well known and might appear in texts about the education system. **These have a specific entry with a cross-reference to the principal term.**

Since the same term may be used to denote different concepts in different countries, readers should always check that the definition corresponds to the country for which they require information. The name of the country is always indicated below the term.

Types of educational institution that no longer exist are mentioned only if they are still referred to in national documents on education.

## **Grammatical variants**

This heading covers the grammatical variants of each term (declined and plural forms, with the exception of those in English and French which involve only the addition of -s), indicating the main forms that the term may take in a text. These grammatical variants make it possible to find entries and the

definition of a term even if the spelling is not identical with that of the basic term. In languages which use a large number of different grammatical forms, such as Finnish or Hungarian, only the root of the word is indicated and is marked with an asterisk (\*), so that the reader will recognise the unchanging part of the word. One or two examples of the main declined forms will be given.

### Levels of education

The level of education specified corresponds to the level of the educational programme which is offered by an educational institution. However, some establishments provide education at several levels (e.g. *folkeskole* in Denmark cater for primary and lower secondary age pupils). The level or levels of education indicated for each institution represent the level(s) of the educational programme(s) typically offered.

The definitions of each level of educational programme comply with the criteria used in the UNESCO International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 1997). This Classification is an instrument geared to the collection of statistics on education at international level. It covers two cross-classification variables, namely fields of study and levels of education, with the two further dimensions of general/vocational/pre-vocational orientation and the transition from education to the labour market. It covers 'all organised and sustained learning activities for children, youth and adults including those with special educational needs, irrespective of the institution or entity that provides them or the form they take'. The ISCED 97 headings, together with their short descriptions and the way they are used in the present *Glossary*, are explained below. For further information on ISCED 97, readers should visit: <http://portal.unesco.org>.

- **ISCED 0:** The initial stage of organised instruction, which generally begins at the age of 3 and lasts between 2 and 3 years (**pre-primary education**). These programmes are designed to introduce very young children to a school-type environment. On completing them, children continue their education at ISCED level 1.
- **ISCED 1:** Programmes at this level generally begin between the ages of 5 and 7 and last 4 to 6 years. They are designed to give pupils a sound basic education in reading, writing and mathematics, along with an elementary understanding of other subjects such as history, geography, natural science, social science, art and music. This level also includes programmes suited to children with special educational needs and programmes for adults. In many countries, ISCED level 1 corresponds to **primary education**, or the **first years of basic education**, wherever compulsory education is provided in the form of a **single structure** with no distinction between its primary and secondary levels.
- **ISCED 2:** Educational content at this level is generally designed to complete the provision of basic education beginning at ISCED level 1, and usually entails 3 to 4 years of schooling. Programmes at this level are often based on a more subject-oriented pattern. Completion of ISCED level 2 often coincides with the end of compulsory education. Education is normally general, but in some countries technical or vocational courses are offered at this level. It also includes programmes suited to children with special educational needs and adult education programmes.

ISCED level 2 corresponds to **the final years of basic education**, wherever compulsory education is provided in the form of a single structure with no distinction between its primary and secondary levels. In all cases, this *Glossary* uses the common expression '**lower secondary education**' in the explanatory notes on terms for institutions offering ISCED level 2 programmes.

In countries in which compulsory education is provided in a single structure without any transition between ISCED levels 1 and 2, the name of the institution and the two levels concerned are stated in the 'level of education' column.

- **ISCED 3:** This usually begins at the end of full-time compulsory education. There is greater specialisation in these programmes than at ISCED level 2 and they are often subdivided into general, technical and vocational streams. The age for admission to this level is typically 15 or 16. Education at ISCED level 3 may either be terminal (preparing students for direct entry into working life), or transitional (preparing for entry to tertiary education). The qualification obtained on completion of a programme at this level is necessary (but not always sufficient) for securing access to tertiary education. ISCED level 3 also includes programmes suited to children with special educational needs and programmes for adults.

In all cases, this *Glossary* uses the common expression ‘**upper secondary education**’ in the explanatory notes on terms for institutions offering ISCED level 3 programmes.

- **ISCED 4:** This comprises education or training courses provided between secondary and tertiary education. Programme content is normally more specialised or detailed than in the second stage of secondary education. In the national context, the content of these courses is not considered as being of ISCED level 3 and a qualification testifying to satisfactory completion of level 3 is not always required for admission. Courses are generally more advanced and more specialised than secondary education courses. They are often of a technical or vocational nature and normally last between 6 months and 2 to 3 years. Programmes at this level are widely known as **post-secondary non-tertiary education**.
- **ISCED 5:** This comprises programmes with a more advanced educational content than those offered at ISCED levels 3 and 4. Admission normally requires at least the satisfactory completion of ISCED level 3 or its equivalent. ISCED level 5 includes programmes with an academic emphasis (ISCED 5A) that are largely theoretically based and intended to provide sufficient qualifications for gaining entry into research programmes or professions with high skills requirements, and programmes of practical or technical training (ISCED 5B) that are generally shorter than the former and prepare for entry to the labour market. This level may also include adult education programmes. ISCED level 5 programmes correspond to studies leading to a first or second **tertiary education** degree.
- **ISCED 6:** This level relates to tertiary education programmes which lead to the award of an advanced research qualification. Such programmes correspond to the second stage of **tertiary education** and, in most countries, to doctoral programmes.

In this *Glossary*, the corresponding ISCED level is noted in the case of each national term.

To clearly identify terms for separate schools providing education for pupils with special educational needs, the abbreviation ‘SEN’ (in brackets) is added after the ISCED level.

To clearly identify terms relating to institutions offering solely or mainly adult education, the abbreviation of ‘adult education’ (i.e. ‘A.Ed.’) is added directly after the ISCED level.

If the terms concerned are the same as the ones used in mainstream education, this is indicated in the explanatory note.

### **Explanatory notes**

The explanatory notes provide a definition of the type of educational establishment with a brief description of its main characteristics. Some specific terms needed to understand the context fully have been kept in the original language with a translation into the language of the glossary – for example, names of examinations, certificates or cycles of education. Terms in the original language appear in *italics*.

All cross-references to other terms explained in the glossary are marked by an arrow (➔) followed by the name of the term in question.

The standard explanatory note for an establishment includes the following categories which can contain different information depending on the level of education:

- organisational characteristics and type(s) of education provided,
- legal status,
- funding,
- administrative system,
- final qualifications offered.

### a) Organisational characteristics and type(s) of education provided

For institutions at school level, the **age categories** are indicated. For institutions at post-secondary and tertiary level only the **notional entry age** is mentioned (rather than the actual age at which some students start their courses after delays or breaks in previous levels). **Admission requirements**, such as certificates of achievement (and the name of the institution where it is obtained), statements that the previous level has been completed satisfactorily, or entrance exams are also given.

Further details provided concern the following:

- the **branches** (general, technical, vocational) or **the fields of study** (multidisciplinary, artistic, technical, etc.); the term 'multidisciplinary' refers only to tertiary education institutions which offer a very broad range of studies; **where primary or secondary schools offer adult education programmes, this is indicated in the note;**
- the **timetable** of the classes (full time, part time, evenings, etc.);
- the **length of the study programmes** and **the division or not into stages or cycles**; in addition, tertiary education programmes can be of the **short** (less than 2 years or 2 to 3 years), **medium** (3 to 4 years) or **long** type (5 years and over);
- the **language of instruction** is specified where more than one language of instruction may be selected;
- whether institutions at school level (**ISCED 0 to 3**) are **co-educational or not**;
- the **religious status** of school level institutions (**ISCED 0 to 3**). The following categories are used: schools with a religious character or faith schools are described as 'denominational'; institutions offering religious education not restricted to a single faith are described as 'non-denominational'; if institutions are not identified in this way they are secular institutions which offer no religious education, although they may offer moral education or ethics. The fact that religious education is offered by the institution does not necessarily mean that it is compulsory for all pupils.

### b) Legal status

The status of an institution is normally linked to its founding or governing body. This may be a public body (operating at central, regional, local or institutional level) or a private body (for example, a church, charity or commercial body). The main examples are:

- **Public-sector or state institutions:** those provided directly by the public authorities, such as a ministry, a province or region, a commune or another body.
- **Private establishments:** those founded or governed by religious or other bodies or individuals. These establishments may also be subdivided according to the principal source of funding (see below).

For institutions at tertiary level, the **university** or **non-university** status of the institution is indicated. University level institutions comprise all those institutions that have an official or legal status equivalent to a university, whether they are called universities or not.

### c) Funding

Irrespective of their legal status, educational establishments may be funded wholly by the public sector, subsidised by the public sector (i.e. with part of their expenditure paid by the state) or privately funded (e.g. from fees, donations or sponsorship). The categories included **in this glossary** are:

- **Public-sector or state-funded establishments:** those fully funded by public authorities, such as a ministry, a province or region, a commune or another body.
- **Establishments subsidised (grant-aided) by the State:** those partly funded by the public authorities. The balance of funding may be met from registration and/or tuition fees, charitable donations and endowments, or commercial sponsorship.

Irrespective of the primary source of funding, students (or their parents) may be required to pay for tuition. This information is included in the explanatory note.

### d) Administrative system

The public authority exercising the highest level of administrative and legal authority for the institution (for example, a ministry) is indicated. The sharing of responsibilities, the way decision-making powers are assigned between the different levels of administration and the various degrees of autonomy of establishments are not described.

### e) Final qualifications

For primary, secondary and post-secondary education, the names of final certificates awarded are indicated. In the case of primary and secondary education, the name(s) of the institution(s) to which a final qualification gives access are indicated, in addition to the name of that qualification.

For the tertiary level, the main qualifications obtained are defined as:

- all diplomas corresponding to ISCED level 5B;
- degrees (all first and second diplomas corresponding to ISCED level 5A);
- all further and/or specialisation diplomas (corresponding to ISCED levels 5A or 5B);
- doctorates (advanced research degrees) corresponding to ISCED level 6.

For more information on qualifications, readers should consult the second edition of Volume 1 of the *European Glossary on Education* on examinations, certifications and titles (2004).



# Part I – Glossary





### Abendgymnasium

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Abendgymnasien

**Level:** ISCED 4 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering evening upper secondary education programmes of 3 to 4 years for adults aged at least 19. To enrol, applicants must have the *Mittlerer Schulabschluss* from **▸** *Berufsschule*, **▸** *Gesamtschule*, **▸** *Hauptschule* or **▸** *Realschule* or a qualification recognised as equivalent and provide evidence that they have been in steady employment for at least three years. If applicants do not have a vocational secondary education qualification, they have to complete a half-year preliminary course before entry to the main course (introductory and qualification phase). Students on this course must be in employment except during the last three semesters. The introductory phase lasts 1 year (2 semesters), while the qualification phase generally lasts 2 years and leads to the *Abiturprüfung* and the award of the *Allgemeinen Hochschulreife*. The qualifications awarded at the *Abendgymnasium* are recognised in all *Länder*. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, and the further studies to which they give access, see **▸** *Gymnasium*. Grant-aided private establishments also exist on a limited scale.

### Abendhauptschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Abendhauptschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering evening lower secondary education programmes of 1 year for adults aged at least 18. Applicants must provide evidence that they are in steady employment. The evening course leads to the *Hauptschulabschluss*. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see **▸** *Gymnasium*, and on the further studies to which they give access, see **▸** *Hauptschule*. Grant-aided private establishments also exist on a limited scale.

### Abendrealschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Abendrealschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering evening lower secondary education programmes of 2 years for adults aged at least 18. Applicants must have the *Hauptschulabschluss*. The evening course leads to the *Realschulabschluss*. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, status and funding, see **▸** *Gymnasium*, and on the further studies to which they give access, see **▸** *Realschule*. Grant-aided private establishments also exist on a limited scale.

### Academia (+)

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Academias

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time military national guard and police corps teaching and training to students between the ages of 18 and 21, who hold an upper secondary certificate awarded at an **▸** *Escola secundária* and meet institutional requirements. The term *academia* is followed by the field of study. The military, air force and naval training institutions (*academia militar*, *academia da força aérea* and *escola naval*) are under the joint responsibility of the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. Police corps and internal security training institutions (*instituto superior de ciências policiais e segurança interna*) are under the joint responsibility of the Ministries of Home Affairs and Science, Technology and Higher Education. A part of the study plans of all these public institutions is of a general educational nature and the responsibility of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education. The government exercises overall responsibility for the institutions and the funding they receive. No fees are payable. Courses lead to qualifications equivalent to the *licenciatura* (lasting 5, 6 or 7 years, depending on the area of studies), the *mestrado* and the *doutoramento*.

**Academia (+) (Академия)****Country:** Bulgaria**Grammatical variants:** Academii**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering long full-, part-time or evening courses based on two main cycles in most fields of study, and advanced full- or part-time study and research. Each *academia* specialises in scientific, artistic, sports and military disciplines. Courses are for students from the age of 19 who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*diploma za zavurcheno sredno obrazovanie* obtained at ♦ *Gimnazia*, ♦ *Profilirana gimnazia*, ♦ *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte* and ♦ *Profesionalna gimnazia*) and meet institutional requirements. The National Assembly has overall responsibility for establishing, transforming or closing down these public state-funded or private self-funded institutions. Tuition fees are payable in private and public institutions. Courses lead to degree level qualifications and doctorates (*diploma za zavurchena stepen na vischeto obrazovanie*). The term *academia* is followed or preceded by the field of study, as for example in the case of the *durjavna muzikalna academia* (State Academy of Music), or the *natzionalna hudojestvena academia* (National Academy of Fine Arts).

**Academia básica del aire****Country:** Spain**Grammatical variants:** Academias básicas del aire**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented courses for *suboficial* scale career soldiers in the air force. For further information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see ♦ *Academia general básica de suboficiales del ejército de tierra*. Successful students receive the *suboficial* qualification which is equivalent to *técnico superior en (+)*.

**Academia general****Country:** Spain**Grammatical variants:** Academias generales**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering a variety of occupationally oriented courses to career soldiers on *oficial* scale and *oficial* advanced scale in the army and air force. Admission is based on the upper secondary school leaving qualification (*bachiller*) awarded at ♦ *Instituto de educación secundaria*, or its equivalent in the case of *oficial* scale studies. To enrol on the *oficial* advanced scale courses, students must also have passed a university entrance examination as stipulated by the central government.

Courses are offered to those aged no more than 23 who have passed a special examination. Overall responsibility and funding for this public institution lies with the central government. No fees are payable. For the *oficial* scale, courses lead to qualifications equivalent to *diplomatura en (+)*. In the case of the *oficial* advanced scale, they lead to qualifications equivalent to *licenciatura en (+)*. The *academia general* is called *academia general militar* or *academia general del aire*, depending on whether it belongs to the army or air force.

**Academia general básica de suboficiales del ejército de tierra****Country:** Spain**Grammatical variants:** Academias generales básicas de suboficiales del ejército de tierra**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering military teaching and training to students aged no more than 33 in the general army corps, and basic military training on the *suboficial* scale of the specialist army corps, in accordance with each of the two syllabuses concerned. At present, all places are reserved for territorial army troops and marines with a minimum of three years of experience as such. Applicants must hold the *bachiller* certificate awarded at ♦ *Instituto de educación secundaria*, or its equivalent. General arrangements for access to a position in this corps involve successful completion of a competitive examination/competition as established in the calls for applicants. Overall responsibility for this public institution and its funding lies with the central government. No fees are payable. Once students have successfully completed the successive courses, they are promoted to *sargento*. This rank is equivalent to the certificate *técnico superior en (+)*.

**Academie (+)****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Academia, academii\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length full-, part-time and evening specialised courses in economics, military studies, sports and artistic subjects to students from the age of 18, who hold the final certificate obtained at ♦ *Liceu* and pass an entrance examination. The name of this institution is followed by the name of the area of specialisation (e.g. *Academia de Arte Vizuale*, *Academia de Studii Economice*). Courses lead to the *diplomă de licență*. For information on administrative arrangements, legal status, funding and further studies and doctoral qualifications, see ♦ *Universitate (+)*.

**Académie des Beaux-Arts****Country:** Belgium (French Community)**Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Institution offering long full-time tertiary education courses at university level. It specialises in plastic, visual and spatial arts and is open to students aged 18 and over. For further information, see ▶ *École supérieure des arts*.**Academy****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** A type of publicly funded independent (private) school established in a disadvantaged area either to replace one or more existing schools facing challenging circumstances or where there is a need for additional school places. Although most *academies* are ▶ *Secondary schools*, all-age, primary and *sixth-form academies* are allowed for in the legislation. *Academies* must provide a broad and balanced curriculum with an emphasis on one or more curriculum areas. Admission is not based on academic ability but schools may give priority to up to 10 % of pupils on the basis of aptitude in the specialism concerned. The aims of the *academy* programme are broadly similar to those of the ▶ *City Technology College* programme. *Academies* are established by sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups working with partners from the local community. Sponsors provide around 20 per cent of the initial capital costs, with the remainder of the capital costs provided by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). Recurrent costs are funded directly by the DfES at a level comparable to the funding of schools in the local authority area in which the *academy* is situated. Each *academy* is set up as a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. *Academies* are co-educational, may be denominational or non-denominational and may not charge fees.**Accademia (+)****Country:** Italy**Grammatical variants:** Accademia**Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time specialised artistic courses for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold an upper secondary qualification obtained in any kind of upper secondary education institution (see summary table) and meet the institution's requirements. Courses lead to first- and second-cycle qualifications (*diploma*). The field of specialisation of the institution is reflected in its name (e.g. *Accademia nazionale di Arte drammatica*, *Accademia nazionale di danza*, *Accademia di belle arti*). The Ministry of University and Scientific and

Technological Research has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, funded by central government. Fees are payable.

**Adult education centre****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)**Level:** ISCED 1 and 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time (day or evening) education and training, as well as leisure courses, to adults. Courses may lead to a range of vocational and general qualifications at different levels. Centres form part of a range of provision for adult and community learning which may take place in a variety of locations including ▶ *Further education colleges*, community centres and other venues. They are funded by the Learning and Skills Council for England and the National Council for Education and Training for Wales (National Council – ELWa) although, generally, local authorities are responsible for organising provision in their area. Fees depend on the course; some courses may be free but fees are payable for other courses by most adults unless in receipt of certain state benefits. Synonyms: *Adult education institute*, *Community college*.**Adult education institute****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)**Level:** ISCED 1 and 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Adult education centre*.**AEI****Country:** Greece**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Anotato ekpaideftiko idryma*.**Agrarisch opleidingscentrum****Country:** The Netherlands**Grammatical variants:** Agrarische opleidingscentra**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** Institution providing lower and upper secondary education courses in the agricultural and natural environment sector to pupils aged 12-16 (lower secondary) and students aged 16-18/20 (upper secondary), as well as adult education courses for those aged at least 18. In the case of lower secondary education (▶ *Vmbo*, agriculture and natural environment), admission is based on academic suitability determined by the ▶ *Basisschool* recommendation (and standardised national tests where taken). This institution offers the lower secondary school common core curriculum (*basisvorming*) lasting 2 years, and two further years during which pupils prepare for the final certificate (*diploma vmbo*). In the case of upper secondary education in general, admission

is granted on possession of a lower secondary education certificate, the *diploma vmbo*. Upper secondary courses are offered in one of two learning pathways (involving 20-60 % practical training, or over 60 % practical training), and comprise different types of courses corresponding to four levels of qualification. The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality exercises overall responsibility for these institutions, but in close consultation with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. In particular, the legislation and regulations governing the type of education they provide are virtually identical to those applicable to all other education institutions at the same level. Pupils/students prepare for different levels of final qualification (*diploma middelbaar beroepsonderwijs*) giving access to different professions in the field of agriculture and natural environment, or to higher professional education (students must have a middle-management or specialist training certificate (levels of qualification of the *diploma mbo*) before they can enter a **▶ Hogeschool**). Abbreviation: Aoc.

### AHS

**Country:** Austria

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Allgemein bildende höhere Schule**.

### Aikuislukio

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Aikuislukiot, aikuislukio\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full- or part-time general upper secondary adult education, mainly in the evenings, for students who have reached the age of 18 and wish to start a basic **▶ Peruskoulu** or general upper secondary education syllabus **▶ Lukio** – or to complete either if previously discontinued – or take courses in individual school subjects. The length of studies is usually between 2 and 4 years. These institutions are either separate schools or separate sections in general upper secondary schools (*lukio*). The curriculum differs from that of *lukio*, and some schools have a specialised curriculum. The main languages of instruction are Finnish or Swedish. Foreign students can be taught their mother tongue, or study Finnish or Swedish as a foreign language. Fees may be payable. For information on admission requirements, the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and the qualifications awarded, see *peruskoulu* (and *lukio* in the case of qualifications). Swedish term: *Vuxengymnasium*.

### Akadémia

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Akadémie, akadémi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time medium-length and long police training, as well as long military training courses, for students from the age of 18 who hold an *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* awarded at **▶ Gymnázium**. These state institutions are publicly funded. The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Defence have overall responsibility for police academies and for military academies, respectively. No fees are payable. Courses in both kinds of institution lead to qualifications at degree level (*bakalár, magister*) and to doctorates (*doctor*).

### Akademia (+)

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademia, akademi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering programmes for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold the *świadectwo dojrzałości* certificate obtained at **▶ Liceum (+)**, **▶ Technikum**, **▶ Technikum uzupełniające**. Admission requirements vary depending on the type of institution or faculty. Since the 2004/05 academic year, results obtained in the new external *matura* examination have become a decisive admission criterion. Tertiary education institutions are entitled to do no more than check the special skills or predispositions of candidates. No fees are payable in public institutions (except for extramural or evening classes). Non-state institutions enrol fee-paying students. There are different types of *akademia* depending on the area of specialisation:

- *Akademia ekonomiczna* offers full-, part-time, extramural and evening courses in various branches of economics. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for this institution, which may be public or private. Long courses lead to the degree of *magister*. First- and second-cycle courses lead to the *licencjat* and *magister* degrees respectively. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) are also offered.
- *Akademia medyczna* offers full-time long courses as well as doctoral programmes in the fields of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, nursing and midwifery. The Ministry of Health has overall responsibility for this public institution funded by central government. Courses lead to the degrees of *lekarz, lekarz dentysta* and advanced research degrees (*doktor*). In the fields of nursing and midwifery, courses lead to first- and second-cycle degrees (*licencjat* and *magister*) and to an advanced research degree (*doktor*).

- *Akademia rolnicza* offers specialised full-, part-time, extramural and evening studies in agriculture and veterinary medicine. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these institutions, which are publicly funded and can be public or private. Long courses in the field of veterinary medicine lead to the degree of *lekarz weterynarii*. Long courses in the field of agriculture lead to the title of *magister inżynier*. First- and second-cycle courses in agriculture lead to the degrees of *inżynier* and *magister inżynier* respectively. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) are also offered.
- *Akademia wychowania fizycznego* offers specialised full-, part-time, extramural and evening studies in sports and physical education, including rehabilitation and physiotherapy. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are funded by central government. For information on the qualifications awarded, see *akademia ekonomiczna*.

### Akademia artystyczna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie artystyczne, akademi\* artystyczn\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Uczelnia artystyczna**.

### Akademia muzyczna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie muzyczne, akademi\* muzyczn\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Type of **Uczelnia artystyczna** specialising in music.

### Akademia pedagogiczna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie pedagogiczne, akademi\* pedagogiczn\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Wyższa szkoła (+) (pedagogiczna)**.

### Akademia sztuk pięknych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie, akademi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Type of **Uczelnia artystyczna** specialising in fine arts.

### Akademia teatralna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie teatralne, akademi\* teatraln\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Type of **Uczelnia artystyczna** specialising in drama.

### Akademie (+)

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Akademien

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering professionally oriented medium-length full-time teacher education courses for students from the age of 18 who are intending to teach in general compulsory education or part-time vocational schools, or either being trained for midwifery or paramedical health professions at academies for midwifery or clinical/technical academies (physiotherapists, biomedical technologists, radiotechnologists, dieticians, occupational therapists, logopedists, orthoptists). Admission is based on the upper secondary school qualification obtained at the **Allgemein bildende höhere Schule** (upper stage), the **Berufsbildende höhere Schule**, or on a recognised equivalent or relevant occupational qualification. In most cases, students take entrance examinations or an aptitude test. Depending on the institution's field of specialisation, the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Environment and the Federal Ministry of Health and Women are responsible for the *Akademien*, which can be public or private. Public establishments are state funded while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable in public institutions. Courses lead to the qualification *Diplom (+)*.

Note: Since July 2005, the legal basis has been established for also offering study courses for midwifery or paramedical health professions within *Fachhochschul-Baccalaureus* programmes. It is planned to transform the teacher education academies into so-called *Pädagogische Hochschulen* in the period up to 2007.

### Akademie (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Akademie, akademi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution. For all information, see **Vysoká škola (+)**. The name of this institution is followed or preceded by the field of study, as in the case of *akademie výtvarných umění*, *akademie múzických umění*, *policejní akademie*, *janáčkova akademie múzických umění*.

### Akademija

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Akademijos, akademij\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University level institution offering specialised courses in military and veterinary fields, as well as in business law, art, music and theatre. For full information, see **Universitetas**.

**Akademija****Country:** Slovenia**Grammatical variants:** Akademije, akademij\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time medium-length professionally oriented and academic programmes in the arts, usually for students from the age of 19. Admission to professionally oriented programmes is based on completion of the **▶ Srednja strokovna šola** or a recognised equivalent; admission to academic programmes is based on completion of the **▶ Gimnazija** or a recognised equivalent. Courses also require special artistic abilities and/or psychological and physical characteristics as a prerequisite for admission. An academy of art may stipulate in its study course that those who do not have an upper secondary level certificate but possess outstanding artistic talent may nevertheless be admitted to the course. Selection criteria are satisfactory performance in tests of artistic talent and in the final *matura* examination, and generally satisfactory achievement in secondary school. The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology is responsible for these public state-funded institutions. No tuition fees are payable for full-time first-degree level courses, which are organised within the university structure **▶ Univerza**. Courses lead to first-degree level diplomas (*diplomirani* (+)) in the case of professionally oriented programmes, and to *akademski* (+) or *univezitetni diplomirani* (+) in the case of academic programmes, as well as to second degree diplomas (*specialist* (+), *magister umetnosti* (+)) and to doctorates (*doktor znanosti*). Synonym: *Umetniška akademija*.

**Akadēmija****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Akadēmijas, akadēmijā, akadēmijai**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶ Augstskola**.**Allgemein bildende höhere Schule****Country:** Austria**Grammatical variants:** Allgemein bildende höhere Schulen, Allgemein bildenden höheren Schulen**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 8 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to pupils and students aged 10 to 18. The curriculum is divided into 2 stages of 4 years each. The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Private institutions are mostly denominational. Funding

for public establishments comes from the federal government, and most private schools are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments. To enter the first stage, pupils must have completed the **▶ Grundschule**. Admission is also based on achievement at primary level (or, alternatively, on a recommendation from the primary school or an entrance examination). The lower stage follows a common curriculum in principle identical to that of the **▶ Hauptschule**. In the third year, pupils can choose between three different branches (*Gymnasium*, *Realgymnasium* and *Wirtschaftskundliches Realgymnasium*). Those who leave after 4 years do not obtain a leaving certificate; they receive their annual report and can move on to technical and vocational education. However, admission to the dual system presupposes the completion of compulsory education (9 years of schooling). Admission to the upper stage of *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule* is based on successful completion of the lower stage. Successful completion of *Hauptschule* enables pupils to enter the *Oberstufenrealgymnasium* (special upper stage form). If certain levels in certain subjects are not reached, an entrance examination has to be taken. In the upper stage, students choose optional subjects within their branch of education. At the end of this stage, they take the final examination *Reifeprüfung*. Successful candidates receive the *Reifeprüfungszeugnis*, which gives entry to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table). Abbreviation: AHS.

**Általános iskola****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Általános iskola\*, általános iskolák**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full-time compulsory/basic education for pupils aged from 6/7 to 14/15. Admission is based on the pre-primary school certificate awarded at **▶ Óvoda**, but a maturity assessment examination is also possible. The curriculum is divided into 2 stages lasting 4 years each. There is no examination between the two stages. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these state or grant-aided private institutions, which are mostly co-educational and non-denominational. They are predominantly state funded through local government. No fees are payable, except in the case of some private establishments. After successful completion of 8 years at this school, pupils receive the certificate *általános iskolai bizonyítvány*, which is necessary to gain access to upper secondary education (see summary table) and employment.

**Amatniecības vidusskola****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Amatniecības vidusskolas, amatniecības vidusskolām**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Amatvidusskola** (+).**AMK****Country:** Finland**Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **Ammattikorkeakoulu**.**Ammatillinen aikuiskoulutuskeskus****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** Ammatilliset aikuiskoulutuskeskukset, ammatillis\* aikuiskoulutuskesku\***Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Institution offering employment training and upper secondary vocational education and training for adults on a full- or part-time basis, or in evening classes. For information on admission requirements, programmes offered, administrative arrangements, funding, certificates awarded and scope for further studies, see **Ammatillinen oppilaitos**. Swedish term: *Yrkesinriktade vuxenutbildningscenter*.**Ammatillinen erityisoppilaitos****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** Ammatilliset erityisoppilaitokset, ammatillis\* erityisoppilaito\***Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)**Explanatory note:** Institution providing special individual facilities and services in order to offer mainly full-time vocational education and training to young and adult students (over 16 years of age) with the most severe disabilities or chronic illnesses, who are in need of special support. The education provider selects these students. Admission is based on the possession of a school leaving certificate from **Erityiskoulu** or **Peruskoulu**, or on knowledge and skills deemed by the institution to be sufficient. Students with special needs are prioritised in admissions, but those with no such disabilities are also admitted to free student places. In addition, these institutions provide students with preparatory and rehabilitative education and guidance. Institutions are run by the State or by various foundations entrusted by the Ministry of Education with the task of attending to the provision of special education and training, as well as the development, guidance and support that this instruction entails. They are co-educational and non-denominational. No fees are payable. Students are awarded a qualification certificate once they have achieved an acceptable grade in all study modules, in accordance with either gen-eral or specially adapted objectives. For information on the further studies to which the *ammatillinen perustutkinto* qualification gives access, see **Ammatillinen oppilaitos**. Swedish term: *Specialyrkesläroanstalt*.**Ammatillinen oppilaitos****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** Ammatilliset oppilaitokset, ammatillis\* oppilaito\***Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time vocational upper secondary education and training in almost all fields to students usually aged 16 to 19. Some institutions also offer part-time education and evening classes, which are mainly intended for adults. Instruction is given in multidisciplinary or specialised vocational institutions. The completion of 9 years of compulsory education in **Peruskoulu** or an equivalent syllabus is required for admission. Applicants deemed by the education provider to have sufficient ability to complete their education and training may also be admitted. Aptitude tests may be used as part of the student selection procedure. The main languages of instruction are Finnish or Swedish. In addition to theoretical studies, provision also includes study periods both in the institution's workshops and at workplaces. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *peruskoulu*. There are no tuition fees but financial contributions to learning materials are usually required. A vocational upper secondary qualification (*ammatillinen perustutkinto*) may be completed as vocational upper secondary education and training, or in the form of a competence-based qualification (*näyttötutkinto*). Holders of the *ammatillinen perustutkinto* are eligible for all forms of tertiary education (see summary table). Those who have obtained the *näyttötutkinto* are eligible for admission to *ammattikorkeakoulu* and some *yliopisto*. Swedish term: *Yrkesläroanstalt*.**Ammattikorkeakoulu****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** -koulu, -koulu\***Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Professionally oriented tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary medium-length and long courses for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold a general or vocational upper secondary qualification obtained at **Ammatillinen oppilaitos** or **Lukio**, or a corresponding international or foreign qualification. Applicants with the general upper secondary education leaving certificate, *lukion päättötodistus*, can also be admitted. The institution may take students without the qualifications mentioned

above, if it considers that they have the necessary knowledge and skills. Studies are provided in the following sectors: natural resources and the environment; technology, communications and transport; business and administration; tourism, catering and domestic services; social services, health and sport; culture; humanities and education; social sciences; and natural sciences. Study programmes for adults are also available. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these (mainly) public institutions, which are funded by central government and by the municipalities. No fees are payable. Courses lead to the *ammattikorkeakoulututkinto* and *ylempi ammattikorkeakoulututkinto*. The latter can be taken by holders of the *ammattikorkeakoulututkinto* who have at least three years of subsequent work experience in a related field. Abbreviation: AMK. Swedish term: *Yrkeshögskola*.

### Anotato ekpaideftiko idryma (Ανώτατο εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Anotata ekpaideftika idrymata, anotat\* ekpaideftik\* idrymat\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Former generic term for ▶ *Panepistimio* and ▶ *Polytechnio*. Abbreviation: AEI.

### Aoc

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Aoc's

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Agrarisch opleidingscentrum*.

### Area secondary school

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time lower secondary education to pupils aged 11 to 16. Provision is divided into two stages, the first stage lasting three years and the second stage, two years. Admission depends on academic ability as reflected in the annual examination results of ▶ *Primary school* type 'B' or 'C'. Some independent private and Church schools also offer an additional two years of upper secondary education sixth forms (at ISCED level 3), preparing students for 'advanced' and 'intermediate' levels of the MATSEC *matriculation certificate* examinations required for entry to ▶ *University*. At lower secondary level, state and Church schools are single gender and independent schools are co-educational. For information on the curriculum, division into stages, the language of instruction, administrative arrangements, fees and final qualifications, see ▶ *Junior lyceum*.

### Arodskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Arodskolas, arodskolām

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering up to 3 years of full-time vocational basic education (*profesionāla pamatizglītība*) leading to vocational qualification level 1, and 2 to 3 years of full-time vocational education (*arodizglītība*) leading to vocational qualification level 2, to pupils and students who have completed basic education and hold the basic education certificate obtained at ▶ *Pamatskola* or ▶ *Vidusskola*. In particular cases, those who have not completed basic education at *pamatskola* or *vidusskola* may also be admitted, but no earlier than the calendar year in which they become 15 years old. In such cases, pupils have an opportunity to complete basic education in addition to acquiring the above vocational qualifications. *Arodskola* provides instruction and training geared to simple occupations in a single stage. The language of instruction can be Latvian or Russian. The Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Culture (supervising art and music schools) have overall responsibility for these public or private, and mainly state-funded institutions. The latter are co-educational and non-denominational and no tuition fees are payable. On completion of their course, students can take the *valsts pārbaudījums*. Those who are successful receive the vocational basic education certificate (*apliecība par profesionālo pamatizglītību*), enabling them to enter the labour market or continue with general or vocational (upper) secondary education at ▶ *Arodvidusskola* (+) or *vidusskola*.

### Arodvidusskola (+)

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Arodvidusskolas, arodvidusskolās

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 to 4 years of full-time vocational education to students from the age of 16. Admission is based on successful completion of ▶ *Pamatskola*. Admission procedures may include entrance examinations. In some areas of specialisation, there are specific requirements for health or minimum age. Institutions may also offer 1 to 2 years of full-time vocational education to students aged 17-18 who have completed ▶ *Arodskola* or a programme of general (upper) secondary education at ▶ *Vidusskola*. These programmes lead to vocational qualification level 3. On completing the curriculum, students take the *valsts noslēguma pārbaudījums*. Those who are successful receive the *diploms par profesionālo vidējo izglītību* diploma of vocational upper secondary education, which enables them

to enter the labour market or gain access to all types of tertiary education institution (see summary table). For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility and financing, see *arodskola*. Synonyms: *Profesionālā vidusskola*, *Tehnikums*, *Amatniecības vidusskola*.

### Athenäum

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Athenäen

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for a ♦ *Sekundarschule* organised by the Community offering mainly general education courses.

### Athénée

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 6 years or the last 4 years of full-time general, technical and vocational secondary education to pupils/students aged from 12/14 to 18. The admission of pupils who have not obtained the *certificat d'études de base* at the end of ♦ *École primaire* must be approved or can take place in a first year involving a specially adapted programme (first-year B). The usual programme is divided into three stages each lasting two years. A move to the vocational or technical branch is only possible on completion of the first year in the case of vocational education and at the end of the first stage in the case of technical education. Most of these public institutions belong to the educational sector of the French Community, which acts as their administrative authority. They are co-educational and managed or grant aided by the Community. The education they provide is non-denominational and no fees are payable. In addition to education administered directly by the French Community, two other educational sectors also exist, namely the grant-aided public sector and the private sector, which is often denominational. The administrative authorities in the former are the provinces and communes and some of the schools concerned may also be known as *athénée*. In the grant-aided private sector, which has no special name for this kind of institution, the administrative bodies are private persons. Both the foregoing sectors receive state subsidies. A *certificat d'enseignement secondaire du deuxième degré* is obtained by pupils aged 16 who complete the first two stages, while the *certificat d'enseignement secondaire supérieur* awarded to those who successfully complete the final two-year stage gives access to all tertiary education institutions (see summary table). Students who complete the six years of vocational or technical education receive the *certificat de qualification*, which gives access to the labour market.

### Atheneum

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Athenea

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A subtype of a ♦ *Vwo* school, offering 6 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to pupils/students aged 12 to 18. The curriculum in the *atheneum*, in contrast to the ♦ *Gymnasium*, does not include classical languages or classical culture. For information on admission requirements, responsibility, certification and funding, see *vwo*. Education of this type can be offered within a ♦ *Scholengemeenschap*.

### Augstskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Augstskolā, augstskolai, augstskolas

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** There are two types of *augstskolas* (university type and non-university type):

- The non-university-type of *augstskola* offers short (1-2 years) and medium-term (3-4 years) professional study programmes. Short programmes are accessible to students aged 21/22 to 22/23 with the first level professional tertiary education diploma (*pirmā līmeņa augstākās profesionālās izglītības diploms*) obtained at ♦ *Koledža*, or a *Bakalaura diploms* in academic education obtained at ♦ *Universitāte*. Medium-term programmes are for students aged 19 to 22/23 holding a certificate of (upper) secondary education obtained at ♦ *Vidusskola*, ♦ *Ģimnāzija*, ♦ *Arodvidusskola (+)* or ♦ *Speciālās izglītības iestāde*, or its equivalent. In 2004, entrance examinations were replaced by the results of the *centralizētie eksāmeni*. The institution may still organise additional entrance examinations. The language of instruction is Latvian. The *augstskola* is autonomous with self-governing rights and may be a state or private institution. State institutions are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Science or other appropriate ministry. The Ministry of Education and Science defends the interests of institutions vis-à-vis parliament and the government. A state-founded institution provides both state-paid study places and places paid for by students. In privately founded institutions students usually pay fees, but state-funded places may exist. Programmes lead to professional qualifications or the *profesionālais bakalaura* degree. Students who pass the *valsts pārbaudījums* are awarded a professional tertiary education diploma (*profesionālās augstākās izglītības diploms*), which gives access to 1-2 years of professional or academic Master studies at *augstskola* or

*universitāte*. On completing their course, students have to take the *gala pārbaudījums*. Those who are successful are awarded the *maģistra diploms*, which gives access to doctoral studies at *augstskola* or *universitāte*. An *augstskola* is not obliged to offer doctoral programmes but may do so. For information on doctoral studies, see *universitāte*.

- For full information on university-type *augstskola*, see *universitāte*.

The term *augstskola* is widely used to denote any kind of tertiary education institution. Synonyms: *Akadēmija, Institūts*.

### Aukštesnioji mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Aukštesniosios mokyklos, aukštesn\* mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary vocational and technical courses to students, usually from the age of 18/19, who hold an upper secondary certificate (*brandos atestatas*) awarded at ♦ *Vidurinė mokykla*, ♦ *Gimnazija*, in option 3 of ♦ *Profesinė mokykla*, or at ♦ *Suaugusiųjų mokykla*, and who meet institutional admission requirements. These establishments are public or private. The Ministry of Education and Science has legal responsibility for public state-funded institutions. Private ones are maintained by their founders; they are self funded or grant aided. Tuition fees are payable in private institutions.

Note: The new Higher Education Act, which came into force in 2000, laid down eligibility requirements enabling *aukštesniosios mokyklos* that meet them to be recognised as non-university higher education institutions with the name ♦ *Kolegija*, and those not meeting the requirements, as ♦ *Profesinė mokykla*. No admission was organised for *aukštesniosios mokyklos* in 2004/05 and the transitional phase is due to end in 2005/06.

### Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Autonomen Hochschule

**Level:** ISCED 3, 4 and 5

**Explanatory note:** New heading structure for the two tertiary education branches, nursing and teacher education, which exist in the German-speaking Community. The two existing *Pädagogische Hochschulen* and the *Krankenpflegeschule* have been officially closed and are now part of the new structure. This institution is open to students from the age of 18 who hold an upper secondary education qualification obtained at ♦ *Sekundarschule* or a recognized equivalent. It is a public institution financed by the Ministry of the German-speaking Community. For information on the diplomas awarded, see ♦ *Pädagogische Hochschule* and ♦ *Krankenpflegeschule*. Fees are payable. In addition to tertiary education and training at ISCED 5 level, the nursing branch offers a one-year full-time preparatory course in nursing at ISCED 3 level for students aged at least 17 and a three-year full-time course for a professional nursing qualification at ISCED 4 level (*Brevet in Krankenpflege*).

# B

## Barnehage

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Barnehagen, barnehager, barnehagene

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering full- or part-time pre-primary education and care for children from as early as their first year up to the age of 5. Children with disabilities have a legal right to be given priority admission provided that they benefit from attending. The owner of the *barnehage* (the municipality in the case of public institutions) may impose further admission requirements. These settings can be public or private. Public and private settings approved by the Act on Day Care Institutions are entitled to national grants. The Ministry of Children and Family Affairs has overall responsibility for the *barnehage*, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Fees are payable. Pupils can move on directly to compulsory/basic education at [▶ Grunnskole](#).

## Basisschool

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Basisscholen

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged from 2½ to 6 (see [▶ Kleuterschool](#)) and 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12 (see [▶ Lagere School](#)). These institutions may be public-sector institutions (see [▶ School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs](#)), grant-aided public institutions (see [▶ Gemeentelijke School](#) or [▶ Provinciale School](#)), or grant-aided private institutions ([▶ Vrije School](#)). In general, no tuition fees are payable and schools are co-educational. Only grant-aided private schools can be denominational. Pupils who have successfully completed the sixth form in primary education receive a *getuigschrift basisonderwijs* certificate and progress to lower secondary education at [▶ Middenschool](#) or [▶ Secundaire school](#).

## Basisschool

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Basisscholen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full-time primary education for pupils aged 4 to 12. Admission is based on age. Compulsory schooling is from the age of 5. The curriculum may be divided into two four-year stages, the first normally for those aged 4 to 8, and the second normally for those aged 8 to 12. Pupils follow a common curriculum with no optional subjects. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector establishments may be denominational. All approved establishments are funded by the public sector in accordance with the same criteria. No fees are payable. There is no formal leaving examination or certificate. Pupils who have successfully completed their studies can proceed to lower secondary education at [▶ Vmbo](#), [▶ Havo](#) and [▶ Vwo](#). Synonym: *School voor basisonderwijs*.

## Bērnū dārzs

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Bērnū dārzi, bērnū dārza, bērnū dāržā

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [▶ Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde](#).

## Berufliches Gymnasium

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Berufliche Gymnasien, Beruflichen Gymnasien

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time upper secondary education with career-oriented specialisation for students aged 16 to 19 in the majority of the *Länder*. Apart from the general subjects offered at a [▶ Gymnasium](#), these institutions offer career-oriented subjects like business, engineering, nutrition and home economics and agronomy. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *Gymnasium*. For informa-

tion on their admission requirements, qualifications and the further studies to which they give access, see *Gymnasium*, *Gymnasiale Oberstufe*. Synonym: *Fachgymnasium*.

### Berufsakademie

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Berufsakademien

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering three-year tertiary education courses which combine academic training with practical in-company professional training for students, usually from the age of 19. Depending on the legislation of the *Land* concerned, admission is based on the *Allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained from a *Gymnasium* or on the *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* or *Fachhochschulreife* qualification obtained following certain courses of vocational education at upper secondary level or at a *Fachoberschule*. Students must also have secured a training contract with a suitable training establishment. The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs in each *Land* is responsible for these institutions, and no tuition fees are payable. Following satisfactory performance in the diploma examination held on the completion of studies in business, technology and social services, an occupational qualification is obtained and a diploma with the addition of 'BA' is awarded as a state qualification. Examples of the most frequent occupational qualifications are *Betriebswirt*, *Ingenieur* and *Sozialpädagoge*. Students may also acquire a Bachelor degree and continue their studies for a Master degree at other institutions.

### Berufsbildende höhere Schule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Berufsbildende höhere Schulen, Berufsbildenden höheren Schulen

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time technical, vocational and general upper secondary education to students aged 14 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of the fourth year of lower secondary education. Pupils from a *Hauptschule* or the first stage of a *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule* who have not reached the required standard must sit an entrance examination. Schools are also entitled to select their students on the basis of available places. Those who are admitted follow a curriculum which depends on their area of specialisation. At the end of 5 years, they take the final examination *Reife- und Diplomprüfung*. Students who are successful receive the *Reife- und Diplomprüfungszeugnis*, which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table) and to the labour market (including regu-

lated professions). For information on legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule*. Depending on their field of specialisation, these institutions can have different names as follows: *Höhere technische und gewerbliche Lehranstalt* (engineering, arts and crafts), *Handelsakademie* (business administration), *Höhere Lehranstalt für wirtschaftliche Berufe* (service industries management), *Höhere land- und forstwirtschaftliche Lehranstalt* (agriculture and forestry), *Höhere Lehranstalt für Tourismus* (tourism) and *Höhere Lehranstalt für Mode und Bekleidung* (fashion and clothing). Abbreviation: BHS.

### Berufsbildende mittlere Schule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Berufsbildende mittlere Schulen, Berufsbildenden mittleren Schulen

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering between one and 4 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 14 and over. The one- and 2-year courses offer preliminary vocational training, thus often constituting a bridge to courses in the health and social services sector with a higher minimum age as entry requirement. Admission is based on successful completion of the fourth year of lower secondary education; pupils from a *Hauptschule* or the lower stage of a *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule* who want to attend and have not reached the required standard have to sit an entrance examination. The courses provide technical and vocational qualifications, as well as general education. Students in the 3- and 4-year courses follow a curriculum that depends on the area of specialisation and take a leaving examination at the end of their course. A final certificate *Abschlusszeugnis* is awarded, which provides direct entry to employment by giving access to regulated professions. It also enables graduates to upgrade their qualifications, for example by means of the *Berufsreifeprüfungszeugnis* (general higher education entrance qualification), supplementary courses and master craftsman or foreman courses. For information on legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule*. Depending on their field of specialisation, these institutions can have different names as follows: *Gewerbliche, technische und kunstgewerbliche Fachschule* (engineering, arts and crafts), *Handelsschule* (business studies), *Fachschule für wirtschaftliche Berufe* (service industries), *Fachschule für Sozialberufe* (social services), *Hotel/Tourismusfachschule* (tourism), *Fachschule für Mode und Bekleidungstechnik* (fashion) and *Land- und forstwirtschaftliche Fachschule* (agriculture and forestry). Abbreviation: BMS.

**Berufsbildende Pflichtschule****Country:** Austria**Grammatical variants:** Berufsbildende Pflichtschulen, Berufsbildenden Pflichtschulen**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering from 2 to 4 years of part-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19. It forms part of the *duales System* of education which also includes company-based training. To enter, students must have completed 9 years of compulsory education and signed an apprenticeship contract. This institution provides technical and vocational education combined with general education and industrial management education in a single stage. The number of years to be spent in the school depends on the duration of the apprenticeship training. The curriculum depends on the area of specialisation of the apprenticeship. The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for this public or private institution which is co-educational. Public-sector establishments are funded at provincial level. No fees are payable. Students receive the final certificate *Abschlusszeugnis der Berufsschule* on successful completion of their course. After passing the *Lehrabschlussprüfung* they can enter the labour market as skilled workers. The examination certificate also enables graduates to upgrade their qualifications, for example by means of the *Berufsreifeprüfungszeugnis* (general tertiary education entrance qualification). The certificate may also lead on to supplementary courses and master craftsman or foreman courses. Synonym: *Berufsschule*.

**Berufsfachschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Berufsfachschulen**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering up to 3 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged from 15/16 to 18/19. Depending on the training objectives, admission is based on the *Hauptschulabschluss* or *Mittlerer Schulabschluss/Realschulabschluss* obtained at a ♦ *Berufsschule*, ♦ *Gesamtschule*, ♦ *Hauptschule* or ♦ *Realschule*. A *Berufsfachschule* provides a combination of general and vocational courses, preparing students for an occupation or vocational training with different levels of qualification. There are *Berufsfachschulen* for business occupations, occupations involving foreign languages, the crafts industry, home-economics-related and social-work-related, artistic and health sector occupations, etc. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see ♦ *Gymnasium*. On completion of a course lasting a minimum of two years, the *Fachhochschulreife* qualification may be acquired under certain conditions. It qualifies its holder for further studies at a ♦ *Fachhochschule*.

**Berufsförderungsinstitut****Country:** Austria**Grammatical variants:** Berufsförderungsinstitute**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing adult education in particular for the *Arbeitsmarktservice* (Austrian employment agency). Age and admission requirements depend on the courses concerned. The BFI is affiliated to the *Arbeiterkammer* (Chamber of Labour) and the *Österreichische Gewerkschaftsbund* (Austrian Trade Union Federation). Funding is obtained largely from fees as well as from various administrative bodies (e.g. the *Arbeitsmarktservice* or the Ministry of Education). Courses may lead to accredited qualifications in different professions. The *Berufsförderungsinstitut* also offers preparatory courses for the *Hauptschulabschluss* (general secondary school certificate) and for the *Berufsreifeprüfung* (vocational matriculation examination), which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table). In addition to these courses, it also provides ♦ *Fachhochschule* study courses and is the founding body for private commercial schools and colleges for students and adults (see ♦ *Berufsbildende mittlere Schule* and ♦ *Berufsbildende höhere Schule*). Abbreviation: BFI.

**Berufsmittelschule****Country:** Liechtenstein**Grammatical variants:** Berufsmittelschulen**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of part-time general and vocational secondary education to students aged at least 18. The main areas offered are engineering, business studies, design, and information and communication technology. Admission is dependent on satisfactory completion of vocational education. Successful students receive the *Berufsmaturität*, which gives access to tertiary education in Liechtenstein and Austria and also to study at the *Fachhochschulen* in Switzerland and in some of the *Länder* in Germany. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these centrally funded establishments, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Fees are payable.

**Berufsoberschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Berufsoberschulen**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering school leavers with the *Mittlerer Schulabschluss* who have completed vocational training or five years of working experience the opportunity to obtain the *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife*. The *Berufsoberschule* only exists in a few *Länder*.

### **Berufsschule**

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Berufsschulen

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶ Berufsbildende Pflichtschule**.

### **Berufsschule**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Berufsschulen

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 to 3½ years (3 as a rule) of part-time upper secondary education to students aged from 15/16 to 18/19. Admission is based solely on the completion of compulsory full-time education, and not on satisfactory performance in an examination at the end of compulsory education. In the context of the *duales System* of vocational education, the *Berufsschule* is an autonomous place of learning and works together and on an equal footing with the companies participating in vocational training. It equips its students with basic and specialised vocational training, adding to the general education they have already received. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see **▶ Gymnasium**. Together with the final qualification (*Facharbeiterbrief*, *Kaufmannsgehilfenbrief* or *Gesellenbrief*) awarded by the authorities responsible for vocational training (chambers), the *Berufsschule* issues a leaving certificate, the *Abschlusszeugnis der Berufsschule*, which may incorporate a *Hauptschulabschluss* or a *Realschulabschluss*, in accordance with the candidate's achievements. Depending on the results and the acquisition of a *Hauptschulabschluss* or *Realschulabschluss* qualification, students may continue their studies at other upper secondary institutions.

### **BFI**

**Country:** Austria

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Berufsförderungsinstitut**.

### **BHS**

**Country:** Austria

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Berufsbildende höhere Schule**.

### **Bijzondere school**

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Bijzondere scholen

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for a primary, lower or upper secondary educational institution established by an association, foundation or

church body and subject to private law. Admission to these institutions is for pupils or students whose parents subscribe to the belief or ideology on which the particular school's teaching is based. Institutions are state funded on condition that they are maintained by an authorised body with full legal competence, whose aim is to provide education with no profit-making motive. Some *bijzondere scholen* adopt specific educational methods, such as those of Montessori schools, etc. For further information on admission requirements, fees and final qualifications, see **▶ Basisschool**, **▶ Vmbo**, **▶ Havo** and **▶ Vwo**.

### **Bildungsanstalt für Kindergartenpädagogik**

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Bildungsanstalten für Kindergartenpädagogik

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 14 to 19 who want to become nursery school teachers. Admission is based on successful completion of the fourth year of lower secondary education at **▶ Hauptschule** or **▶ Allgemein bildende höhere Schule** and an aptitude test. At the end of 5 years students can take the final examination *Reife-und Diplomprüfung*. Successful candidates receive the *Reife-und Diplomprüfungszeugnis*, which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table) and to employment. For information on legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule*.

### **Bildungsanstalt für Sozialpädagogik**

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Bildungsanstalten für Sozialpädagogik

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time upper secondary education in social pedagogy to students aged 14 to 19. This institution trains students to become educators qualified to carry out the educational tasks of day-boarding schools, day-care centres and other forms of residential care for young people, as well as non-school youth work. Admission is based on successful completion of the fourth year of lower secondary education at **▶ Hauptschule** or **▶ Allgemein bildende höhere Schule** and an aptitude test. At the end of 5 years, students can take the final examination *Reife-und Diplomprüfung*. Those who are successful receive the *Reife-und Diplomprüfungszeugnis* which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table) and to employment.

**BMS****Country:** Austria**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Berufsbildende mittlere Schule*.**Børnehavn****Country:** Denmark**Grammatical variants:** Børnehaven, børnehaver, børnehaverne**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering 4 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged from 3 to 7. Admission is based on age. The curriculum, delivered in a single stage, does not pro-

vide for formal teaching, but offers participation in educational activities. The Ministry for Family and Consumer Affairs has overall responsibility for provision, but the municipalities are responsible for the settings, which may be public or private. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Municipal authorities fund public settings and, in municipal institutions, fees are determined by the municipality concerned and means tested.

**Boys' school****Country:** Malta**Level:** ISCED 2**Explanatory note:** For all information, see *Girls' school*.





### **Categoriale school**

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Categoriale scholen

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institutions providing only one type of secondary education, for example **▸** *Vmbo* (theoretical programme) or **▸** *Gymnasium*. There are no separate schools for *havo*.

### **Catholic maintained school**

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **▸** *Grant-aided school* which may be a **▸** *Nursery school*, **▸** *Primary school* or **▸** *Secondary school*. Schools in this category are mostly owned by trustees, usually representatives of the Roman Catholic church. They are fully funded by the *Education and Library Boards* for revenue expenditure and mainly funded by the *Department of Education* for capital expenditure. Staff are employed by the *Council for Catholic Maintained Schools* (CCMS). This category of school is normally co-educational, but can include single-sex schools. No fees are payable. Synonym: *Maintained school*.

### **CEFA**

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▸** *Centre d'Éducation et de Formation en Alternance*.

### **Center for Videregående Uddannelse**

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Centret for Videregående Uddannelse, centre, centrene

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution mainly offering full-time labour market oriented professional programmes lasting 3-4 years. Supplementary and in-service training may also be given in part-time and evening classes. Students from the age of 19 are admitted on the basis of an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at **▸** *Erhvervsskole*, **▸** *Gymnasium*, **▸** *Handelsskole*, **▸** *HF-kursus*, **▸** *Studenterkursus*, **▸** *Teknisk skole* or **▸** *Voksenuddannelsescenter*, or a recognised equivalent. Admission to certain courses may be subject to further requirements. Courses

have a professional focus and combine theoretical studies with applied research and practical applications. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-governing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Students successfully completing the courses are awarded a *professionsbachelorgrad*, which may give access to second-cycle programmes, usually in the same field, at the same or other tertiary institutions. A one-year *diplomuddannelse* degree may also be obtained corresponding to a Bachelor level qualification. Abbreviation: CVU.

### **Centre d'Éducation et de Formation en Alternance**

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** An institution associated with several schools for secondary education (**▸** *Athénée*, **▸** *Collège*, **▸** *Institut*, **▸** *Lycée*), which in the second and third stages of provision offers courses leading to occupationally oriented technical qualifications, or vocational courses. The institution seeks to enable the schools concerned to organise secondary level provision alternately on their premises and at the workplace. A *Centre* may include just one school. It provides for students aged 15 to 18 who remain at school on a compulsory but part-time basis and who wish to continue their education, or offers vocational education to young adults aged 18 to 25 who wish to be trained for a particular occupation. Young people aged over 18 but under 25 on 31 December of the ongoing school year may enrol, provided they have either concluded an apprenticeship contract for salaried professions, or are party to an employment/training agreement, or to any other form of contract or agreement which is recognised in employment legislation, and relates to alternate education and training provision approved by the government of the French Community. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *athénée*. On the completion of training, students who pass the qualifying examination receive the *certificat de qualification*, which gives access to the labour market. Abbreviation: CEFA.

### Centre universitaire

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution that has been replaced since 2004/05 by the **Université**. The institution offered first-year university level courses in English, philosophy and psychology, classical studies, medicine, pharmacy and biology and chemistry, or two-year courses in German and French, history, law, economics, mathematics and physics. A second year could be organised in other subjects. Courses led to a *certificat d'études* (after one year) or a *diplôme de premier cycle universitaire* (DPCU) or *diplôme universitaire de technologie* (DUT). They were recognised and gave access to the second year or the second cycle of university studies in foreign universities. The *Centre* also offered a two-year 'specialisation' diploma to students 23 aged and over who had studied for 4 years abroad, which led to the *diplôme de formation pédagogique*. Abbreviation: CUNLUX.

### Centro concertado de educación infantil

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Centros concertados de educación infantil

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full- or part-time pre-primary education for children aged up to 6. Admission is based on age. The common curriculum is based on children's areas of experience and divided into two stages of three years each. It is possible to enrol children in the first stage, the second stage, or both. This setting is privately owned, co-educational and can be denominational. It is grant aided by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. Tuition fees are usually payable in the first stage, and families contribute to other expenses in both. Children can progress automatically to primary education.

### Centro concertado de educación primaria

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Centros concertados de educación primaria

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing up to 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12. Provision can also include the second stage of pre-primary education (*educación infantil*) from the age of 3, and/or the first stage of lower secondary education from the age of 12 to 14. Admission is based on age. The common curriculum is divided into three stages of two years each. This institution is privately owned, co-educational and can be denominational or non-denominational.

It is grant aided by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. No final qualifications are awarded at this institution and pupils can progress automatically to secondary education (**Centro concertado de educación secundaria**, **Instituto de educación secundaria**).

### Centro concertado de educación secundaria

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Centros concertados de educación secundaria

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering up to 8 years of full- or part-time (lower/upper) secondary education and tertiary education for pupils/students aged 12 to 16, 18 or 20. Pupils may enter automatically at the age of 12 on completion of primary school (**Centro concertado de educación primaria**, **Colegio de educación primaria**). Those entering at the age of 16 must hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate *graduado en educación secundaria obligatoria* awarded by the same institution or **Instituto de educación secundaria**. The *centro concertado de educación secundaria* is privately owned, co-educational and can be denominational or non-denominational. It is grant aided by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. For information on courses and final qualifications, see *instituto de educación secundaria*.

### Centro concertado de formación profesional

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Centros concertados de formación profesional

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2, 3 or 4 years of full- or part-time upper secondary and tertiary education for students aged 16 to 18, 19 or 20. Admission is subject to the qualifications held; students entering at the age of 16 may be required to hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate (*graduado en educación secundaria obligatoria* awarded at **Centro concertado de educación secundaria**). Students entering at the age of 18 should hold the upper secondary school leaving certificate (*bachiller*) awarded at **Instituto de educación secundaria** and *centro concertado de educación secundaria*, or may be required to complete an aptitude test. This institution provides technical and vocational education, which is divided into levels or tiers, ranging from intermediate to advanced level specific vocational training. The institution is privately owned, co-educational.

cational and can be denominational. It is grant aided by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. Qualifications awarded vary according to the stage completed (*técnico en (+)* or *técnico superior en (+)*).

### Centro integrado

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Centros integrados

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institutions combining studies in music and dance with general education. Admission is based on the specific regulations of the Autonomous Communities, provided that they do not contravene the general regulations for admissions criteria in force. This public establishment is financed by the education authorities concerned. The qualifications awarded are the same as those obtainable at both general education institutions (e.g. *Centro concertado de educación primaria*) and artistic education institutions (e.g. *Conservatorio elemental*).

### Centrum voor basiseducatie

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Centra voor basiseducatie

**Level:** ISCED 1 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time education in basic skills to adult learners who are not fully proficient in Dutch as mother tongue, as well as courses in Dutch (as a second language) for non-native speakers, mathematics, information and communication technology, and social skills. Basic adult education is for people with a low level of education, or those aged over 18 who do not possess a primary education certificate (see *Basisschool*), or a certificate from the second stage of secondary education obtained at *Secundaire school*. Institutions are co-educational, run by local bodies and funded by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. No fees are payable. On completion of certain courses, learners can continue their education or training in a *Centrum voor volwassenenonderwijs*.

### Centrum voor deeltijds beroepsonderwijs

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Centra voor deeltijds beroepsonderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time vocational secondary education. Students from the age of 15 or 16 can transfer from the full-time secondary education system to the part-time system (in which they cannot stay beyond the age of 25). Part-time secondary education consists of

2 stages, corresponding to the second and third stages of full-time education. Students attend classes during 15 periods a week. They gain professional experience by entering into a part-time employment or apprenticeship contract, or by working in the family business. Admission to the second stage of part-time vocational education is mainly based on age. For admission to the third stage, students require a certificate from the second stage of full- or part-time secondary education. They may obtain the *kwalificatiegetuigschrift van het deeltijds beroepssecundair onderwijs*, which is not however equivalent to the *diploma secundair onderwijs* obtained in full-time secondary education (see *Secundaire school*). Centres are in most cases attached to full-time secondary schools (*secundaire school*). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *Basisschool*.

### Centrum voor volwassenenonderwijs

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Centra voor volwassenenonderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 5 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time secondary education and professionally oriented tertiary education to adult learners who have completed full-time compulsory education and comply with specific entrance conditions, depending on the course they have chosen. These institutions enable learners to obtain a recognised diploma, certificate or qualification. They may be administered and funded by local bodies on behalf of the Flemish Community, or grant aided and established by provincial or municipal authorities or non-profit-making organisations (see *Gemeentelijke School* or *Provinciale School*). Fees are normally payable although some learners may be exempt from them. Like institutions providing compulsory education, these centres are authorised to award their adult learners *diploma*, *getuigschriften*, *attesten*, *certificaten* and *deelcertificaten*.

### Children's centre

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** In England, a pre-school setting which forms part of the wider *Sure Start* programme, which encompasses targeted services in disadvantaged areas, and also universal services for all children aged 0 to 16. Most *children's centres* are being developed from existing provision: *Sure Start local programmes*, *neighbourhood nurseries* and *Early Excellence Centres*. They serve children from birth to age 4 and their families in disadvantaged communities by providing integrated care

and education, health services, family support and a base for childminders. Provision will subsequently be expanded to more affluent areas. Local authorities are responsible for planning and provision in cooperation with the Department for Education and Skills. The *foundation stage* curriculum is provided for children from the age of 3. In Wales, *children's centres*, also known as *integrated centres*, also offer a range of care, education, health, and family support services.

### City academy

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A type of [Secondary school](#) established in disadvantaged urban areas under the predecessor programme to the [Academy](#) programme.

### City Technology College

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A type of [Secondary school](#) located in an urban area, providing full-time general education with an emphasis on science and technology for pupils aged 11 to 18/19. Admission is not based on academic ability. CTCs have many similarities with schools in the [Academy](#) programme. Their legal status is that of an independent (private) school and they are managed by sponsors or promoters (e.g. private companies, charitable foundations), who operate under contract to the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). The DfES provides an annual grant. CTCs are co-educational and may be denominational or non-denominational. They may not charge fees. For qualifications, see *secondary school*. Abbreviation: CTC.

### Colegio de educación primaria

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Colegios de educación primaria

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing up to 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12. Provision can also include the second stage of pre-primary education (*educación infantil*) from the age of 3 and/or the first stage of lower secondary education from the age of 12 to 14. Admission is based on age. This is a public institution, co-educational and non-denominational. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for the institution and fully funds it. Municipalities are also responsible for certain areas. For information on courses and final qualifications, see [Centro concertado de educación primaria](#). Synonym: *Colegio público*.

### Colegio público

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Colegios públicos

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [Colegio de educación primaria](#).

### Colegio rural agrupado

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Colegios rurales agrupados

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution located in rural areas, which consists of groupings of scattered schools forming a single institution with peripatetic teachers. It offers up to 9 years of full-time pre-primary and primary education to children aged 3 to 12. Admission is based on age. For pupils aged 6 to 12, this institution provides primary education that is divided into three stages of two years each. All pupils follow a common curriculum. The institution is public, co-educational and non-denominational. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for it and fully funds it. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. No final qualifications are awarded at the institution and pupils can progress automatically to secondary education ([Centro concertado de educación secundaria](#), [Instituto de educación secundaria](#)). Abbreviation: CRA.

### Colegiu universitar

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Colegiul universitar, colegii\* universitare

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length full-, part-time and evening occupationally oriented courses for students from the age of 18, who hold the final certificate obtained at [Liceu](#) and pass an entrance examination. Courses lead to the *diplomă de absolvire* (followed by the name of the area of specialisation), which gives access to the labour market. For information on administrative arrangements, legal status and funding, see [Universitate](#) (+).

### College

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Term used in many different ways, but most commonly to refer to post-16 non-school provision such as a [Sixth-form college](#), [Further education college](#), [Higher education college](#), or a constituent college of a collegiate [University](#).

**College****Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)**Level:** ISCED 3, 4 and 5 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Further education college**.**Collège****Country:** Belgium (French Community)**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years or the last 4 years of full-time general secondary education to pupils/students aged from 12/14 to 18. The *collèges* belong to the private sector of education administered by private bodies. They are all grant aided by the French Community, denominational and generally co-educational. For information on admission requirements, organisational arrangements and qualifications, see **Athénée**.**Collège****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 2**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 years of compulsory full-time lower secondary education to pupils aged 11 to 15. All pupils who have satisfactorily completed primary education in an **École élémentaire** are admitted at the latest in the year in which they become 12. They follow a general curriculum in three teaching stages (1 year, 2 years and 1 year), with the possibility of selecting a 'vocational initiation' course in the final year. The decision taken at this stage generally determines their choice of upper secondary school (**Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique** or **Lycée professionnel**). At the end of the final year, a national diploma (*brevet*) is awarded on the basis of both an examination and the results of the pupil in the last two years. The *brevet* does not give access to upper secondary education. The *départements* cover expenditure linked to the construction, renovation and material facilities of public institutions. For information on authority responsible, status and funding, see **École maternelle**.**College of Education****Country:** Ireland**Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering two-cycle courses of teacher education for students from the age of 17. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification (*Leaving Certificate*) awarded at **Secondary school** or **Vocational school**, or its equivalent. The Department of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are funded by central government (in the case of two of them through the Higher Education Authority). Fees have to be paid in certain circumstances. Courseslead to a first degree (*Bachelor in Education*) and second degree (*Master or Post-Graduate Diploma in Education*).**College of higher education****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Higher education college**.**Community college****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)**Level:** ISCED 1 and 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Adult education centre**. Also sometimes used to describe institutions which combine the functions of a **Secondary school** and an *adult education centre*.**Community Education Centre****Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time lower and upper secondary education and training, as well as leisure courses and basic education, to adults over compulsory school age (16). Stages and length of studies are extremely varied due to the nature of the provision; generally there are no formal admission requirements. These centres are largely owned, managed and funded by local education authorities. Tuition fees are payable by most adults unless they are in receipt of state benefits. Community education also takes place in many locations outside these institutions. Courses may lead to a range of qualifications similar to those provided by a **Further education college**.**Community nursery****Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** These are similar to **Nursery centres** but provide a greater variety of support services to meet local needs. This may include home visiting, out-of-school care, parents' 'drop in' and information/advice services. Sometimes this type of facility is jointly managed by the local education authority and private/voluntary sectors. For further information, see **Pre-school education centre**.**Community school****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **Maintained school** which may be either a **Primary school** or a **Secondary school**. The local authority owns the school's land and buildings, employs the school staff, has primary responsibility for deciding the admissions policy and fully funds the school. *Community schools* are non-denominational.

### Community special school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of *Special school* providing education for children with special educational needs aged from 2 to post-16. Like *Community schools*, these schools are fully funded by local authorities for both revenue and capital expenditure. *Community special schools* are non-denominational.

### Community/Comprehensive school

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Non-denominational public-sector institution, funded by the Department of Education and Science. See *Secondary school*.

### Comprehensive school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A *Secondary school* for which admission is not based on ability. Most *secondary schools* in England and all *secondary schools* in Wales are *comprehensive schools*.

### Comprehensive school

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for *Secondary school*.

### Conservatoire Royal

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering long full-time tertiary education courses at university level. It specialises in music and drama and is open to students aged 18 and over. For further information, see *École supérieure des arts*.

### Conservator

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatorul, conservatoare\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length and long full-, part-time and evening courses in music to students from the age of 18, who hold the final certificate awarded at *Liceu*. Courses lead to the *diplomă de licență*. For information on the language of instruction, administrative arrangements, legal status, funding and further studies and doctoral qualifications, see *Universitate* (+). Synonym: *Universitate de muzică*.

### Conservatorio (+)

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatorios

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for *Conservatorio elemental*, *Conservatorio profesional* or *Conservatorio superior*.

### Conservatorio di musica

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatori di musica

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time specialised courses in music. For information on admission, qualifications, responsibilities and funding, see *Accademia* (+).

### Conservatorio elemental

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatorios elementales

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering four years of part-time primary and lower secondary education (elementary level) in the fields of music and dance for pupils/students from the age of 8 to 12. Courses are provided in a single stage. The admission criteria are established by the education authorities of the Autonomous Community concerned. Dance pupils follow a common curriculum, while music pupils may specialise in an instrument. This institution is a public establishment financed by the corresponding education authorities. Successful pupils receive the *certificado acreditativo del grado elemental de* (+) entitling them to take the examinations for access to the *Conservatorio profesional* (upper secondary education). Generic term: *Conservatorio* (+).

### Conservatorio profesional

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatorios profesionales

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering four years of part-time primary and lower/upper secondary education (intermediate level) in the fields of music and dance for pupils/students from the age of 8. Primary and lower secondary courses are provided in a single structure, whereas upper secondary education offers six years of part-time provision, organised in three stages of two academic years each. After successful completion of upper secondary courses at *conservatorio profesional*, students are awarded the leaving certificate *título profesional del grado medio de* (+), which gives access to studies in music or dance at tertiary level in a *Conservatorio superior*. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see *Conservatorio elemental*. Generic term: *Conservatorio* (+).

### Conservatorio superior

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Conservatorios superiores

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented advanced level courses in the fields of music and dance for students from the age of 18. The length of these single-cycle courses depends on the spe-

cialisation chosen, and is usually four or five years. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification (*bachiller*) awarded at **▶ Instituto de Educación Secundaria** or **▶ Centro concertado de educación secundaria** and the *título profesional de grado medio de (+)* awarded at **▶ Conservatorio profesional**, and on satisfactory performance in an examination as stipulated by the central government. Those who do not meet these academic requirements may also be admitted if they pass the examination and a special exercise. Courses lead to degree level qualifications (*título superior en (+)*). For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see **▶ Conservatorio elemental**. Generic term: *Conservatorio (+)*.

### Controlled integrated school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **▶ Grant-aided school** which may be a **▶ Primary school** or a **▶ Secondary school**. These schools are owned, managed and fully funded for revenue and capital expenditure by *Education and Library Boards* (ELBs) and the Department of Education respectively. The ELBs also employ the staff. The school *Board of Governors* decides on admissions. These schools are Christian in character but non-denominational and were introduced to provide integrated education for Catholic and Protestant pupils. The majority of these schools acquired integrated status through a process of *transformation*, following a decision taken by the parents and the *Board of Governors*.

### Controlled school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **▶ Grant-aided school** which may be a **▶ Nursery school**, **▶ Primary school** or **▶ Secondary school**. These schools are owned, managed and fully funded for revenue and capital expenditure by *Education and Library Boards* which also employ the staff. The school *Board of Governors* decides on admissions. *Controlled schools* are non-denominational, but educate mainly Protestant pupils.

### COY

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation for **▶ Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishhte**.

### CRA

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Colegio rural agrupado**.

### CTC

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ City Technology College**.

### CUNLUX

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Centre universitaire**.

### CVU

**Country:** Denmark

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Center for Videregående Uddannelse**.





### Daghem

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Daghemmet

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ▶ *Päiväkoti*.

### Darželis

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Darželiai, daržel\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3/4 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged from 3 to 6/7. Admission is based on age. A voluntary pre-primary preparatory group (*priešmokyklinė grupė*) for those aged 5-6 can be organised and run in accordance with a pre-primary preparatory curriculum approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. The financing of institutions is within the discretion of the founding body (normally, the municipal authority). Public institutions may charge a certain fee for provision of pre-primary education (in addition to fees for meals). Fees are charged in private establishments. For information on administrative arrangements and religious and legal status, see ▶ *Mokykla-darželis*.

### Day nursery

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** A pre-school setting which provides day care and education for children under the age of 5. They are usually privately owned and managed but some are run by local authorities or voluntary organisations. Private and voluntary providers may receive government funding for the provision of free part-time education for children from age 3 on condition the educational programme follows government guidelines, but fees are payable for any care or education which exceeds the free entitlement. For curriculum arrangements, see ▶ *Nursery school*. *Day nurseries* are co-educational and non-denominational.

### Day nursery

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Private/voluntary centre providing day-care services, play and educational opportunities for children under school age. Nurseries are usually open all year round and can care for children on a full- or part-day basis. Some may provide out-of-school care in addition to the normal nursery service. Individual owners, companies or voluntary bodies may manage these establishments. For further information, see ▶ *Pre-school education centre*.

### Detska gradina (Детска градина)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Detski gradini

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 to 4 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged from 3 to 6/7. Admission is based on age. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national educational programme. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private settings, which are mostly co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally or municipally funded while private establishments are self-funded. Parents have to pay fees determined by the municipality concerned. Attendance at a *detska gradina* is compulsory one year before the beginning of primary education at ▶ *Natchalno utchilishte*, ▶ *Osnovno utchilishte* or ▶ *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte*.

### Dimosia anoteri scholi (Δημόσια ανώτερη σχολή)

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Dimosies anoteres scholes, dimosi\* anoter\* schol\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Synonym of ▶ *Dimosia scholi tritovathmias ekkpaidefsis*.

**Dimosia scholi tritovathmias ekpaidefsis**  
(Δημόσια σχολή τριτοβάθμιας εκπαίδευσης)**Country:** Cyprus**Grammatical variants:** Dimosies scholes tritovathmias ekpaidefsis, dimosi\* schol\***Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering professional/vocational full-time courses in the fields of technology, forestry, hotel and catering, nursing and other professions for students from the age of 18. Admission is based on an upper secondary education qualification (*apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou*) obtained at ▶ *Eniaio lykeio* or ▶ *Esperino scholeio*. Applicants must also have taken examinations (*eisagogikes exetaseis*) aimed at ranking them. The language of instruction is English or Greek. These state institutions function under the supervision of various ministries. They are publicly funded by the government. For Cypriot students, fees are covered by government grants. Foreign students have to pay fees. Courses lead to qualifications at professionally orientated level: 1-year courses lead to *pistopoiitiko spoudon*, 2-year courses to *diploma* and 3-year courses to *anotero diploma*. Synonym: *Dimosia anoteri scholi*.**Dimosio nipiagogeio (Δημόσιο νηπιαγωγείο)****Country:** Cyprus**Grammatical variants:** Dimosia nipiagogeia, dimosi\* nipiagogei\***Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Public institution founded and staffed by the State. The State is responsible for the funding of these institutions. For further information, see ▶ *Nipiagogeio*.**Dimotiko scholeio (Δημοτικό σχολείο)****Country:** Cyprus**Grammatical variants:** Dimotika scholeia, dimotik\* scholei\***Level:** ISCED 1**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time primary education for pupils from the age of 5 years and 8 months to the age of 12. Admission is based on age. For purely administrative purposes, provision at *dimotika scholeia* is divided into two stages: *katoteros kyklos* (lower stage) for years 1-3 and *anoteros kyklos* (upper stage) for years 4-6. The Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible for the supervision of both public (state-funded) and private primary schools so that they comply with the operational rules laid down by the State, but private establishments are self-funded. Public primary schools are co-educational and denominational and no fees are pay-able in them. There is no final examination; pupils receive a school leaving certificate (*apolytirio dimotikou scholeiou*) which gives access to ▶ *Gymnasio*.**Dimotiko scholeio (Δημοτικό σχολείο)****Country:** Greece**Grammatical variants:** Dimotika scholeia, dimotik\* scholei\***Level:** ISCED 1**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time compulsory primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12. Admission is based on age and all pupils follow a common curriculum for general education in a single stage. The Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and denominational (while respecting freedom of religion). Funding for the public-sector establishments is divided between central government and the prefectures. Private establishments are self funded. No fees are payable in public-sector schools. On completion of the curriculum, pupils receive a primary school leaving certificate (*titlos spoudon*) which gives access to ▶ *Gymnasio* and is the minimum requirement for admission to adult education at ▶ *Scholeio defteris eferias*.**Dolgozók általános iskolája****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Dolgozók általános iskolája\*, dolgozók általános iskolái**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full- or part-time compulsory/basic education for adults who have previously been unable to receive it. Admission is based on their previous school record and there is no age limit, but a maturity assessment examination is also possible. Tuition is in two stages lasting 4 years each: years 1-4 consist of adult literacy courses, while years 5-8 are devoted to general upper level school education (through part-time evening classes or distance provision). There is no examination between the two stages. The curriculum is based on the National Core Curriculum and complies with requirements in the Act on Adult Education. After successful completion of 8 years, students receive the certificate *dolgozók általános iskolai bizonyítványa*, which is necessary to gain access to upper secondary education (see summary table) and employment. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see ▶ *Általános iskola*.



### EB1

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica do 1.º ciclo*.

### EB1/JI

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância*.

### EB12

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica dos 1.º e 2.º ciclos*.

### EB2

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica do 2.º ciclo*.

### EB23

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos*.

### EB23/S

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário*.

### EBI

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica integrada*.

### EBI/JI

**Portugal**

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância*.

### École de promotion sociale

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3, 4 and 5 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering lower or upper secondary education, as well as short or long tertiary education provided in a more flexible timetable than in the case of full-time courses. Courses are generally given on the premises of a school or, under certain circumstances, at the workplace and are open to students aged 15 or over. Public-sector institutions for which the French Community is directly responsible are both administered and funded by it. Other institutions belong either to the public sector (in which case they are the responsibility of the provinces and communes), or to the grant-aided private sector subsidised by the French Community. Grant-aided private institutions may be denominational. Registration fees depend on the level of education and the total number of periods completed in the year. Institutions award qualifications which are either specific to this form of provision or which correspond to those of mainstream education.

### École élémentaire

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time compulsory education to pupils aged 6 to 11. Admission is based solely on age in the first year. The programme covers the last two teaching stages of primary school: the second (which started in *École maternelle*) and the third (the last three years of primary education). For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *école maternelle*. There is no school-leaving certificate. Pupils who have successfully completed their studies move on automatically to secondary education in a *Collège*, generally at the age of 11.

### École maternelle

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary education to children aged from 2½ to 6. Admission is based solely on age. Up to the

age of 5, education in this setting covers the first stage of *enseignement fondamental* (pre-primary and primary education); the second stage starts with the final pre-primary year and continues for two years of the **École primaire**. These settings may be provided in separate premises or be administratively attached to an *école primaire*. Public-sector institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. They are either administered and funded entirely by the French Community, or administered by the provinces and communes and grant aided by the Community. The remaining institutions (*écoles libres*) belong to the private sector and are grant aided by the French Community. They may be denominational. All settings are co-educational and no fees are payable. Children progress automatically from them to the *école primaire*.

### École maternelle

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 or 4 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged from 2/3 to 6. This setting provides education covering the first stage and the first year of the second stage of primary education (**École élémentaire**). Admission is based on age and medically certified physiological maturity. The majority of the settings are public and secular; private institutions are generally denominational and under contract to the government. They are all co-educational and families pay no fees. The Ministry for National Education determines the curricula, and recruits, trains and pays the teachers. In public institutions, the municipality is responsible for the construction, renovation and upkeep of buildings, and generally owns the premises. The establishment of an *école maternelle* does not represent mandatory expenditure for municipalities as compulsory education does not begin until the age of 6 but, where such a school exists, the municipality is obliged to maintain it.

### École Normale Supérieure

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time academically oriented specialised courses to students from the age of 20. They are admitted through competitive examinations (*concours*), which are taken after two years in the *classes préparatoires aux grandes écoles* (CPGE, or special classes) that prepare them for the **Grande école**, after passing the upper secondary school leaving examination in a **Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique** or **Lycée professionnel**. The course prepares students for **Université**

and for competitive recruitment examinations (*concours*) for secondary level teachers. Students are paid during this course. No qualifications are awarded. The four *Écoles Normales Supérieures* are public institutions, placed under the administrative control of the general inspectorate of the national administrative authorities for education and under the financial control of the general inspectorate of finance. These institutions are funded by central government. Abbreviation: ENS.

### École primaire

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged from 6 to 12. There are no academic admission requirements. Both pre-primary and primary education are provided in stages and years of study. Pupils who successfully complete six years of primary school receive a *certificat d'études de base* which gives access to secondary education (**Athénée**, **Collège**, **Institut** or **Lycée**). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see **École maternelle**.

### École primaire

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12. Admission is based solely on age. Provision is divided into three stages, each lasting two years. For further information on status and administrative responsibilities, see **Lycée**. No fees are payable at schools of this kind which are funded partly by central government and partly by the municipal authorities. Progression to secondary education (*lycée*, **Lycée technique**) depends on a recommendation from the *école primaire*.

### École spécialisée

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary, primary and secondary education to pupils and students aged between 2½ and 21 with special educational needs. It is possible for them to be temporarily or permanently integrated within mainstream education. Pre-primary and primary education of this kind is provided in four progressive stages. Secondary education consists of four types of provision adapted to the learning ability of pupils and students and their longer-term ambitions. The fourth and final type is for pupils and students whose attainment is such as to enable them to work at the same level as those

in mainstream education. Institutions may award the same qualifications as in mainstream education. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see ▶ *École maternelle*.

### École supérieure des arts

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing full-time (short and/or long) tertiary education in one or more artistic fields (including the plastic, visual and spatial arts, music, drama and elocution, the performing arts, and publicity and communications techniques). The institution is open to students aged 18 who hold a *certificat d'enseignement secondaire supérieure* from an ▶ *Athénée*, ▶ *Collège*, ▶ *Institut* or ▶ *Lycée*, or a recognised equivalent, and who have passed an artistic examination. Enrolment fees are payable. Long university level courses are provided in two stages and lead to the qualifications of *bachelier* (three years of study) and *master* (1 to 2 years), respectively. An occupationally oriented *bachelier* may also be obtained after three years of (short-course) study. For information on organisational arrangements, status, funding, and admission to doctoral studies, see ▶ *Haute École*.

### EEl

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Escuela de educación infantil*.

### Efterskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Efterskolen, efterskoler, efterskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Private self-governing boarding school offering full-time general lower secondary education programmes lasting 1, 2 or 3 years. Teaching must be offered for 8th-11th form to students who are aged 14 to 18 or who have completed a minimum 7 years of compulsory education at ▶ *Grundskole*. In a particular educational, social and residential framework, emphasis may be on special educational needs, practical work, music, drama or physical education alongside ordinary school subjects. The Ministry of Education confers on *efterskoler* the right to use the *grundskole* final examinations. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational and receive a major part of their funding from the Ministry. Fees are payable. For information on final examinations and the provision to which they give access, see *grundskole*.

### Egyetem

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Egyetem\*, egyetemek

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary courses to students from the age of 18, who hold an upper secondary education qualification (*kéttannyelvű/gimnáziumi érettségi bizonyítvány*, *szakközépiskolai érettségi-képesítő bizonyítvány*) or a recognised equivalent awarded by an upper secondary level institution (see summary table). Entrance examinations for *egyetem* have been discontinued since 2004/05. Students have to pass the reformed upper secondary leaving examination, *érettségi vizsga*, to gain admission to tertiary education institutions. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are predominantly state funded through the Ministry. Private establishments are grant aided, on the basis of a contract with the educational administration on the number of subsidised places in their courses. There are no tuition fees for students who are studying for their first degree and who are admitted to publicly subsidised places. Courses lead to the *egyetemi oklevél* degree, and advanced research degrees (*doktori fokozat*) may also be awarded. These institutions are further entitled to offer occupationally oriented degree courses (*főiskola oklevél*), subject to satisfactory completion of the appropriate accreditation procedure.

### Eniaio lykeio (Ενιαίο λύκειο)

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Eniaia lykeia, eniai\* lykei\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 18. Admission is based on successful completion of ▶ *Gymnasio*. Students at *eniaio lykeio* are able to choose courses in accordance with their interests and inclinations. The Ministry of Education and Culture has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are state-funded, co-educational and denominational. No fees are payable. Final comprehensive examinations (*eniaies apolytiries exetaseis*) lead to the *apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou* leaving certificate, which can give access to tertiary education at ▶ *Dimosia scholi tritovathmias ekpaidefsis* and is a minimum requirement for entry to ▶ *Panepistimio* provided that students pass the entry examinations (*eis-agogikes exetaseis*).

### Eniaio lykeio (Ενιαίο λύκειο)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Eniaia lykeia, eniai\* lykei\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general and technological upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 18. The leaving certificate of lower secondary education (*apolytirio gymnasiou*) obtained in **▶ Gymnasio** or **▶ Scholeio defteris efkerias** is required for admission. The curriculum comprises the general knowledge subjects common for all students; specialist and elective subjects vary, depending on their chosen branch of studies. The Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and denominational (while respecting freedom of religion). Funding for public institutions is divided between central government and the prefectures. Private establishments are self-funded. No fees are payable in public-sector establishments. On completion of the curriculum, students receive the leaving certificate *apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou*, while those who sit the national exams (*panelladikes exetaseis*) for entry to tertiary education receive the *vevaiosi* certification. The certificates give access to **▶ Panepistimio**, **▶ Polytechnio** and **▶ Technologiko ekpaideftiko idryma**. Those wishing to embark on post-secondary vocational training are eligible for admission to the **▶ Institouto epaggelmatikis katartisis**.

## ENS

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ École Normale Supérieure**.

## EOI

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Escuela oficial de idiomas**.

## EP

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Escola profissional**.

## Erhvervsakademi

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Erhvervsakademiet, erhvervsakademier, erhvervsakademierne

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-, part-time and evening classes providing short technical and commercial courses to students holding an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at **▶ Erhvervsskole**, **▶ Gymnasium**, **▶ Handelsskole**, **▶ HF-kursus**, **▶ Studenterkursus**, **▶ Teknisk skole** or **▶ Voksenuddan-**

*nelsescenter*, or a recognised equivalent. For further information on legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *erhvervsskole*. Courses lead to *erhvervsakademiuddannelser* (academy profession degrees) awarded with *eksamensbevis*. The qualifications obtained give access to the labour market or, depending on the type of *eksamensbevis* acquired, may enable their holders to obtain a credit transfer towards a *bachelorgrad* in Denmark or abroad.

## Erhvervsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Erhvervsskolen, erhvervsskole, erhvervsskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 to 5 years (typically 3 to 4 years) of upper secondary commercial and technical vocational education and training (VET), commercial HHX programmes (see **▶ Handelsskole**) and technical HTX programmes (see **▶ Teknisk skole**), as well as short technical and commercial tertiary education programmes (see **▶ Erhvervsakademi**) and adult vocational training, etc. Training is provided in full-, part-time and evening classes. Students are admitted to upper secondary VET programmes from the age of 16 on passing the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* examination at **▶ Grundskole**. Some programmes have admission restrictions and programmes normally alternate between school and in-company training. Institutions are private self-governing establishments primarily funded by the State. The Ministry of Education is responsible for the legislative framework. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational and no fees are payable. On satisfactory completion of their courses, students receive two diplomas – an *uddannelsesbevis* awarded by the corresponding trade committee and a *skolebevis* by the school – which qualify them for their trade and for study at a higher level. Short technical and commercial tertiary education programmes may enable them to undertake a Bachelors degree depending on the scope for credit transfer and on agreements already established. A department of the *erhvervsskole* that offers the upper secondary level HHX is known as *handelsgymnasium*.

## Erytyiskoulu

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -koulut, -koulu\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Municipal special school providing full-, part-time and remedial basic education for pupils aged 7-16 with special educational needs, or a state-maintained special school providing full-, part-time and remedial basic educa-

tion for pupils aged 5-16 with severe multiple disabilities. The institutions maintained by the State are national development and service centres providing expert services for municipal and other schools, and temporary education and rehabilitation for pupils of compulsory school age (7-16 years) studying at other schools. These schools may also provide rehabilitation for disabled people under compulsory school age and those who have completed comprehensive school. Admission is based on a decision on the transfer to special education made by the school board of the pupil's municipality of residence, after consultation with the parents or guardians. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see [Peruskoulu](#). On completion of their course, pupils receive a leaving certificate, *peruskoulun päättötodistus*, which grants access to [Ammatillinen erityisopilaitos](#), [Ammatillinen opilaitos](#) and [Lukio](#). Swedish term: *Specialskola*.

### Erivajadustega laste kool

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Erivajadustega laste koolid

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering three possible forms of provision as follows: 10 years of full-time general primary and lower secondary education in a single stage for pupils whose speech, hearing or sight is impaired, or for those with learning difficulties who study on the basis of a simplified curriculum; 11 years of full-time general primary and lower secondary education in a single stage for pupils with hearing impairments; or up to 12 years of general education for pupils with severe learning difficulties who study on the basis of the curriculum for those with moderate and severe difficulties, or pupils with profound learning difficulties who study on the basis of the national curriculum for nursing schools. Irrespective of the curriculum, all pupils receive the *põhikooli lõputunnistus* certificate. In the case solely of those whose speech, hearing or sight is impaired, this gives access to upper secondary education ([Gümnaasium](#) or [Kutseõppeasutus](#)). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see [Põhikool](#).

### Erweiterte Realschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Erweiterte Realschulen, Erweiterten Realschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [Hauptschule](#) and [Realschule](#) in the *Land* of Saarland.

### ES

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [Escola secundária](#).

### ES/EB3

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico](#).

### ESA

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [Escola secundária artística](#).

### Escola básica do 1.º ciclo

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas do 1.º ciclo

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing the first 4 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (*ensino básico*) to pupils aged 6 to 10. There are no academic entrance requirements. The common curriculum is organised in a single stage. The Ministry of Education exercises overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational and non-denominational. The *escolas básicas do 1.º ciclo* are co-funded by the central administration and municipalities. No fees are payable in public institutions. Public funding for private establishments depends on the type of contract they have with the Ministry (mainly *contrato de associação* or *contrato de patrocínio*). Progression to the second stage of basic education is based on continuous assessment of work at school. Abbreviation: EB1.

### Escola básica do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 7 years of full-time pre-primary and compulsory/basic (1st stage) education to pupils aged between 3 and 10. For full information, see [Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#) and [Jardim-de-infância](#). Abbreviation: EB1/JI.

### Escola básica do 2.º ciclo

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas do 2.º ciclo

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 2 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (2nd stage) to pupils aged 10 to 12. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see [Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#). Abbreviation: EB2

### Escola básica dos 1.º e 2.º ciclos

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas dos 1.º e 2.º ciclos

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 6 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (1st and 2nd stages) to pupils aged 6 to 12. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see [▶ Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#). Abbreviation: EB12.

### Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (2nd and 3rd stages) for pupils aged 10 to 15. Admission is based on successful completion of the first stage of compulsory/basic education at the [▶ Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#). Pupils follow a common curriculum, with few elective subjects, organised in two stages. On completion of the final stage of basic education at the age of 15, pupils are awarded a diploma (*diploma do ensino básico*). With it, they can either continue their education or enter the labour market as unskilled workers. Some schools offer one-year courses and initial vocational training organised in conjunction with other community bodies. These courses are aimed at young people who wish to start work after completing basic education (or at least attending the 9th grade). On completion of their course, they are awarded a second level vocational qualification (*diploma de qualificação profissional de nível II*) and/or a diploma of equivalence to basic education. For information on legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see [escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#). Abbreviation: EB23.

### Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (2nd and 3rd stages) and secondary education for pupils/students aged 10 to 18. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see [▶ Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#) and for information on final qualifications, see [▶ Escola secundária](#). Abbreviation: EB23/S.

### Escola básica integrada

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas integradas

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution integrating the 3 stages of compulsory/basic education for pupils aged 6 to 15. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see [▶ Escola básica do 1.º ciclo](#). Abbreviation: EBI.

### Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas básicas integradas com jardim-de-infância

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution combining the 3 stages of compulsory/basic education, offered in [▶ Escola básica integrada](#), with pre-primary education, also offered in [▶ Jardim-de-infância](#). Abbreviation: EBI/JI.

### Escola profissional

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas profissionais

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time secondary education to pupils/students aged from 14/15 to 17/18, who are admitted on completion of the third and final stage of *ensino básico*. This institution provides technological and vocational (including artistic) courses in a single stage. The curriculum depends on the course chosen. Under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, the great majority of these schools are set up on the initiative of individuals, groups or associations. They are therefore mainly private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. They can apply for public or Community funds to finance the courses provided. Some institutions are set up by the State in regions in which no private initiatives have been taken. In the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores where central and regional funding is combined, these schools are also financed by special regional Community funds. Tuition fees are payable. Students are awarded an upper secondary diploma (*diploma de estudos secundários*) necessary for entry to all types of tertiary education (see summary table) and a level-three vocational qualification (*diploma de qualificação profissional de nível III*) enabling them to enter working life as intermediate technicians. Abbreviation: EP.

### Escola secundária

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas secundárias

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general, technological, artistic and vocational secondary education (*ensino secundário*), to students aged from 14/15 to 17/18. Admission is based on successful completion of the third stage of compulsory/basic education (*ensino básico*). Each school offers a selection of the courses available at this level, depending on regional or local socio-economic conditions and the need for qualified manpower. There is some freedom of curricular choice. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational and can be public or private. They are co-funded by the central administration and municipalities. No fees are payable in public institutions. Public funding for private establishments depends on the type of contract they have with the Ministry (mainly *contrato de associação* or *contrato de patrocínio*). No fees are payable in fully funded establishments. On successful completion students are awarded a secondary diploma (*diploma de estudos secundários*). With it, they can either continue their education in a tertiary education institution or enter working life. Technological, artistic and vocational education courses also lead to a level-three vocational qualification (*diploma de qualificação profissional de nível III*) enabling students to begin working life. Abbreviation: ES.

### Escola secundária artística

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas secundárias artísticas  
**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general and vocational artistic secondary education to students aged 14/15 to 17/18. Possible variants are dance, music and visual arts. The general and vocational components may be offered in the same school, or in different schools (known as the integrated or combined system, respectively) of music and dance education. The general and vocational components for visual arts are always offered in the same school. Admission is based on successful completion of the third stage of compulsory/basic education (*ensino básico*). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for the *escolas secundárias artísticas*, through the regional education directorates. Central administration and municipalities co-fund these institutions, which can be public or private, in collaboration with the administrative department responsible for the cultural area concerned. Schools may sign agreements and contracts with public or private entities, national or foreign. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Fees are payable in private establishments. On successful completion of specific courses, students are

awarded a diploma depending on the artistic area and sub-area chosen. If the general education component is undertaken in a different school (combined system) students aged 17 are also awarded a secondary diploma (*diploma de estudos secundários*) enabling them to embark on a career in the arts or to continue their studies at any tertiary education institution (see summary table) for which they meet the requirements. Abbreviation: ESA.

### Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas secundárias com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 6 years of full-time compulsory/basic education (the 3rd stage of *ensino básico*) and secondary education (*ensino secundário*) for pupils and students aged 12 to 18. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see ▶ *Escola básica do 1.º ciclo*; for information on final qualifications, see ▶ *Escola secundária*. Abbreviation: ES/EB3.

### Escola superior (+)

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas superiores  
**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution and administrative sub-division of an ▶ *Instituto politécnico* offering short and medium-length occupationally oriented courses. However independent public and private *escolas superiores* that are not integrated within an *instituto politécnico* also exist. The term *escola superior* is followed by the field of study, as for example in the case of *escola superior de educação*, or *escola superior de tecnologia e gestão*. Courses lead to the degree level qualifications of *bacharelato* and *licenciatura*. For further information on admission requirements, legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *instituto politécnico*.

### Escola tecnológica

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Escolas tecnológicas  
**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering technological specialised full- or part-time courses of post-secondary education to students who have completed either general, technical or vocational secondary education in a ▶ *Escola secundária*, or a vocational training course in an ▶ *Escola profissional*, or who have passed all but two subjects not considered 'nuclear' within the core subjects in courses they intend to take at post-secondary

level. These courses last from 1 200 to 1 560 hours. The curriculum includes subjects in the scientific/ technological and socio-cultural areas plus the firm-based component of the course, the duration of which varies in accordance with the chosen area of specialisation. These institutions are normally private and non-profit establishments, and come under the Ministry responsible for the sector of activity to which the proposed training corresponds (such as the Ministry for Economy and Innovation, the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries, etc.). They are co-educational and non-denominational. The Ministries of Education and of Labour and Social Solidarity approve courses and validate the qualifications awarded. Fees have to be paid. Since November 1999, it has been possible for these courses to be provided by an *escola profissional* (public or private), by an *escola secundária* (public, or private with autonomy in teaching matters), by vocational training centres under the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, and by tertiary education institutions. Courses lead to a technological 'specialisation certificate' (*diploma de especialização tecnológica*) and a level IV vocational qualification (*diploma de qualificação profissional de nível IV*) enabling its holders to enter the labour market. Holders of the certificate may also proceed to any tertiary education institution for which they meet the requirements.

### Escuela de arte

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas de arte

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering between 1½ and 2 years of full-time upper secondary education at intermediate level in plastic arts and design to students aged 16 to 18. Admission is based on a lower secondary school leaving certificate (*graduado en educación secundaria obligatoria* awarded at **Centro concertado de educación secundaria**) and a test. The curriculum is divided into different areas of specialisation. The *escuelas de arte* are public, co-educational and non-denominational. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for this institution and fully funds it. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. The certificate awarded is the plastic arts and design *técnico en (+)*, in the area selected. Students who complete these studies can transfer to tertiary education at **Escuela superior (+)**.

### Escuela de educación infantil

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas de educación infantil

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged up to 6. Admission is based on age. The common curriculum is based on children's areas of experience and divided into two stages of three years each. It is possible to enrol children in the first stage, the second stage, or both. This setting is public, co-educational and non-denominational. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for it and fully funds it. Municipalities are also responsible for certain areas. Tuition fees are usually payable in the first stage, and families contribute in both stages to other expenses. Children can progress automatically to primary education. Abbreviation: EEI.

### Escuela de suboficiales de la armada

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas de suboficiales de la armada

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented courses for *suboficial* scale career soldiers in the Navy. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements, funding and final qualifications, see **Academia general básica de suboficiales del ejército de tierra**.

### Escuela naval militar

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas navales militares

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented courses at a variety of levels to train career soldiers in the *oficial* and *oficial* advanced scales of the Navy. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements, funding and final qualifications, see **Academia general**.

### Escuela oficial de idiomas

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas oficiales de idiomas

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of part-time lower and upper secondary education in the field of languages (mainly foreign) to students from the age of 14 (there is no upper age limit). The curriculum is divided into two stages. Enrolment in the first stage is open to those who have satisfactorily completed the first stage of lower secondary education, including holders of the former *graduado escolar*, *certificado de escolaridad* or *certificado de estudios primarios* awarded at **Centro concertado de educación secundaria**. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for this institution and fully funds it. The institution is public, co-educational and non-denominational. Fees are payable. At the end of the first stage, stu-

dents are awarded the *certificado académico del ciclo elemental de las enseñanzas de idiomas*. This certificate gives access to the advanced stage of the first level of language studies in the same kind of school, leading to the certificate *certificado de aptitud del ciclo superior de las enseñanzas de idiomas*. Abbreviation: EOI.

### Escuela superior (+)

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas superiores

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short and medium-length advanced level occupationally oriented courses in dramatic art, or in the fields of art restoration and conservation, music and dance, and design or ceramics. Courses are for students, usually from the age of 18, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*bachiller*) awarded at *Instituto de educación secundaria* or *Centro concertado de educación secundaria*, and pass an examination as stipulated by the central government. Students who do not meet these academic requirements may also be admitted if they pass the examination and a special exercise. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for this public institution and fully funds it. Fees are payable. Courses lead to occupationally oriented degree level qualifications (*titulo superior en (+)*). Institutions have different names depending on their field of specialisation, such as *escuela superior de arte dramático*, *escuela superior de música y danza*, *escuela superior de conservación y restauración de bienes culturales*, *de diseño y de cerámica*.

### Escuela técnica superior

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas técnicas superiores

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in the provision of university level technical courses in the fields of engineering and architecture. It constitutes an administrative subdivision of a university. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements, funding and final qualifications, see *Universidad*. Abbreviation: ETS.

### Escuela universitaria

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Escuelas universitarias

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering first-cycle university studies only. It constitutes an administrative sub-division of a university. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements, funding and final qualifications, see *Universidad*. Abbreviation: EU.

### Esperino scholeio (Εσπερινό γυμνάσιο)

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Esperina scholeia, esperin\* gymnasi\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Evening general secondary education classes for working students from the age of 15. Lower secondary education lasts 1-2 years and upper secondary lasts 1-4 years. Successful completion of the courses leads to a school-leaving certificate equivalent to that of *Eniaio lykeio* which can give access to tertiary education at *Dimosia scholi tritovathmias ekpaidefsis* and is a minimum requirement for entry to *Panepistimio*.
- Evening technical and vocational upper secondary classes for working students from the age of 15. Candidates should hold a lower secondary education certificate. Courses last 1-4 years. Successful completion of the courses leads to a school-leaving certificate equivalent to that of *Techniki scholi* and *eniaio lykeio*.

These schools are funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture which appoints a headmaster to administer them. No fees are payable.

### ETS

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escuela técnica superior*.

### EU

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Escuela universitaria*.





### **Fachgymnasium**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Fachgymnasien

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶ Berufliches Gymnasium**. The synonym is used in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Lower Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Schleswig-Holstein.

### **Fachhochschule**

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Fachhochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length science-based occupation oriented courses to students from the age of 18 who hold the upper secondary qualification obtained at **▶ Allgemein bildende höhere Schule** or **▶ Berufsbildende höhere Schule**, or a recognised equivalent or relevant occupational qualification. Admission may be subject to institutional or course requirements. The Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for this semi-public institution, funded at federal level. Some institutions demand study fees. *Fachhochschule* degree programmes lead to a first (*Bakkalaureus* (+) (FH)) and a second university degree (*Magister* (+) (FH) or *Diplom-Ingenieur* (+) (FH)). Graduates may be admitted to an appropriate doctoral programme at a **▶ Universität**.

### **Fachhochschule**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Fachhochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution with the specific task of providing applied tertiary education and research particularly in engineering, business, social services, agriculture and design for students, usually from the age of 18. Students are admitted on the basis of the marks obtained as part of the *Fachhochschulreife* qualification obtained at **▶ Fachoberschule**, or a recognised equivalent. The *Fachhochschulreife* obtained at the **▶ Berufsfachschule** or the *Fachoberschule* and the *allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained at **▶ Gymnasium** entitles students to study all subjects at a *Fachhochschule*. The *fachgebundene Hochschulreife* obtained at the **▶ Berufsoberschule** entitles students to study

certain subjects. For art and design courses, additional admission requirements may include evidence of a certain level of ability. Courses last for eight semesters, including one or two semesters of practical training (*Praxissemester*) and lead to the award of the academic *Diplom* degree with the specification *Fachhochschule* or FH added to the degree title. There are public and private establishments. The Ministry of Education in each *Land* has overall responsibility for public institutions, at which no tuition fees are normally payable. In special cases, the legislation of the *Land* may provide for exceptions, for example in the case of long-term students. Tuition fees may be payable at private institutions. For information on funding, see **▶ Universität**. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

### **Fachoberschule**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Fachoberschulen

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1 or 2 years of full-time upper secondary education to students from the age of 16 to 18. Admission to a two-year course requires that they should have completed the **▶ Realschule** and obtained a *Mittlerer Schulabschluss* which is called a *Realschulabschluss* in most *Länder*, while admission to a one-year course is based on completion of vocational training. This institution provides general and specialised theoretical and practical knowledge and skills. In two-year courses, the first year consists mainly of practical workplace training with some class attendance, while the second year consists of general and specialisation-related classroom instruction. The curriculum followed depends on the specialist area of the institution. The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs in each *Land* is responsible for these institutions, which are generally public, co-educational and non-denominational. Grant-aided private establishments also exist. Funding is based on a division of responsibilities between the *Länder* and local authorities (*Kommunen*). No fees are payable in public establishments. On passing the final examination, students receive the *Fachhochschulreife* leaving certificate, which qualifies them to go on to further studies at **▶ Fachhochschule**.

**Fachschnule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Fachschulen**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering short specialised occupational tertiary education courses for students, usually from the age of 18, who are trained in a recognised occupation. Admission requires the completion of relevant vocational training in a recognised occupation and subsequent employment. Courses are offered in the following fields: engineering, business, design, home economics, social pedagogy and the caring professions. The Ministry of Education in each *Land* has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are funded by the *Land*. No tuition fees are payable. Courses lead to the *Fachschulabschluss*, which does not qualify its holder for further studies but is a professional qualification e.g. for state-certified youth and child care workers, youth and community workers and other workers in the field of domestic science, care and assistance. The *Fachhochschulreife* qualification normally awarded by the *Fachoberschule* can also be obtained through attendance at extensive courses.

**Faculdade****Country:** Portugal**Grammatical variants:** Faculdades**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short, medium-length and long courses, usually on a full-time basis, and occasionally evening courses. For further information on admission requirements, legal status, funding, administrative arrangements and final qualifications, see *Universidade*.

**Facultad****Country:** Spain**Grammatical variants:** Facultades**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering all kinds of university studies provided independently. It constitutes an administrative sub-division of a university. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administrative arrangements, funding and final qualifications, see *Universidad*.

**Fakulteta****Country:** Slovenia**Grammatical variants:** Fakultete, fakultet\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering full- and part-time medium-length professionally oriented programmes in a range of disciplines, and medium-length and long academic

programmes, usually for students from the age of 19. For information on admission requirements, see *Akademija*. Some courses may also require special abilities and/or psychological and physical characteristics as a prerequisite for admission. If admission is restricted, candidates are selected on the basis of their performance in the final examination and on their general achievement at secondary school. At these public state-funded or grant-aided private institutions, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology is responsible for teaching, research and all other activities. No tuition fees are payable for full-time first-degree level courses in publicly funded institutions. Public institutions are organised within the university structure *Univerza*, while the organisation of private institutions is entirely separate. Courses lead to first-degree level diplomas (*diplomirani* (+)) in the case of professionally oriented programmes, *univerzitetni diplomirani* (+) in the case of academic programmes, and to *professor* (+) in teacher education programmes, as well as to second degree diplomas (*specialist* (+), *magister znanosti* (+)) and to doctorates (*doktor znanosti*). In the fields of pharmacy, medicine, dental studies and veterinary medicine, long studies lead to the titles of *magister farmacije*, *doktor medicine*, *doktor dentalne medicine* and *doktor veterinarske medicine*.

**FE college****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Further education college*.**Felnöttek gimnáziuma****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Felnöttek gimnáziuma\*, felnöttek gimnáziumai**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education for adults from the age of 18. In order to gain entry, students in most cases have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. In other cases, their previous educational record and merit as testified by the leaving certificate awarded following compulsory/basic education at *Általános iskola* and *Művészeti általános iskola* are taken into account. The curriculum is divided into two stages of four years each. During the first stage, pupils follow local curricula based on the National Core Curriculum. During the second stage, they follow curricula governed by the regulations of the upper secondary school leaving examination (*érettségi vizsga*). At the end of the second stage, students receive the certificate of comple-

tion (*gimnáziumi bizonyítvány*) needed to take the final examination *érettségi vizsga*. Those who pass it receive the *gimnáziumi érettségi bizonyítvány*, which gives access to tertiary education at **Egyetem** or **Főiskola**. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *általános iskola*.

### Felnőttek szakközépisikolája

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Felnőttek szakközépisikolája\*, felnőttek szakközépisikolái

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 or 5 years of full- or part-time general and vocational lower and upper secondary education for adults from the age of 18/19 (vocational provision follows completion of the second year). In order to gain entry, students may have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. The curriculum is determined by the type of school and is divided into 2 or 3 training stages. These institutions are predominantly state funded through local government as well as through the Ministry of Labour and the National Fund for the Labour Market. At the end of the second or third stage, students receive the certificate of completion (*szakközépisikolai bizonyítvány*) needed to take the final examination. Those who pass it receive a type of certificate that depends on the branch and duration of their studies. The latter enables them to enter the labour market as skilled workers or technicians/apprentices, or embark on tertiary education at **Egyetem** and **Főiskola**. For information on the authority responsible, status and fees, see **Általános iskola**.

### First school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** A **Primary school** catering for children up to the age of 8 or 9 in some areas of England where a three-tier system is in operation. Children progress to a **Middle school**.

### Fjölbrautaskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Fjölbrautaskóla, fjölbrautaskólar

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Full-time general and vocational upper secondary education to students from the age of 16. Admission is based on completion of **Grunnskóli**. The length of the course varies from one semester to 4 years (its most common duration). The general education programmes are similar to those of **Menntaskóli** and conclude with

the *stúdentsspróf* examination. Successful students receive the *stúdentssprófsskírteini* certificate recognized for entry to tertiary education at **Háskóli**. Most of the vocational courses are geared to certified trades and end with the journeyman's examination *sveinspróf*. Successful students receive the *sveinsbréf* certificate, which gives access to the labour market for certified trades and to extension courses. In the *fjölbrautaskóli*, some other vocational programmes are also offered, such as those for auxiliary nurses, concluding with different final examinations in vocational education. Adult education programmes in the evening, identical to the corresponding daytime provision are offered at some *fjölbrautaskóli*. A few *fjölbrautaskóli* also offer distance learning courses.

- Post-secondary education (only at a few *fjölbrautaskóli*). The courses are open to those who have the *sveinspróf* qualification and one year's work experience in the trade. They last from one to three years leading to the *meistaránám í iðn* examination and successful trainees receive the *meistarabréf* certificate. Holders of the certificate may exercise supervisory responsibilities in the given field and recruit apprentices.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these state-funded institutions, which are all public. They are co-educational and non-denominational. There are no tuition fees (except for evening and distance learning courses) but students pay an enrolment fee, the cost of their textbooks and in some vocational education courses part of the cost of materials.

### Főiskola

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Főiskola\*, főiskolák

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented, academic and vocational multidisciplinary courses for students from the age of 18. Courses lead to the occupationally oriented degree *főiskolai oklevél*, the first university degree *egyetemi* (subject to accreditation of the course), or to vocational qualifications. For information on admission requirements, the authority responsible, status and funding, see **Egyetem**.

### Folkehøyskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Folkehøyskolen, folkehøyskoler, folkehøyskolene

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Boarding school usually offering one-year post-secondary courses in arts, crafts, music and several other areas. The lower

age limit for admission to *folkehøyskoler* is in most cases 17. Each school determines its own activities in accordance with its particular ideological and educational commitments. The Ministry of Education and Research has legal responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions and grant-aided private institutions. Tuition fees are payable. Students who attend a 33-week post-secondary course at *folkehøyskoler* receive 3 competition points when they apply for admission to tertiary education at *Høyskole* and *Universitet*.

### Folkeskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Folkeskolen, folkeskoler, folkeskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering nine years of full-time basic primary and lower secondary education in a single stage to pupils aged from 7 to 16. Admission is based on age. Institutions may also offer one year of optional pre-primary education in pre-primary classes (*børnehaveklasser*) and an optional additional tenth year (for students aged 16 to 17). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for provision in these public institutions, but the individual schools are the responsibility of the municipality in which they are located. These institutions are co-educational and non-denominational and are funded through the municipality. No fees are payable. For information on final examinations and the provision to which they give access, see *Grundskole*.

### Folkhögskola

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -skolan, -skolor, -skolorna

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for *Kansanopisto*.

### Folkhögskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Folkhögskolor, folkhögskolan

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time adult education programmes. Each *folkhögskola* has its own admission requirements. As a rule, there are no formal admission requirements for general courses and students start at different levels depending on the knowledge they have acquired from previous studies. Provision varies from general courses at compulsory/basic and upper secondary level to vocational post-secondary courses for adults aged 18 or over. Institutions are not tied to a national curriculum, and each determines its own activities on the basis of its

ideological affiliation or preferences. The length of studies depends on the previous study and work experience of the students concerned. Popular movements and organisations run some schools, while county councils or municipalities run others. Institutions are both publicly and privately funded and no tuition fees are payable. Anyone who has completed a 1-, 2- or 3-year course with results corresponding to a pass grade in the core subjects taught at upper secondary school is considered to possess the basic qualification for entering tertiary education.

### Förskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Förskolor, förskolan

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering full- or part-time teaching activities and care for children aged 1 to 6. There is a national curriculum valid for all settings. The Ministry of Education, Research and Culture has overall responsibility for *förskolan*, while the municipalities administer most settings. Settings are public and co-educational and funded by the municipal budget and parental fees. Government grants are paid to cover extra costs regarding maximum fees in child care. There are also private pre-primary education institutions with support from municipal funding.

### Försvarshögskola

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -skolan, -skolor, -skolorna

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for *Maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu*.

### Foundation school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of *Maintained school* which may be either a *Primary school* or a *Secondary school*. The governing body employs the school staff and has primary responsibility for deciding the admissions policy. The school's land and buildings are owned by the governing body or by a charitable foundation. The school is fully funded by the local authority. *Foundation schools* may be non-denominational or denominational.

### Foundation special school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of *Special school* providing education for children with special educational needs aged from 2 to post-16.

Like ♦ *Foundation schools*, the school's land and buildings are owned by the governing body or by a charitable foundation. The school is fully funded by the local authority.

### Friskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Friskolen, friskoler, friskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Type of ♦ *Privat grundskole*.

### Fristående grundskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Fristående grundskolor, grundskolan

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Independent institution offering 9 years of full-time compulsory/basic general education to pupils aged from 6/7 to 15/16. Private operators run schools of this kind but municipalities provide the funding. The schools are meant to offer an education equivalent to the ♦ *Grundskola*, but they may have a special religious, ethnical or educational identity. No fees are payable. On successful completion of the curriculum, pupils can proceed to ♦ *Gymnasieskola* or ♦ *Fristående gymnasieskola*. A school leaving certificate *slutbetyg från grundskolan* is awarded to those who successfully complete the final year in *fristående grundskola*, which gives access to *gymnasieskola*.

### Fristående gymnasieskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Fristående gymnasieskolor, gymnasieskolan

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged 16-19, with some flexibility. Schools of this kind provide education corresponding to that offered in public-sector ♦ *Gymnasieskola*. Private operators run them but municipalities provide the funding. Schools may charge fees up to a reasonable limit; the majority of them, however, are free of charge. For admission requirements and final qualifications, see *gymnasieskola*.

### Further education college

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Explanatory note:** These institutions vary in their size, mission, subject mix and history and include general FE colleges offering general and vocational courses over a wide range of subject areas, specialist colleges, which provide courses in a specific area of the curriculum such as art, or in a vocational area such as agriculture, and ♦ *Sixth-form colleges*. Colleges which combine the functions

of a general FE college and a sixth-form college are sometimes known as ♦ *Tertiary colleges*. FE colleges traditionally offered full- and part-time technical and vocational courses for students over compulsory school age (16) including adults, but have since broadened their role to offer programmes such as basic education courses, general education qualifications such as GCSEs and GCE A-levels, access to higher education programmes, tertiary level courses (under arrangement with external awarding bodies e.g. universities) and leisure courses for adults. Some colleges also provide vocational and work-related courses for 14- to 16-year-olds in partnership with schools. Admission criteria depend on the course. FE Colleges are legally independent corporate institutions which receive public funding through the Learning and Skills Council in England and the National Council for Education and Training for Wales (National Council – ELWa). In Northern Ireland, the Department for Employment and Learning is responsible for funding. Fees are not payable for full-time students under the age of 19 or for other learners such as those in receipt of certain state benefits. The qualifications awarded can give access to the labour market or to further study. Abbreviation: FE college.

### Further education college

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 3, 4 and 5 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-, part-time and *open learning* upper secondary, post-secondary and tertiary education, usually to people beyond compulsory school age (16). Courses often last one or two years, although many shorter course and study opportunities are on offer. Academic admission requirements are related to courses, but the experience and previous learning of mature applicants can be considered. Non-advanced courses do not normally have formal entry qualifications. Advanced courses normally require candidates to hold formal qualifications, such as passes in the *Scottish Qualifications Certificate of Education (SQC)* or equivalent qualifications. The courses provided are mainly vocational, including both theoretical and practical elements, but there is also some provision of general education at upper secondary level. Overall responsibility for this institution lies with the Ministry for Enterprise & Lifelong Learning and its Department, which is answerable ultimately to the Scottish Parliament. A college is an independent incorporated body, although most of its funding comes from the *Scottish Funding Councils for Further & Higher Education*, a non-departmental public body which reports to the Scottish Executive. Fees are at the discretion of each establishment but

many students, including those under 18 years of age or unemployed people, are exempt from paying fees. *Colleges* also make extensive provision for students who live at a distance and cannot attend them in person. Most courses lead to the award of a certificate or diploma of the *Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)* – a statutory body responsible for national qualifications at all levels (below degree level) offered in schools, *further education colleges* and some higher education institutions in Scotland – at one of 7 levels from *Access to Higher National Certificate*. Adults can follow different types of upper secondary course leading to the *Scottish Qualifications Certifi-*

*cate*, the *National Certificate*, the *Higher National Certificate*, the *Higher National Diploma* and *Scottish Vocational Qualifications*, including *Scottish Group Awards*. Courses offered in a *further education college* are adult basic education, tailored courses for adults with additional support needs, tailor-made courses for industry, professional courses, and courses providing access to higher education, for example on the basis of study skills combined with university entrance level qualifications, often with a guaranteed place at a particular university on completion of the course (◆ *University* and ◆ *Higher education specialist institution*). Synonym: *College*.



### **Gemeentelijke School**

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Gemeentelijke Scholen

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary, primary or (post-)secondary education (and sometimes also part-time secondary or part-time artistic education). It is established by the municipality and belongs to the sector of grant-aided public education. These schools are administered and partly funded by the provinces or municipalities. They are grant aided by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. Schools are non-denominational and co-educational and no tuition fees are payable. The *Basisschool*, *Centrum voor basiseducatie*, *Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs*, *Kleuterschool*, *Lagere School*, *Middenschool*, *School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*, *School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs*, *School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs* and *Secundaire school* may all be *Gemeentelijke Scholen*.

### **Gesamtschule**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Gesamtschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution normally offering 6 years of general full-time lower secondary education to pupils aged from 10 (or 12 in the *Länder* of Berlin and Brandenburg) to 15/16. Admission procedures vary between *Länder*. There are two different types of *Gesamtschulen*: *kooperative Gesamtschulen* group pupils separately according to the qualification to be taken, while *integrierte Gesamtschulen* group them together according to their level of proficiency for a number of core subjects, but teach them together as a group for all other subjects. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *Gymnasium*. A general school-leaving certificate (*Hauptschulabschluss*) may be awarded after the 5th year (or the 3rd year in Berlin and Brandenburg) and is generally used by its holder for a course of vocational training within the *duales System* at *Berufsschule*. After the 6th year (or the 4th year in Berlin and Brandenburg), the *Mittlerer Schulabschluss* – usually called the *Realschulab-*

*schluss* – may be obtained. This qualifies pupils for admission to courses of upper secondary education at *Berufsfachschulen* and *Fachoberschulen*, and also for a course of vocational training within the *duales System* at *Berufsschule*. Students may also be entitled to go on to the *Gymnasiale Oberstufe* in *Gymnasium* after the 6th year (or the 4th year in Berlin and Brandenburg) if they meet certain standards of achievement.

### **Gimnazia (Гимназия)**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazii

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged from 15 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of lower secondary education at *Osnovno utchilishte* and *Progimnazia*. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally and municipally funded. No fees are payable. Private establishments are self-funded. This institution can be attached to an *osnovno utchilishte*. Students who pass the compulsory final examination receive the certificate *diploma za zavrsheno sredno obrazovanie*, which gives access to vocational post-secondary training at *Profesionalen kolej* or to tertiary education at *Academia (+)*, *Kolej*, *Universitet*.

### **Gimnazija**

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazijos, gimnazij\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general secondary education for students aged from 14/15 to 18/19. Admission is based on satisfactory assessment of subjects taught in the school year directly preceding the *gimnazija* at *Pagrindinė mokykla*. If there is pressure on places, pupils are admitted in accordance with school criteria, particularly as regards performance, maturity and motivation. Different types of *gimnazija* may have a specific focus. The main types focus on the humanities, sciences,

technology and arts. Artistic *gimnazijos* may have a structure other than the typical four years. All students follow the centrally set general curricula. Instruction in years 11-12 is differentiated into levels B (*bendrasis*, or general) and I (*išplėstinis*, or extended). The language of instruction can be other than Lithuanian (most frequently Russian, Polish or Belorussian). On completing two years of *gimnazija* (concurrently with the end of lower secondary education), students are awarded a *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*. Those who pass the school-leaving examinations receive the *brandos atestatas* certificate, which is an essential precondition for access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table) and to **Profesinė mokykla** (option 4). For information on administrative arrangements, funding, and religious and legal status, see **Mokykla-darželis**.

### Gimnazija

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazije, gimnazij\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full- and part-time general upper secondary education in a single stage to students aged 15 to 19. It is organised as a separate institution or can be part of a **Šolski center**. There are two basic types of *gimnazija* programmes with somewhat different curricula, namely general (*splošna gimnazija*) or specialised (*strokovna gimnazija*). *Splošna gimnazija* offer broad general education or a classical stream (*klasična gimnazija*) with an emphasis on Latin and the humanities. *Strokovna gimnazija* offer some special subjects in the fields of electro-technics, mechanical engineering, timber technology, civil engineering and agriculture (*tehniška gimnazija*), as well as in economics (*ekonomska gimnazija*) and the arts – music, fine arts and dance (*umetniška gimnazija*). Admission is based on successful completion of **Osnovna šola**. In addition, *umetniška gimnazija* courses require a test of special artistic abilities as a prerequisite for admission. If there is pressure on places, selection is based on results in the final external examination and in certain subjects in the last years of *osnovna šola*. The language of instruction can be that of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public state-funded and grant-aided private institutions, which are co-educational. Some private establishments are denominational. No fees are payable for full-time courses. On completion of the course, students have to take the external general *matura* examination, and those who are successful receive the *maturitetno spričevalo* certificate. This certificate enables them to enter all types of tertiary education (see summary table).

### Gimnāzija

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Ģimnāzijas, ģimnāziju, ģimnāzijām, ģimnāzijās

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general (upper) secondary education to students aged 16-19. For further information on admission and examinations, see **Vidusskola**. The institution may also offer the last two years of basic education to pupils aged 13-15, thus enabling them to complete basic education and obtain the basic education certificate (*apliecība par pamatizglītību*) after satisfactory performance in the *valsts pārbaudījums*. For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility and financing, see **Pamatskola**.

### Gimnaziu

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnaziul, gimnazii\*

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Generic term used for years 5-8 of **Școala generală**.

### Gimnázium

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnázium\*, gimnáziumok

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4, 6 or 8 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education for pupils and students aged 10 to 18. In order to gain entry, pupils in most cases have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. In other cases, their previous educational record and merit as testified by the leaving certificate awarded at **Általános iskola** or **Művészeti általános iskola** is taken into account. The curriculum is divided into two stages. During the first stage, which can last 6, 4 or 2 years (up to the age of 16), pupils follow local curricula based on the National Core Curriculum. During the second stage (the last 2 years), they follow curricula governed by the regulations of the upper secondary school leaving examination (*érettségi vizsga*). At the end of the second stage, they receive the certificate of completion (*gimnáziumi bizonyítvány*) needed to take the final examination *érettségi vizsga*. Students who pass receive the *gimnáziumi érettségi bizonyítvány*, which gives access to tertiary education at **Egyetem** and **Főiskola**. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *általános iskola*.

### Gimnazjum

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazja, gimnazji\*

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution which offers 3 years of full-time general lower secondary education to pupils aged 13 to 16. Admission is based on successful completion of the 6-year **►** *Szkoła podstawowa*. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is not divided into stages. At the end of the programme, pupils take a final external examination. Those who are successful receive the *świadectwo ukończenia gimnazjum* certificate which gives access to upper secondary education at a **►** *Liceum (+)*, **►** *Technikum*, or **►** *Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa*. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public centrally and municipally (*gmina*) funded institutions, and private state-subsidised establishments. They are normally co-educational, and private establishments may be denominational. No tuition fees are payable in public establishments.

### Gimnazjum dla dorosłych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazja dla dorosłych, gimnazj\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution which offers 3 years of part-time general lower secondary education to adults. For further information, see **►** *Gimnazjum*.

### Gimnazjum specjalne

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Gimnazja specjalne, gimnazj\* specjaln\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time special general lower secondary education to pupils or students aged 13 to 21 with special educational needs. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public centrally and regionally (*powiat*) funded institutions, and private state-subsidised establishments. For further information, see **►** *Gimnazjum*. This institution can be part of a **►** *Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy*.

### Girls' school

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time lower secondary education to pupils/students aged 11 to 16. Admission is based on the examination marks obtained at the end of **►** *Primary school*. These institutions have a different curriculum intended for underperformers. The language of instruction is mostly Maltese but due importance is attached to English. State institutions are single gender. There are final examinations in basic subjects, which are

organised by the schools themselves. Successful pupils receive a *school leaving certificate* which gives access to vocational education at the **►** *Malta college of arts, science and technology* and the **►** *Institute of tourism studies*. For information on the administrative arrangements, funding and tuition fees, see **►** *Junior lyceum*.

### Glasbena šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Glasbene šole, glasben\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1 to 8 years of artistic (music and dance) full- and part-time education mainly to pupils in compulsory education, but also to students in upper secondary and tertiary education and to adults. The institution offers various music and dance courses at 4 levels (pre-school, preparatory, lower and higher). The pre-primary music education course and music preparatory course last 1 year; the dance preparatory course, 3 years; music courses, 4, 6 or 8 years; and dance courses, 4 or 6 years. Admission is based on an internal entrance examination (*sprejemni preizkus*) except in the case of the pre-primary and preparatory level courses. The language of instruction can be that of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these centrally and municipally funded institutions, which can be public or private establishments and are co-educational. Public establishments are secular, while private institutions can be denominational. Music schools determine the fees for the material costs of education not provided by local government, which are paid by parents or students. Abbreviation: GŠ.

### Grădiniță

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Grădinița, grădinițe\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 to 4 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged from 3 to 6/7. Admission is based on age. The last year called *An preparator* is compulsory. Teaching can be in Romanian or in the language of a national minority (principally Hungarian and German). The county school inspectorate has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are mostly co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are state funded, while private establishments are self funded. No fees are payable, except in the case of the private establishments. Children who have completed the final year transfer automatically to a **►** *Școală primară* or **►** *Școală generală*. There is no certificate of maturity at this level.

### Grammar school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A **▶** *Secondary school* for which admission is based on general ability, as assessed by an entrance exam. In Northern Ireland, where there is currently a predominantly selective system, **▶** *Voluntary grammar schools* are a legal category of *secondary school*. Transfer arrangements in Northern Ireland are scheduled to change and there will no longer be selective schools. In England, where there is a predominantly comprehensive system, only schools designated as *grammar schools* by the Secretary of State may select pupils by general ability; these schools remain only in certain areas.

### Grande école

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time academically oriented specialised courses to students from the age of 20. For information on admission, see **▶** *École Normale Supérieure*. The courses offered (lasting three years) lead to a qualification (*diplôme*) which gives access to professional life or the second year of a *master professionnel* or *master recherche*. Students who have obtained a *master recherche* may pursue advanced research leading to the title of *docteur*. The *grandes écoles* are public or private. Public institutions are centrally funded and placed under the administrative control of the ministry or public body to which they are attached (Ministry of Defence, National Education, Industry, Civil Service, etc.). In general, tuition fees are payable.

### Grant maintained integrated school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **▶** *Grant-aided school* which may be a **▶** *Primary school* or **▶** *Secondary school*. These schools are owned and managed by charitable trusts and are fully funded by the Department of Education for both capital (when viability is proved, mostly 3 years after establishment) and revenue expenditure (from day 1). The school *Board of Governors* employs the staff and decides on admissions. These schools are Christian in ethos but non-denominational and were introduced to provide integrated education for Catholic and Protestant pupils. They are not to be confused with the former *grant-maintained schools* in England and Wales, which were replaced by **▶** *Foundation schools* following legislation passed in 1998.

### Grant-aided nursery school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Publicly-funded setting offering mainly part-time, but also, in some cases, full-time education for children aged 2 to 4. A *grant-aided nursery school* may be a **▶** *Controlled school* or a **▶** *Catholic maintained school*. *Grant-aided nursery schools* are co-educational and may be non-denominational or denominational. No fees are payable. For curriculum arrangements, see **▶** *Nursery school*.

### Grant-aided school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Publicly funded **▶** *Nursery school*, **▶** *Primary school* or **▶** *Secondary school* which may be one of the following legal categories: **▶** *Controlled school*, **▶** *Controlled integrated school*, **▶** *Grant-maintained integrated school*, **▶** *Catholic maintained school* and **▶** *Voluntary grammar school*.

### Grundschule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Grundschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶** *Volksschule*.

### Grundschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Grundschulen

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** School consisting of **▶** *Kinder-garten* and the six-year **▶** *Primarschule*.

### Grundschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Grundschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years (or 6 years in the *Länder* of Berlin and Brandenburg) of full-time general primary education to pupils aged from 6 to 10 (or 12 in the *Länder* of Berlin and Brandenburg). Admission is based on age and the pupil's level of maturity. In the case of German-speaking children, the level of maturity is determined by interview, while children whose mother tongue is different may be asked to pass a language test before admission, at pre-primary stage. All pupils follow a common curriculum that may vary depending on the hours per week in the *Land* concerned. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see **▶** *Gymnasium*. A very limited number of private primary, grant-aided schools exist. There is no leaving examination or certificate. However, pupils receive a report at the end of their final year. Procedures for transi-

tion to secondary education vary from one *Land* to another. The institution makes a recommendation which is then either the prime determinant of the type of secondary school the pupil will attend (♣ *Gesamtschule*, ♣ *Gymnasium*, ♣ *Hauptschule* or ♣ *Realschule*), or may guide decisions concerning the pupil's future school career. In all cases, this is combined with detailed consultations with parents. The final decision is taken either by the parents, the school or the school supervisory authority.

### Grundskola

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -skolan, -skolor, -skolorna

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ♣ *Peruskoulu*.

### Grundskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Grundskolor, grundskolan

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time pre-primary and compulsory/basic general education to pupils aged from 6/7 to 15/16. There are no academic admission requirements. The *förskoleklass* are one-year optional pre-school leisure time centres for six-year-olds (although the municipalities are obliged to provide them), which are usually integrated within *grundskolan* and follow the same national curriculum. On the basis of this curricular framework, each municipality is required to set out the general objectives for its schools in a school plan. The Ministry of Education, Research and Culture has overall responsibility for *grundskolan*, although the municipalities administer them. They are public, co-educational and non-denominational. Funding is shared between the municipality and the government, although the municipality alone decides how resources should be allocated. No fees are payable. A compulsory school leaving certificate, *slutbetyg från grundskolan*, is awarded to pupils who successfully complete the final year. It gives access to ♣ *Gymnasieskola*. Pupils who do not achieve the required standard in a certain subject do not receive a grade in it, but a written assessment. The curricular framework for *grundskolan* is also applicable to ♣ *Fristående grundskola*, ♣ *Sameskola*, ♣ *Specialskola* and ♣ *Särskola*.

### Grundskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Grundskolen, grundskoler, grundskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for all public (♣ *Folkeskole*) and private institutions (♣ *Privat grundskole*) offering full-time compulsory basic primary and lower secondary education to pupils

aged from 7 to 16. Admission is based on age. Institutions can also offer one year of optional pre-primary education in pre-primary classes (*børnehaveklasser*), as well as an optional additional tenth year (for students aged from 16 to 17). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for this provision. Two different examinations are held. Pupils who have taken the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* examination can proceed to ♣ *Erhvervsskole*, ♣ *Gymnasium*, ♣ *Handelsskole*, ♣ *Landbrugsskole*, ♣ *Social- og sundhedsskole* or ♣ *Teknisk skole*, while those who have taken the *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve* (after the tenth optional year) can also proceed to ♣ *HF-kursus*, ♣ *Husholdningsskole* or ♣ *Studenterkursus*.

### Grunnskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Grunnskolen, grunnskoler, grunskolene

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 10 years of full-time compulsory/basic education for pupils/students aged 6 to 16. Admission is based on age. The curriculum is divided into 3 stages, namely the first 2 stages of primary school level (*barne-trinnet*), and the third stage providing 3 years of lower secondary education (*ungdomstrinnet*). Teaching may be in Norwegian or in the minority language, Sami. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for these (mainly) public municipality-funded or grant-aided private institutions, which are normally co-educational and non-denominational. No fees are payable, except in private establishments. At the end of the programme, all pupils receive the certificate *vitnemål*.

### Grunnskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Grunnskóla, grunnskólar

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution for pupils aged 6 to 16, offering 10 years of full-time compulsory/basic education in a single structure. Admission is based on age. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these municipally funded institutions, which may be public (97-98 %) or private. They are co-educational and non-denominational. No fees are payable, except in private establishments. At the end of the 10th year, pupils take the optional nationally co-ordinated examination, *samræmd próf*. All pupils receive a certificate issued by individual schools, giving access to upper secondary education at ♣ *Fjölbrautaskóli*, ♣ *lönskóli*, ♣ *Menntaskóli* or ♣ *Sérskóli*.

**GŠ****Country:** Slovenia**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♦ *Glasbena šola*.**Gümnaasium****Country:** Estonia**Grammatical variants:** Gümnaasiumid**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of ♦ *Põhikool* which can be attached to this institution. Each school sets its own curriculum according to the national curriculum. The language of instruction can be Estonian or Russian. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions. Public establishments are half funded by the State and half funded by the municipality; private establishments are funded by the manager, except in the case of expenses related to teacher salaries and the acquisition of textbooks, which are covered by the state budget. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. No tuition fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments. On completion of their courses, students have to pass five school-leaving examinations. Those who are successful receive the school leaving certificate *gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus* and the national examination certificate *riigieksamitunnistus*, which gives access to tertiary education (♦ *Rakendusõrghikool*, ♦ *Ülikool*).

**Gymnasieskola****Country:** Sweden**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasieskolor, gymnasieskolan**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged from 16 to 19, with some flexibility. Admission is based on successful completion of ♦ *Grundskola* or ♦ *Fristående grundskola*. To be eligible, students are required to have at least pass grades in Swedish or Swedish as a second language, English and mathematics. Those who have not achieved this goal may follow an individual programme (within the school) in order to qualify for admission later on. Teachers and schools work within the nationally determined curricular framework also applicable to ♦ *Kommunal vuxenutbildning* and ♦ *Särskola*. Students choose from 17 study programmes, 14 of which are vocationally oriented. All 17 – as well as specially designed programmes – provide a broad-based general education (including eight common core subjects). The government has overall responsibility for upper

secondary education and sets the national objectives, while the municipalities are responsible for its daily provision. Upper secondary institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. Most of them are public, but there are also independent private institutions (♦ *Fristående gymnasieskola*). Funding is shared between the municipality and the government, although the municipality alone decides how resources should be allocated. No fees are payable. There is no final examination. A leaving certificate, *slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*, is awarded on the basis of the grades obtained in each course. It is a minimum requirement for entry to post secondary and tertiary education at ♦ *Högskola* or ♦ *Universitet* and a prerequisite for upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education at some ♦ *Kompletterande utbildning*, ♦ *Kvalificerad yrkesutbildning* and ♦ *Specialskola*.

**Gymnasio (Γυμνάσιο)****Country:** Cyprus**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasia, gymnasi\***Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 3 years of full-time general lower secondary education in a single stage to pupils aged 12 to 15. Admission is based on successful completion of ♦ *Dimotiko scholeio*. The Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible for the supervision of public (state-funded) and private *gymnasia* so that they comply with the operational rules laid down by the State. Public institutions are co-educational and denominational while private establishments are self-funded. No fees are payable except in the case of private establishments. There are final examinations in basic subjects, (modern Greek, mathematics, history and physics) which are organised by the schools themselves. Successful pupils receive a school leaving certificate (*apolytirio gymnasiou*), which gives access to upper secondary education in a ♦ *Eniaio lykeio*, a ♦ *Esperino scholeio* or a ♦ *Techniki scholi*.

**Gymnasio (Γυμνάσιο)****Country:** Greece**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasia, gymnasi\***Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time compulsory lower secondary education to pupils aged 12 to 15. A primary school leaving certificate (*titlos spoudon*) obtained in ♦ *Dimotiko scholeio* is required for admission. Institutions provide general education with some vocational guidance in a single stage. All pupils follow a common curriculum. The Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and denominational (while

respecting freedom of religion). Funding for public establishments is divided between central government and the prefectures. Private institutions are self funded. No fees are payable in the public-sector establishments. On completion of the curriculum, pupils receive a leaving certificate (*apolytirio gymnasiou*) giving access to ♦ *Eniaio lykeio*, ♦ *Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio* or ♦ *Institouto epaggelmatikis katartisis*.

### Gymnasium

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasiet, gymnasier, gymnasierne

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering three years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged from 16/17 to 19/20. Admission is based on satisfactory performance in the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* examination unless the applicant's previous ♦ *Grundskole* recommends that an admissions test should be taken. All students embark on a common core and options from two areas of study (languages or mathematics) leading to the general upper secondary school leaving examination (*studentereksamen*). Institutions may also offer courses leading to the *højere forberedelseeksamen* (see ♦ *HF-kursus* for information on these courses). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these institutions, which may be public or private. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are funded at county level while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in private schools. Successful students receive a *studentereksamen* qualification which gives access to tertiary education programmes offered by ♦ *Erhvervsakademi*, ♦ *Højskole* (+), ♦ *Landbrugsskole*, ♦ *Seminarium*, ♦ *Skole* (+) and ♦ *Universitet*.

### Gymnasium

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasiet, gymnasier, gymnasierna

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ♦ *Lukio*.

### Gymnasium

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasien

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 9 years (in some *Länder* 8 years) of highly academically oriented general secondary full-time education to pupils/students aged 10 to 18/19. Admission procedures depend on the particular *Land* and on academic achievement in the ♦ *Grundschule*.

The *Gymnasium* covers a continuous course of education at lower (*Mittelstufe*) and upper secondary (*Oberstufe*) levels. Students are taught in the upper level (*Gymnasiale Oberstufe*) from around the age of 16. To progress from lower to upper secondary level, they must have successfully completed lower secondary level, with entitlement to proceed to the *Gymnasiale Oberstufe*. However, an entrance qualification required for transfer to the *Gymnasiale Oberstufe* may be obtained by means of a *Mittlerer Schulabschluss* from ♦ *Realschule* if a certain level of performance is achieved. In the last year of *Gymnasiale Oberstufe*, students must take certain subjects or subject combinations but have extensive scope for individual specialisation and a wider range of subjects to choose from. The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs in each *Land* is responsible for these institutions, which are generally public, co-educational and non-denominational. Grant-aided private establishments are also widespread. Funding is based on a division of responsibilities between the *Länder* and the local authorities (*Kommunen*). No fees are payable in public establishments. At the end of *Gymnasiale Oberstufe*, students take the final examination *Abiturprüfung*. Those who are successful receive the *Zeugnis der Allgemeinen Hochschulreife* certificate, which gives access to courses at all tertiary education institutions (see summary table).

### Gymnasium

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasien

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 7 years of full-time education to pupils/students aged 11 to 18. It provides general lower and upper secondary education broken down into two stages, a three-year lower stage (*Unterstufe*) and a four-year upper stage (*Oberstufe*). The upper stage is offered in five subject areas: classics; modern languages; art, music and pedagogics; business studies and law; mathematics and sciences. There is no examination between the two stages. Pupils are admitted on the basis of their performance and abilities in ♦ *Primarschule*. At the end of the course they can take the final examination *Matura*. Those who are successful receive the certificate *Maturazeugnis*, which gives access to tertiary education institutions in Switzerland, Austria and certain *Länder* in Germany. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally funded and private ones grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments.

**Gymnasium****Country:** The Netherlands**Grammatical variants:** Gymnasia**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A subtype of a **Vwo** school offering 6 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to pupils/students aged 12 to 18. The curriculum in the *gymnasium*, in contrast to the **Atheneum**, includes classical culture and classical languages. For admission requirements, certification, responsibility and funding, see *vwo*. Education of this type can be offered within a **Scholengemeenschap**.

**Gymnázium****Country:** Czech Republic**Grammatical variants:** Gymnázia, gymnázi\***Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering general secondary education. It lasts 4, 6 or 8 years.

- The 4-year *gymnázium* provides general upper secondary education on a full-time basis for students aged 15 to 19, or on a part-time basis for adults. Admission is based on successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at **Základní škola** or **Speciální základní škola (+)**. Students have to successfully complete an admission procedure that usually includes an entrance examination organised by the school.
- The multi-year *gymnázium* (6 or 8 years) provides general secondary education for pupils/students aged from 11/13 to 19. The curriculum is divided into 2 stages: the first stage lasts 2 or 4 years in the 6- or 8-year *gymnázium* respectively, and provides pupils with general lower secondary education. The second stage lasts 4 years and provides students with general upper secondary education. Admission is based on successful completion of the fifth year of *základní škola* in the case of the 8-year *gymnasium*, or the seventh year of *základní škola* in the case of the 6-year *gymnázium*. The admission procedure is the same as for the 4-year *gymnázium* and there is no examination between the two stages.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational. On completion of their studies, students take the final examination *maturitní zkouška* organised by the school, and those who are successful receive the certificate *vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce*, which enables them to enter tertiary education at any **Vysoká škola (+)** or **Vyšší odborná škola**, or the labour market.

**Gymnázium****Country:** Slovakia**Grammatical variants:** Gymnázia, gymnázi\***Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4, 5 or 8 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to pupils and students aged from 10 to 19. Admission to the 8-year courses is based on successful completion of the first stage of **Základná škola** and an entrance test organised by the school. The 4-year and bilingual 5-year courses are linked to year 9 or 8, respectively, of *základná škola*. Languages of instruction other than Slovak (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Polish or German) are used in some public and private establishments. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private – and mainly state-funded institutions – which are normally co-educational. Private institutions may be denominational. No fees are payable except in the case of private establishments. At the end of their course, students can take the final matriculation examination, and those who are successful receive the school leaving certificate *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške*, which enables them to enter tertiary education (see summary table).

**Gyógypedagógiai általános iskola****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Gyógypedagógiai általános iskola\*, gyógypedagógiai általános iskolák**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 8 years of full-time primary and lower secondary education to children aged from 6/7 to 14/15 with special educational needs. Admission is based on the pre-primary school certificate awarded at **Óvoda** or **Gyógypedagógiai óvoda**, but consultation, the recommendations of medical or psychological experts, and performance in an optional examination to assess maturity may also be taken into account. The choice of special school depends on the wishes of parents, or the recommendations of the pre-primary institution and professional medical advice. The curriculum is based on the National Core Curriculum and the provisions of separate legislation relating to special education. After successful completion of 8 years, pupils receive the certificate *gyógypedagógiai általános iskolai bizonyítvány* needed to gain access to upper secondary education (see summary table). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see **Általános iskola**.

**Gyógypedagógiai óvoda****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Gyógypedagógiai óvoda\*, gyógypedagógiai óvodák**Level:** ISCED 0 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3-4 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged from 3 to 6/7 with special educational needs. Admission is based on special needs, medical advice and the age of the children concerned, with attendance compulsory from the age of 5. The curriculum is based on the national nur-

sery education programme and not divided into stages. When children leave the institution, they receive a pre-primary school certificate which is necessary to enter primary education in a ♦ *Gyógypedagógiai általános iskola* or ♦ *Általános iskola*. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *általános iskola*.





### Handelsgymnasium

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Handelsgymnasiet, handelsgymnasier, handelsgymnasierne

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Term used for the department of **Handelsskole** or **Erhvervsskole** which offers the upper secondary level HHX programme.

### Handelsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Handelsskolen, handelsskoler, handelsskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering commercial vocational education and training (VET) programmes (see **Erhvervsskole**) and HHX programmes at upper secondary level, as well as short technical and commercial tertiary education programmes (see **Erhvervsakademi**). Training is provided on a full-time or part-time basis, or in evening classes. Admission is based on satisfactory performance in the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* examination unless the applicant's previous **Grundskole** recommends that an admissions test should be taken. The curriculum comprises general and commercial areas of study. These institutions are private self-governing establishments primarily funded by the State. The Ministry of Education is responsible for the legislative framework. They are co-educational and non-denominational and no fees are payable. The *højere handelseksamen* (HHX) qualifies successful students for admission to tertiary education programmes (see **Gymnasium**). A department of the *handelsskole* that offers the upper secondary level HHX is known as *handelsgymnasium*.

### Háskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Háskóla, háskólar

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short/medium-length/long university level programmes for students from the age of 20, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*stúdentspróf*) obtained at **Fjölbautaskóli**

or **Menntaskóli**. Other admission requirements vary depending on the type of institution or faculty. In some faculties, the number of students allowed to continue study after the first year is limited in accordance with the results of a competitive examination. Selection procedure at the point of entry applies to a few courses. Some faculties require the *stúdentspróf* from a natural sciences branch of study in upper secondary school. The Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture holds the highest level of legal authority for all *háskólar* which come under the Universities Act except for **Landbúnaðarháskóli**, for which the Ministry of Agriculture holds this level of authority. Most *háskólar* are public state-funded establishments, but some are private and subsidised (grant aided) by the State. State-funded *háskóli* do not charge tuition fees. However, students pay registration fees. Courses lead to first (BA/BS *gráða*) and second degrees (MA/MS *gráða*). Two institutions, *Háskóli Íslands* and *Kennaraháskóli Íslands*, offer advanced research programmes leading to doctorates (*doktorsgráða*).

### Hauptschule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Hauptschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general lower secondary education to pupils aged 10 to 14. Admission is based on successful completion of the **Grundschule**. The ability of pupils in German, mathematics and modern foreign languages is assessed before assigning them to one of three different achievement groups in those subjects. All of them follow a common curriculum in a single stage that is equivalent to the curriculum of the *Realgymnasium* (see **Allgemein bildende höhere Schule**). Schools are free to set their own curricular priorities. Pupils receive the final report *Abschlusszeugnis* which provides entry to all types of upper secondary education (see summary table). These mainly public-sector schools are funded by the municipality, the *Land* and the federation. The Ministry of Education and the regional and local school authorities are responsible for administration and legislation.

## Hauptschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Hauptschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 or 6 years of full-time basic general lower secondary education to pupils aged from 10 (or 12 in the *Länder* of Berlin and Brandenburg) to 15/16. Pupils follow one curricular pathway comprising core compulsory subjects with some options. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see [♦ Gymnasium](#). On completion of the course, pupils obtain the *Hauptschulabschluss* if adequate marks are obtained either in a final examination or in every subject at the end of the final year. As a rule, pupils continue with a course of vocational training within the *duales System* at [♦ Berufsschule](#). Synonyms: *Erweiterte Realschule, Integrierte Haupt- und Realschule, Mittelschule, Regelschule, Regionale Schule, Sekundarschule, Verbundene Haupt- und Realschule*.

## Haute École

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing full-time (short and/or long) multidisciplinary tertiary education. The institution is open to students aged 18 and over who hold a *certificat d'enseignement secondaire supérieur* from an [♦ Athénée](#), [♦ Collège](#), [♦ Institut](#) or [♦ Lycée](#), or a recognised equivalent. Public-sector institutions for which the French Community is directly responsible are both administered and funded by it. Other institutions belong either to the public sector (in which case they are the responsibility of the provinces and communes), or to the grant-aided private sector subsidised by the French Community. Enrolment fees are payable. Short courses lasting three years lead to the qualification of *bachelier* giving access to specialised one-year programmes. Long university level courses are provided in two cycles. They lead to a first qualification of *bachelier* (three years of study) and then a second qualification of *master* (1 to 2 years), and may also give access to more specialised programmes (involving one or two further years of study). Advanced research programmes leading to the qualification of *docteur*, which are offered in a [♦ Université](#), are open to students who have obtained the qualification of *master* (involving at least two 2 years of study) in accordance with a decision taken by the academic authorities, subject to the further conditions established by them, and following a reasoned judgement by the examiners.

## Havo

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** The name given to a type of education offered at an institution of secondary education providing 5 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education for pupils/students aged 12 to 17. Admission is based on academic suitability determined by the [♦ Basisschool](#) recommendation (and standardised national tests where taken). The curriculum is divided into two stages: in the first stage (3 years), all pupils complete the lower secondary school common core curriculum (*basisvorming*); in the second stage (2 years), they prepare for the leaving certificate (*diploma havo*) in one of four disciplinary 'profiles'. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector establishments may be denominational. All approved establishments are funded by the public sector in accordance with the same criteria. Fees are charged for students aged 16 and over. All education of this type is offered within a [♦ Scholengemeenschap](#). Holders of the *diploma havo* can proceed to higher professional education at a [♦ Hogeschool](#). Full term: *Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs*.

## HE college

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [♦ Higher education college](#).

## HE specialist institution

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 4, 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [♦ Higher education specialist institution](#).

## HF-kursus

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** HF-kurset, HF-kurser, HF-kurserne

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering two years of full-time general upper secondary education to students of all ages who have passed the *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve* and are recommended by teaching staff in [♦ Grundskole](#). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for the HF-kursus, which may be a separate institution or part of a [♦ Gymnasium](#) or *lærerseminarium* ([♦ Seminarium](#) (+)). There are a few privately-run courses. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. The curriculum is regulated by the Ministry and thus the same both in public and private

institutions. All public establishments are funded at county level while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in private institutions. Students passing the *højere forberedelseseksamen* (HF) after the two-year programme are qualified to apply for entry to tertiary education programmes (see *gymnasium*).

### High school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **Secondary school**.

### Higher education college

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- or part-time sub-degree programmes (e.g. *Foundation Degrees*), bachelors degrees, and, in some cases, postgraduate level programmes including masters degrees and doctorates, for students from the age of around 18. In most cases, these qualifications are validated by an external body, such as a local **University** or the Open University, but some *colleges* have the power to award their own taught degrees and may use the title **University college**. Some HE *colleges* also offer *further education* (secondary level) and *access to higher education* (post-secondary level) programmes. HE *colleges* include large multi-faculty institutions and small or specialist institutions, e.g. in the areas of music and performing arts, agriculture and teacher education and may bear different names such as *Institute*, *College of Art*. HE *colleges* are legally independent corporate institutions. For admission requirements and funding arrangements, see *university*. Abbreviation: HE *college*. Synonym: *College of higher education*.

### Higher education specialist institution

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 4, 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering specialising full- or part-time sub-degree programmes (e.g. DipHE, CertHE, *Higher National Diploma/Certificate* (HND, HNC)), bachelors degrees, and, in most cases, postgraduate level programmes including *masters* degrees and *doctorates* for students from the age of 17. Certain HE *specialist institutions* have been granted degree-awarding powers, but do not have, or do not wish to use, the title 'university'. Of those which do not have degree-awarding powers, degrees are awarded by a local **University** or the Open University. They offer programmes in a range of areas such as music and performing arts, agricultural science and art and design. Two offer more general

programmes. Some also offer *further education* (secondary level) and *access to higher education* (post-secondary level) programmes. These institutions may bear different names such as *Institute*, *Academy* or *College*. They are legally independent corporate institutions. For admission requirements and funding arrangements, see *university*. Abbreviation: HE *specialist institution*.

### Higher secondary school

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution directly under the responsibility of the Education Division, offering 2 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 18 or over. It provides the following three types of course: the secondary education certificate (SEC) revision course, which is a second chance course for those who would like to re-sit some SEC examinations (see **Junior lyceum**); the advanced/SEC course in which several matriculation and SEC examinations are offered, and which does not lead to **University** but is intended for students who would like to further their education and enhance their employability; and the matriculation certificate examination course which is identical to that offered by the **Junior college** and leads to *university*. For information on admission requirements, the language of instruction, administrative arrangements, funding, tuition fees and qualifications awarded, see *junior college*.

### Hochschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Hochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for **Fachhochschule**, **Kirchliche Hochschule**, **Kunsthochschule**, **Musikhochschule**, **Pädagogische Hochschule**, **Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule**, **Technische Universität**, **Universität**.

### Hochschule Liechtenstein

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering full-time first- and second-cycle studies in the fields of architecture and the sciences for students from the age of 18. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification from a *Sekundarschule* (*Berufsmaturitätszeugnis* or *Maturazeugnis*), or a recognised equivalent. Courses lead to Bachelor's and Master's degrees. The government Department of Education has overall responsibility for this public institution and funds it. Fees are payable.

### Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Full term for **▶ Havo**.

### Hogeschool

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Hogescholen

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering academic and professional multidisciplinary courses to students, usually from the age of 18, who hold a secondary education diploma (*diploma secundair onderwijs*) obtained at **▶ Secundaire school**, or a recognised equivalent. Numerus clausus requirements are non-existent at present in tertiary education institutions, but there are entrance examinations for every student who wishes to study nautical sciences, or the arts. Admission is also subject to further institutional or course requirements. These institutions are autonomous but receive a (lump sum) budget from the Ministry of Education of the Flemish Community for funding their personnel policy and general operations. Fees are payable. Academically oriented first-cycle studies lasting 3 years lead to the *bachelor* degree. Students can embark on second-cycle courses lasting 1 or 2 years which lead to the *Master/Licentiaat* degree and give access to the labour market, or to doctoral studies at a **▶ Universiteit**. Professionally oriented programmes lasting 3 years lead to the professional *bachelor* or to the *Diploma Hogeronderwijs*. Students have access to the labour market or, under certain circumstances, to *master* programmes. In addition, these institutions may offer continuing or postgraduate training programmes.

### Hogeschool

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Hogescholen

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary mainly one-cycle courses and/or medium and long programmes in most fields of study, for students from the age of 17 who hold an upper secondary qualification (*diploma havo, vwo* or *mbo*) awarded at **▶ Havo**, **▶ Vwo** or **▶ Mbo** respectively. Most full-time courses have a study load of 240 credits, which is equivalent to four years of study. Some studies also have part-time courses (three to five-and-a-half years of study) held mainly during the evening. There are also dual courses (4 years of study), in which students work for three or four days a week and spend the rest of the week at school. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this institution, which can be

public (funded by central government) or private. Fees are payable. Courses lead to the degree *getuigschrift van het afsluitend examen* that confers on its holder the titles of *Baccalaureus*, *Bachelor (+)*, *Master (+)* or *Ingenieur*.

### Högskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Högskolor, högskolan

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering:

- Tertiary education occupationally oriented courses (*kvalificerad yrkesutbildning*) on a full-time and occasionally part-time basis to students from the age of 19. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification (*slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*) obtained at **▶ Gymnasieskola**, **▶ Särskola**, **▶ Kommunal vuxenutbildning** or **▶ Fristående gymnasieskola**, or a recognised equivalent. Some courses may also have special requirements as regards previously acquired knowledge and skills. Courses vary in length between 40 and 120 weeks – of which one-third of the time is spent applying theoretical knowledge at the workplace. The Swedish Agency for Advanced Vocational Education is the supervising authority and the education provider receives state funding to organise the courses. No fees are payable. Courses lead to the *kvalificerad yrkesexamen* (a certificate in advanced vocational education).
- Two-cycle courses and/or short/medium-length/long university level programmes for students from the age of 19. Courses can be full time, part time and evening. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification (*slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*) awarded at **▶ Gymnasieskola**, **▶ Särskola**, **▶ Kommunal vuxenutbildning** or **▶ Fristående gymnasieskola**, and for a certain number of adults at **▶ Folkhögskola** or a recognised equivalent. Most courses also have special requirements as regards previously acquired knowledge. The Ministry of Education, Research and Culture has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is state funded. No fees are payable. Courses lead to first degrees (e.g. *kandidatexamen*) and second degrees (e.g. *magisterexamen*). Some institutions are entitled to provide for advanced study and research in one or several of the four authorised areas of research (humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, engineering and medicine) leading to the *licentiatexamen (+)* and *doktorsexamen (+)*.

### Højskole (+)

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Højskolen, højskoler, højskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Term used for two main categories of institutions:

- Tertiary education institutions offering medium-length and long – or only medium-length – courses for students from the age of 19 who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at **Erhvervsskole**, **Gymnasium**, **Handelsskole**, **HF-kursus**, **Studenterkursus**, **Teknisk skole** or **Voksenuddannelsescenter**, or its recognised equivalent. Provision is on a full-time or part-time basis, or in evening classes. Admission may be subject to further course requirements. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation has overall responsibility for these institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-governing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. In some types of institution, such as *handelshøjskole* or Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (*Den Kgl. Veterinær- og Landbohøjskole*), three-cycle courses lead to the *bachelorgrad*, *kandidatgrad* and *Ph.d.-grad*. In other types of institution, such as the *journalisthøjskole* or *social højskole*, courses of up to four years alternating between school and in-service training lead to various professional degrees, which also give access to further studies in the same field, including open education and, in most cases, mainstream second-cycle programmes at other tertiary institutions.
- Institutions offering informal education (known as *folkehøjskoler*) which supplements formal education for young people and adults. These institutions all originate in grass roots private initiatives. Courses last between 1 and 36 weeks. Each school is free to decide the contents of its teaching, so the subjects on offer differ from one institution to the next. However, most schools offer courses in literature, music, psychology, drama, social studies and art. The student fee also depends on the school concerned.

## Høyskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Høyskolen, høyskoler, høyskolene

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short and long multidisciplinary courses for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold an upper secondary qualification awarded at **Videregående skole** and **Voksenopplæringscenter** or recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further course requirements. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for the publicly funded state institutions and for recognised courses at private institutions which are grant-aided. No fees are payable in state institutions. Publicly funded *høyskoler* are divided into three categories: **Statlig høyskole**, **Vitenskapelig høyskole** and **Kunsthøyskole**. Courses lead to occupational qualifications (*høyskolekandidat*), degree level qualifications (*bachelor i (+)* and *master i (+)*), and to doctorates (Ph.D.), depending on the type of institution.

## Husholdningsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Husholdningsskolen, husholdningsskoler, husholdningsskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Private self-governing boarding school offering full-time upper secondary training in home economics for students aged 16 to 20. Admission to this programme is based on satisfactory performance in the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* at the **Grundskole**, or open to applicants already aged 16. Institutions may also offer shorter programmes or lower secondary education programmes leading to the *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve*. For information on examinations and the provision to which they give access, see *grundskole*. These fee-paying institutions are normally co-educational and non-denominational and the overall responsibility of the Ministry of Education.





### IAP

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Level:** ISCED 6

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [▶ Internationale Akademie für Philosophie](#).

### Iðnskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Iðnskóla, iðnskólar

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Full-time industrial vocational upper secondary education to students from the age of 16. Admission is based on completion of [▶ Grunnskóli](#). The majority of programmes last 4 years. Courses in the certified trades end with the journeyman's examination, *sveinspróf*. Successful students receive the *sveinsbréf* certificate, which gives access to the labour market for certified trades and to extension courses. Some other vocational programmes are offered concluding with different final examinations. Evening courses for adults are also provided in *iðnskóli*. One *iðnskóli* offers distance learning courses.
- Post-secondary education courses open to those who have the *sveinspróf* qualification and one year's work experience in the trade. They last from one to three years leading to the *meistaránám í iðn* examination and successful trainees receive the *meistarabréf* certificate. Holders of the certificate may exercise supervisory responsibilities in the given field and recruit apprentices.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these state-funded institutions, which are public. They are co-educational and non-denominational. There are no tuition fees (except in the case of evening and distance learning courses) but students pay an enrolment fee, the cost of their textbooks and in some vocational education courses part of the cost of materials.

### Idrottsutbildningscenter

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -centret, -centren

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for [▶ Liikunnan koulutuskeskus](#).

### IEES

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [▶ Institut d'études éducatives et sociales](#).

### IEK

**Country:** Greece

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [▶ Institouto epaggelmatikis katartisis](#).

### IES

**Country:** Spain

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of [▶ Instituto de educación secundaria](#).

### Infant school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** A [▶ Primary school](#) which caters only for pupils up to the age of 7. Pupils move on to a [▶ Junior school](#).

### Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Instellingen voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time primary, secondary and post-secondary artistic education to children from the age of 6, young people and mature adults who enrol voluntarily and pay an enrolment fee. This part-time provision complements full-time compulsory education and may be in one or more of 4 disciplines, namely visual arts, music, wordcraft and dance. Each discipline has its own structure, with levels and options laid down by law. In the disciplines of music, wordcraft and dance, provision begins when children are aged 8. Activities in each discipline are at lower, intermediate and higher levels. Only in the discipline of visual arts is there

also a specialist level. On successful completion of every level, pupils or students are awarded a certificate (*getuigschrift*) to indicate that they have achieved the level concerned. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see [♦ Basisschool](#).

### Institouto epaggelmatikis katartisis (Ινστιτούτο επαγγελματικής κατάρτισης)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Institouta epaggelmatikis katartisis, institout\*

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time post-secondary vocational training to those who have satisfactorily completed [♦ Gymnasio](#) (in the case of certain areas of specialisation only), [♦ Eniaio lykeio](#), or the second stage of [♦ Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio](#). The curriculum comprises compulsory theoretical and practical subjects. Training lasts four semesters for trainees who hold the *apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou*. Those who have completed *techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio* continue to specialise in the same field as at TEE, while former *gymnasio* pupils undergo training lasting two semesters. The Organisation for Vocational Education and Training, which is supervised by the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, is administratively responsible for these public and private institutions and funds only public institutions; private institutions are self funded. Tuition fees are payable in private institutions; in public institutions trainees pay only registration fees. Courses lead to the diploma of completion (*diploma*) that gives access to employment in the field of specialisation. Abbreviation: IEK.

### Institut

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years or the last 4 years of either full-time general secondary education, or technically and vocationally oriented education, to pupils/students aged 12/14 to 18. However, most of its provision is technical and vocational in nature. An institution offering only technical and vocational courses is called an *Institut technique*. Institutions may belong to any of the three sectors of education. For information on admission requirements, organisational arrangements, qualifications, the authority responsible, status and funding, see [♦ Athénée](#).

### Institut

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Institute

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [♦ Sekundarschule](#), usually with technical and vocational courses.

### Institut (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Instituty, institut\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution. For all information, see [♦ Vysoká škola \(+\)](#). The name of this institution is usually followed or preceded by the field of study and sometimes by other adjectives specifying, for example, its location or other features: *pražský technologický institut*, *anglo-americký institut literárních studií*, *institut restaurování a konzervačních technik*.

### Institut (+)

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Institutul, institute\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length and long full-, part-time or evening specialised courses in information and technology to students from the age of 18, who hold the final certificate obtained at [♦ Liceu](#). Courses lead to the *diplomă de licență*. For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility, legal status, funding and doctoral qualifications, see [♦ Universitate \(+\)](#).

### Institut d'études éducatives et sociales

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution that has been replaced since 2004/05 by the [♦ Université](#). It offered non-university courses lasting three years in education and social sciences to students aged 19 and over. Courses led to a *certificat d'éducateur agréé*. Abbreviation: IEES.

### Institut für schulische Weiterbildung

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Institute für schulische Weiterbildung

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time secondary education to adults from the age of 16. It is administered by a body in public law (Community, municipality) or an independent body in private law, usually on the premises of secondary schools. It is intended for anyone who no longer has to attend school on a full-time basis and who would like to take part in general or specialised courses for reasons of personal development or career advancement, or to prepare for taking the secondary school leaving certificate (*Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekunderunterrichts*) before an external examining committee. The Community finances its own institutes of further education and subsidises those of the other bodies. Participants pay a fee for each further education course on which they are enrolled, unless they are registered as unemployed.

**Institut supérieur d'architecture****Country:** Belgium (French Community)**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering long university level tertiary education in architecture, to students aged 18 and over. Enrolment fees are payable. First-cycle courses lasting three years lead to the qualification of *bachelier*. Students may move on to second-cycle (two-year) courses leading to the qualification of *master en architecture*. For information on admission requirements, organisational arrangements, status, funding and access to doctoral studies, see ♦ *Haute École*.

**Institut supérieur d'études et de recherches pédagogiques****Country:** Luxembourg**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution that has been replaced since 2004/05 by the ♦ *Université*. It offered courses in teacher education lasting three years to students aged 19 and over. Courses led to the *certificat d'études pédagogiques* qualifying its holder to teach at pre-primary or primary levels. Abbreviation: ISERP.

**Institut Supérieur de Technologie****Country:** Luxembourg**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution that has been replaced since 2004/05 by the ♦ *Université*. It offered technical courses with practical work placements, lasting four years, to students aged 19 and over. Courses led to a *diplôme d'ingénieur industriel*. Abbreviation: IST.

**Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution which is attached administratively to one or more *universités* and offers short full-time teacher-training courses to students, usually from the age of 21, who have obtained a *licence* and passed competitive recruitment examinations (*concours*) for primary or secondary level teachers. No qualifications are awarded. For further information, see ♦ *Université*. Abbreviation: IUFM.

**Institut Universitaire de Technologie****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution which is attached administratively to a ♦ *Université* and offers specialised full-time technological courses to students from the age of 18. Courses lasting two years lead to *diplômes universitaires de technologie*. Students may then be admitted

to a second-cycle one-year course leading to the *licence professionnelle* or the *diplôme national de technologie spécialisée*. Qualifications give access to the labour market. For information on admission and other aspects, see *université*. Abbreviation: IUT.

**Institut Universitaire Professionnalisé****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution which is attached administratively to a ♦ *Université* and offers full-time technical courses to students, usually from the age of 19, who have passed the upper secondary school leaving examination in a ♦ *Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique* or ♦ *Lycée professionnel*, and successfully completed one year of tertiary education. The first-cycle courses (lasting three years) lead to a *licence* in engineering which gives access to professional life or to the second cycle, entailing one year of the *master professionnel* or *master recherche*. This latter qualification gives access to professional life or to doctoral courses offered by a *université*. For further information, see *université*. Abbreviation: IUP.

**Institute of Technology****Country:** Ireland**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering two-cycle multidisciplinary academic courses and/or technical and vocationally oriented short and medium programmes for students from the age of 17 who hold an upper secondary qualification (*Leaving Certificate*) awarded at ♦ *Secondary school* or ♦ *Vocational school*, or its equivalent. Some *Institutes* also provide apprenticeship courses. Admission may be subject to specific institutional or course requirements. These are public institutions designated under HETAC (Higher Education and Training Awards Council), which validates most of their courses and grants most of their awards. They are funded by central government. Fees have to be paid in certain circumstances. Courses lead to first and second degrees (*honours Bachelor* and *Master*) and to the professionally oriented *ordinary Bachelor degree* or *higher certificate*.

**Institute of tourism studies****Country:** Malta**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1-4 years of full-, part-time or *ad hoc* courses of upper secondary and post-secondary education for students aged 17 to 21 or over. Candidates are required to have a minimum number of Accreditation to

Prior Learning (APL) credit points obtained at secondary education institutions such as **Junior lyceum** and **Area secondary school**, etc. but, in general, admission requirements vary according to the course applied for. This institution covers theory and practical work within the hospitality and tourism industry, which differs depending on the course followed. This institution is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Employment, and is funded by the State through the Ministry. Tuition is free. The institution is co-educational and the languages of instruction are Maltese and English.

- Students who successfully complete a 1-year course in hospitality services are awarded a *foundation level 1 certificate* (+). Depending on their final grades, they may either enter the industry at trainee level or apply for courses leading to an *intermediate level 2 certificate in* (+). On obtaining the last certificate and depending on their final grades, students may either enter the industry at supervisory level, or apply for the one-year course leading to an *advanced diploma level 3* (+) intended for students who seek management responsibilities in their chosen area of activity (post-secondary level).
- Students who complete a 2-year course in different areas of the hospitality industry are awarded a *certificate in* (+) that gives access to employment or to appropriate further studies at the *Institute of tourism studies*, which last 2-4 years and lead to a *diploma in* (+). Holders of the latter can either access employment or follow appropriate studies at the **University**.

### Instituto de educación secundaria

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Institutos de educación secundaria

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Full- or part-time lower secondary education to pupils who can enter automatically at the age of 12 on completion of primary school (**Centro concertado de educación primaria**, **Colegio de educación primaria**). In the first four years, the institution provides general lower secondary education divided into two two-year stages, in which all pupils follow a common curriculum. Graduation leads to the certificate *graduado en educación secundaria obligatoria*.
- Full- or part-time upper secondary education to students who can enter from the age of 16 and have to hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate (*graduado en educación secundaria obligatoria*). At this level, which lasts two years, students choose between general

or vocational courses. Those completing general upper secondary education are awarded the *bachiller* leaving certificate (requiring from the 2005/06 academic year a pass grade in all subjects and successful completion of a *prueba general de bachillerato*), which grants access to **Academia general**, **Academia general básica de suboficiales del ejército de tierra**, **Conservatorio superior**, **Escuela superior**, **Instituto de formación profesional superior**, **Centro concertado de formación profesional** and **Universidad** (subject to an entrance examination). Students can also be awarded the first level vocational qualification (*técnico en* (+)).

- Special occupationally oriented training at tertiary level for students aged 18-20. Successful students are awarded the *técnico superior* leaving certificate that gives access to **Universidad**.

The educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned is responsible for this institution and fully funds it. Tuition fees are not payable, but families contribute to other expenses. Abbreviation: IES.

### Instituto de formación profesional superior

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Institutos de formación profesional superior

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering advanced level special occupationally oriented training for students, usually aged 18-20, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*bachiller*) awarded at **Instituto de educación secundaria** or its equivalent, or pass an entrance examination as stipulated by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. The educational administration of the Autonomous Community is responsible for this public institution and fully funds it. Fees are payable. Successful students are awarded the *técnico superior en* (+) leaving certificate that gives access to **Universidad**.

### Instituto politécnico

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Institutos politécnicos

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in the provision of occupationally oriented technical courses in the fields of engineering, management, health technology, performing arts and teacher education and training for students from the age of 18, who hold an upper secondary certificate awarded at **Escola secundária**, **Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico**, or **Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário**, or its equivalent. Admission may also be subject to further institutional or course

requirements. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education exercises overall responsibility for this public institution, and funds it on behalf of the government. An *instituto politécnico* consists of several ▶ *Escolas superiores* (+), depending on the fields of study. Private, self-funding institutions also exist. Fees are payable both in public and private institutions. Courses lead to the degree level qualifications of *bacharelato*, *licenciatura* and *mestrado*.

### **Instituto superior (+)**

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Institutos superiores

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution and administrative sub-division of a ▶ *Universidade*, which offers courses in technical areas of study lasting at least 4 years. The term *instituto superior* is followed by the field of study, as for example in the case of *instituto superior técnico* (engineering) and *instituto superior de agronomia* (agriculture). An independent public *instituto superior* for economics and management, which is not integrated within any university, and several private institutions of the same kind also exist. For further information on admission requirements, legal status, funding, administrative arrangements and final qualifications, see *universidade*.

### **Instituto universitario**

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Institutos universitarios

**Level:** ISCED 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution and administrative sub-division of a ▶ *Universidad*, which carries out scientific and technical research, as well as offering specialised and third-cycle studies under the academic responsibility of a university department. Those who enrol must have carried out studies at *universidad* or their equivalent. Courses lead to third-cycle qualifications (*diploma de estudios avanzado*), including doctorates (*doctorado en* (+)). For further information on legal status, administrative arrangements and funding, see *universidad*.

### **Institūts**

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Institūti, institūtā, institūtam

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Augstskola*.

### **Integrierte Haupt- und Realschule**

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Integrierte Haupt- und Realschulen, Integrierten Haupt- und Realschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Hauptschule* and ▶ *Realschule* in the *Land* of Hamburg.

### **Internationale Akademie für Philosophie**

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Level:** ISCED 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering full-time third-cycle philosophy courses for students from the age of 25. Admission is based on a *master* qualification or an equivalent qualification in philosophy. Courses lead to doctorates. This is a private, self-funded, institution. Fees are payable.

### **ISERP**

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Institut supérieur d'études et de recherches pédagogiques*.

### **ISIA**

**Country:** Italy

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Istituto superiore per le industrie artistiche*.

### **IST**

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Institut Supérieur de Technologie*.

### **Istituto d'arte**

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Istituti d'arte

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years, plus 2 optional years of full-time secondary vocational artistic education for students aged 14 to 17/19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate obtained in ▶ *Scuola media*. They follow a common curriculum and take options according to the type of craft or industry for which the course prepares them. After 3 years, successful students receive the *Diploma di maestro d'arte applicata* certificate, with which they can enter employment. Those who take 2 optional years receive the applied arts upper secondary school leaving certificate (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Istituto d'arte*), which gives access to all forms of tertiary education (see summary table). The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors.

### **Istituto professionale**

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Istituti professionali

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years, plus 2 optional years of full-time secondary vocational education for students aged 14 to 19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate obtained in **► Scuola media**. The curriculum is divided into two stages lasting 3 and 2 years respectively. It offers three areas of specialisation (agriculture, industry and crafts, and the service sector). At the end of the first 3 years, successful students receive a vocational skills qualification (*Diploma di qualifica professionale*), with which they can enter employment or further vocational training. Those who successfully complete the additional 2 years of study (*corsi post-qualifica*) receive an upper secondary vocational school leaving diploma (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Istituto professionale*), with which they can enter all forms of tertiary education (see summary table), further training or employment. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors.

### **Istituto superiore per le industrie artistiche**

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Istituti superiori per le industrie artistiche

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time specialised courses in the applied arts for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di istruzione secondaria superiore*) and pass an entrance examination. For information on qualifications, responsibilities and funding, see **► Accademia (+)**. Abbreviation: ISIA.

### **Istituto tecnico**

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Istituti tecnici

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time secondary technical education for students aged 14 to 17/19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate obtained in **► Scuola media**. The curriculum is divided into two stages. In the first stage (2 years), students follow a common curriculum; in the second stage (3 years), they continue to follow a common core of subjects and, in addition, select an area of specialisation. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors. Successful students receive an upper secondary technical school leaving diploma (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Istituto tecnico*) with which they can enter university, other forms of tertiary education, further training or employment.

### **Istituto universitario**

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Istituti universitari

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering courses in specific disciplines (e.g. languages). See **► Università**.

### **IUFM**

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **► Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres**.

### **IUP**

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5

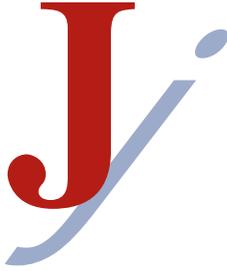
**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **► Institut Universitaire Professionnalis **.

### **IUT**

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **► Institut Universitaire de Technologie**.



### Jardim-de-infância

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Jardins-de-infância

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 6. Admission is based on age. The single-stage curriculum is activity-based and includes a socio-educational component. It can be public or private and is co-educational and non-denominational. In the public network, teachers and educational guidelines are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, whereas the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity is responsible for family support and (jointly with the Ministry of Education) technical support. The infrastructure and equipment are the responsibility of municipalities. No fees are payable in public settings. The public *jardins-de-infância* are co-funded by the central administration and municipalities. The private network of *jardins-de-infância* is co-funded by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity. However families have to pay some fees. Public funding for private institutions depends on the type of contract they have with the Ministry of Education (mainly *contrato de associação* or *contrato de patrocínio*). No fees are payable in fully funded establishments. When attached to compulsory/basic education (*ensino básico*), *jardins-de-infância* can form an **▶** *Escola básica do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância* or an **▶** *Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância*. Abbreviation: JI.

### Jaunimo mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Jaunimo mokyklos, jaunimo mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5/6 years of lower secondary education for socially and educationally neglected pupils aged 12-16, who have dropped out of a mainstream general school. Institutions can operate as separate educational establishments or use the facilities of **▶** *Profesinė mokykla*. Pupils are admitted at the request of their parents or guardians. General and pre-vocational

courses are offered. The language of instruction can be other than Lithuanian (Russian, Polish or Belorussian). Public establishments may receive non-budgetary funds from other activities. On completing year 10, pupils are awarded a *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*, and entitled to enter an upper secondary school at **▶** *Gimnazija*, **▶** *Konservatorija* or **▶** *Vidurinė mokykla*, or options 2 and 3 of *profesinė mokykla*. For information on administrative arrangements, funding, and religious and legal status, see **▶** *Mokykla-darželis*.

### Jl

**Country:** Portugal

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶** *Jardim-de-infância*.

### Junior college

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of full-time general upper secondary education for students aged 16 to 18 or over. The *secondary education certificate* in six subjects obtained in the **▶** *Junior lyceum* and **▶** *Area secondary school* and awarded by the University of Malta, is required for admission. This institution offers general education while also providing for specialisation in a number of subjects at advanced and intermediate level. The language of instruction is English. The University of Malta has overall responsibility for this co-educational public institution and the State funds it through the University. No fees are payable in public-sector establishments. Those who succeed in the final *matriculation certificate examination* are awarded the *matriculation certificate*, which is a requirement for admission to **▶** *University*.

### Junior lyceum

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time general lower secondary education to pupils/students aged 11 to 16. Admission is based on the *junior lyceum examination* held at

the end of the ▶ *Primary school* course. All pupils follow a common core curriculum (*national minimum curriculum*). The *junior lyceum* educational system has two stages. The first stage is for pupils aged 11 to 12 (two years) and the second stage for those aged 13 to 16 (three years). The Division of Education is responsible for the operation and supervision of public (state-funded) lower secondary schools and for the supervision of non-state schools to ensure that they comply with the operational rules laid down by the State. *Junior lyceums* are single gender. Pupils who sit and succeed in the final national *secondary education certificate examination* organised by the MATSEC Board of the University of Malta receive the *sec-*

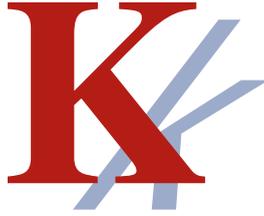
*ondary education certificate* which gives access to ▶ *Junior college* and ▶ *Higher secondary school*, the ▶ *Malta college of arts, science and technology*, the ▶ *Institute of tourism studies* and non-state sixth forms or courses for a *general certificate of education* awarded by a United Kingdom university. For information on the language of instruction, funding and tuition fees, see *primary school*.

### Junior school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** A ▶ *Primary school* which caters only for pupils aged between 7 and 11. Pupils move on to *junior school* from ▶ *Infant school*.



### **Kansanopisto**

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Kansanopistot, kansanopisto\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time non-formal and formal adult education, which operates mainly as a boarding school. Schools offer basic education programmes, general upper secondary education, and vocational upper secondary education and training leading for the most part to qualifications in the fields of culture, social care and leisure time, and additional vocational training. They also arrange open university instruction through which students can complete basic university studies. Admission requirements vary depending on the institution and on the level and field of education. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions and their status, see [Peruskoulu](#). They are mostly private establishments and fees are payable. For information on the certificates awarded at particular levels and the provision to which they give access, see [peruskoulu](#), [Lukio](#) and [Ammatillinen oppilaitos](#). Swedish term: *Folkhögskola*.

### **Kennaraháskóli**

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Kennaraháskóla, kennaraháskólar

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in educational sciences. See [Háskóli](#).

### **Kéttannyelvű gimnázium**

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Kéttannyelvű gimnázium\*, kéttannyelvű gimnáziumok

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to students aged from 14-19, who wish to follow courses in a major modern foreign language. In order to gain entry, students in most cases have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. In other cases, their previous educational record and merit as testified by the leaving certificate

awarded at [Általános iskola](#) and [Művészeti általános iskola](#) are taken into account. At the end of their upper secondary course, students receive a certificate of completion (*kéttannyelvű gimnáziumi bizonyítvány*) which is necessary to take the final examination *érettségi vizsga*. Those who pass it receive the *kéttannyelvű gimnáziumi érettségi bizonyítvány*, which gives access to tertiary education at [Egyetem](#) and [Főiskola](#). For information on the curriculum, see [Gimnázium](#). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *általános iskola*.

### **Kindergarten**

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Kindergarten

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering 3 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 6. Admission is based on the child's maturity. There is no formal curriculum; teaching and learning are informal and play based. A department with specific responsibility for pre-primary education exists at each provincial level. These settings can be public or private. They are normally co-educational and many private establishments are denominational. Public-sector settings are usually established and funded at regional or municipal level. Certain private-sector settings, particularly those run by officially recognised religious bodies, may receive a public grant. Some public-sector settings do not charge fees, but all private-sector settings do so.

### **Kindergarten**

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Kindergarten

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Educational institution always attached to a [Primarschule](#) and with it forming the [Grundschule](#) (basic education). The *Kindergarten* offers 3 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 6, preparing them for primary education. Any body supporting the school (the Community, the municipality or an independent body in private law) establishes an

## Kindergarten

activity plan, which must be approved by the Ministry, stating clearly the development targets that are binding on all *Kindergärten*. These targets in the area of learning, perception, abilities and behaviour form the basis for the teaching and educational activity of the *Kindergärten*, all of which are co-educational. The German-speaking Community finances these institutions, for which it is responsible, and substantially subsidises the *Kindergärten* run by municipalities and by the Catholic (independent) bodies in private law. No fees are payable. Synonym: *Vorschule*.

### Kindergarten

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Kindergärten

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering mainly three years of part-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 6 in mixed age groups. Admission is based on age. There is no formal curriculum. The focus is on play activities, which serve to promote intellectual, physical, emotional and social development and skills. In most *Länder*, the social ministries are the competent authorities. Overall responsibility for pre-primary institutions lies with the local youth welfare offices (*örtliche Jugendämter*). Institutions can be provided by non-public bodies or maintained by the local authorities, and are usually co-educational and may be denominational. Despite the subsidies provided by the *Länder* and the local authorities for the maintenance of institutions and the use by privately maintained institutions of their own funds, parents are also required to make contributions. Charges vary and in some cases depend on parental income. Pupils go on to *Grundschule*.

### Kindergarten

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Grammatical variants:** Kindergärten

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering 2 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged 4 to 6. Admission is based on age. The curriculum is informal and activity based. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these public or private establishments, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are primarily municipally funded but also centrally funded, while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments.

### Kindergarten centre

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged 3 to 5 in preparation for *Primary school*, to which it is generally attached. Admission is based on age and date of birth. The curriculum is prescribed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Employment, but it can be implemented flexibly by individual establishments in accordance with their intake. It is not divided into stages. Pre-primary education is provided free in state schools. Private *kindergarten centres* are fee paying. Church kindergarten centres do not charge any fees, but parents may be required to make voluntary contributions. The language of instruction is generally Maltese, but children are also exposed to English through conversation, songs, nursery rhymes, etc.

### Kirchliche Hochschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Kirchliche Hochschulen, Kirchlichen Hochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Institution equivalent to a *Universität*, which is maintained by the Evangelical Church and trains theologians. For full information, see *Universität*. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

### Kleuterschool

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Kleuterscholen

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged 2½ to 6. Admission is based on age. Children who are not yet ready to transfer to primary education (*Basisschool*) at the age of 6 can spend another year in pre-primary education. These schools are generally linked to a *Lagere School*. Although pre-primary and primary education are independent from each other as far as their structure is concerned, every effort is made to ensure a smooth transition between the two. There is no official curriculum; learning takes place through activities and play and occurs in a single stage. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *basisschool*.

### KN

**Country:** Poland

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Kolegium nauczycielskie*.

### Koinotiko nipiagogeio (Κοινοτικό νηπιαγωγείο)

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Kinotika nipiagogeia, kinotik\* nipiagogei\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution for pre-primary education, which is founded and run by privately organised bodies (local authorities, improvement boards or parents' associations). It is subsidised by the State, depending on the financial conditions of the area (with poor areas receiving more). For further information, see ▶ *Nipiagogeio*.

### Koledža

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Koledžas, koledžu

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering occupationally oriented professional programmes lasting at least 2 years (the so-called *koledžu programmas*) to students, usually from the age of 19. The general (upper) secondary education certificate is required and admission is based on performance in the *centralizētie eksāmeni* taken at the end of ▶ *Vidusskola*, ▶ *Arodvidusskola (+)* or ▶ *Speciālās izglītības iestāde*, but additional entrance examinations may be organised. The institution can also offer vocational (upper) secondary education programmes (see *arodvidusskola*). The language of instruction in private institutions may be Russian. Institutions may be founded by central government, local government, a legal entity or private person. Central government *Koledžas* are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Science or other appropriate ministry. Private institutions are self funded and may also receive grants from central government, while public establishments are state funded. Tuition fees are payable in all private establishments and in public institutions in the case of study places not paid for by the State. On completing their course, students have to take the *gala pārbaudījums*. Those who are successful are awarded the *pirmā līmeņa augstākās profesionālās izglītības diploms* (the first level professional higher education diploma), which gives access to the labour market or to tertiary education at ▶ *Augstskola* or ▶ *Universitāte*.

### Kolegija

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Kolegijos, kolegij\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary full- and part-time training. Full-time courses last 3 years whereas part-time courses last 4 years. Institutions admit students usually from the age of 18/19, who hold an upper secondary education certificate (*brandos atestatas*) awarded at ▶ *Vidurinė mokykla*, ▶ *Gimnazija*, in option 3 of ▶ *Profesinė mokykla*, or at ▶ *Suaugusiųjų mokykla*, and who meet institutional admission requirements. These establishments are public or private. The Ministry of Edu-

cation and Science has legal responsibility for public state-funded institutions. Private ones are maintained by their founders and are self funded or grant aided. Tuition fees are payable in private institutions. Students who have successfully completed their studies at *kolegija* are awarded the *aukštojo mokslo diplomas* and the professional (non-academic) title of *profesinė kvalifikacija*.

### Kolegium nauczycielskie

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Kolegia nauczycielskie, kolegi\* nauczycielski\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length professionally oriented full-, part-time, extramural and evening teacher training courses for students, usually from the age of 19. For information on admission requirements, see ▶ *Akademia (+)*. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these centrally or centrally and regionally funded institutions, which can be public or private establishments. Fees are payable in private ones. Courses lead to a diploma (*dyplom*) qualifying its holder to teach in pre-primary and primary education. Abbreviation: KN.

### Kolej (Колѐж)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Koleji

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering tertiary vocationally-oriented (full-, part-time or evening) medium courses in teaching, technical subjects and medicine for students from the age of 19 who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*diploma za zavurчено sredno obrazovanie* obtained at ▶ *Gimnazia*, ▶ *Profilirana gimnazia*, ▶ *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte* and ▶ *Profesionalna gimnazia*) and meet institutional requirements. These institutions can be administratively attached to ▶ *Universitet* and are established following a decision of the Council of Ministers. The National Assembly has overall responsibility for establishing, transforming or closing down public state-funded or private self-funded *koleji*. Tuition fees are payable in private and public institutions. Courses lead to tertiary level vocational qualifications (*diploma za zavurчена stepen na vischeto obrazovanie*).

### Kolleg

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Kollegs

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering post-secondary courses for students from the age of 18, who hold the upper secondary qualification

obtained at ♦ *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule* or ♦ *Berufsbildende höhere Schule*, or a recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further requirements set by the *Kolleg* concerned. Fields of study include engineering, business administration, service industries and tourism. Courses lead to the occupational qualification of *Diplom (+)*. For information on legal status, funding and administrative arrangements, see *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule*.

### Kolleg

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Kollegs

**Level:** ISCED 4 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Adult education institution offering full-time general upper secondary education. Adults attending this institution are not allowed to combine their study with work. For further information, see ♦ *Abendgymnasium*.

### Kommunal vuxenutbildning

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** -utbildningar, -utbildningarna

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for publicly funded municipal adult education comprising basic adult education (*grundläggande vuxenutbildning*), upper secondary adult education (*gymnasial vuxenutbildning*) and supplementary education (*påbyggnadsutbildning*). Provision is for those aged 20 or over and free of charge. The municipalities are obliged to offer basic and upper secondary adult education. The former corresponds to mainstream compulsory education at ♦ *Grundskola*, while provision at upper secondary level is comparable – though not identical – to that of the ♦ *Gymnasieskola* with the same curriculum and syllabuses. Courses can be taken on a full-, part-time or ‘spare time’ basis. Students who successfully complete them are awarded a leaving certificate and can proceed to ♦ *Kvalificerad yrkesutbildning*, ♦ *Kompletterande utbildning* or tertiary education at ♦ *Universitet* or ♦ *Högskola*.

### Kompletterande utbildning

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** utbildningar, utbildningen

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** A post-secondary non-tertiary education institution providing further training in a certain occupation, training for a completely new occupation, or preparatory training for higher level studies in full-, part-time or evening courses. Over 200 different programmes are available in various fields, including economics, media, computing, arts and crafts, health, tourism, etc. Their length varies from between a few months to 3 years. Admission requirements also vary and, in

the case of some programmes, include a *slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan* obtained at ♦ *Gymnasieskola*, ♦ *Fristående gymnasieskola*, ♦ *Kommunal vuxenutbildning* or ♦ *Särskola*. While institutions of this kind are private, 40 percent of them are state subsidised. The National Agency for Education is the supervising agency and tuition fees are charged. The type of certificate awarded varies depending on the programme concerned (*diplom*, *intyg*, *gesällbrev*, etc.).

### Konservatorija

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Konservatorijos, konservatorij\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Following the 2002 reform, this institution offers 4 years of general lower and upper secondary and music education to pupils and students from the age of 14/15. Admission is based on musical ability. Provision is in accordance with the general curriculum and teaching strategy for schools offering general education with a focus on music. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these institutions which can be public or private. They are normally co-educational, and private establishments charge fees and may be denominational. On completing two years of *konservatorija* (concurrently with the end of lower secondary education), pupils are awarded a *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*. On completion of the curriculum, students have to pass school-leaving examinations and those who are successful receive the *brandos atestatas* certificate, which is an essential precondition for access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table).

Note: Some students were still enrolled in the pre-reform *konservatorija*, regarded as a type of ♦ *Aukštesnioji mokykla*.

### Konzervatoř

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Konzervatoře, konzervatoř\*

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 or 8 years of full-time lower/upper secondary and tertiary level art education.

- The 8-year *konzervatoř* (in the field of dance only) provides lower and upper secondary and tertiary education for pupils/students aged 11 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of the fifth year of ♦ *Základní škola*, as well as on the admissions procedure, which usually includes an entrance examination organised by the school. The curriculum is divided into two stages, both of which last 4 years. At the end of the second stage, students take either the *maturitní zkouška* examination leading to the

*vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce* certificate for entry to any tertiary education institution, or the *absolutorium* examination that leads to the *vysvědčení o absolutoriu* certificate, or both.

- The 6-year *konzervatoř* (singing, music and dramatic arts) provides upper secondary and tertiary education for students aged 15 to 21. Admission requirements include the successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at *základní škola*, and the admissions procedure usually involves an entrance examination organised by the school. The curriculum is divided into two stages. The first stage (lasting 4 years) provides upper secondary education, and students can complete it with the *maturitní zkouška* examination organised by the school. The second stage lasts 2 years and provides tertiary education ending with the *absolutorium* examination, which is organised by the school and leads to the *vysvědčení o absolutoriu* certificate.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational.

### Konzervatórium

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Konzervatóriá, konzervatóri\*

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 to 8 years of full-time artistic education to pupils and students aged from 10 to 21. Admission is based on successful completion of the first or second stage of *♦ Základná škola*. There is an entrance test organised by the school. At the end of 4 years of study, pupils take the school-leaving examination *maturitná skúška* and, if successful, receive a school-leaving certificate *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* that gives access to tertiary education (see summary table) and/or to the labour market. At the end of 8 years of study (in the field of dance), students take both the *maturitná skúška* and *absolventská skúška* examinations leading to the qualifications of *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* and *absolventský diplom*, which give entry to tertiary education and/or the labour market. For information on the authority responsible and funding, see *♦ Gymnázium*.

### Koolieelne lasteasutus

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Koolieelsed lasteasutusused

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented setting offering 6 years of full-time pre-primary education and care for children aged 1 to 7. Depending on their age, the institution can have different names/type *♦ Lastesõim* and *♦ Lasteaed*. Admission is based on age. There is a national curriculum for pre-school education approved by the government. The language of instruction can be Estonian or Russian. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions. Public establishments are half funded by central government, and half by local authorities. Private institutions are funded by the manager, except in the case of expenses related to in-service teacher training. Institutions are normally co-educational and non-denominational. Fees have to be paid in both state and private establishments. Children automatically progress to the *♦ Põhikool*.

### Krankenpflegeschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Krankenpflegeschulen

**Level:** ISCED 3, 4 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering three years of professionally oriented training in nursing, for students from the age of 18 who hold an upper secondary qualification obtained at *♦ Sekundarschule*, or a recognized equivalent. The course leads to the diploma known as *Graduierte(r) Krankenpfleger(in)*. The institution is administered by a Catholic body in private law and is subsidised by the Ministry of the German-speaking Community. Fees are payable. In addition to tertiary education and training, the *Krankenpflegeschule* offers a one-year full-time preparatory level (secondary) course in nursing for students aged at least 17, and a three-year full-time course in nursing for a professional (post-secondary) qualification (the *Brevet in Krankenpflege*). On 1 July 2005, the *Krankenpflegeschule* was officially closed and became part of the newly created *♦ Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft*.

### Kunstakademi

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Kunstakademiet, kunstakademier, kunstakademierne

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering long art courses for students from the age of 19 on the basis of artistic merit, in full-, part-time or evening classes. The Ministry of Culture has overall responsibility for these institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-governing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Courses lead to specific qualifications at the level of *kandidatgrad*.

**Kunsthochschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Kunsthochschulen**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium and long courses in the plastic, design and performing arts, and partly also in the accompanying academic disciplines (art and the history of art), usually for students from the age of 19. Admission is normally based on the *Allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained at a **◆** *Gymnasium*, or the *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* obtained at a **◆** *Berufliches Gymnasium (Fachgymnasium)*, and/or solely on evidence of artistic aptitude, depending on individual programmes. Institutions are normally public. See **◆** *Universität* for information on supervision, fees and funding. In private institutions, fees are payable. The basic courses usually lead to a *Diplom* (for artists) or an *Erste Staatsprüfung* entitling the holder to teach art at schools after undergoing preparatory service (*Vorbereitungsdienst*). In addition, some institutions have Bachelor's courses. Building on this, institutions also offer postgraduate courses that usually result in further qualifications for an occupation. These further qualifications are *Meisterschüler* (member of a master class), the *künstlerische Reifeprüfung* (final arts examination) or a further *Diplom* or Master's degree. Students may also embark on the doctorate. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

**Kunsthøyskole****Country:** Norway**Grammatical variants:** Kunsthøyskolen, kunsthøyskoler, kunsthøyskolene**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering courses in performing and fine arts, crafts and design. Courses lead to degree level qualifications (*bachelor i* (+) and *master i* (+)), depending on the type of institution. For further information, see **◆** *Høyskole*.

**Kutseõppeasutus****Country:** Estonia**Grammatical variants:** Kutseõppeasutused**Level:** ISCED 3, 4 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time upper secondary, post-secondary and professional tertiary education. The curriculum varies according to the field of training and must be approved by the Ministry of Education and Research.

- For students aged from 16 to 18/19, the institution offers at least 3 years of vocational upper secondary education. Admission is based on the successful completion of **◆** *Põhikool*. At the end of their courses, students have to pass school-leaving examinations including national vocational examinations. Those who are successful receive the secondary vocational education certificate *lõputunnistus põhihariduse baasil kutsekeskhariduse omandamise kohta*, which gives access to the labour market and to tertiary education (**◆** *Rakenduskõrgkool*, **◆** *Ülikool*). In certain fields of study, only those who pass national general examinations and receive the *riigieksamitunnistus* certificate, can compete for study places in tertiary education institutions.
- The institution offers 1 to 2 years of vocational post-secondary education in a single stage for students, usually from the age of 19. Admission is based on the successful completion of **◆** *Gümnaasium* or *kutseõppeasutus* (upper secondary level). At the end of their courses, students have to pass school-leaving examinations including national vocational examinations. Those who are successful receive the secondary vocational education certificate *lõputunnistus keskhariduse baasil kutsekeskhariduse omandamise kohta*, which gives access to the labour market and tertiary education (*rakenduskõrgkool*, *ülikool*).
- At tertiary level, this establishment offers at least 3 years of professional tertiary education for students, usually from the age of 18 who hold a secondary school leaving certificate obtained at *gümnaasium*, a secondary vocational education certificate obtained at *kutseõppeasutus*, or a foreign qualification recognised as equivalent. Admission procedures are set by each institution independently. Courses lead to a professional qualification (*diplom*) which gives access to the labour market or Master's study at *ülikool*.

The language of instruction can be Estonian or Russian. Different ministries (Education and Research, Agriculture, Social Affairs), the National Police Board, municipalities and private organisations run these state or private institutions. They are co-educational and non-denominational. State establishments are mainly state funded, whereas private institutions are funded by the manager. Tuition fees are payable in the case of student places beyond state-commissioned education and in private establishments.



### Lagere School

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Lagere Scholen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 6 years of general full-time primary education for pupils aged 6 to 12. Admission is based on age. The start of primary education normally coincides with the start of compulsory education at the age of 6. Generally a **►** *Kleuterschool* is attached to institutions. The government of the Flemish Community draws up standards/minimum goals (*eindtermen*) for incorporation into the curriculum by the umbrella organisations. For information on the authority responsible, status, funding and qualifications awarded, see **►** *Basisschool*.

### Landbrugsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Landbrugsskolen, landbrugsskoler, landbrugsskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering upper secondary modular agricultural education and training to students aged 16 to 19, which leads to the award of a skilled farmer certificate (*uddannelsesbevis*). Provision is on a full- or part-time basis or in evening classes. Admission is based on completion of compulsory education. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-governing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Students who receive the *uddannelsesbevis* may embark on short tertiary education programmes in agriculture. Some establishments also offer similar programmes (in certain cases as part of the **►** *Erhvervsakademi*) for students aged 19 or over, which lead to an academy profession degree (*erhvervsakademiuddannelse inden for jordbrug/jordbrugsteknolog AK*). This gives access via credit transfer to two bachelor programmes (*agronom* and *jordbrugsøkonom*) offered by the **►** *Universitet* (Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University). These short courses are offered to students holding an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at **►** *Erhvervsskole*, **►** *Gymnasium*, **►** *Handelsskole*, **►** *HF-kursus*, **►** *Studenterkursus*, **►** *Teknisk skole* or **►** *Voksenuddannelsescenter*, or its recognised equivalent.

### Landbúnaðarháskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Landbúnaðarháskóla, landbúnaðarháskólar

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in agricultural programmes. See **►** *Háskóli*.

### Ländliches Fortbildungsinstitut

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Ländliche Fortbildungsinstitute, Ländlichen Fortbildungsinstituten

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution of the *Österreichische Land- und Forstwirtschaftskammern* (Austrian Chambers of Agriculture and Forestry) offering part-time secondary education courses in rural studies to adults. Age and admission requirements depend on the different courses. Courses are financed by fees as well as by grants from various administrative bodies such as the *Landwirtschaftskammern* (Chambers of Agriculture and Forestry). They lead to the acquisition of different professional qualifications, primarily in the field of agriculture and forestry. The LFI also offers preparatory courses for the *Berufsreifeprüfung* (vocational matriculation examination), which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education. Abbreviation: LFI.

### Lasteaed

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Lasteaiaid

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented setting offering 4 years of full-time pre-primary education and care for children aged 3 to 6 (7). See **►** *Koolieelne lasteasutus*.

### Lastesõim

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Lastesõimed

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented setting offering 2 years of full-time pre-primary education and care for children aged 1 to 3. See **►** *Koolieelne lasteasutus*.

**LEGT****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **↳** *Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique*.**Leikskóli****Country:** Iceland**Grammatical variants:** Leikskóla, leikskólar**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Institution for children aged 1 to 6, offering 5 years of full- or part-time optional education in preparation for compulsory/basic education at **↳** *Grunnskóli*. Admission is based on age. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these public or private grant-aided settings, which are co-educational and non-denominational. The municipalities fund public settings; private settings are subsidised by the municipalities. Fees are charged in public, as well as private, settings.**LFI****Country:** Austria**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **↳** *Ländliches Fortbildungsinstitut*.**Liceo artistico****Country:** Italy**Grammatical variants:** Licei artistici**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years plus one optional year of full-time artistic secondary education for students aged 14 to 18/19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate obtained in **↳** *Scuola media*. They follow a common curriculum with few optional subjects. The curriculum is divided into two stages lasting 2 years each. At the end of four years, successful students receive a leaving certificate (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Liceo artistico*), which enables them to move on to advanced arts courses. Those who wish to enter tertiary education must attend the additional year (*Corso integrativo*) and obtain the relevant certification at the end of it. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors.**Liceo classico****Country:** Italy**Grammatical variants:** Licei classici**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time general classical secondary education for students aged 14 to 19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate (*Diploma di licenza media*) obtained in **↳** *Scuola media*. They follow a common curriculum with few optional subjects. The curriculum is divided into two stages lasting 2 and 3 years respectively. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors. Successful students receive a leaving certificate (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Liceo classico*), which enables them to move on to all forms of tertiary education (see summary table).**Liceo scientifico****Country:** Italy**Grammatical variants:** Licei scientifici**Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 years of full-time general science-based secondary education for students aged 14 to 19. To gain entry, students should hold the lower secondary school leaving certificate obtained in **↳** *Scuola media*. They follow a common curriculum with few optional subjects. The curriculum is divided into two stages lasting 2 and 3 years respectively. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in both sectors. Successful students receive a leaving certificate (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di Liceo scientifico*), which enables them to move on to all forms of tertiary education (see summary table).**Liceu****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Liceul, licee\***Level:** ISCED 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 or 5 years of full- or part-time general and specialised secondary education to students aged from 14 to 18/19. Since 2003/04, provision has been divided into two stages: the first stage (lower secondary education) is for pupils aged from 14 to 16 and the second stage (upper secondary education) for students aged from 16 to 18/19. Admission to the first stage is based on the satisfactory completion of **↳** *Școală generală* and the results obtained in

concluding national tests. At the end of the first stage, there is no final examination and pupils receive a graduation certificate and a personal portfolio for further education. Depending on the results obtained during the first stage, pupils may choose to continue their studies in the second stage of *Liceu*. The first stage of this institution, as well as the first two years of *Școală de arte și meserii* are included within compulsory education, representing the two alternatives after *școală generală*. At the end of the second stage, students receive a graduation certificate and a personal portfolio for further education. They may also take the final examination, the *examen de bacalaureat*, and those who are successful receive the *diploma de bacalaureat* which is a basic certificate for entry to all types of tertiary education institutions (see summary table). For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility, funding and legal status, see *Grădiniță*. Students in the second stage have to pay for textbooks, unless they are from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

### Liceum (+)

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Licea, lice\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time upper secondary education. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is not divided into stages. In all types of *liceum*, students can take the final examination and receive the *świadectwo dojrzałości* certificate, which is required for admission to all types of courses at tertiary education institutions (see summary table). The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public centrally and regionally (*powiat*) funded institutions and private state-subsidised establishments. They are normally co-educational, and private establishments may be denominational. No tuition fees are payable in public establishments. There are different types of *liceum*.

- *Liceum ogólnokształcące* is a new type of institution that has been operational since the 2002/03 school year, offering 3 years of general upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 19. Admission is based on the *świadectwo ukończenia gimnazjum* and the results of the final examination on completion of the *Gimnazjum*. At the end of the programme, successful students receive an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*świadectwo ukończenia liceum ogólnokształcącego*). Before 2002/03 these institutions offered four years of education to students aged 15-19.

- *Liceum profilowane*, a new institution introduced in 2002/03, offers 3 years of general and specialised upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 19. This institution is replacing the *liceum techniczne* and *liceum zawodowe* described below. For further information, see *liceum ogólnokształcące* (above).
- *Liceum uzupełniające*, a new institution introduced in the 2004/05 school year, offers 2 years of full- or part-time general upper secondary education to students aged 18 to 20, in preparation for the *egzamin dojrzałości* examination. Admission is based on successful completion of *Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa*. For further information, see *liceum ogólnokształcące* (above).
- *Liceum techniczne* is an institution which ceased to exist in 2004 and has been replaced by *liceum profilowane*. It offered general and vocational upper secondary education lasting four years to students aged 15 to 19.
- *Liceum zawodowe* is an institution which ceased to exist in 2004 and has been replaced by *liceum profilowane*. It offered general and vocational upper secondary education lasting four years to students aged 15 to 19.

### Liceum dla dorosłych (+)

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Licea dla dorosłych, lice\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time upper secondary education to adults. For further information, see *Liceum* (+).

### Liceum specjalne

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Licea specjalne, lice\* specjaln\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time special general or specialised upper secondary education to students aged 18/19 to 24 with special educational needs. This institution can be part of a *Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy*. For further information, see *Liceum* (+) (*ogólnokształcące*).

### Liikunnan koulutuskeskus

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -keskukset, -kesku\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** National or regional institution offering full- and part-time adult education in the field of physical education, sports and sports coaching. Admission is based on possession of the *peruskoulun päättötodistus* obtained in *Peruskoulu*. Adults form the largest student group, but young people under 18 can also enrol. In addition, institutions provide supplementary general

and social education and supplementary vocational education. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions and their status, see *peruskoulu*. They are mostly private establishments. There are no tuition fees but financial contributions to learning materials are usually required. For information on the certificates awarded and the further provision to which they give access, see **Ammatillinen oppilaitos**. Swedish term: *Idrottsutbildningscenter*.

### Lilleskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Lilleskolen, lilleskoler, lilleskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Type of **Privat grundskole**.

### Listaháskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Listaháskóla, listaháskólar

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in arts, such as visual arts, music and drama. See **Háskóli**.

### Ljudska univerza

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Ljudske univerze, ljudsk\* univerz\*

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3 and 5 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering usually part-time courses to young people and adults. Courses range from basic and general secondary courses to vocational, upper secondary technical and tertiary vocational courses, and a variety of training and specialisation courses. Admission requirements for publicly recognised educational courses for adults are the same as admission requirements for young pupils or students. The language of instruction can be that of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public, centrally and municipally subsidised institutions. They are co-educational and secular, and cannot charge fees for courses fully financed from public funds. If educational programmes are co-financed from public funds, fees are charged in accordance with the level of subsidy. Fees are payable for all other adult education programmes. The qualifications awarded are the same as those obtained at mainstream education institutions. Abbreviation: LU.

### Lopšelis-darželis

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Lopšeliai-darželiai, lopšeli\*-darželi\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 5 to 6 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education for children aged from 1 to 6/7. Children are admitted according to their age and at the request of their parents. Parents of children with special educational needs can also place them in these mainstream institutions. Education is divided into two parts: first, *lopšelis* for children aged from 1 to 3 and, secondly, *darželis* for those aged from 3 to 6/7. Groups at *darželiai* are run in accordance with state or alternative educational programmes. A recommended programme targeted specifically at *lopšeliai* was approved in 2001 by the Ministry of Education and Science. Financing of these institutions is within the discretion of the founding body (normally the municipal authority). Fees are charged in private establishments. For information on the pre-primary preparatory programme (including its funding), the language of instruction, administrative arrangements, and religious and legal status, see **Mokykla-darželis**.

### LP

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **Lycée professionnel**.

### LU

**Country:** Slovenia

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3 and 5 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **Ljudska univerza**.

### Lukio

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Lukiot, lukio\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time general upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 19. Admission is based on possession of the *peruskoulun päättötodistus* obtained at **Peruskoulu** or **Erytiskoulu**, or on the completion of an equivalent syllabus. Selection is made in accordance with marks in certain subjects. Some schools have a specialised curriculum and may use aptitude tests as part of their selection procedure. The main languages of instruction are Finnish or Swedish. Institutions may contain separate sections of an **Aikuislukio**. For information on the authority responsible for these schools, see *peruskoulu*. Most of them are public and established by the municipality; there are few private schools. Funding is provided by the municipalities, which receive part of the costs as state subsidies. There are no tuition fees but financial contributions to learning materials are usually required. On completion of their studies, students receive a general upper secondary school leaving certificate, the *lukion päättötodistus*. Those who pass a matriculation examination obtain a *ylioppilastut-*

*kintotodistus* certificate, and are thus broadly eligible for all forms of tertiary education (see summary table). Swedish term: *Gymnasium*.

### Lycée

**Country:** Belgium (French Community)

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering two, four or six years of full-time general or technical and vocational education to pupils aged 12 to 14 or 12 to 16/18. Most institutions of this kind have been restructured and incorporated into *Athénée*. Institutions may belong to any of the three sectors of education. For information on admission requirements, organisational arrangements, qualifications, the authority responsible, status and funding, see *athénée*.

### Lycée

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 7 years of full-time general secondary education to pupils and students aged 12 to 19. Admission is based on the recommendation of a school guidance committee of which the teacher at *École primaire* is a member. Education is divided into two stages. The first lasts three years; after one year, pupils choose between the modern or classical stream. The second stage is in two parts, namely the general part (the fourth year) followed by a period of specialisation lasting three years. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. They are funded by central government and no fees are payable, except in private-sector establishments. Students who successfully complete the entire course receive a *Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires* (upper secondary school leaving certificate) which gives access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table).

### Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 18. Admission depends on the course chosen by the student in the final year of *Collège*. In the first year, all students follow a common curriculum, but choose options in addition. At the end of the final year, they choose a branch (*série*); there are 3 general *séries* and 4 technological *séries*. On completion of their studies, students take the national examination for the *baccalauréat*; it is necessary to obtain this qualification to enter all kinds of tertiary education (see summary table). If they fail to qualify and under certain conditions, they receive a *certificat de fin d'études secondaires*. For information on the authority

responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *École maternelle*. However, in public-sector institutions, the *régions* are responsible for the premises and buildings. Abbreviation: LEGT.

### Lycée professionnel

**Country:** France

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 or 4 years of full-time general and vocational upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19. Admission depends on the course chosen by the student at the end of the final year of *Collège*. After 2 years, students take a first level vocational diploma (*certificat d'aptitude professionnelle* or *brevet d'études professionnelles*), and after a further 2 years they may take the *baccalauréat professionnel*. This qualification is designed to give access to an occupation, and also provides admission to all kinds of tertiary education (see summary table). For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *École maternelle*. However, in public-sector institutions, the *régions* are responsible for the premises and buildings. Abbreviation: LP.

### Lycée technique

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering a minimum of 7 years of full-time technical and vocational secondary education for pupils and students aged 12 to 19. Education is divided into three stages. The first lasts 3 years, leading to a *certificat de fin de scolarité* (technical lower secondary leaving certificate). The intermediate stage offers students a choice between three streams, namely a vocational stream (3 years), a technical stream, or a stream leading to the *diplôme de technicien* (both lasting two years). The third stage consists of two further years of the technical course or the technician's course. For information on admission requirements, status, administrative responsibilities and funding, see *Lycée*. Successful students receive a *diplôme de fin d'études secondaires techniques*, *diplôme de technicien*, *certificat d'aptitude technique et professionnelle*, *certificat d'initiation technique et professionnelle* or *certificat de capacité manuelle*. The first two qualifications give access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table) or to vocational training for the *brevet de maîtrise*, as well as to the labour market.

### Lyceum

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Lycea

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A type of *vwo* school, which is a combination of *Atheneum* and *Gymnasium*. Ancient Greek and Latin are optional subjects.



# M

## Maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -koulut, -koulu\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length and long military training programmes. For information on admission requirements, see [♦ Yliopisto](#). In addition, applicants must be 26 years of age or younger when applying, and must have successfully completed reserve officer training and physical and mental tests. Students are admitted to the army, the navy or the air force. The Ministry of Defence has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded by central government. No fees are payable. Two-cycle courses lead to the *kandidaatin tutkinto* and *maisterin tutkinto* qualifications. Swedish term: *Försvarshögskola*.

## Maintained nursery school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of institution offering mainly part-time, but sometimes also full-time education for children aged 3 to 4 or 5. The local authority owns the land and buildings and employs the staff. *Maintained nursery schools* are fully funded by the local authority for both revenue and capital expenditure. They are co-educational and non-denominational. For curriculum arrangements, see [♦ Nursery school](#). No fees are payable. The equivalent term for a publicly-funded nursery school in Northern Ireland is [♦ Grant-aided nursery school](#).

## Maintained school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A school funded by the local authority. *Maintained schools* are divided into the following categories based on the legal status of the institution: [♦ Community schools](#), [♦ Foundation schools](#), [♦ Voluntary aided schools](#) and [♦ Voluntary controlled schools](#), [♦ Community special schools](#) and [♦ Foundation special schools](#). In England and Wales, the overwhelming majority of publicly-funded schools are *maintained schools*. Also, in Northern Ireland, abbreviation for [♦ Catholic maintained school](#).

## Malta college of arts, science and technology

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering short, medium-length and long full- or part-time technical and vocational upper secondary and post-secondary courses for students over compulsory school age (16 or over). Candidates are required to have a minimum number of Accreditation to Prior Learning (APL) credit points obtained in [♦ Junior lyceum](#), [♦ Area secondary schools](#), [♦ Girls' school/Boys' school](#) but, in general, admission requirements vary according to the course applied for. In many cases, specified externally accredited qualifications are required. MCAST covers theory and practical work, which differ depending on the course followed. The cost of the 'off-the-job' education and training is paid by the State through the Ministry of Education, Youth and Employment. The latter is responsible for formal training and education, while the Employment Training Corporation (ETC) falling under the same Ministry is responsible for work placements and follow-up. Satisfactory completion of one-year courses in vocational upper secondary education leads to the first-level *Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology Certificate in Foundation studies (+)*. Holders of this certificate may take further vocational education courses in a specific area or trade, leading to the *Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology certificate/diploma (+)* which gives access to employment and higher levels of specialisation. For information on the language of instruction and tuition fees, see [♦ University](#). Abbreviation: MCAST.

## Mateřská škola

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Mateřské školy, mateřsk\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary education for children generally aged 3 to 6, in preparation for compulsory education. Admission is based on age. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and municipally funded public institutions, and for the state-

subsidised private ones. Private institutions may be denominational. Although normally no fees are payable, they may sometimes be charged, even in public establishments. All institutions are co-educational. There is no assessment of maturity at the end of *mateřská škola*. Abbreviation: MŠ.

### Materská škola

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Materské školy, matersk\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary non-compulsory education to children aged 3 to 6, in preparation for primary school. Admission is based on age and, in some cases, children under 3 and over 6 years of age may be accepted. For information on the authority responsible and funding, see [♦ Gymnázium](#).

### Mavo

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Former term for [♦ Vmbo](#) before it was merged with *vbo*. The theoretical programme of *vmbo* is the former *mavo*.

### Mbo

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Type of vocational upper secondary education for students aged 16-18/20 and adult education for those aged 18 or over who hold a *diploma vmbo* offered at a [♦ Regionaal opleidingscentrum](#).

### MCAST

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation for [♦ Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology](#).

### Menntaskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Menntaskóla, menntaskólar

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general upper secondary education in a single cycle to students aged 16 to 20. Admission is based on completion of [♦ Grunnskóli](#). Three different programmes of study are generally offered, namely natural sciences, social sciences and foreign languages. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these state-funded institutions, which are almost exclusively public. They are co-educational and non-denominational. There are no tuition fees (except in private establishments and in the case of evening and distance learning courses) but students pay an enrolment fee and the cost of their

textbooks. Courses conclude with the *stúdentspróf* examination. Successful students receive the *stúdentsprófskírteini* certificate, recognized for entry to tertiary education at [♦ Háskóli](#). Some *menntaskóli* offer adult education programmes in the evening, identical to the corresponding day-time provision. The *menntaskóli* may offer distance learning courses

### Middelbaar beroepsonderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Full term for [♦ Mbo](#).

### Middenschool

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Middenscholen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution which provides the first stage (2 years) of secondary education for pupils aged 12-14. The first stage of secondary education can be divided into a mainstream (A-stream) or a B-stream which is more vocationally oriented. Most of these schools provide an A-stream as well as a B-stream. In general, pupils with a certificate of primary education obtained at [♦ Basisschool](#) or [♦ Lagere School](#) are admitted. Admission may also be based on age and the approval of the council of admissions. Pupils who have completed the sixth year of primary education and who do not hold a primary school leaving certificate, can enter the first year A with the approval of the council of admissions, and obtain this certificate after one year of lower secondary education. In addition, pupils aged 12 who have not completed the sixth year of primary school can enter the first year B and obtain a certificate after one year, or obtain a certificate equivalent to the certificate of primary education at the end of the first stage of secondary education. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *basisschool*. The *getuigschrift eerste graad secundair onderwijs* is awarded at the end of the first two years of secondary education and gives access to upper secondary education at [♦ Secundaire school](#).

### Middle school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** In some areas of England, where a three-tier system is in operation, pupils from a [♦ First school](#) are admitted in a *middle school* at the age of 8 or 9, from which they transfer to a [♦ Secondary school](#) at the age of 12/13. A *middle school* is legally a [♦ Primary school](#) or a *secondary school* depending on the age of the majority of its pupils. For more information, see *primary school* or *secondary school*.

**Militärakademie****Country:** Austria**Grammatical variants:** Militärakademien**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary institution offering training for those seeking a career in the armed services. Provision is for students from the age of 18 who hold the upper secondary qualification obtained at **▶ Allgemein bildende höhere Schule**, **▶ Berufsbildende höhere Schule** or a recognised equivalent. The Ministry of Public Defense has overall responsibility for this public institution which is funded at federal level. No fees are payable. Courses lead to the degree level qualification of *Diplom* (+).

**Mittelschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Mittelschulen**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶ Hauptschule** and **▶ Realschule** in the *Land* of Saxony.

**Mokykla-darželis****Country:** Lithuania**Grammatical variants:** Mokyklos-darželiai, mokykl\*-daržel\***Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full- or part-time pre-primary education for children aged from 3 to 6/7 (*darželis*) and compulsory primary education for children aged from 6/7 to 10/11 (*pradinė mokykla*). Admission to primary education is based on age and on the child's maturity. A voluntary pre-primary preparatory group (*priešmokyklinė grupė*) for those aged 5-6 can be organised and run in accordance with a preparatory curriculum approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. Pupils in each stage follow a common curriculum as defined by ministerial order. The language of instruction can be other than Lithuanian (Russian, Polish or Belorussian). Parents can place their children in any establishment with the desired language of instruction or an alternative educational programme. Parents of children with special education needs can also place them in these mainstream institutions or at a special education school (**▶ Specialioji mokykla**). The Ministry of Education and Science has responsibility for these centrally and municipally funded settings as regards implementation of the education plan approved by the Minister, whereas the establishment of institutions, as well as their educational organisation and environment, are within the discretion of the founding body (normally the municipal authority). Institutions can be public or private. They are normally co-educational, and

private establishments may be denominational. Public institutions may charge a certain fee for provision of pre-primary education (in addition to fees for meals). Fees are charged in private establishments. Since 2002, the financing of primary education programmes at these institutions has been based on a *per capita* model (i.e. linked to pupil enrolment). The same has applied to their pre-primary preparatory programmes since 2004, but has not yet been introduced for their pre-primary education programmes. *Per capita* funds are allocated to municipalities as targeted grants for implementation of the education plan, which is approved by the Minister of Education and Science and involves expenditure on teaching and administrative staff, textbooks and other teaching aids and in-service teacher training, whereas the financing of operational resources and capital assets (movables and immovables) is within the discretion of the founding body (normally the municipal authority). The leaving certificate *pradinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas* gives access to **▶ Pagrindinė mokykla**.

**MŠ****Country:** Czech Republic**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▶ Mateřská škola**.

**Musiikkioppilaitos****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** -oppilaitokset, -oppilaito\***Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing full-, part-time and evening class basic education in music, which is mainly for children and young people aged between 6 and 18. Admission requirements are set by the education providers. The certificates awarded (*musiikin perustason päättötodistus* and *musiikkiopistotason päättötodistus*) indicate that their holders are ready to enter vocational and tertiary music education, but do not give direct access to it, or are not requirements for it. Some institutions offer vocational upper secondary education in music. For information on admission requirements, certificates awarded and the further studies to which they give access, see **▶ Ammatillinen oppilaitos**. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions. They are funded by central government and by the municipalities and are co-educational and non-denominational. Some financial contributions are usually payable. Similar institutions also exist in other artistic fields, such as the visual arts and dance. Swedish term: *Musikläroanstalt*.

**Musikhochschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Musikhochschulen**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium and long courses in music and, in certain cases additionally in the performing arts, and partly also in the accompanying academic disciplines (music, the history of music and the teaching of music), usually for students from the age of 19. Admission is normally based on the *Allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained at a **▶** *Gymnasium* or the *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* obtained at a **▶** *Berufliches Gymnasium (Fachgymnasium)* and/or solely on evidence of artistic aptitude, depending on individual programmes. Institutions are normally public. See **▶** *Universität* for information on supervision, fees and funding. In private institutions, fees are payable. The basic courses usually lead to a *Diplom* (for musicians) or an *Erste Staatsprüfung* entitling the holder to teach music at schools after undergoing preparatory service (*Vorbereitungsdienst*). In addition, some institutions offer Bachelor's courses. Building on this, institutions also offer postgraduate courses that usually result in further qualifications for an occupation. These further qualifications are *Meisterschüler* (member of a master class), the *künstlerische Reifeprüfung* (final arts examination), the *Konzertexamen* (concert examination) or a further *Diplom* or Master's degree. Students may also embark on the doctorate. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

**Musikkonservatorium****Country:** Denmark**Grammatical variants:** Musikkonservatoriet, musikkonservatorier, musikkonservatorierne**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time music courses to students from the age of 19. Admission is based on a test of the applicant's skills in the chosen area of specialisation. The Ministry of Culture has overall responsibility for these institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-governing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Courses lead to specific qualifications at the level of *bachelorgrad*, *kandidatgrad* and *Ph.D.grad*.

**Musikläroanstalt****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** -läroanstalten, -läroanstalter, -läroanstalterna**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for **▶** *Musiikkiopillaitos*.**Művészeti általános iskola****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Művészeti általános iskola\*, művészeti általános iskolák**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full-time primary and lower secondary education for pupils aged from 6/7 to 14/15. Admission is based on the pre-primary school certificate awarded at **▶** *Óvoda* and on merit, but a maturity assessment examination is also possible. After successful completion of the 8 years, pupils receive the certificate *általános iskolai bizonyítvány*, which is necessary to gain access to upper secondary education (see summary table) or employment. For information on the curriculum, the authority responsible, status and funding, see **▶** *Általános iskola*.

**Művészeti szakközépiskola****Country:** Hungary**Grammatical variants:** Művészeti szakközépiskola\*, művészeti szakközépiskolák**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 or 5 years of full-time general or vocational education to students aged 14 to 18/19 (vocational provision follows completion of the second year of general lower secondary education). To gain entry, pupils may have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. Determined by the type of school, the curriculum is based on the requirements of the National List of Qualifications and governed by the regulations of the upper secondary school leaving examination *érettségi vizsga*. It is also based on the National Core Curriculum, and its special provisions relating to arts education as a separate so-called 'educational domain', which is the principal contents unit of the Curriculum. There are 2 or 3 training stages. At the end of the second or third stage, students receive the certificate of completion (*művészeti szakközépiskolai bizonyítvány*) which is needed to take either the *művészeti szakközépiskolai érettségi-képesítő vizsga* or *szakmai vizsga* final examination. Those who pass obtain a type of certificate that depends on the branch and duration of their studies and enables them to enter the labour market as skilled workers or technicians/apprentices, or embark on tertiary education at **▶** *Egyetem* or **▶** *Főiskola*. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see **▶** *Általános iskola*.



### **Natchalno utchilishte (Начално училище)**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Natchalni utchilishta

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of the first stage of full-time compulsory/basic education for pupils aged from 6/7 to 10. Attendance at the age of 6 is optional and a matter of parental choice. Attendance at **▸ Detska gradina** is compulsory one year before the beginning of *natchalno utchilishte*. Admission is based on age and a readiness test organised by a medical and educational commission with the municipal council or the school head. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions. They are co-educational and mostly non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally or municipally funded. No fees are payable. Private establishments are self-funded. At the end of the fourth year, pupils receive the certificate of completion, *udostoverenie za zavurchen IV clas*, which gives access to the second stage of compulsory/basic education at **▸ Osnovno utchilishte** and **▸ Progimnazia**.

### **National College of Art and Design**

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length courses in art for students from the age of 17 who hold an upper secondary qualification (*Leaving Certificate*) awarded at **▸ Secondary school** or **▸ Vocational school**. Admission may be subject to further institutional or course requirements. These are public institutions designated under HETAC (Higher Education and Training Awards Council), which validates most of their courses and grants most of their awards. They are funded by central government. Fees have to be paid in certain circumstances. Courses lead to certificate, degree and postgraduate levels.

### **National Learning Network**

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution of the largest non-government training organisation providing upper secondary training courses for adults aged at least 16. Entry requirements are flexible. Applicants must be eligible under the *European Social Fund* and approved by the *National Rehabilitation Board* (NRB). Students receive a training allowance and may retain their statutory social welfare benefits.

### **National school**

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▸ Primary school**.

### **Nauczycielskie kolegium języków obcych**

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Nauczycielskie kolegia języków obcych, nauczycielski\* kolegi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length professionally oriented full-, part-time, extramural and evening foreign language teacher training. Courses lead to a diploma (*dyplom*) and prepare specialist foreign language teachers for work at all school levels. For further information, see **▸ Kolegium nauczycielskie**. Abbreviation: NKJO.

### **Nipiagogeio (Νηπιαγωγείο)**

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Nipiagogeia, nipiagogei\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for an institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary education for children from the age of 3 to the age of 5 years and 8 months, in preparation for primary school. Admission is based on age (older children have priority over younger ones), yearly income and family status (working, single-parent or refugee families). The curriculum is prescribed by the Ministry of Education and Culture, but it can be implemented flexibly by individual establishments in accordance with their intake. It is not divided into stages. The Ministry of Education and Culture has overall responsibility for the *nipiagogeia*, which can be public (**▸ Dimosio nipiagogeio**), run by privately organised bodies such as local authorities, improvement boards or parents' associations (**▸ Koinotiko nipiagogeio**), or be private self-

funded institutions (*idiotiko nipiagogeio*). These settings are co-educational and denominational. Fees have to be paid in all cases for children under the age of 4 years and 8 months. For children over this age and until the age of 5 years and 8 months, pre-primary education has been free and compulsory since September 2004.

### **Nipiagogeio (Νηπιαγωγείο)**

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Nipiagogeia, nipiagogei\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of part-time optional pre-primary education for children aged 4 to 6. Admission is based on age. The activity-based curriculum is provided in a single stage. The Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public-sector settings, which are funded partly by central government and partly by the prefectures. Private settings (called *idiotiko nipiagogeio*) are self funded. They are co-educational and denominational (while respecting freedom of religion). No fees are payable in public-sector settings.

### **NKJO**

**Country:** Poland

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Nauczycielskie kolegium języków obcych*.

### **Nursery Centre**

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** A pre-school setting which combines educational and day care facilities and normally caters for children from around 18 months to the age of 5. Children typically have particular needs and are admitted by professional referral. A range of support services to parents may be offered. *Nursery centres* are managed and funded by local authorities and no fees are payable. They are co-educational and non-denominational. The *foundation stage* curriculum is provided in England for children from 3 (*early years curriculum* in Wales).

### **Nursery centre**

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** A centre that is usually managed by the local authority and provides day care and education from birth until school entry. For further information, see *Pre-school education centre*.

### **Nursery school**

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Setting offering mainly part-time, but sometimes also full-time education for children aged 2 to 4 (Northern Ireland) or aged 3 to 4 or 5 (England and Wales). The *foundation stage* curriculum is provided in England (*early years curriculum* in Wales and pre-school curriculum in Northern Ireland). *Maintained nursery schools* in England and Wales and *Grant-aided nursery schools* in Northern Ireland may not charge fees. *Nursery schools* run by private or voluntary bodies and nursery classes in independent (private) schools may receive government funding for providing free part-time education for children from age 3 on condition the educational programme follows government guidelines, but fees are payable for any provision which exceeds the free entitlement.

### **Nursery school**

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** A private/voluntary establishment providing day-care services, play and educational opportunities for children under school age. These schools are usually open all year round and can care for children on a full- or part-day basis. Some may provide out-of-school care in addition to the normal nursery service. Individual owners, companies or voluntary bodies may manage these establishments. For further information, see *Pre-school education centre*.



### Oberschule

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Grammatical variants:** Oberschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 years of full-time general lower secondary education at basic level to pupils aged 11 to 15/16. Pupils are admitted on the basis of their performance and abilities in *Primarschule*. At the end of the course, they can take the final examination *Abschlussprüfung der Oberschule*. Those who are successful receive the certificate *Abschlusszeugnis der Oberschule*, which gives access to vocational upper secondary education and vocational training in the form of an apprenticeship. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally funded while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments.

### Odborné učiliště (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Odborná učiliště, odborn\* učilišť\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Special upper secondary vocational school for students aged 15/16 with special educational needs, and in particular for those who have successfully completed the 9th year of *Zvláštní škola (+)*. Provision lasts for 2 or 3 years. Admission is based on procedures that may include an entrance examination. The school provides vocational training based on modified mainstream curricula. It prepares students for employment in fields corresponding to the particular vocational field of study concerned. On completion of their training, students take the final examination *závěrečná zkouška* and, if successful, are awarded the *výuční list* certificate. For further information on legal status, funding and administration, see *Speciální základní škola (+)*. The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for.

### Openbare school

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Openbare scholen

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for a primary, lower or upper secondary educational institution established by the public sector, which is open to all children or young people regardless of religion or outlook and generally subject to public law. An *openbare school* is governed by the municipal council or by a public legal entity or foundation set up by the council. *Openbare scholen* provide education arranged by the State. Some publicly run schools base their teaching on specific educational methods, such as those of Montessori schools, etc. For further information on admission requirements, fees and final qualifications, see *Basisschool*, *Vmbo*, *Havo* and *Vwo*.

### OŠ

**Country:** Slovenia

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of *Osnovna šola*.

### Osnovna šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Osnovne šole, osnovn\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time compulsory primary and lower secondary education to pupils aged 6 to 15. It can be organised as a separate institution or in conjunction with *Vrtec*. Admission is based on age. The curriculum is common to all pupils and is divided into three stages of 3 years each. The language of instruction can be that of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public, centrally and municipally funded institutions or grant-aided private institutions, which are co-educational. Public establishments are secular, while private institutions are permitted to operate on the basis of their own curricula, philosophical beliefs and specific educational principles (Steiner, Montessori, etc.). No fees are payable. At the end of the ninth year, pupils take a compulsory external examination, *zaključno preverjanje znanja*, and

those who are successful receive a final leaving certificate (*zaključno spričevalo*), which enables them to enter all types of upper secondary education (see summary table). Pupils who fail the final examination, as well as those wishing to improve their grade in it, may take a tenth year. Abbreviation: OŠ.

Note: Since the 1999/2000 school year, basic (compulsory) education has been extended from 8 to 9 years. The previous 8-year programme has been gradually phased out and will be entirely abolished by the 2007/08 school year.

### **Osnovno utchilishte (Основно училище)**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Osnovni utchilishta

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 8 years of full-time general compulsory/basic education in two stages for pupils aged from 6/7 to 14. Attendance at *Детска градина* is compulsory one year before the beginning of *osnovno utchilishte*. Admission is based on age and a readiness test organised by a medical and educational commission with the municipal council or the school head. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions. They are co-educational and mostly non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally or municipally funded. No fees are payable. Private establishments are self-funded. This institution can be administratively attached to a

♦ *Gimnazia*. At the end of the first stage (4 years), pupils receive the certificate of completion, *udostoverenie za zavurchen IV clas*, which gives access to lower secondary education at *osnovno utchilishte*. At the end of the 8th year, they receive the certificate of completion, *svidetelstvo za zavurcheno osnovno obrazovanie*, which gives access to upper secondary education at *gimnazia*, ♦ *Profesionalno utchilishte*, ♦ *Profesionalna gimnazia* and ♦ *Profilirana gimnazia*. Abbreviation: OY.

### **Óvoda**

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Óvoda\*, óvodák

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3-4 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged from 3 to 6/7. Admission is based on age and attendance is compulsory from the age of 5. The curriculum is based on the national nursery educational programme and not divided into stages. When children leave the institution, they receive a pre-primary school certificate which is necessary to enter primary education in a ♦ *Általános iskola*. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *általános iskola*.

### **OY**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation for ♦ *Osnovno utchilishte*.

# P

## Pädagogische Hochschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Pädagogische Hochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering three years of initial teacher education for work in the **Kindergarten** and **Primarschule**. Provision has been for students from the age of 18 who hold an upper secondary qualification obtained at **Sekundarschule**, or a recognised equivalent. Courses lead to the two diplomas of **Kindergärtner(in)** and **Primarschullehrer(in)** following successful performance in final examinations, for prospective pre-primary and primary schoolteachers respectively. The German-speaking Community has been responsible for the only public *Pädagogische Hochschule* and funds it. There is also one Catholic establishment in private law, which is subsidised by the German-speaking Community but does not train pre-primary teachers. Fees are payable. On 1 July 2005, both establishments were officially closed and became part of the newly created **Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft**.

## Pädagogische Hochschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Pädagogische Hochschulen, Pädagogischen Hochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution existing only in the *Land* of Baden-Württemberg. It offers medium and long training courses to students, usually from the age of 19, enabling them to qualify as teachers for primary and lower secondary education (in **Grundschule**, **Hauptschule** and **Realschule**, as well as in special schools for the mentally handicapped or physically disabled). Admission requires possession of the *allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained at a **Gymnasium**. A suitability test must also be taken by those wishing to choose art, music or sport. Studies in certain 'diploma' courses (in adult education, media education, school pedagogics or social education) are sometimes possible. Other institutions offering teacher training courses include **Universität**, **Technische Universität**, **Hochschule**,

**Kunsthochschule** and **Musikhochschule**. See *Universität* for information on supervision, fees and funding. The titles obtained are *Erste Staatsprüfung*, *Diplom-Pädagoge* or *Magister*. The *Erste Staatsprüfung* entitles its holder to teach in schools after undergoing preparatory service (*Vorbereitungsdienst*). Some institutions also offer Bachelor's and Master's courses. Doctorates are available in the *Pädagogische Hochschulen*, but applicants who have passed the *Erste Staatsprüfung* or *Diplom* must complete a postgraduate course of three semesters and a further examination before embarking on a doctorate. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

## Pagrindinė mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Pagrindinės mokyklos, pagrindin\* mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time general lower secondary education for pupils and students aged from 10/11 to 16/17. Admission is based on completion of **Pradinė mokykla** or **Mokykla-darželis**. This institution may operate as a separate establishment and, in addition to general lower secondary education, may also offer primary education. All pupils follow the centrally set general curricula. Those who successfully complete their lower secondary education receive the certificate *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*, which gives access to **Vidurinė mokykla**, the third and fourth years of **Gimnazija**, and options 2 and 3 of **Profesinė mokykla**. For information on administrative arrangements, funding, religious and legal status, and the language of instruction, see *mokykla-darželis*.

## Päiväkoti

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Päiväkodit, päiväkoti\*, päiväkod\*

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Non-school education-oriented institution offering full- or part-time pre-primary education and care for children from as early as their first year up to the age of 6/7. There

are no admission requirements. The main languages of instruction are Finnish and/or Swedish. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has overall responsibility for these settings, which are public and chiefly maintained by the municipalities. Responsibility for their organisation rests with the social services of the local authorities. They are co-educational and non-denominational. Fees are payable, depending on the income of the family. Municipalities provide voluntary pre-primary education for children aged 6 (*esiopetus/förskoleundervisning*) in *päiväkoti* (or in *Peruskoulu*). Swedish term: *Daghem*.

### Pamatskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Pamatskolas, pamatskolu, pamatskolām, pamatskolās

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time general basic education for pupils aged 7 to 15. Admission is authorised as soon as a child reaches 7 years of age. Schooling is divided into two stages of four and five years. The institution may also provide compulsory pre-school education (see *Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde*) for children aged 5-6 in a setting called a 'pre-school education group'. The language of instruction in these public or private schools is Latvian, but may also be a minority language (in the respective academic year – Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Hebrew, Lithuanian, Estonian, Romany or Belorussian) in schools offering a programme for minority education. The Ministry of Education and Science, together with local authorities, exercises overall responsibility for these public or private – and mainly state funded – institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Private establishments can be self funded and denominational. No tuition fees are payable, except in the case of some private establishments. There is no examination between the stages. On completing the second stage, pupils have to pass the *valsts pārbaudījums*, and those who are successful receive the basic education certificate (*apliecība par pamatizglītību*) which gives access to *Vidusskola*, *Ģimnāzija*, *Arodskola* or *Arodvidusskola* (+).

### Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο)

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Panepistimia, panepistim\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering three-cycle courses and/or short/medium/long programmes for students from the age of 18. Admission is based on an upper secondary education qualification obtained at *Eniaio lykeio*, *Esperino scholeio* or *Techniki scholi*. Applicants must have taken examinations (*eisagogikes exetaseis*) set by the Ministry of Education and Culture,

which are aimed at ranking them. The languages of instruction are Greek and Turkish. The Ministry of Education and Culture has the overall responsibility for these publicly funded state institutions. For Cypriot students, fees are covered by government grants. Foreign students have to pay fees. Courses lead to first (e.g. *ptychio* (+)), second (e.g. *metaptychiako diploma eidikefsis* (+)) and advanced research degrees (*didaktoriko diploma* (+)).

### Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Panepistimia, panepistimi\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering two-cycle full-time courses and/or multidisciplinary medium-length and long university level programmes for students aged 18 or over who hold either the leaving certificate of upper secondary education (*apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou*) or the *vevaiosi* certification, both obtained in *Eniaio lykeio*. The Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public (state-funded) institutions. No fees are payable. Courses lead to first (*ptychio* (+)), second (*metaptychiako diploma eidikefsis* (+)) and advanced research degrees (*didaktoriko diploma* (+)). Former generic term: *Anotato ekpaidevtiko idryma*. The *polytechnio* is an equivalent institution offering courses that specialise in engineering.

### Peruskoulu

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Peruskoulut, peruskoulu\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time general primary and lower secondary education for pupils aged 7 to 16. Admission is based on age. Municipalities offer optional pre-primary education for children aged 6 (*esiopetus/förskoleundervisning*) in these institutions or with *Päiväkoti*. This form of pre-primary education is free of charge and provided either in a separate pre-school class or in a combined class together with pupils in the lower year classes. The main languages of instruction are Finnish or Swedish. Through the Finnish National Board of Education, the Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private establishments, which are co-educational and generally non-denominational. Private schools may be denominational. Most schools are established and funded by the municipalities, which receive part of the costs as state subsidies. Private schools receive financial subsidies from the State. No fees are payable. Successful pupils receive a leaving certificate, *peruskoulun päättötodistus*, which gives access to *Ammatillinen oppilaitos* and *Lukio*. Swedish term: *Grundskola*.

**Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule****Country:** Germany**Grammatical variants:** Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschulen, Philosophisch-Theologischen Hochschulen**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Institution equivalent to a **▶** *Universität*, which is maintained by the Catholic Church and trains theologians. For full information, see *Universität*. Generic term: *Hochschule*.**Pieaugušo izglītības centrs****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Pieaugušo izglītības centri, pieaugušo izglītības centros**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▶** *Pieaugušo izglītības iestāde*.**Pieaugušo izglītības iestāde****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Pieaugušo izglītības iestādes, pieaugušo izglītības iestādēs**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Institution providing mainly non-formal education (in the majority of cases short-term courses, including language and computer courses), as well as formal (mainly vocational and further) adult education for persons aged 18 or over. In the case of vocational programmes, admission requirements may be based on previous education, professional skills or both. The language of instruction is Latvian, or very occasionally Russian. Local authorities have overall responsibility for these public or private institutions. Most programmes are fee-paying except training programmes for the unemployed, which are financed by the State, and non-formal education within projects. Fees are fixed by the provider and depend on the course concerned. Institutions may also offer formal vocational programmes, on completion of which participants obtain a state-recognised vocational qualification. Synonym: *Pieaugušo izglītības centrs*.**Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Pirmsskolas izglītības iestādes, pirmsskolas izglītības iestādēm, pirmsskolas izglītības iestādēs**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Institution offering up to 5 years of full-time pre-school education for children aged 2-7. Admission is voluntary and based on a health certificate. The language of instruction is Latvian or a minority language (Russian, Ukrainian, Polish or Romany). The institution also provides compulsory pre-school education for children aged 5 to 6. The objective is to foster the gen-eral development of children and prepare them for the first stage of basic education provided in a **▶** *Pamatskola*, **▶** *Sākumskola*, or **▶** *Vidusskola*. For further information on administrative responsibility and financing, see *pamatskola*. Synonym: *Bērnu dārzs*.**Playgroup****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Setting offering mainly part-time, but sometimes also full-time education for children aged 2 or 3 up to the age of 4 (Northern Ireland) or 5 (England and Wales). Usually operated by voluntary groups, often including parents. For curriculum, see **▶** *Nursery School*. *Playgroups* may receive government funding for providing free part-time education for children from age 3 on condition the educational programme follows government guidelines, but fees are generally payable for any provision which exceeds the free entitlement.**Põhikool****Country:** Estonia**Grammatical variants:** Põhikoolid**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 9 years of full-time general primary and lower secondary education in a single stage to pupils aged 7 to 16. This institution can be attached to a **▶** *Gümnaasium*. Parents have to enrol their children at the age of 7. Each school sets its own curriculum based on the national curriculum. The language of instruction can be Estonian or Russian. At the end of their studies, pupils have to pass three final centrally set internal examinations. Successful pupils receive the *põhikooli lõputunnistus* certificate, which gives access to upper secondary education (*gümnaasium* or **▶** *Kutseõppeasutus*). For information on the authority responsible, status and finding, see *gümnaasium*.**Poklicna šola****Country:** Slovenia**Grammatical variants:** Poklicne šole, poklicn\* šol\***Level:** ISCED 3**Explanatory note:** Institution offering between 2½ and 3 years of full- and part-time vocational upper secondary education to students aged from 15 to 17/18. It can be organised as a separate institution or together with **▶** *Srednja strokovna šola* in the same field of education. Such a composite organisation appears under different names, including *srednja poklicna in tehniška šola*, *poklicna in strokovna šola*, etc. This type of organisation can also be a part of **▶** *Šolski center*. The institution offers two types of vocational education:

- A 2½-year short vocational course. Admission is based on successful completion of **► Osnovna šola**. Students who have not successfully completed compulsory education may enter provided they have successfully completed at least 7 years (or 6 in the old system). Admission is also possible for students who have finished basic school for children with special needs. There is a common curriculum with some optional basic vocational subjects. At the end of the course, students have to take the *zaključni izpit* examination, and the school completion certificate (*spričevalo o zaključnem izpitu*) enables them to enter the labour market or any other upper secondary school (see summary table).
- 3-year vocational courses, which are provided solely in schools or as a 'dual system' of apprenticeship and in-school education and training. Admission is based on successful completion of *osnovna šola* or a short vocational course (*spričevalo o zaključnem izpitu*). If there is pressure on places, selection criteria are overall achievement and marks in the mother tongue, mathematics and the foreign language in the final years of *osnovna šola*. The curriculum is common for general subjects and specific for vocational, technical, and practical training. At the end of the course, students have to take the examination *zaključni izpit*. This school's completion certificate (*spričevalo o zaključnem izpitu*) enables them to enter specific occupations in the labour market, or continue education in special types of 2-year technical secondary courses provided by *srednja strokovna šola*.

Publicly recognised education and training courses are established for occupational categories determined by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs at the suggestion of chambers of commerce, or by other ministries if the occupations are not covered by chambers of commerce. The language of instruction can be the language of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public state-funded or grant-aided private establishments, which are co-educational. Public establishments are secular, while private institutions can be denominational. No fees are payable for publicly recognised full-time education in either public- or private-sector schools. Synonym: *Srednja poklicna šola*.

### Politechnika

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Politechniki, politechnik\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-, part-time, extramural and evening academically oriented technical courses for students, usually from the age of 19/20. For information on qualifications required for admission,

see **► Akademia (+)**. The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for this public institution, funded by central government. In general, no fees are payable (except for extramural or evening classes). Long courses in engineering lead to the title of *magister inżynier* or, in architecture, to the *magister inżynier architekt*. First- and second-cycle courses lead to the degree of *inżynier* and *magister inżynier/magister inżynier architekt* respectively. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) are also offered.

### Politecnico

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Politecnici

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in technical and vocational education. See **► Università**.

### Polytechnieio (Πολυτεχνείο)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Polytechneia, polytechnei\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution specialising in engineering. See **► Panepistimio**.

### Polytechnische Schule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Polytechnische Schulen, Polytechnischen Schulen

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering one year of pre-vocational upper secondary education to those aged 14 to 15 who have completed 8 years of compulsory education. Students become fully qualified to enter apprenticeship and part-time vocational school (under the dual system) at **► Berufsbildende Pflichtschule**, in accordance with their individual interests, strengths and ability. They are also qualified to continue their education in upper secondary schools. These mainly public-sector schools are funded by the municipality, the *Land* and the federation. The Ministry of Education and the regional and local school authority are responsible for administration and legislation.

### Pomocná škola (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Pomocné školy, pomocn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Auxiliary school offering pre-primary and compulsory education to pupils/students normally aged between 6 and 17 who have difficulties in their intellectual development that prevent them from being educated at the **► Základní škola**, **► Speciální základní škola (+)**

or **► Zvláštní škola (+)**, but who are able to benefit from at least some aspects of education. The school follows a special curriculum, the length and content of which may be geared to individual needs. Provision covers 10 years divided into four stages, namely lower (3 years), intermediate (3 years), upper (2 years) and vocational level (2 years). Successful completion of schooling leads to studies at **► Praktická škola (+)**. For further information on legal status, funding and administration, see **speciální základní škola (+)**. The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for.

### Post-primary school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Term often used for **► Secondary school** in Northern Ireland.

### Pradinė mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Pradinės mokyklos, pradin\* mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 years of full-time compulsory primary education for pupils aged from 6/7 to 10/11. It may operate as a separate establishment. For information on admission requirements, the pre-primary preparatory programme, the language of instruction, administrative arrangements, religious and legal status, funding and final qualifications, see **► Mokykladarželis**.

### Praktická škola (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Praktické školy, praktick\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Special lower secondary school training young people aged between 15/16 and 18/19 for work, with due regard for the level of their disability. Provision is organised in 1- to 3-year courses with their own curricula and caters in particular for those who attended **► Zvláštní škola (+)**, **► Pomocná škola** or possibly **► Základní škola**. Admission is based on procedures that may include an entrance examination. On completion of their training, students on 3-year courses take the final examination *závěrečná zkouška* and, if successful, are awarded the *vysvědčení o závěrečné zkoušce* certificate. Those on 1- to 2-year courses obtain the *závěrečné vysvědčení* certificate. For further information on legal status, funding and administration, see **► Speciální základní škola (+)**. The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for.

### Praktijkonderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Type of lower secondary education offered at an institution to pupils/students aged between 12 and 18 who would have difficulty in obtaining a *vmbo* diploma. Admission is based on the advice of a regional referral committee. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector establishments may be denominational. All approved establishments are funded by the public sector in accordance with the same criteria. Fees are charged for students aged 16 and over. This kind of education trains them directly for entry to the labour market.

### Pre-school education centre

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering up to 2 years of full- or part-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 5 years. Admission is based on age. Where local authorities provide pre-school education through their education departments, this is in the form of nursery schools or nursery classes. Nursery classes are attached to local authority primary schools, while nursery schools are usually separate from primary schools and have their own head teacher. Provision in the private or voluntary sector may be in settings such as private nurseries, nurseries in the independent sector or in playgroups. Most establishments are co-educational. No fees are payable in local authority managed schools and classes. Fees may be charged for additional hours. Overall responsibility for pre-school education lies with the Scottish Executive Education Department, which provides funding to local authorities for pre-school education centres in their area. Other terms: *Nursery school*, *Nursery centre*, *Day Nursery*, *Community nursery*.

### Pre-school group

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **► Playgroup**.

### Primarschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Primarschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution always attached to a **► Kindergarten** and with it forming the **► Grundschule** (basic education) offering 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 12. The 6 years are generally divided into three stages,

(called *Stufen*) each lasting two years. Any body which supports the school (the Community, the municipality or an independent body in private law) establishes a study programme or subject-specific curriculum which must be approved by the Ministry, stating clearly the key competences which are binding as minimum requirements for all *Primarschulen*. Pupils are awarded a primary school leaving certificate (*Abschlusszeugnis der Grundschule*) either at the end of primary education or after the first year of secondary education. For information on the authority responsible, funding and legal status, see ♦ *Kindergarten*.

### Primarschule

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Grammatical variants:** Primarschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time general primary education to pupils aged 6 to 11. Admission is based on age. The curriculum is divided into two stages of three and two years. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public institutions are primarily municipally funded but also centrally funded. Private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments.

### Primary school

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 8 years of full-time pre-primary and primary education to pupils aged 4 to 12. Admission is based on age. The first two classes are usually designated *Infants* and *Senior Infants*, and accommodate an age group that in many other countries belongs to the 'pre-school' or 'nursery' category. The institution provides primary education in a single stage. *Primary schools* can be public or private, and the majority of them are grant-aided parish schools established under diocesan patronage. They are generally co-educational and denominational; non-denominational schools are under the patronage of parent groups. Schools that teach through the medium of the Irish Language (*Gaelscoileanna*) are under the patronage of a body specifically set up for this purpose. There is no leaving certificate. Upon successful completion, pupils can proceed to ♦ *Secondary school* or to ♦ *Vocational school*. Synonym: *National school*.

### Primary school

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 5 to 11. Admission is based on age. This institution provides general education in 2 stages. In many cases a *primary school* has a ♦ *Kindergarten centre* attached to it. For administrative purposes, primary schools are classified into three types, A, B and C. Primary schools A provide education for pre-primary level and the first primary stage (three years). Primary Schools B cater for children in the second stage (three years). Primary schools C cover the whole primary stage (six years) and pre-primary education. All pupils follow a common curriculum that can be adapted to local needs. The Division of Education has overall responsibility for state and non-state institutions. Funding for the state-sector establishments is provided by central government. Tuition is free in state and Church schools. Parents whose children attend Church schools may be asked to provide donations to the schools. Private independent establishments are self funded and fee paying. State and independent schools are co-educational, whereas Church schools are single gender. The languages of instruction are Maltese and English. Following the annual examination at the end of the primary education course, pupils continue their studies in an ♦ *Area secondary school* or the ♦ *Junior lyceum*. Under-performing pupils at the final examination are directed to a ♦ *Girls' school* or ♦ *Boys' school*. Pupils who wish to gain access to a Church secondary school sit for the *common entrance examination*.

### Primary school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1

**Explanatory note:** School providing full-time primary education for children aged between 4 or 5 and 11. Some schools also have a nursery class for 3- to 4-year-olds providing full-time or, more often, part-time education. The curriculum differs in some respects between England, Wales and Northern Ireland. A *foundation stage* curriculum is provided for children aged 3 to 5 in England (*early years* curriculum in Wales) while in Northern Ireland a pre-school curriculum is provided for children below compulsory school age (4). Key stage 1 of a common core curriculum is provided for pupils aged 5 to 7 in England and Wales and aged 4 to 8 in Northern Ireland. Key stage 2 is for ages 7 to 11 in England and Wales and ages 8 to 11 in Northern Ireland. *Primary schools* have no academic admission requirements. They are co-educational and may not charge fees. Ownership, management and funding arrangements depend on the legal category: for England and Wales, see ♦ *Community school*, ♦ *Foundation school*, ♦ *Vol-*

untary aided school, ♣ Voluntary controlled school; and for Northern Ireland, ♣ Controlled school, ♣ Controlled integrated school, ♣ Grant-maintained integrated school, ♣ Catholic maintained school. Some primary schools cater for part of the age range only: see ♣ Junior school and ♣ Infant school for England and Wales, ♣ First school and ♣ Middle school for England.

### Primary school

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 7 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 5 to 11 years. Admission is based on age. Pupils receive general primary education in a single stage. Overall responsibility for school education lies with the Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED) which is answerable to the Scottish Parliament. However, the Education Departments of local authorities (locally elected councils) are responsible for the day-to-day administration of this institution, which can be public or private. Public-sector institutions are funded by local authorities and are co-educational. They may be denominational. Private establishments are self funded. No fees are payable in public-sector institutions. Pupils generally progress automatically to secondary education (♣ Secondary school).

### Přípravný stupeň

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Přípravné stupně, přípravn\* stup\*

**Level:** ISCED 0 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Special-purpose institution offering 1 to 3 years of education to children aged from 6/7 to 9 with severe mental and/or multiple impairments, before they start to attend the ♣ Pomocná škola (+) or are exempted from compulsory education. For further information on legal status, funding and administration, see ♣ Speciální základní škola (+).

### Privat grundskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Private grundskoler

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Private institution offering compulsory full-time education for pupils aged 7 to 16. Admissions criteria depend on the school concerned. Institutions may also offer one year of optional pre-primary education in pre-primary classes (*børnehaveklasser*) and an optional additional tenth year (for students aged from 16 to 17). Institutions can be roughly divided into the following categories: progressive schools (*friskole*) with their own educational or pedagogical approach; small 'Grundtvigian' schools (*lilleskole*)

in rural districts; private schools (*privatskole*); academically oriented schools (*realskole*); religious or congregational schools; schools with a particular teaching aim (e.g. Rudolf Steiner schools); German minority schools and immigrant schools (in which the majority of pupils are of different ethnic origin). The Ministry of Education confers on private *grundskoler* the right to use ♣ Grundskole final examinations (the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* and *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve*). These private institutions may have a special educational, religious or political identity, and they are thus not all necessarily co-educational or non-denominational. For information on final examinations and the provision to which they give access, see *grundskole*.

### Privatskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Privatskolen, privatskoler, privatskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Type of ♣ Privat grundskole.

### Profesinè mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Profesinès mokyklos, profesin\* mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1 to 3 years of full-time general and vocational secondary and post-secondary education. Four training options are available:

- Option 1, for pupils or students no younger than 14 who have not completed a ♣ *Pagrindinė mokykla*, or who have completed a special school (♣ *Specialioji mokykla*) without successfully concluding their lower secondary education. There are two types of teaching programme, one lasting 2 years (provision of vocational education only), and the other lasting 3 years (provision of both vocational and general lower secondary education). The first is for young people who intend to get a job after their course, while the second enables pupils simultaneously to complete *pagrindinė mokykla*. Those who successfully terminate the first type of provision receive the vocational qualifying certificate *kvalifikacinis pažymėjimas*, while those who complete the second receive a *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*.
- Option 2 is intended for students aged from 16/17 to 18/19 who have completed *pagrindinė mokykla* or an equivalent educational establishment but do not wish to embark on upper secondary education. Training lasts 2 years. Students who choose this option acquire a vocational qualification (*profesinio mokymo diplomas*).

- Option 3 is a 3-year programme for students aged from 16/17 who have completed *pagrindinē mokykla* or an equivalent educational establishment. They acquire a vocational qualification (*profesinio mokymo diplomas*) and receive general upper secondary education. Those who pass leaving examinations also receive a *brandos atestatas*, which is an essential precondition for access to all types of tertiary education.
- Option 4 is intended for students aged 18/19 who have completed a *Vidurinė mokykla*. Programmes last 1 to 2 years depending on the vocational element.

The Ministry of Education and Science has legal responsibility for these public state-funded institutions. Private ones are maintained by their founders, and are self funded or grant aided. They are normally co-educational and may be denominational. Tuition fees are payable in private establishments.

### Profesionālā vidusskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Profesionālās vidusskolas, profesionālajās vidusskolās

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for *Arodvidusskola (+)*.

### Profesionalen kolej (Професионален колеж)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Profesionalni koleji

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institutions offering up to 2 years of vocational training following completion of secondary education. Admission is based on successful completion of *Gimnazia* and year 12 of *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte*.

### Profesionalna gimnazia (Професионална гимназия)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Profesionalni gimnazii

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general and vocational upper secondary education to students aged 15-16 to 19-20. Admission is based on the certificate of completion of lower secondary education, *svidetelstvo za zavurcheno osnovno obrazovanie* obtained at *Osnovno utchilishte*, *Progimnazia* and *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte*, or after successful completion of year 7 and entrance examinations. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public institutions are centrally or municipally funded while private establishments are self funded. No fees are payable in public establishments. At the end of their course, stu-

dents can take two different examinations which lead to the certificate *svidetelstvo za profesionalna kvalifikasia*, which gives access to employment, or the certificate *diploma za zavurcheno sredno obrazovanie*, which gives access to tertiary education at *Academia (+)*, *Kolej*, *Universitet*.

### Profesionalno utchilishte (Професионално училище)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Profesionalni utchilishta

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institutions offering general and vocational lower and upper secondary education up to 3 years after completion of year 6 of primary education at *Osnovno utchilishte*. Provided these public institutions meet state requirements they may also offer up to 6 years of full-time education following completion of year 7 and up to 3-4 years of full-time education following completion of year 8. Admission is in accordance with age or lower secondary education *svidetelstvo za zavurcheno osnovno obrazovanie*. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for the institutions which, in addition to general upper secondary education, offer courses for a vocational qualification that satisfies state requirements. Programmes for the acquisition of different levels of vocational qualification by students and persons aged 16 or over are offered in compliance with the Vocational Education and Training Act. Institutions are co-educational, non-denominational and centrally or municipally funded. No fees are payable. Students who pass the final examination receive the certificate *svidetelstvo za profesionalna kvalifikasia*, which gives access to employment.

### Profilirana gimnazia (Профилирана гимназия)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Profilirani gimnazii

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4-5 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged from 14-15 to 19. Admission is based on successful completion of years 7-8 of lower secondary school at *Osnovno utchilishte* and *Progimnazia* and successful entrance examinations, the content of which depends on the chosen area of specialisation. It provides specialised upper secondary education (foreign languages, mathematics, humanities, informatics, sports, arts, etc.). The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are co-educational, non-denominational, and centrally or municipally funded. No fees are payable. Students who pass the final examination receive the certificate *diploma za zavurcheno sredno obrazovanie*, which gives access to tertiary education at *Academia (+)*, *Kolej*, *Universitet*.

**Progimnazia (Прогимназия)****Country:** Bulgaria**Grammatical variants:** Progimnazii**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time general lower secondary education in a single stage for pupils aged 10 to 14. Admission is based on the certificate of completion of primary school ▶ *Natchalno utchilishte*. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are co-educational and mostly non-denominational and centrally or municipally funded. No fees are payable. At the end of the fourth year, pupils receive the certificate of completion, *svidetelstvo za zavurcheno osnovno obrazovanie*, which gives access to upper secondary education at ▶ *Gimnazia* or to vocational training at ▶ *Profesionalna gimnazia* and ▶ *Profilirana gimnazia*.

**Provinciale school****Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)**Grammatical variants:** Provinciale scholen**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary, primary or post-secondary education (and sometimes also part-time secondary or part-time artistic education). This kind of institution is established by the province and belongs to the sector of grant-aided public education consisting of schools that are administered and partly funded by the provinces or municipalities. These schools are grant aided by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. They are non-denominational and co-educational and no tuition fees are payable. The ▶ *Basischool*, ▶ *Centrum voor basis-educatie*, ▶ *Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs*, ▶ *Kleuterschool*, ▶ *Lagere School*, ▶ *Middenschool*, ▶ *School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*, ▶ *School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs*, ▶ *School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs* and ▶ *Secundaire school* may all be *provinciale scholen*.

**PRU****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Pupil referral unit*.

**Przedszkole****Country:** Poland**Grammatical variants:** Przedszkola, przedszkol\***Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged 3 to 6. Admission is based on age. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is not divided into stages. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions and their status, see ▶ *Gimnazjum*. Fees are charged in private establishments, and for certain services and additional activities in public ones. Since 2004/05, a year of preparation for primary school has become obligatory for 6-year-olds.

**Przedszkole specjalne****Country:** Poland**Grammatical variants:** Przedszkola specjalne, przedszkol\* specjaln\***Level:** ISCED 0 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 10 with special educational needs. For further information, see ▶ *Przedszkole*. This institution can be part of a ▶ *Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy*.

**Pupil referral unit****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of school established by a local authority in England and Wales, or *Education and Library Board* (ELB) in Northern Ireland, to provide education on a temporary basis for children of compulsory school age who may otherwise not receive suitable education. Such children may include pupils excluded from school, school phobics, teenage mothers or pupils with special educational needs, particularly those with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Full- or part-time education can be provided in the units in conjunction with a ▶ *Maintained school*, ▶ *Further education college* or home tuition provided by the local authority or ELB. A full national curriculum does not have to be taught in a unit although a broad and balanced curriculum should be provided. PRUs are funded and maintained by the local authorities. Abbreviation: PRU.





## Rakenduskõrgkool

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Rakenduskõrgkoolid

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length professionally oriented programmes for students usually from the age of 18, who hold a secondary school leaving certificate obtained at ♦ *Gümnaasium*, a secondary vocational education certificate obtained at ♦ *Kutseõppeasutus*, or a foreign qualification recognised as equivalent. Admission procedures are set by each institution independently. The language of instruction can be Estonian, Russian or English. These state and private establishments are under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education and Research. The state establishments are essentially funded by the State; the private ones are financed by their own means. Study activities are financed from the state budget to the extent of the state-commissioned student places. In private institutions, the students have to pay tuition fees. For state institutions, there is a *numerus clausus* system limiting the number of students, and those not included within it have to pay tuition fees. Courses lead to different professional qualifications (*diplom*) which gives access to the labour market or to second-cycle academic studies at ♦ *Ülikool* leading to the *magistrikraad*.

## Realschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Realschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years (or 4 years in the *Länder* of Berlin, Brandenburg and Hamburg) of thorough general full-time lower secondary education to pupils aged 10 to 16. Admission procedures depend on the particular *Land* and on academic achievement in the ♦ *Grundschule*. Pupils follow one curricular pathway comprising core compulsory subjects with some options. The Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs in each *Land* is responsible for these institutions, which are generally public, co-educational and non-denominational. Grant-aided private establishments also exist. Funding is based

on a division of responsibilities between the *Länder* and the local authorities (*Kommunen*). No fees are payable. A *Realschulabschluss* leaving certificate is awarded if adequate marks or better are obtained in a final examination. It qualifies pupils for admission to courses of upper secondary education at ♦ *Berufsfachschule* and ♦ *Fachoberschule* and is also used for admission to a course of vocational training within the *duales System* at ♦ *Berufsschule*. It may further entitle pupils to enter the upper level of the ♦ *Gymnasium* (*Gymnasiale Oberstufe*) if a certain level of performance is achieved. Synonyms: *Erweiterte Realschule*, *Integrierte Haupt- und Realschule*, *Mittelschule*, *Regelschule*, *Regionale Schule*, *Sekundarschule*, *Verbundene Haupt- und Realschule*.

## Realschule

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Grammatical variants:** Realschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 4 years of full-time general lower secondary education at an intermediate level to pupils aged 11 to 15. Pupils are admitted on the basis of their performance and abilities in ♦ *Primarschule*. At the end of the course they can take the final examination *Abschlussprüfung der Realschule*. Those who are successful receive the certificate *Abschlusszeugnis der Realschule*, which gives access to vocational and general upper secondary education. The government Department of Education exercises overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public establishments are centrally funded while private establishments are grant aided. No fees are payable, except in the case of private establishments.

## Realskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Realskolen, realskoler, realskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Type of ♦ *Privat grundskole*.

### Regelschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Regelschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ♣ *Hauptschule* and ♣ *Realschule* in the *Land* of Thuringia.

### Regionaal opleidingscentrum

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Regionale opleidingscentra

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering a complete range of vocational upper secondary education courses for students aged 16-18/20, and adult education courses for those aged 18 or over. The admission criteria for vocational education depend on the courses taken (in general, admission is granted on possession of a *diploma vmbo*). For adult education there are no admission criteria except age. Vocational courses are offered in one of two learning pathways (involving 20-60 % practical training, or over 60 % practical training), and comprise different types of courses corresponding to four levels of qualification. The Minis-

try of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public institution. Fees are charged for students aged 16 and over in full-time and part-time education. Students prepare for different levels of exit qualifications (*diploma middelbaar beroepsonderwijs*). Holders of a *diploma mbo* can proceed to higher professional education at a ♣ *Hogeschool* or can enter the labour market. Abbreviation: Roc.

### Regionale Schule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Regionale Schulen, Regionalen Schulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ♣ *Hauptschule* and ♣ *Realschule* in the *Land* of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and Rhineland-Palatinate.

### Roc

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Roc's

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♣ *Regionaal opleidingscentrum*.



### Sākumskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Sākumskolas, sākumskolu, sākumskolām, sākumskolās

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing the first stage of full-time basic education lasting 4-6 years, for pupils aged between 7 and 12. Admission is authorised as soon as a child reaches 7 years of age. The language of instruction is Latvian or a minority language (in the respective academic year – Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Hebrew, Lithuanian, Estonian, Romany or Belorussian) in schools offering a programme for minority education. The institution may also provide compulsory pre-school education (see [Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde](#)) for children aged 5 to 6 in a setting called a 'pre-school education group'. There is no final examination, and pupils continue their education at [Pamatskola](#) or [Vidusskola](#). For information on administrative responsibility and financing, see [pamatskola](#).

### Sameskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Sameskolor, sameskolan

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time compulsory/basic education to Sami pupils aged from 6/7 to 12/13. On completion of *sameskola*, pupils can attend regular compulsory schools ([Grundskola](#)) in their home municipalities. There are no academic admission requirements. Education is the same as in *grundskola*, but pupils are also taught the Sami language and Sami culture and history. The Ministry of Education, Research and Culture exercises overall responsibility for *sameskolan*. The National Agency for Education is the supervisory authority. These institutions are funded by the State. *Sameskolor* are non-denominational and co-educational and no fees are payable. Grades are not awarded on completion of the sixth year in compulsory school or before the eighth year. Following the sixth year, pupils from *sameskolan* begin their seventh year in *grundskola* or in [Fristående grundskola](#). Those who have successfully completed compulsory school are awarded the *slutbetyg från grundskolan*, which gives access to [Gymnasieskola](#).

### Särskola

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Särskolor, särskolan

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institutions providing education for pupils with learning disabilities which, as far as possible, corresponds to provision in compulsory/basic and upper secondary school ([Grundskola](#), [Gymnasieskola](#)). The principal organiser decides on whether pupils should be admitted to the institution concerned, for compulsory schooling lasting 9 years between the ages of 7 and 16, with a tenth year optional. The government has overall responsibility for education of this kind and sets the national objectives, while the municipalities (or in one case the county council) are responsible its daily provision. Most *särskolor* are public but some independent private institutions exist. Funding is shared between the municipality and the government, although the municipality decides how resources should be allocated. No fees are payable. All pupils who have completed their compulsory schooling are offered a place in upper secondary schools providing 4 years of vocational/occupational education or training in specially designed national programmes or individual programmes. Pupils attending compulsory education receive a final certificate (*intyg om genomgången utbildning*), while those attending upper secondary education are usually awarded a leaving certificate (*slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*) on the basis of the grades they obtain in each course. This certificate is a minimum requirement for entry to post-secondary and tertiary education ([Högskola](#), [Universitet](#)) and a prerequisite for some upper secondary and post-secondary institutions ([Kompletterande utbildning](#), [Kvalificerad yrkesutbildning](#)).

### Särvux

**Country:** Sweden

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institutions offering education programmes for adults aged 20 and over with learning disabilities. Independent courses follow the same curriculum as lower and upper secondary schools and municipal adult education,

but with their own syllabi and timetables. The government has overall responsibility for education of this kind and sets the national objectives, while the municipalities are responsible for its daily provision. The municipalities also receive state subsidies for this purpose and decide how resources should be allocated and used. No fees are payable.

**ŠC**

**Country:** Slovenia

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♦ *Šolski center*.

**Scholeio defteris efkerias**  
(**Σχολείο δεύτερης ευκαιρίας**)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** *Scholeia defteris efkerias, scholej\**

**Level:** ISCED 2 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering evening courses at lower secondary level to students aged over 18, who have not completed their compulsory education. A primary school leaving certificate (*titlos spoudon* or an equivalent former qualification) obtained at ♦ *Dimotiko scholeio* is the minimum requirement for admission. As these courses aim to prevent social exclusion, they provide general knowledge and are especially flexible, in order to meet the needs of students and help them acquire and develop appropriate basic skills and personal competencies. The Institute for Continuing Adult Education (IDEKE) established under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs is responsible for establishing and running these public institutions. No fees are payable. On completion of their courses, students receive a lower secondary education certificate (*apolytirio gymnasiou*) giving access to ♦ *Eniaio lykeio* and ♦ *Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio*.

**Scholengemeenschap**

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** *Scholengemeenschappen*

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A combined lower and upper secondary education institution which offers provision in two or more of all types of secondary education, often as a result of the amalgamation of separate schools of these types (♦ *Vmbo*, ♦ *Havo* and ♦ *Vwo*).

**School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs**

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** *Scholen van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary, primary or post-secondary education (and sometimes also part-time secondary education). This kind of institution belongs to

public-sector education provided by the Flemish Community. Schools are administered on behalf of the Community by the *Raad van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs* (Council of Community Schools) and are fully funded by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. No tuition fees are payable. These schools are non-denominational and co-educational. The ♦ *Basisschool*, ♦ *Centrum voor basiseducatie*, ♦ *Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs*, ♦ *Kleuterschool*, ♦ *Lagere School*, ♦ *Middenschool*, ♦ *School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*, ♦ *School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs*, ♦ *School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs* and ♦ *Secundaire school* may all be *Scholen van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs*.

**School voor basisonderwijs**

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** *Scholen voor basisonderwijs*

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ♦ *Basisschool*.

**School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs**

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** *Scholen voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering special pre-primary and primary education to children who need temporary or permanent help because of a physical, sensorial or mental disability, or serious behavioural, emotional or learning difficulties. These special schools offer one or more of eight types of provision adapted to the following specific educational and developmental needs of particular groups of pupils: 1) slight mental disabilities; 2) moderate or serious mental disabilities; 3) serious emotional and/or behavioural difficulties; 4) physical disabilities; 5) children admitted to hospital or in quarantine for medical reasons; 6) visually impaired children; 7) children with hearing impairments; 8) children with serious learning difficulties. At the age of 2½, children can go to the pre-primary section of the *school voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs* (although two of the foregoing types of provision are not available at pre-primary level). The transition to special primary education normally occurs at the age of 6, but can be postponed for 2 years. While in principle the latter lasts 7 years, with the transition from special primary to (special) secondary education (♦ *School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs*) normally occurring at the age of 13, some pupils may spend up to 9 years in special primary education. In schools providing special education, there is no general curriculum as in the case of mainstream elementary education. The government has drawn up lists of developmental objec-

tives for some of the foregoing types of provision. Depending on circumstances and individual needs, schools draw up an action plan for each child, selecting various objectives from the official list and adapting the plan regularly to his or her evolving personal requirements. In some cases pupils receive the certificate of primary education (*getuigschrift basisonderwijs*) normally awarded at **Basisschool** or **Lagere School**. The certificate gives access to lower secondary education at **Middenschool** or **Secundaire school**. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *basisschool*.

### School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Scholen voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering special primary education to children who need temporary or permanent help because of a physical, sensorial or mental disability, or serious behavioural, emotional or learning difficulties. A significant number of pupils first start in mainstream primary education (**Basisschool** or **Lagere School**) and transfer after one or more years to special education. For further information, see **School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs**.

### School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Scholen voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time special secondary education to young people aged 13-21 whose physical, sensorial, psychological, social or intellectual development is hampered by a disability, or learning or behavioural difficulties. These young people get temporary or permanent special assistance and education adapted to their specific needs. As at primary level (see **School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs**), special secondary schools offer various types of provision adapted to individual needs (excluding the category for pupils or students with learning disabilities, which is not available at secondary level). Four forms of training known as *opleidingsvormen* are also available and may bring together young people whose type of provision differs. Each form of training seeks to satisfy different requirements as follows: 1) social training aimed at integrating pupils or students within a protected environment; 2) general and social training geared to integrating them within a protected environment and work situation; 3) social and vocational training that seeks to integrate

them within a mainstream environment and work situation; 4) training that prepares young people (mainly with physical or sensorial impairments) for tertiary education and is equivalent to mainstream secondary education. Students in the last group may receive a *diploma secundair onderwijs* normally obtained at **Secundaire school**, while pupils or students in group 3 may be awarded a *kwalificatiegetuigschrift* (a certificate for a specific profession) or a certificate of competence (*Attest van verworven vaardigheden*). Finally, those in group 2 may obtain a certificate for a protected work environment. For further information, see *school voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*.

### School voor speciaal basisonderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Scholen voor speciaal basisonderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing primary education for children aged between 4 and 14, which is geared to enabling as many of them as possible to return to a mainstream primary school or, if this is not possible, to start at a mainstream secondary school after the **Basisschool**. For information on admission requirements, legal status, administration, funding and final qualifications, see **School voor speciaal onderwijs**. Synonym: *Speciale school voor basisonderwijs*.

### School voor speciaal onderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Scholen voor speciaal onderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing primary, lower and upper secondary education for children with impaired hearing or vision, serious speech defects, physical disabilities, chronic illnesses and severe learning difficulties, or for severely maladjusted children and those at schools attached to pedagogical institutes for children or young people with psychological problems between the ages of 4 and 20. With the exception of schools for the visually impaired, all special schools in a particular category work together in a consortium forming a centre of expertise for their region. Admission to these institutions involves assessment against a national set of objective criteria by an independent committee (CVI), which is appointed by the regional expertise centres (a consortium of special schools). In the case of schools for the visually impaired, children are referred not by an independent committee but by individual schools. *Scholen voor speciaal onderwijs* are funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science on the basis of their enrolment levels. Children need-

ing special education are identified in accordance with national criteria (blind/partially sighted, deaf/hard of hearing, etc.). Depending on these various indications (blind/partially sighted, etc.), schools receive different sums of money for children with a disability. For information on legal status, administration and final qualifications, see **▸ Basisschool**. The final qualifications are the same as in the case of pupils attending **▸ Vmbo**, **▸ Havo** and **▸ Vwo**.

### School voor voortgezet speciaal onderwijs

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Scholen voor voortgezet speciaal onderwijs

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing lower and upper secondary education for children with impaired hearing or vision, serious speech defects, physical disabilities, chronic illnesses and severe learning difficulties, or for severely maladjusted children and those at schools attached to pedagogical institutes for children or young people with psychological problems between the ages of 12 and 20. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector establishments may be denominational. For information on admission requirements and funding, see **▸ School voor speciaal onderwijs**. The final qualifications are the same as in the case of pupils attending **▸ Vmbo**, **▸ Havo** and **▸ Vwo**.

### Schule des Gesundheitswesens

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Schulen des Gesundheitswesens

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short courses in paramedical studies for students, usually from the age of 17 or 18. Admission is based on the completion of lower secondary education, relevant vocational experience or a vocational qualification obtained after training for at least 2 years. The programme normally lasts 3 years, including practical training. Institutions are public or private. Public establishments may be under the authority of the *Land* or the local authority (*Kommune*). Fees vary from one institution to another and, in some establishments, no tuition fees are charged. Courses lead to a professional qualification at non-university level. The most frequent qualifications are *Krankenschwester* or *Krankenpfleger*, *Altenpfleger*, *Krankengymnast* or *Physiotherapeut*. Under certain conditions, graduates from *Schulen des Gesundheitswesens* can embark on a study course at **▸ Fachhochschulen** leading to a diploma in nursing service.

### Schule für Gesundheits- und Krankenpflege

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Schulen für Gesundheits- und Krankenpflege

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time vocational upper secondary education to students aged 16 and over in the areas of general, paediatric and psychiatric nursing. Admission is based on successful completion of the tenth school year and an aptitude test. Training leads to the occupational qualification of *Diplom (+)*. The Ministry for Health and Women determines the curriculum and has overall responsibility for this institution. Funding is the responsibility of the *Länder*. No fees are payable.

### Școală de arte și meserii

**Country:** Romania

**Grammatical variants:** Școala de arte și meserii, școli\* de arte și meserii

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution established in 2003/04 and replacing the **▸ Școală profesională** and **▸ Școală de ucenici**. It offers full-, part-time or evening lower secondary initial vocational education for pupils aged from 14 to 16 and the 'completion year' (vocational upper secondary education) for students aged 16 to 17. Admission is based on the successful completion of **▸ Școală generală** and on the results obtained in concluding national tests. Admission to the 'completion year' (upper secondary level) is based on the graduation certificate obtained at the end of the first two years of study. For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility, funding and legal status, see **▸ Grădiniță**. Students in the 'completion year' have to pay for textbooks, unless they come economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The first two (lower secondary) years of this institution, as well as the first stage of **▸ Liceu** are included within compulsory education, representing the two alternatives after *școală generală*. At the end of lower secondary education, pupils receive a graduation certificate and personal portfolio for further education. After passing the vocational skills examination, they also receive the 'level one' vocational qualification that gives access to the labour market and to the upper secondary 'completion year'. At the end of the 'completion year', students receive a graduation certificate and personal portfolio for further education. They can also take the vocational skills examination and receive the 'level 2' vocational qualification, giving access to the labour market. Those who possess the graduation certificate and the 'level 2' vocational qualification may continue their education in the second stage of *liceu*.

**Școală de ucenici****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Școala de ucenici, școli\* de ucenici**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Generic term for 1-3 years of apprenticeship courses organised by ▶ *Școală profesională* for students aged from 15 to 17/18. Since the 2003/04 school year, this institution has been replaced by the ▶ *Școala de arte și meserii*. Admission to these courses was based on practical tests at school level, which could also be taken by pupils without the lower secondary education leaving certificate (*certificat de capacitate*). For further information see, *școală profesională*.

**Școală generală****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Școala generală, școli\* generale**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time primary education (years 1-4) to children aged from 6 to 10, and 4 years of general lower secondary education (years 5-8) to pupils aged from 10 to 14. In exceptional cases, schools can offer evening classes or extramural classes for pupils who are two years or more older than other pupils in particular classes. Admission to primary education is based on age and a medical certificate. There is no maturity certificate obtained at the end of the ▶ *Grădiniță*, but the maturity level of pupils is assessed. Those who complete primary education are automatically moved up to lower secondary education in the same school. Teaching can be in Romanian or in the language of a national minority (principally Hungarian or German). The county school inspectorate has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. They are state funded and no fees are payable. Since 2003/04, the final examination *examen de capacitate* has been replaced by national tests. Successful pupils receive a *certificat de promovare a testelor naționale*. Depending on their results in these tests and the marks obtained during years 5-8, they may continue their studies at ▶ *Liceu* or ▶ *Școală de arte și meserii*. Generic term used for years 5-8: *Gimnaziu*.

**Școală postliceală****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Școala postliceală, școli\* postliceale**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-, part-time and evening post-secondary vocational courses for students from the age of 18 who have completed the ▶ *Liceu* and pass an entrance exam-

ination. The leaving certificate (*diploma de bacalaureat*) obtained in *liceu*, is required only in the case of medical post-secondary schools. For information on the language of instruction at these institutions, the authority responsible for them and their legal status, see ▶ *Grădiniță*. They are financed by the companies requesting courses in this type of establishment, under a contract with the inspectorate. An exception is made in the case of medical post-secondary schools, which are always financed by the Ministry of Education and Research. No tuition fees are payable in public-sector institutions but students must pay fees for the entrance examination, registration, extra-curricular activities and re-examination after failing an exam. Courses lead to higher (advanced) professional qualifications in the relevant discipline.

**Școală primară****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Școala primară, școli\* primare**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution situated in rural areas offering 4 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged from 6 to 10. The education offered by this institution is similar to the primary education offered by ▶ *Școală generală*. In regions with fewer pupils, several years including pupils of various ages may be taught simultaneously. For information on admission requirements, the language of instruction, the authority responsible for these institutions, their legal status and funding, see *școală generală*. Successful pupils transfer automatically to lower secondary education (years 5-8) at *școală generală*.

**Școală profesională****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Școala profesională, școli\* profesionale**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution replaced since 2003/04 by a new ▶ *Școala de arte și meserii*. This institution offered 2 to 4 years of full-, part-time and evening initial vocational courses to students aged from 15 to 17/19. At the end of the programme, pupils could take the *examen de absolvire* and receive the *certificat de absolvire*, formally qualifying them for a trade or occupation to which it gave access. The institution also offered 1-3 years of apprenticeship courses, generically known as ▶ *Școală de ucenici*.

**Scuola dell'infanzia****Country:** Italy**Grammatical variants:** Scuole dell'infanzia**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 3 years of full-time pre-primary education for children aged 3 to 6. Admission is based on age. The curriculum is made up of areas of experience rather than individual subjects and covered in a single stage. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private, self-funded settings. They are usually co-educational; private-sector establishments may be denominational. In the case of public settings, funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities, and no fees are payable. Since 2002/03, 250 schools (at pre-primary and primary level) have admitted, on an experimental basis, children who reached 3 years of age before 30 April 2003, as well as pupils aged 2½. At the age of 6, children automatically enter ▶ *Scuola elementare*.

### Scuola elementare

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Scuole elementare

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 5 years of full-time primary education for pupils aged 6 to 11. There are no academic admission requirements. Education is divided into two stages. The first stage lasts 2 years and is multidisciplinary while, in the second three-year stage, teaching is divided into subject areas. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. No fees are payable in public institutions. Since 2002/03, 250 schools (at pre-primary and primary level) have admitted, on an experimental basis, children who reached 6 years of age before 30 April 2003, as well as pupils aged 5½. Successful pupils receive a primary school leaving certificate (*Diploma di licenza elementare*) which gives access to lower secondary education at ▶ *Scuola media*.

### Scuola media

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Scuole medie

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time lower secondary education to pupils aged 11 to 14. The primary school leaving certificate obtained at ▶ *Scuola elementare* is required for admission. The school provides general education and some guidance through a common curriculum in a single stage. Successful pupils are awarded a lower secondary school leaving certificate (*Diploma di licenza media*). All pupils move on to general or vocational upper secondary educa-

tion (see summary table) where they finish their compulsory education, attending at least the first year. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions, which are co-educational. Funding comes from both central government and regional and municipal authorities. Private-sector establishments can be self-funded; they may be denominational. No tuition fees are payable in public institutions, but family contributions are usually required for textbooks.

### Scuola superiore

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Scuole superiori

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering courses in specific disciplines. For information on admission, qualifications and responsibilities, see ▶ *Università*.

### Secondary modern school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A ▶ *Secondary school* which admits pupils regardless of ability, in an area where there are also ▶ *Grammar schools*. Also known as a *modern school*.

### Secondary school

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing up to 6 years of full-time lower and upper secondary education for pupils/students aged 12 to 18. Admission is based on completion of ▶ *Primary school*. It provides general education, which includes technical and vocational subjects, and is divided into two stages. *Secondary schools* may be private or public establishments, and may also be co-educational. There are privately owned, denominational schools (*voluntary secondary schools*), which are mostly grant-aided by the Department of Education and Science. Fees are only payable in those establishments that do not receive per capita grants from the Department. The Ministry for Education has overall responsibility for non-denominational public-sector institutions (*community/comprehensive school*) funded by the Department of Education and Science. No fees are payable. All pupils in the junior stage (for those aged 12 to 15) follow a broad general curriculum leading to a *junior certificate*. Pupils in the senior cycle (for those aged 15 to 17 or 18) choose a course in preparation for one of three types of *Leaving certificate*, with which they may enter all types of tertiary education institution (see summary table) or employment.

## Secondary school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing general full-time education for pupils aged from 11 (or 12/13 where a three-tier system applies, see [Middle school](#)) to 16 or 18. Admission does not generally depend on academic ability in England and Wales (see [Comprehensive school](#)) but in Northern Ireland the system is predominantly selective and some areas of England also retain some selective schools (see [Grammar school](#) and [Secondary modern school](#)). In England, most publicly-funded *secondary schools* are [Maintained schools](#) but some are legally independent schools (see [Academy](#), [City Technology College](#) and [City Academy](#)). The majority of maintained *secondary schools* in England now have [Specialist school](#) status. In Wales and Northern Ireland, there are no programmes for specialist schools or publicly-funded independent schools; publicly-funded *secondary schools* are all [Maintained schools](#) (Wales) or [Grant-aided schools](#) (Northern Ireland). There are two main stages up to the end of compulsory education; *key stage 3* (ages 11 to 14) and *key stage 4* (ages 14 to 16). All pupils follow a common core curriculum (statutory curriculum), which varies in some respects between England, Wales and Northern Ireland, up to the end of *key stage 4*, when they take up to around 10 single-subject general and sometimes vocational qualifications (typically GCSEs). After completion of *key stage 4*, depending on local arrangements, there may or may not be a choice of providers of full-time post-16 education; school (if the school has a *sixth form*), a [Sixth-form college](#) or a [Tertiary college](#). Students follow courses in up to 4 or 5 general or vocational subjects, leading to qualifications (typically GCE *A-levels* or VCE *A-levels*) after two years' study. The *AS qualification* is the first half of a full *A-level* and also provides an exit qualification in its own right after one year's study; students taking *A-level* programmes typically take four or five *AS qualifications* in the first year of the sixth form (also known as year 12) and carry around 3 subjects through to year 13 and the full *GCE A-level* (also known as *A2*). Most *secondary schools* are co-educational. Publicly-funded schools may not charge fees. Ownership, management and funding arrangements depend on the legal category: see for England and Wales [Community school](#), [Foundation school](#), [Voluntary aided school](#), [Voluntary controlled school](#), for Northern Ireland [Controlled school](#), [Controlled integrated school](#), [Grant maintained integrated school](#), [Catholic maintained school](#), [Voluntary grammar school](#). Synonym in England and Wales: *High school*. In Northern Ireland, the term *post-pri-*

*mary* is used in preference to the term *secondary school* to describe collectively *grammar schools* (to which admission depends on academic ability) and other *secondary schools*.

## Secondary school

**Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 or 6 years of full-time lower and upper secondary education to pupils/students aged 12 to 16 or 18 years, who are admitted on completion of 7 years of [Primary school](#). These institutions provide general education, combined with some vocational and technical instruction, which can be divided into three stages. The first four years can lead to *Scottish Qualifications Certificate National Qualifications*, such as *Standard Grade*. In the final two years, students can gain further *National Qualifications* awards, for example at *Higher and Advanced Higher Grades*, which are general requirements for entry to institutions of tertiary education. For information on administrative responsibility, legal status and funding, see *primary school*. Synonym: *Comprehensive school*.

## Secundaire school

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Secundaire scholen

**Level:** ISCED 2, 3 and 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing full-time lower and/or upper secondary education for pupils or students aged 12 to 18. Provision is divided into 3 stages of 2 years each. The first stage is divided into a mainstream (the A-stream) and a B-stream which is more vocationally oriented. From the second stage onwards, there are four types of secondary education as follows: general (*Algemeen Secundair Onderwijs* or ASO), technical (*Technisch Secundair Onderwijs* or TSO), vocational (*Beroepssecundair Onderwijs* or BSO) and artistic (*Kunstsecundair Onderwijs* or KSO). While each stage normally lasts 2 years, training in the second and third stages may in some cases be completed by a third year. Secondary schools can offer one or more stages and types of education. For information on admission to the first stage of secondary education, see [Middenschool](#). Admission to the subsequent year or stage is generally based on satisfactory completion of the previous year or stage. Pupils who receive an *oriënteringsattest B* ('B orientation certificate') cannot freely choose the type of secondary education or branch of study in which they will be enrolled the following year, although exceptions to this may be determined by the council of admissions. The training programme within each course of study consists of a common part (determined by the

type of education) and a specific part characteristic of the particular course itself. Final objectives for the A-stream in the first stage, and for the second and third stages of all types of education, and developmental objectives for the B-stream in the first stage are drawn up in the case of all courses within the core curriculum and of cross-curricular themes. At the end of the first and second stages, successful pupils are awarded a certificate (the *getuigschrift eerste* or *getuigschrift tweede graad secundair onderwijs*). At the end of the second year of the third stage of ASO, TSO or KSO, or at the end of the third year of the third stage of BSO, successful students obtain a *diploma secundair onderwijs* which gives access to all types of tertiary education institution (see summary table). Pupils in BSO have to complete an extra year to obtain the diploma and receive a certificate at the end of the second year of the third stage. Some schools also offer a fourth stage of vocational secondary education (which is post-secondary education) in 3 lines of study, namely the arts, fashion and nursing. Arts and fashion last 2 years while nursing lasts 3 years, with 18 as the theoretical age of entry. In the case of arts and fashion, a *diploma secundair onderwijs* is awarded and gives access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table). A certificate which does not give access to tertiary education may also be awarded, depending on a student's previous education. In the case of nursing, students receive a *diploma verpleegkunde* (nursing diploma). Sometimes, depending on a student's previous education, an additional *diploma secundair onderwijs* is obtained, giving access to tertiary education. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see [Basisschool](#).

### Sekundarschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)  
**Grammatical variants:** Sekundarschulen  
**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3  
**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 or 7 years of full-time secondary education to pupils and students aged from 12 to 18 or 19. Pupils who reach the age of 12 by 31 December of a given year are admitted to the first stage (*Stufe*) of secondary school (the *Beobachtungsstufe*). Younger pupils are admitted provided they have the primary school leaving certificate obtained at [Primarschule](#). There are three stages of two years each and three types of education offered, namely general education and – in the second and third stages only – technical and vocational education with a wide range of studies. In vocational education the third stage can last three years. Students follow a common core curriculum with optional subjects, which are available at the beginning of the first

stage and increase in number in later stages. At the end of six years of general and technical education, students are awarded a leaving certificate (*Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts*), which will soon be replaced by a secondary school leaving certificate (*Abschlusszeugnis der Sekundarschule*). This certificate also gives access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table). Those students following a course in vocational education must complete a seventh year of secondary education in order to be awarded this leaving certificate and be entitled to move on to tertiary education. Any body supporting the school establishes for its secondary schools subject-specific curricula, which must be approved by the Ministry and formulated for each stage. Curricula must also state clearly the key competences which are binding as minimum requirements for the first stage of all secondary schools (and still to be established for the second and third stages). On completion of their studies, pupils receive the *Stufenzeugnis* or the *Abschlusszeugnis der Sekundarschule*. For information on authority responsible, funding and legal status, see [Kindergarten](#).

### Sekundarschule

**Country:** Germany  
**Grammatical variants:** Sekundarschulen  
**Level:** ISCED 2  
**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [Hauptschule](#) and the [Realschule](#) in the *Länder* of Bremen and Saxony-Anhalt.

### Seminarium (+)

**Country:** Denmark  
**Grammatical variants:** Seminariet, seminarier, seminarierne  
**Level:** ISCED 5  
**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length courses for the training of teachers and staff in pre-primary education, as well as in leisure-time and socio-educational facilities (*pædagogseminarium*), and teacher training for primary and lower secondary education (*lærerseminarium*). Provision is on a full-time or (in certain cases) part-time basis, or in evening-classes. Students may be admitted from the age of 19 if they hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at [Erhvervsskole](#), [Gymnasium](#), [Handelsskole](#), [HF-kursus](#), [Studenterkursus](#), [Teknisk skole](#) or [Voksenuddannelsescenter](#), or its recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further course requirements. Courses alternate between school and in-service training. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for the vast majority of these institutions, which may be either public institutions or private self-govern-

ing establishments funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Students who satisfactorily complete the courses are awarded a *professionsbachelorgrad*, which gives access to further studies in the same field, including open education and in most cases mainstream second-cycle programmes at other tertiary institutions.

### Sérskóli

**Country:** Iceland

**Grammatical variants:** Sérskóla, sérskólar

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1 to 5 years of full-time specialised vocational upper secondary education to students from the age of 16. Admission is based on completion of *Grúnskóli*. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for these state-funded institutions. Institutions for agricultural education come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture. *Sérskóli* is co-educational and non-denominational. There are no tuition fees but students pay an enrolment fee, the cost of their textbooks and in some vocational education courses part of the cost of materials. At the end of their studies, students take a final examination organised by the school. Successful students are awarded a leaving certificate, which gives access to employment. In some schools, this certificate entitles its holders to engage in certain kinds of professional activity.

### Sixth-form college

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution which offers full-time general secondary education courses and also some vocational courses for students aged 16 to 19. Courses are the same as those offered in the last 2 years of an 11-18/19 *Secondary school*, but *sixth-form colleges* often offer a wider choice of both general and vocational programmes. For further information, see *Further education college*.

### Skole (+)

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Skolen, skoler, skolerne

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering education at the same level as a *Center for Videregående Uddannelse* but the scope of courses is typically much narrower. The vast majority of *skoler* are part of a CVU. For full information, see *Center for Videregående Uddannelse*.

### Social- og sundhedsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Social- og sundhedsskolen, -skoler, -skolerne

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time upper secondary training in three stages for broad-based functions in the welfare, health care and nursing sectors, to students usually from the age of 16. Admission is based on successful completion of the *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve* at *Grundskole*. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these institutions which are public, and run and funded by the counties. They are co-educational and non-denominational. No fees are payable. Successful students are awarded the *social- og sundhedshjælper, social- og sundhedsassistent* or *pædagogisk grunduddannelse* qualification and have scope for pursuing further studies. Those who obtain the *social- og sundhedsassistent* or *pædagogisk grunduddannelse* are qualified to embark on *mellemlang videregående uddannelse* (medium cycle tertiary education) leading (for example) to a *sygeplejerske, pædagog* or *socialrådgiver* (at a *Center for Videregående Uddannelse, Seminarium (+)* or *Højskole*).

### Šolski center

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Šolski centri, šolsk\* centr\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Centre containing two or more upper secondary schools at different levels and in different fields of education *Gimnazija, Srednja strokovna šola, Poklicna šola*. In some cases, a vocational college *Višja strokovna šola* is also part of such a centre. Abbreviation: ŠC.

### Sondergrundschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Sondergrundschulen

**Level:** ISCED 0 and 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering special pre-primary and/or primary education to children who need temporary or permanent help because of a physical, sensorial or mental disability, or serious behavioural, emotional or learning difficulties. These special schools offer one or more of eight types of provision adapted to the following specific educational and developmental needs of particular groups of pupils: 1) slight mental disabilities; 2) moderate or serious mental disabilities; 3) serious emotional and/or behavioural difficulties; 4) physical disabilities; 5) children admitted to hospital or in quarantine for medical reasons; 6) visually impaired children; 7) children with hearing impairments; 8) children with serious learning difficulties; types 5, 6 and 7 are not offered in the German-speaking Community. At the age of 3, children can go to the pre-primary section of the *Sondergrundschule*. The transition to special primary education normally occurs at the age of 6, but can be postponed for 2 years. While in princi-

ple the latter lasts 7 years, with the transition from special primary to (special) secondary education (♣ *Sondersekundarschule*) normally occurring at the age of 13, some pupils may spend up to 9 years in special primary education. In schools providing special education, there is no general curriculum as in the case of mainstream elementary education. Depending on circumstances and individual needs, schools draw up an action plan for each child, selecting various objectives and adapting the plan regularly to his or her evolving personal requirements. In some cases pupils receive the certificate of primary education (*Abschlusszeugnis der Grundschule*) normally awarded at ♣ *Primarschule*. The certificate gives access to lower secondary education at ♣ *Sekundarschule*. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see ♣ *Kindergarten*.

### Sonderprimarschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Sonderprimarschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering special primary education to children who need temporary or permanent help because of a physical, sensorial or mental disability, or serious behavioural, emotional or learning difficulties. A significant number of pupils first start in mainstream primary education (♣ *Grundschule* or ♣ *Primarschule*) and transfer after one or more years to special education. For further information, see ♣ *Sondergrundschule*.

### Sonderschule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Sonderschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 8-9 years of full-time primary and secondary education to pupils aged 6 to 14 (15) with special educational needs due to individual physical or psychological (mental) disabilities. Provision in special schools should match student needs and correspond to the curricula of mainstream primary education, general lower secondary education or ♣ *Polytechnische Schule* as far as possible. These mainly public-sector schools are funded by the municipality, the *Land* and the federation. The Ministry of Education and the regional and local school authorities are responsible for administration and legislation. After eight years pupils receive the final report *Abschlusszeugnis der Sonderschule* which, depending on the type of school, gives access to upper secondary education or vocational training.

### Sondersekundarschule

**Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Sondersekundarschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time special secondary education to young people aged 13-21 whose physical, sensorial, psychological, social or intellectual development is hampered by a disability, or learning or behavioural difficulties. These young people get temporary or permanent special assistance and education adapted to their specific needs. As at primary level (see ♣ *Sondergrundschule*), special secondary schools offer various types of provision adapted to individual needs (excluding the category for pupils or students with learning disabilities, which is not available at secondary level). Three forms of training are also available and may bring together young people whose type of provision differs. Each form of training seeks to satisfy different requirements as follows: 1) social training aimed at integrating pupils or students within a protected environment; 2) general and social training geared to integrating them within a protected environment and work situation; 3) social and vocational training that seeks to integrate them within a mainstream environment and work situation. Pupils or students in group 3 may be awarded a *Befähigungsnachweis* (a certificate for a specific profession or specific competences). Finally, those in group 2 may obtain a certificate for a protected work environment. For further information, see *Sondergrundschule*.

### SOŠ

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♣ *Střední odborná škola*.

### SOU

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♣ *Střední odborné učiliště*.

### Special school

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary, primary and lower secondary education to pupils/students aged 3 to 19 with a wide range of special educational needs (of a physical, mental, sensorial or emotional nature). Admission of pupils is based on the full consent of the parents. Students in special schools receive paramedical support in physiotherapy, speech therapy and a nursing service. The Division of Education has overall responsibility for these state institutions and funding is provided by central government. Tuition is free. Courses lead to the same final qualifications or continuation as in the equivalent institutions of mainstream education.

**Special school****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing education for children aged between 2 and post-16 whose special educational needs cannot be met satisfactorily in a mainstream **◆** *Maintained school*. Not all *special schools* cover the whole age range. They cater for pupils with a wide variety of special needs and include schools for pupils with: visual impairment; speech and language impairment; moderate, severe or specific learning difficulties; hearing impairment; and emotional and behavioural difficulties. Some *special schools* are residential. Approval for the designation of a *special school* has to be obtained from the Secretary of State in England, the National Assembly for Wales or the Department of Education in Northern Ireland. Such schools may be *maintained schools* which are fully-funded by the local authority, or non-maintained schools which are run by charities or charitable trusts. Non-maintained *special schools* may charge fees on a non-profit-making basis. Independent schools may also be approved as suitable for the placement of children with statements of special educational needs by local authorities. Local authorities are required to pay the appropriate fees for placement of pupils in non-maintained special schools or independent schools. Schools which receive public funding for such pupils are required to meet similar standards in respect of premises, qualified staff, education and care to those in maintained *special schools*. Independent schools often provide for children with exceptionally severe and/or low incidence difficulties requiring a level of specialist input that local authorities might find impractical or insufficiently cost effective to provide themselves. Special schools may also be established within the premises of a hospital (*hospital schools*) to provide education for children who are spending a period of time in hospital. In England and Wales, maintained *special schools* are divided into two legal categories, **◆** *Community special schools* and **◆** *Foundation special schools*.

**Speciālās izglītības iestāde****Country:** Latvia**Grammatical variants:** Speciālās izglītības iestādes, speciālās izglītības iestāde**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing pre-school, basic or (upper) secondary education programmes for pupils and students with special educational needs. Children are admitted on the basis of a statement issued by central government or by the Municipal Pedagogical Medical Commission. With due regard for the state of health, it is pos-

sible to begin the education programme one year later than in the case of general education (e.g. basic education programme at the age of 8, and (upper) secondary education programmes at the age of 17). The language of instruction is Latvian or Russian. The Ministry of Education and Science and local authorities have overall responsibility for these public or private – and mainly state-funded – institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. No tuition fees are payable as all special education programmes, including those in private establishments, are financed from the state budget. Pupils and students with certain diseases and severe learning difficulties are not obliged to take the *valsts pārbaudījumi* examination in order to obtain a certificate. The list of diseases is centrally determined. Pupils and students who have satisfactorily completed these special education programmes, receive the basic education certificate (*aplēcība par pamatzglītību*) or general (upper) secondary education certificate (*atestāts par vispārējo vidējo izglītību*), respectively. The latter gives access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table).

**Speciale school voor basisonderwijs****Country:** The Netherlands**Grammatical variants:** Speciale scholen voor basisonderwijs**Level:** ISCED 1 (SEN)**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **◆** *School voor speciale basisonderwijs*.**Specialioji mokykla****Country:** Lithuania**Grammatical variants:** Specialiosios mokyklos, special\* mokykl\***Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering the following kinds of special provision: full-time primary and secondary education lasting 10 to 13 years for children with special educational needs (in the case of those with mental impairments); 12 years of *pagrindinė mokykla* (for children with speech and communication difficulties); 12 years of *pagrindinė mokykla* and 12 to 15 years of *vidurinė mokykla* (for those whose hearing is gravely or partially impaired); 13 years of *vidurinė mokykla* (for the blind or partially sighted); and 13 to 14 years of *vidurinė mokykla* (for children with physical and motor deficiencies). Institutions admit children on the basis of their special needs and the type and level of difficulty or impairment as identified by a special education commission or educational psychologists, and subject also to the consent of their parents. Provision of general education for children with special educational needs starts at the age of 6 or 7, in accordance with special or

individual state teaching programmes and plans. Curricular content focuses in particular on practical skills and on physical training, as well as communication and activities to develop other kinds of ability. Classes are co-educational. Depending on the impairment or difficulty concerned, the number of pupils in groups may vary from 3 to 6. The language of instruction may be other than Lithuanian (most commonly Russian). These institutions may be funded and maintained by the Ministry of Education and Science, or regional or municipal authorities. Upper secondary school leaving examinations are devised and administered by the Ministry of Education and Science, which also approves the certificate awarded on the successful completion of studies. Students who follow the curriculum for general education and reach the state-approved standard of secondary education, receive a *mokymosi pasiekimų pažymėjimas* certificate.

### Speciális gyógypedagógiai szakiskola

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Speciális gyógypedagógiai szakiskola\*, speciális gyógypedagógiai szakiskolák

**Level:** ISCED 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1-2 years of full- and part-time vocational education in a single stage to pupils with special educational needs aged 14 to 16. Admission requirements are based on the type of special educational need and the previous (special) educational record as well as on merit. Several programmes exist within this category. At the end of their programme, pupils can take the final examination *speciális gyógypedagógiai szakmai vizsga*. Those who are successful receive a certificate of completion (*speciális gyógypedagógiai szakképzőiskolai képesítő bizonyítvány*) which enables them to enter the labour market as skilled workers. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see ♦ *Általános iskola*.

### Specialist school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A ♦ *Secondary school* which specialises in a certain subject area while still delivering the full statutory curriculum to all pupils. Any secondary level ♦ *Maintained school* in England can apply to be designated as a *specialist school* in one of ten specialist areas: arts, business and enterprise, engineering, humanities, language, mathematics and computing, music, science, sports and technology. Schools can also combine any two specialisms. Schools sometimes take a name which reflects the specialism, for example: *arts college*, *language college*, *sports college*, *technology college*. *Specialist schools* may give priority for admission to up to 10 % of pupils

on the basis of aptitude in the relevant subject area. They are expected to share resources and expertise in their specialist area with other schools and the local community. In addition to standard funding arrangements, these schools are required to attract sponsorship from private sources and are then eligible for central government grants. They may not charge fees. For qualifications, see *secondary school*.

### Speciální gymnázium (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Speciální gymnázia, speciáln\* gymnázi\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19 with special educational needs (visual, auditory or physical impairments). The length of studies may be extended by up to two years. The school provides upper secondary education in the same way as ♦ *Gymnázium* and follows mainstream curricula with further special educational support. Although the law provides for the possible establishment of a multi-year *gymnázium* (6 or 8 years) no such school exists, as the number of children with special educational needs is limited. Admission is based on successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at ♦ *Speciální základní škola* (+), and on procedures that usually include an entrance examination organised by the school. For further information on legal status, funding, administration and final qualifications, see *gymnázium*. The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for, but the adjective *speciální* (special) is nearly always omitted.

### Speciální mateřská škola (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Speciální mateřské školy, speciáln\* mateřsk\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time pre-primary education to children aged 3 to 6 with special educational needs (children with speech and language problems, or sensory, physical or mental impairments, as well as those from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds). Children are prepared for compulsory education. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. They are normally co-educational and education at them is free of charge. The name of the institution may be followed by the type(s) of disability catered for, and the adjective *speciální* (special) in the name may be omitted.

**Speciální střední odborná škola (+)****Country:** Czech Republic**Grammatical variants:** Speciální střední odborné školy, speciáln\* středn\* odborn\* škol\***Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2-4 years of full-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19 with special educational needs (sensory or physical impairments). The length of studies can be extended by up to two years. The school provides upper secondary technical education in the same way as **Střední odborná škola** and follows mainstream curricula with further special educational support. Admission is based on successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at **Speciální základní škola (+)** and on procedures that usually include an entrance examination organised by the school. For further information on legal status, funding, administration and final qualifications, see *střední odborná škola*. The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for, but the adjective *speciální* (special) is very often omitted.

**Speciální střední odborné učiliště (+)****Country:** Czech Republic**Grammatical variants:** Speciální střední odborné učiliště, speciáln\* středn\* odborn\* učilišt\***Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2-4 years of full- or part-time upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19 with special educational needs (sensory or physical impairments). The length of studies can be extended by up to two years. The school provides upper secondary vocational education in the same way as **Střední odborné učiliště** and follows mainstream curricula with further special educational support. Admission is based on successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at **Speciální základní škola (+)** and on procedures that usually include an entrance examination organised by the school. For further information, see *střední odborné učiliště*. The name of the institution is usually followed by the types of disability catered for, but the adjective *speciální* (special) is nearly always omitted.

**Speciální základní škola (+)****Country:** Czech Republic**Grammatical variants:** Speciální základní školy, speciáln\* základní\* škol\***Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 9 years of full-time pre-primary education (preparatory classes) and compulsory/basic education to pupils aged between 6 and 15/16 with special educational needs (usually sensory, physical, language or behavioural impairments and/or specific

learning difficulties). Provision at schools for those with visual and auditory impairments may last 10 years. The school provides basic education and follows mainstream curricula. The mainstream programme is enriched with 2 hours of special educational support each week. While the content of provision depends on the type and degree of impairment, pupils at the schools receive the same education as at **Základní škola**. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. They are normally co-educational. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. The name of the institution may be followed by the type(s) of disability catered for, and the adjective *speciální* (special) in the name may be omitted. Successful completion of schooling leads to upper secondary education at **Střední odborné učiliště (+)**, **Střední odborná škola (+)** or **Gymnázium**, or their equivalent *speciální* upper secondary school.

**Speciálskola****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** -skolan, -skolor, -skolorna**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (SEN)**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for **Erityiskoulu**.**Speciálskola****Country:** Sweden**Grammatical variants:** Specialskolor, specialskolan**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institutions offering 10-year compulsory/basic education to pupils with impairments who are aged 7 or over. As far as possible, institutions provide education equivalent to that of the **Grundskola**. Admission is based on a decision by the school board. Six *specialskolor* at the national school or regional schools focus on teaching pupils whose hearing is poor, while the national school caters for those with auditory impairments who also have learning disabilities, as well as those who are deaf and blind from birth. The Resource Centre for Speech and Language and the Resource Centre Sight admit, respectively, pupils with language impediments and visually impaired pupils with further disabilities. The *specialskolor* are non-denominational and co-educational. Central government covers virtually all costs incurred by their pupils, including board, lodging and travel, although home municipalities offer assistance through a fee paid to the government. Pupils at *specialskola* progress to **Gymnasieskola** in the same way as those attending *grundskola* and receive the same certificate (*slutbetyg från grundskolan*).

### Specjalyrkesläroanstalt

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -läroanstalten, -läroanstalter, -läroanstalterna

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for [♦ Ammatilinen erityisopilaitos](#).

### Specjalna szkoła policealna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Specjalne szkoły policealne, specjaln\* szkoł\* policealn\*

**Level:** ISCED 4 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering advanced vocational and technical post-secondary courses to students aged 19 to 24 with special educational needs. For further information, see [♦ Szkoła policealna](#). This institution can be part of a [♦ Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy](#).

### Specjalna zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Specjalne zasadnicze szkoły zawodowe, specjaln\* zasadnicz\* szkoł\* zawodow\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time upper secondary vocational education to students aged 16 to 24 with special educational needs. For full information, see [♦ Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa](#). This institution can be part of a [♦ Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy](#).

### Specjalne technikum uzupełniające

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Specjalne technika uzupełniające, specjaln\* technik\* uzupełniająç\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering general and technical upper secondary education to students aged 18/19 to 24/25 with special educational needs. For full information, see [♦ Technikum uzupełniające](#). This institution can be part of a [♦ Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy](#).

### Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Specjalne ośrodki szkolno-wychowawcze, specjaln\* ośrodek\* szkolno-wychowawç\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution consisting of several special schools at different levels ([♦ Gimnazjum specjalne](#), [♦ Liceum \(specjalne\)](#), [♦ Przedszkole specjalne](#), [♦ Specjalna szkoła policealna](#), [♦ Specjalne technikum uzupełniające](#), [♦ Technikum specjalne](#), [♦ Specjalna zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa](#), [♦ Szkoła podstawowa specjalna](#)) and boarding facilities for pupils or students with special educational needs, whose age depends on the type and level of the

schools concerned. Admission is based on age and the recognition of special educational needs. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and may or may not be divided into stages, depending on the type of school. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see [gimnazjum specjalne](#).

### Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Specjalne ośrodki wychowawcze, specjaln\* ośrodek\* wychowawç\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution which combines a boarding school and rehabilitation activities for pupils or students aged 7 to 24 with similar types of special educational need. Admission is based on age and the recognition of special educational needs. There is no curriculum as such and activities depend on the type of need, with strong emphasis on the rehabilitation programme. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see [♦ Gimnazjum specjalne](#).

### Spillschoul

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 0

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of full-time compulsory pre-primary education to children aged 4 to 6. For information on status and administrative responsibilities, see [♦ Lycée](#). No fees are payable at these institutions which are funded partly by central government and partly by the municipal authorities. Since the 2004/05 school year, all municipalities have had to offer this programme on an optional basis to children aged 3 and over, and some of them are already providing it. Children subsequently continue their education at an [♦ École primaire](#).

### Srednja poklicna šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Srednje poklicne šole, srednj\* poklicn\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for [♦ Poklicna šola](#).

### Srednja strokovna šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Srednje strokovne šole, srednj\* strokovn\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full- and part-time technical upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 19. It can be organised as a separate institution, or together

with ♦ *Poklicna šola* in the same field of education. Such a composite organisation appears under different names, including *srednja poklicna in tehniška šola*, *poklicna in strokovna šola*, etc. Furthermore, this type of organisation can be part of a ♦ *Šolski center*. Admission is based on successful completion of ♦ *Osnovna šola* or a short vocational course (*spričevalo o zaključnem izpitu*). In addition, some of the courses require a test of special artistic or psychological/physical abilities as a prerequisite for admission. If there is pressure on places, selection is based on results in the final external examination and in certain subjects in the last years of *osnovna šola*. Some institutions offer 2-year technical courses for students who have successfully completed 3-year vocational courses in *poklicna šola*. The curriculum depends on the branch of study and is not divided into stages. At the end of the course, students have to take the partially external vocational *poklicna matura* examination. This school's certificate of completion, *spričevalo o poklicni maturi*, enables them to enter specific occupations in the labour market, continue education in ♦ *Višja strokovna šola* or embark on professionally oriented tertiary courses offered by ♦ *Akademija*, ♦ *Visoka strokovna šola* or ♦ *Fakulteta*. It is possible to take an additional subject from the general *matura* examination and to obtain the *maturitetno spričevalo*, which enables students to apply for academic courses offered by *fakulteta* or *akademija*. For information on the language of instruction, administrative responsibility, status and funding, see *poklicna šola*. Synonym: *Srednja tehniška šola*.

### Srednja tehniška šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Srednje tehniške šole, srednj\* tehnišk\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ♦ *Srednja strokovna šola*.

### Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte (Средно общообразователно училище)

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Sredni obchtoobrazovatelni utchilishta

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 12 years of full-time general primary, lower and upper secondary education in three stages, or lower and upper secondary education in two stages for pupils/students aged from 6-7 to 19, or 9 years of full-time education for pupils/students aged from 10 to 19. Admission at the age of 7 or a year earlier is optional as a matter of parental choice. Attendance at ♦ *Detska gradina* is compulsory one

year before the beginning of *sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte*. Admission is based on age and a readiness test organised by a medical and educational commission with the municipal council or the school head. The Ministry of Education and Science has overall responsibility for these public and private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Public institutions are centrally or municipally funded while private establishments are self funded. No fees are payable in public establishments. At the end of the first stage (4 years), pupils receive the certificate of completion *udostoverenie za zavurčen IV clas*, which gives access to lower secondary education at *sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte*. At the end of the second stage, students receive the certificate of completion *svidetelstvo za zavurčeno osnovno obrazovanie*, which gives access to upper secondary education or to vocational training at ♦ *Profesionalna gimnazija* and ♦ *Profesionalno utchilishte*. Students who pass the final examination receive the certificate *diploma za zavurčeno sredno obrazovanie*, which gives access to tertiary education at ♦ *Academia (+)*, ♦ *Kolej*, ♦ *Universitet*. Abbreviation: COY.

### Statlig høyskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Statlige høyskoler

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary courses. Courses lead to occupational qualifications (*høyskolekandidat*), degree level qualifications (*bachelor i (+)* and *master i (+)*), and to doctorates (Ph.D.), depending on the type of institution. For further information, see ♦ *Høyskole*.

### Stredná odborná škola

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Stredné odborné školy, stredn\* odborn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Upper secondary vocational education in full- or part-time courses lasting 4 years to students aged from 15 to 19. Commercially oriented schools offer 5-year courses, while some schools offer 3-year courses for women students (in nursing and service and home economics). Admission is based on successful completion of ♦ *Základná škola* and an entrance test organised by the school. At the end of their course, students can take the school leaving examination *maturitná skúška*, and those who are successful receive the school leaving certificate *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* enabling them to enter tertiary education (see summary table) and/or the labour market.

- Tertiary full-time vocationally oriented education lasting 3 years for students from the age of 19 who hold a *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* and satisfy institutional requirements. The Ministry of Education determines the curricula. Successful students receive a professionally oriented qualification, *absolventský diplom*.

The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private – and mainly state-funded – institutions, which are normally co-educational. Private institutions may be denominational. The Ministry of Health is responsible for the provision and duration of courses at institutions offering courses in health care. No fees are payable except in the case of private establishments.

### Stredné odborné učilište

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Stredné odborné učilišťa, stredn\* odborn\* učilišti\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 to 4 years of full-time vocational upper secondary education to students aged from 15 to 18/19. Admission is based on successful completion of *Základná škola* and an entrance test organised by the school. The Ministry of Education, as well as other ministries (including Economic Affairs, Transport, Building Industries and Public Works, Health, Education, Agriculture, Interior and Defence) share overall responsibility for these public or private – and mainly state-funded – institutions, which are normally co-educational. Some private establishments are denominational. No fees are payable except in the case of private institutions. The 3-year courses prepare students for entry to trades and vocational activities corresponding to the particular branch of apprenticeship concerned. Courses end with a final examination *záverečná skúška*, following which successful students receive the vocational proficiency *výučný list* certificate. The 4-year courses prepare students for entry to more demanding trades and technical/commercial jobs of an operational nature. Courses end with a school-leaving examination *maturitná skúška*, following which successful students receive the certificate *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške*, which enables them to enter tertiary education (see summary table) and/or the labour market.

### Střední odborná škola

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Střední odborné školy, střední\* odborn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2-4 years of technical upper secondary education on a full-time basis to students aged 15 to 19, or on

a part-time basis to adults. Admission requirements include the successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at *Základní škola* or *Speciální základní škola (+)*, and the admissions procedure usually involves an entrance examination organised by the school. Students may specialise in the field of industry, commerce, agriculture, the health service, art or teaching. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational. On completion of their studies, students on 4-year courses take the final examination *maturitní zkouška*, and those who are successful receive the certificate *vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce*, which enables them to enter tertiary education at any *Vysoká škola (+)* or *Vyšší odborná škola*, or the labour market. Students on 2- and 3-year courses take the final examination *závěrečná zkouška* and, if successful, are awarded the *vysvědčení o závěrečné zkoušce* certificate which enables them to enter the labour market or embark on extension courses leading to the *vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce* certificate for entry to all types of tertiary education (see summary table). Abbreviation: SOŠ.

### Střední odborné učiliště

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Střední odborná učiliště, střední\* odborn\* učilišt\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2-4 years of vocational upper secondary education on a full-time basis to students aged 15 to 19, or on a part-time basis to adults. Admission requirements include the successful completion of compulsory nine-year education at *Základní škola* or *Speciální základní škola (+)*, and the admissions procedure may include an entrance examination organised by the school. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational. At the end of their studies, students on 4-year courses take the final examination *maturitní zkouška*, and those who are successful receive the certificate *vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce* which enables them to enter tertiary education at various *Vysoká škola (+)* or *Vyšší odborná škola*, or the labour market. Students on 2- and 3-year courses take the final examination *závěrečná zkouška* and, if successful, are awarded the *výučný list* certificate, which enables them

to enter the labour market or embark on extension courses leading to the *vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce* certificate for entry to *vysoká škola* or *vyšší odborná škola*. Abbreviation: SOU.

### Studenterkursus

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Studenterkurset, studenterkurser, studenterkurserne

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution for adults wishing to acquire the general upper secondary education certificate, *studentereksamen*. It offers a two-year full-time course or evening classes, and is open to students who have passed the *folkeskolens udvidede afgangsprøve* at *Grundskole*. These institutions offer the same two areas of study, and the same compulsory and optional subjects at two levels as the *Gymnasium*. However, teaching is in a more concentrated form, and music, creative arts and physical education are not obligatory. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for them, and they may be public or private. Public establishments are state funded, while private establishments are grant aided. Fees have to be paid. Successful students receive the *Studentereksamen*, which qualifies them for admission to tertiary education programmes (see *gymnasium*).

### Suaugusiujų mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Suaugusiujų mokyklas, suaugusiujų mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Adult education institution offering both sequential and modular full- and part-time primary education, and general lower and upper secondary education, as well as non-formal courses. Candidates aged 18 or over may enrol. This institution is organised as an independent educational establishment. Compulsory primary, lower and upper secondary subjects are offered in line with the national curriculum. The Ministry of Education and Science draws up teaching plans. The main source of funding is the municipal budget. These institutions are co-educational and may be denominational. Adults may gain a certificate for completing a module or a course of several years, a primary school leaving certificate (*pradinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*), a lower secondary school leaving certificate (*pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas*), or an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*brandos atestatas*) giving access to *Profesinė mokykla* (option 4) and all types of tertiary education (see summary table). For information on funding, see *Mokykladarželis*.

### Szakiskola

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Szakiskola\*, szakiskolák

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 1-2 years of full- and part-time vocational education in a single stage to pupils aged 14 to 16. Provided that there is a certificate testifying to completion of the first eight years of compulsory/basic education, there are no special admission requirements. The Ministry of Education in consultation with the main social partners on the labour market has overall responsibility for these institutions. At the end of their educational/training programme, pupils can take a final examination focusing on a particular profession/trade (*szakmai vizsga*). Those who are successful receive a certificate of completion (*szakképzőiskolai képesítő bizonyítvány*) which enables them to enter the labour market as skilled workers. For information on status and funding, see *Általános iskola*.

### Szakközépiskola

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Szakközépiskola\*, szakközépiskolák

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 or 5 years of full-time general upper secondary and vocational education to students aged from 14 to 18/19 (vocational provision occurs exclusively on completion of the second year). To gain entry, students may have to pass the *felvételi vizsga* entrance examination. The curriculum is determined by the type of school and is based on the requirements of the National List of Qualifications and governed by the regulations of the upper secondary school leaving examination *érettségi vizsga*. There are 2 or 3 training stages. At the end of the second or third stage, students receive the certificate of completion (*szakközépiskolai bizonyítvány*) needed to take the final examination, which may be either *szakközépiskolai érettségi-képesítő vizsga* or *szakmai vizsga*. Those who pass it receive a type of certificate that depends on the branch and duration of their studies and enables them to enter the labour market as skilled workers or technicians/apprentices, or embark on tertiary education at *Egyetem* or *Főiskola*. For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see *Általános iskola*.

### Szakmunkásképző iskola

**Country:** Hungary

**Grammatical variants:** Szakmunkásképző iskola\*, szakmunkásképző iskolák

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time vocational education to students aged 14 to 17. There is no entrance examination but applicants must undergo a medical examination. The curriculum and practical training guidelines are developed locally, in accordance with the requirements of the National List of Qualifications. The curriculum is divided into two stages, the first lasting 2 years and the second one year. At the end of the third year, pupils receive the certificate of completion (*szakmunkásképző iskolai bizonyítvány*) needed to take the final examination (*szakmai vizsga*). For information on the authority responsible, status and funding, see ▶ *Általános iskola*.

### Szkoła Główna Służby Pożarniczej

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły główne służby pożarniczej, szkoł\* główn służb\* pożarnicz\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in fire security matters, which offers full-, part-time, extramural and evening courses to students, usually from the age of 19. For information on qualifications required for admission, see ▶ *Akademia (+)*. Students have to fulfil institutional requirements and pass a specialist entrance examination. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded by central government. No fees are payable. First-cycle courses lead to the degree of *inżynier pożarnictwa*. Long courses and second-cycle courses lead to the degree of *magister inżynier pożarnictwa*. In 2004/05, attempts were made to introduce advanced research degrees (*doktor*) at this institution.

### Szkoła podstawowa

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły podstawowe, szkoł\* podstawow\*

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 6 years of full-time primary education for children aged 7 to 13. Admission is based on age. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is divided into two stages of three years each. At the end of the programme, pupils take a compulsory final external test and can be admitted to the ▶ *Gimnazjum*. Successful pupils receive the certificate *świadectwo ukończenia szkoły podstawowej*. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *gimnazjum*.

### Szkoła podstawowa dla dorosłych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły podstawowe dla dorosłych, szkoł\* podstawow\* dla dorosłych

**Level:** ISCED 1 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering one year of part-time primary education to adults. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is offered as the 6th year only. For further information, see ▶ *Szkoła podstawowa*.

### Szkoła podstawowa specjalna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły podstawowe specjalne, szkoł\* podstawow\* specjaln\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time primary education to children with special educational needs aged 7 to 16. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public centrally and regionally (*powiat*) funded institutions, and private state-subsidised establishments. For further information, see ▶ *Szkoła podstawowa*. This institution can be part of a ▶ *Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy*.

### Szkoła policealna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły policealne, szkoł\* policealn\*

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering advanced vocational and technical post-secondary courses for students, usually from the age of 19, who hold a general upper secondary school leaving certificate (*świadectwo ukończenia szkoły średniej*) obtained at ▶ *Liceum (+)* and meet institutional and course requirements. Courses lead to vocational qualifications in the relevant discipline. The Ministry of National Education and Sport – and in certain cases other ministries – have overall responsibility for these public centrally and regionally funded establishments and private state-subsidised institutions. Private establishments may be denominational. No fees are payable in public establishments.

### Szkoła policealna dla dorosłych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Szkoły policealne dla dorosłych, szkoł\* policealn\*

**Level:** ISCED 4 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part-time advanced vocational and technical post-secondary courses to adults. For further information, see ▶ *Szkoła policealna*.



### **Techniki scholi (Τεχνική σχολή)**

**Country:** Cyprus

**Grammatical variants:** Technikes scholes, technik\* schol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 years of full-time technical and vocational upper secondary education in a single stage to students aged 15 to 18. Admission is based on successful completion of **◆ Gymnasio**. Technical and vocational education has two components, namely theoretically based provision (focusing on theoretical aspects) and practically oriented provision (focusing on applied aspects). The first year of studies is common for each component and students select a specialism (in the branch of their choice) in the second and third year of studies. The Ministry of Education and Culture has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are state funded, normally co-educational and denominational. In cooperation with the Human Resource Development Authority (*archi anaptyxis anthropinou dynamikou*), final year students receiving practically oriented provision are placed in various industries in which they are trained under real working conditions. No fees are payable. At the end of the third year, students must take final external examinations set by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Those who are successful receive the *apolytirio technikis scholis* leaving certificate, which is equivalent to that awarded by **◆ Eniaio Lykeio** and is a minimum requirement for entry to tertiary education at **◆ Panepistimio**.

### **Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio (Τεχνικό επαγγελματικό εκπαιδευτήριο)**

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Technika epaggelmatika ekpedeftiria, technik\* epaggelmatik\* ekpaideftiri\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time general, technical and vocational upper secondary education to students aged 15-17/18. A lower secondary certificate (*apolytirio gymnasiou*) obtained in **◆ Gymnasio** or **◆ Scholeio defteris eferias** is required for admission. Provision is in two

stages, the first lasting two years and the second, one year. Evening classes are also provided with an extra semester for both stages. On successful completion of the first stage, students are awarded the leaving certificate *apolytirio technikou epaggelmatikou ekpaideftiriou*, which gives access to employment, to the second stage of the corresponding field of specialisation, or to the second year of an **◆ Eniaio lykeio**. The second-stage TEE leaving certificate *apolytirio technikou epaggelmatikou ekpaideftiriou* gives access to employment or to **◆ Institutou epaggelmatikis katartisis**, or entitles its holders to sit entrance exams for a **◆ Technologiko ekpaideftiko idryma** or to teach students at the first stage. For information on responsibilities and funding, see *eniaio lykeio*. Abbreviation: TEE.

### **Technikum**

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Technika, technik\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Starting the 2002/03 school year, this institution offers 4 years of full-time general and technical upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 20. Admission is based on the *świadectwo ukończenia gimnazjum* and the results of the final examination at the end of **◆ Gimnazjum**. The curriculum has to be developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is not divided into stages. On completion of the programme, students may take the vocational proficiency examination. Successful candidates receive the certificate *świadectwo ukończenia technikum* which formally qualifies them for a particular trade or occupation. Students may also take the final examination and, if successful, receive the *świadectwo dojrzałości* certificate, which is required for admission to all types of course at tertiary education institutions (see summary table). For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see **◆ Liceum (+)**. Before 2002/03 this institution offered 5 years of full-time general and technical upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 20. It ceased to exist in 2005.

### Technikum dla dorosłych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Technika dla dorosłych, technik\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of part-time general and technical upper secondary education to adults. For further information, see ▶ *Technikum*.

### Technikum specjalne

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Technika specjalne, technik\* specjaln\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering general and technical upper secondary education to students aged 16 to 24 with special educational needs. For full information, see ▶ *Technikum*. This institution can be part of a ▶ *Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy*.

### Technikum uzupełniające

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Technika uzupełniająca, technik\* uzupełniająca\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** A new institution first established in 2004/05, which offers 3 years of full- or part-time technical upper secondary education to students aged 18/19 to 21/22, in preparation for the upper secondary final examination. Admission is based on the successful completion of ▶ *Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa*. The curriculum is developed on the basis of the national core curriculum. At the end of the programme, students take the vocational proficiency exam and a final examination. Successful candidates receive a qualification giving them access to a trade or occupation and the *świadectwo dojrzałości* certificate, which is required for admission to all types of course at tertiary education institutions (see summary table). For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see ▶ *Liceum* (+).

### Technische Hochschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Technische Hochschulen, Technischen Hochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Technische Universität*.

### Technische Universität

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Technische Universitäten, Technischen Universitäten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution specialising in natural science and engineering courses. For full information, see ▶ *Universität*. Generic term: *Hochschule*. Synonym: *Technische Hochschule*.

### Technologiko ekpaideftiko idryma (Τεχνολογικό εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα)

**Country:** Greece

**Grammatical variants:** Technologika ekpaideftika idrymata, technologic\* ekpaideftik\* idrymat\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering technological multidisciplinary 4-year courses for students from the age of 18. Admission is open to those who hold either the two upper secondary education leaving certificates obtained in ▶ *Eniaio lykeio* (the *apolytirio eniaiou lykeiou* and *vevaiosi* certification) with marks in specific subjects that meet the entrance requirements of the institution concerned, or a vocational upper secondary qualification (*apolytirio technikou epaggelmatikou ekpaideftiriou*) obtained in ▶ *Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio*. The Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs has overall responsibility for these public (state-funded) institutions. No fees are payable. Courses lead to first degrees (*ptychio* (+)). Abbreviation: TEI.

### TEE

**Country:** Greece

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Techniko epaggelmatiko ekpaideftirio*.

### Tehnikums

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Tehnikumi, tehnikumos

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Arodvidusskola* (+).

### TEI

**Country:** Greece

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Technologiko ekpaideftiko idryma*.

### Teknisk fagskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Tekniske fagskoler

**Level:** ISCED 4

**Explanatory note:** Post-secondary, occupationally oriented institution offering 2 years of full-time education to students who have completed vocational upper secondary education. The *fagbrev* certificate awarded at ▶ *Videregående skole* is required for admission. The *teknisk fagskole* provides technical education in a single cycle. The

Ministry of Education and Research has had overall responsibility for the study programme. In the future studies have to be accredited by the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT). Education is provided by institutions owned by the county, often in connection with upper secondary education. The activities are financed by the state. No fees are payable. At the end of the programme, successful pupils receive the *vitnemål* certificate, which gives access to the trade or occupation concerned, as well as to further tertiary education at **▶** *Høyskole* and **▶** *Universitet*.

### **Teknisk gymnasium**

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Tekniske gymnasier

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Term used for the department of **▶** *Teknisk skole* or **▶** *Erhvervsskole* which offers the upper secondary HTX programme.

### **Teknisk skole**

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Tekniske skoler

**Level:** SCED 3 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full- or part-time technical vocational education and training (VET) programmes (see **▶** *Erhvervsskole*), HTX

programmes at upper secondary level, and short technical tertiary education programmes (see **▶** *Erhvervsakademi*). HTX programmes are open to students aged from 16 to 19/20, who have passed the *folkeskolens afgangsprøve* and been recommended by teaching staff at the **▶** *Grundskole*. The curriculum comprises general and technical commercial areas of study. These institutions are private self-governing establishments primarily funded by the State and the Ministry of Education is responsible for the legislative framework. They are co-educational and non-denominational. No fees are payable. Students who pass the *højere teknisk eksamen* (HTX) may embark on tertiary programmes (see **▶** *Gymnasium*).

### **Tertiary college**

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**Explanatory note:** Term sometimes used to describe an institution which combines the functions of a general **▶** *Further education college* and a **▶** *Sixth-form college*, and which offers a full range of full- or part-time courses, including both basic education and general and vocational education and training, to students over compulsory school age (16) including adults. For further information, see *further education college*.





### Učiliště

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Učiliště, učilišť\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of full-time vocational upper secondary education to students aged 15 to 17. It provides training for various professions for those who ended their compulsory schooling below the ninth year or who failed to complete the ninth year of *Základní škola*. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and regionally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational. At the end of the second year, pupils can take the final examination *závěrečná zkouška*, and those who are successful receive the certificate *výuční list*, which gives access to the labour market.

### Uczelnia artystyczna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Uczelnie artystyczne, uczelni\* artystyczn\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-, part-time, extramural and evening artistic courses to students, usually from the age of 19. For information on qualifications required for admission, see *Akademia* (+). Students have to pass a specialist entrance examination. The Ministry of Culture has overall responsibility for this state-funded institution, which can be public or private. No fees are payable in public institutions for full-time day courses. Long courses lead to the degree of *magister sztuki*. First- and second-cycle studies lead to the degree of *licencjat* and *magister sztuki* respectively. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) are also offered. There are different types of *uczelnia artystyczna*, namely *akademia muzyczna* (music), *akademia sztuk pięknych* (fine arts) and *wyższa szkoła teatralna* or *akademia teatralna* (theatre studies). Synonym: *Akademia artystyczna*.

### Ülikool

**Country:** Estonia

**Grammatical variants:** Ülikoolid

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering multidisciplinary academic courses and medium-length professionally oriented programmes for students, usually from the age of 18, who hold a secondary school leaving certificate obtained at *Gümnaasium*, a secondary vocational education certificate obtained at *Kutseõppeasutus*, or a foreign qualification recognised as equivalent. Admission may be subject to further institutional or course requirements. The language of instruction can be Estonian, Russian or English. These public and private establishments are under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education and Research. The public universities are essentially funded by the State. Private universities are financed by their own means. Study activities are financed from the state budget to the extent of the state-commissioned student places. Tuition fees are payable in private institutions. For public universities, there is a *numerus clausus* system limiting the number of students, and those not included within it have to pay tuition fees. Long courses lead to the *magistrikraad*, *arhitektiõppe* or other academic diplomas depending on the field of study. First-cycle courses lead to the *bakalaureusekraad* diploma which gives access to the labour market or to second-cycle studies. On completion of the second cycle, students receive the *magistrikraad* diploma which gives access to the labour market or to doctoral studies (*doktorikraad*).

### Umetniška akademija

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Umetniške akademije, umetnišk\* akademij\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for *Akademija*.

### Ungdomsskole

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Ungdomsskolen, ungdomsskoler, ungdomsskolerne

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering education on a part-time basis or in evening classes for pupils/students aged 14 to 18. Provision of this kind enables students in the upper forms of ▶ *Grundskole* or in upper secondary education in ▶ *Erhvervsskole*, ▶ *Gymnasium*, ▶ *Handelsskole* or ▶ *Teknisk skole* to do subjects that may not be offered in their main educational institution, including leisure-time subjects such as electronics, media, ceramics and home economics, etc. Alternatively, they may improve their knowledge and proficiency in subjects taught in compulsory education and again prepare for the *grundskole* examinations. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for the provision offered by institutions, but individual schools are the responsibility of the municipality in which they are located. These are public institutions funded by the municipality. They are co-educational and non-denominational and no fees are payable.

### Universidad

**Country:** Spain

**Grammatical variants:** Universidades

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short, medium-length or long university courses for students, usually from the age of 18, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*bachiller*) awarded at ▶ *Instituto de educación secundaria* or ▶ *Centro concertado de educación secundaria*, an advanced level vocational training qualification (*técnico superior*) awarded at an ▶ *Instituto de formación profesional superior* or *instituto de educación secundaria*, or their equivalent. Those who want to pursue more than the first cycle of studies must take an entrance examination as stipulated by the central government. In the case of first-cycle studies, it is not in principle necessary to sit such an examination. However, since those students who do so have priority over those who do not and given that places for all courses are limited, passing the examination is effectively essential. Following full implementation of the 2001 Organic Act on Universities (LOU), the latter are responsible for the admission policies relating to students who apply for entrance to their centres. These procedures are drawn up in accordance with basic regulations established by the government. Furthermore, the 2002 Organic Act on the Quality of Education (LOCE) states that, in any event, the *bachillerato* final qualification is the priority requirement. *Universidades* have their own legal identity. They are mostly funded by the educational administration of the Autonomous Community concerned. Fees are payable. There are administrative subdivisions on separate premises, the most usual being ▶ *Escuela universitaria*, ▶ *Escuela técnica superior*, ▶ *Facultad*

and ▶ *Instituto universitario*. Courses lead to first degree qualifications (*diplomatura en (+)*, *licenciatura en (+)*, *maestro (+)*, second degree qualifications (*diploma de estudios avanzados*) and doctorates (*doctorado en (+)*).

### Universidade

**Country:** Portugal

**Grammatical variants:** Universidades

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium and long courses for students, usually from the age of 18, who hold a secondary certificate (*diploma de estudos secundários*) or its equivalent awarded at ▶ *Escola secundária* or ▶ *Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico* or ▶ *Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário*. Admission may be subject to further institutional or course requirements. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education has overall responsibility for the funding of these public institutions. A *universidade* consists of several ▶ *Faculdades* and/or ▶ *Institutos superiores (+)*, depending on the fields of study. Private, self-funded institutions, normally not divided into *faculdades*, also exist. Fees are payable both in public and private institutions. Courses lead to the degree level qualifications of *bacharelato*, *licenciatura* or *mestrado* and to doctorates (*doutoramento*).

### Università

**Country:** Italy

**Grammatical variants:** Università

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary full-time courses for students, usually aged 19, who hold an upper secondary education qualification (*Diploma di superamento dell'esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di studio di istruzione secondaria superiore*) obtained in any kind of upper secondary institution (see summary table), and – in the case of some faculties – pass an entrance examination. Courses lead to first-, second- and third-cycle qualifications (*diploma (+)*, *master*, *dottorato*). The Ministry of Universities and Scientific and Technological Research has overall responsibility for these public institutions, which are funded by central government. Fees are payable.

### Universität

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Universitäten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary medium-length and long courses for students from the age of 18 who hold the upper secondary qualification obtained

at ♦ *Allgemein bildende höhere Schule*, ♦ *Berufsbildende höhere Schule* or a recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further institutional or course requirements. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded at federal level. Study fees are payable. Courses lead to a first (*Bakkalaureus* (+)) and a second university degree (*Magister* (+), *Diplom-Ingenieur* (+)), as well as to advanced research degrees (*Doktor/in*).

Note: At universities specialising in arts education, admission depends on satisfactory performance in an entrance examination, instead of or alongside possession of an upper secondary school leaving certificate.

### Universität

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Universitäten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-time medium-length and long programmes to students, usually from the age of 18/19. Programmes on offer normally include theology, the humanities, law, business studies, medicine, sciences, engineering and the various kinds of teacher education. Admission is based on possession of the *Allgemeine Hochschulreife* obtained at the ♦ *Gymnasium*, the *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* obtained at the ♦ *Berufliches Gymnasium* (*Fachgymnasium*) or equivalent qualifications. Students holding the *Allgemeine Hochschulreife* are entitled to study any subject at university. However, in some subjects such as art, music or sport, ability tests are required. There are limitations on access in the fields of medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, business administration and psychology. The *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* also entitles students to study certain subjects. Under certain conditions, particularly well-qualified students who have been employed and do not have the qualifications normally required for admission have been able to enrol for courses. There are public and private *Universitäten*. The Ministry of Education in each *Land* has overall responsibility for public institutions, at which no tuition fees are normally payable. However, in special cases the legislation of the *Land* may provide for exceptions, for example in the case of long-term students. Tuition fees may be payable at private institutions. Public *Universitäten* are funded mainly by the *Land*. The federal government contributes to the overall costs of new university buildings and extensions, and also contributes financially to the development of *Hochschulen* with special programmes. Basic courses usually lead to *Bachelor* qualifications for which the standard period of study is three to four years. University courses

generally lead to an academic qualification for an occupation, namely *Diplomgrad*, *Lizentiatengrad*, *Magistergrad* and *Master*. The standard period of study for Master's courses is one to two years. It is also possible to study for the advanced research qualification, the *Doktorgrad*. The standard period of study for obtaining a doctorate is three years, although no maximum is specified in the regulations. Generic term: *Hochschule*.

### Universität für Humanwissenschaften

**Country:** Liechtenstein

**Level:** ISCED 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time third-cycle studies leading to doctorates. Admission is based on a university degree. These establishments are private and self funding. Fees are payable.

### Universitāte

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Universitātē, universitātei, universitātes

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short and long-term academic and professional programmes to students, usually from the age of 19. The language of instruction is Latvian. The institution provides both state-paid study places and places paid by students. The *universitāte* is an autonomous institution with self-governing rights. The Ministry of Education and Science defends the interests of institutions vis-à-vis parliament and the government. Institutions are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Science or other appropriate ministry. A certificate of (upper) secondary education obtained at ♦ *Vidusskola*, ♦ *Ģimnāzija*, ♦ *Arodvidusskola* (+) or ♦ *Speciālās izglītības iestāde*, or its equivalent is required for students to embark on 3-4 years of full-time academic and professional programmes, which lead to the *bakalaura diploms* for those who pass the *valsts pārbaudījums*. In 2004, entrance examinations were replaced by the results of the *centralizētie eksāmeni* organised in most subjects. *Bakalaura diploms* obtained at ♦ *Augstskola* or in *universitāte* are required to embark on academic or professional Master studies lasting 1 to 2 years. On completing their course, students have to pass the *gala pārbaudījums* and *valsts pārbaudījums*, and those who are successful obtain the *maģistra diploms*. The *Maģistra diploms* or its equivalent is required for admission to 3-4 years of full-time doctoral studies at *universitāte* or *augstskola*. After successful performance in final examinations and the defence of a doctoral thesis, the doctoral degree is awarded and the *doktora diploms* issued.

**Universitate (+)****Country:** Romania**Grammatical variants:** Universitatea, universităţi\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length and long full-, part-time and evening multidisciplinary courses for students, usually from the age of 18, who hold the final certificate awarded at ♦ *Liceu*. The institutions themselves organise the entrance examination, based on general criteria established by the Ministry of Education and Research. The university senate may decide if the average mark obtained by candidates in the *examen de bacalaureat* could be a criterion for admission. Teaching may be in Romanian or in the language of a national minority (Hungarian or German) as well as in English or French. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for these public or private institutions. State establishments are publicly funded, whereas private establishments are self funded and do not receive grants from the public sector. Students enrolled in public institutions must pay fees for the entrance examination, registration, extra-curricular activities and re-examination after failing an exam. In addition, students enrolled in private institutions must pay tuition fees. Some students in public-sector institutions have not obtained their places free of charge as the result of an entrance examination, but are able to attend courses in return for paying tuition fees. The name of this institution is usually followed by the name of the occupational field (e.g. *Universitatea de medicină și farmacie* specialising in medicine and pharmacy, *Universitatea politehnică* specialising in engineering, or *Universitatea de petrol și gaze* specialising in petrochemical studies). Other equivalent establishments offering courses at university level in specific fields are ♦ *Academie* (+), ♦ *Conservator* and ♦ *Institut* (+). Courses lead to degree level qualifications (*diploma* (+)) and doctorates (*diplomă de doctor*) as well as to further or specialisation diplomas (*diploma de studii aprofundate*, *diploma de studii academice postuniversitare* and *diploma postuniversitară de specializare*). According to the 2004 law, the degree structure based on three main cycles (Bachelor/Master/Doctorate) will be implemented.

**Universitate de muzică****Country:** Romania**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ♦ *Conservator*.**Université****Country:** Belgium (French Community)**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary programmes to students aged 18 and over. For information on entry requirements for the majority of fields of study, see ♦ *Haute École*. In veterinary science, students have to perform successfully in a special competitive interuniversity entrance examination. In engineering, students have to provide written evidence that they have passed a special entrance examination. Institutions of this kind may belong to the public or grant-aided private sector. They are all grant aided by the French Community and enrolment fees are payable. Courses are structured into three cycles. The first leads to the degree of *bachelier* (three years of study). The second cycle leads to the degree of *master* (1 or 2 years), veterinary surgeon (3 years), or doctor of medicine (4 years). Study for the *master complémentaire* (lasting at least one year) may be undertaken by those who have completed at least 5 years of initial education or training. Third-cycle courses include training in doctoral study and work for the preparation of a doctoral thesis. This provision is supervised by academic teams forming a recognised doctoral school attached to one or several university associations responsible for doctoral training in one or more fields. Doctoral courses (lasting one year), which are open to students who hold at least a two-year *master*, lead to a *certificat de formation à la recherche*. Work for the preparation of a doctoral thesis leads to the degree of *docteur*. In all cases, these activities correspond to at least 3 years of study following at least five years of initial education or training (*master*). The period of doctoral training may count for one year of study for the doctorate offered by *universités*.

**Université****Country:** France**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary academically oriented courses to students, usually from the age of 18, who have passed the upper secondary school leaving examination in a ♦ *Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique* or ♦ *Lycée professionnel*. The universities are public institutions, placed under the administrative control of the general inspectorate of the national administrative authorities for education, and under the financial control of the general inspectorate of finance. These institutions are funded by central government. Tuition fees are payable. First-cycle courses lead to a *licence* or a *licence professionnelle* (or, in certain institutions, a DEUG) which give access to the labour market or to second-cycle studies. Second-cycle courses (lasting one year) lead to a *master recherche* or *master professionnel* (or, in certain

institutions, a *maîtrise*) which give access to the labour market. Students wishing to pursue doctoral studies should then complete the second year of the *master recherche*. They may continue with advanced research leading to the title of *docteur*. The **▶ Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres**, **▶ Institut Universitaire Professionnalis ** and **▶ Institut Universitaire de Technologie** are administratively attached to the *universit s*.

### Universit 

**Country:** Luxembourg

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution which since the 2004/05 academic year has brought together the **▶ Centre universitaire**, **▶ Institut d' tudes  ducatives et sociales**, **▶ Institut sup rieur d' tudes et de recherches p dagogiques** and **▶ Institut Sup rieur de Technologie** within a single establishment. The *Universit  du Luxembourg* consists of three faculties, namely the faculty of science, technology and communications, the faculty of law, economics and finance, and the faculty of letters, humanities, arts and educational sciences. It offers multidisciplinary studies in two stages to students aged 19 and over who have obtained a secondary school leaving qualification at a **▶ Lyc e** or **▶ Lyc e technique**, or a foreign qualification recognised as equivalent, and who have passed an entrance examination or can produce firm evidence of professional experience and qualifications. The Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research is responsible for this public institution funded by central government. No enrolment fees are payable. The law states that mobility is compulsory at the level of *bachelor*, meaning that this degree can only be awarded if the student enrolled at the *Universit  du Luxembourg* has undertaken a period of study at a university or any other tertiary education institution abroad. For studies at the level of *Master*, a qualification or degree testifying that the previous level has been satisfactorily completed, or a recognised equivalent qualification, is required. It is planned that doctoral studies should be offered in certain fields with effect from October 2005.

### Universiteit

**Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)

**Grammatical variants:** Universiteiten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- or part-time academically oriented multidisciplinary courses to students, usually from the age of 18, who hold a secondary education diploma (*diploma secundair onderwijs*) obtained at **▶ Secundaire school**, or a recognised equivalent. Numerus clausus requirements are non-existent.

For some fields of study (e.g. medicine, dentistry and civil engineering) candidates have to pass an entrance exam. Universities are autonomous and grant aided by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. Some of them are denominational and fees are payable. University education has three cycles, with the *bachelor* degree obtained after the first cycle lasting 3 years. In order to obtain a *master* degree (or *tandarts*, *ingenieur*, *licentiaat*, *meester* or *architect* depending on the field of study) a further 2 years of study are required. The degree in medicine (*arts*) or veterinary medicine (*dierenarts*) require a further 4 and 3 years respectively subsequent to the 3 years necessary for the *bachelor* degree. The third-cycle degree, *Doctoraatsdiploma* can only be obtained by successfully defending a dissertation. Universities may also organise complementary or specialised academic training programmes.

### Universiteit

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Grammatical variants:** Universiteiten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary two-cycle courses and/or medium and long full- or part-time university level programmes for students from the age of 18, who hold an upper secondary school leaving qualification (*diploma vwo*) awarded at **▶ Vwo**. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this institution, which can be public (funded by central government) or private. Fees are payable. Courses lead to the degree of *getuigshrift van het afsluitend examen*, which confers on its holder the title of *Bachelor (+)*, *Master (+)*, *Meester*, *Ingenieur* or *Doctorandus*. The *Universiteit* may offer students opportunities to embark on independent study for a doctorate.

### Universitet

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetet, universiteter, universiteterne

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary or specialised courses covering three cycles to students from the age of 19. Provision is offered on a full- or part-time basis or in evening classes. Admission is based on an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained at **▶ Erhvervsskole**, **▶ Gymnasium**, **▶ Handelsskole**, **▶ HF-kursus**, **▶ Studenterkursus**, **▶ Teknisk skole** or **▶ Voksenuddannelsescenter**, or a recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further course requirements. Courses lead to the *bachelorgrad*, *kandidatgrad* and *Ph.d.-grad*. The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innova-

tion has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded through grants from the Ministry. No fees are payable. Another term used for some institutions is *universitetscenter*.

**Universitet**

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetet, universiteten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ▶ *Yliopisto*.

**Universitet**

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetet, universiteter, universitetene

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary medium and long university courses for students, starting from the age of 19, who hold an upper secondary qualification (*vitnemål*) awarded at ▶ *Videregående skole* and ▶ *Voksenopplæringscenter* or recognised equivalent. Admission may be subject to further course requirements. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for this publicly funded state institution. No fees are payable. Courses lead to degree level qualifications (*bachelor i (+)*, *candidatus (+)*, and *master i (+)*), and to doctorates (Ph.D.), depending on the type of institution.

**Universitet**

**Country:** Sweden

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetet, universiteten

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering:

- Tertiary education occupationally oriented courses (*kvalificerad yrkesutbildning*) on a full- and occasionally part-time basis to students from the age of 19. Admission is based on an upper secondary qualification (*slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*) obtained at ▶ *Gymnasieskola*, ▶ *Särskola*, ▶ *Kommunal vuxenutbildning* or ▶ *Fristående gymnasieskola*, or a recognised equivalent. Some courses may also have special requirements as regards previously acquired knowledge and skills. Courses vary in length between 40 and 120 weeks – of which one-third of the time is spent applying theoretical knowledge at the workplace. The Swedish Agency for Advanced Vocational Education is the supervising authority and the education provider receives state funding to organise the courses. No fees are payable. Courses lead to the *kvalificerad yrkesexamen* (a certificate in advanced vocational education).

- Multidisciplinary two-cycle courses and/or short/medium-length/long university level programmes to students normally aged 19 or over. Full-, part-time and evening courses are provided although full-time courses are most frequent. Admission is based on an upper secondary education qualification (*slutbetyg från gymnasieskolan*) obtained at ▶ *Gymnasieskola*, ▶ *Särskola*, ▶ *Fristående gymnasieskola*, ▶ *Kommunal vuxenutbildning*, or a recognised equivalent. A certain number of places are allocated to people who have studied at ▶ *Folkhögskola*. Most courses also have special requirements as regards previously acquired knowledge. The Ministry of Education, Research and Culture exercises overall responsibility for public institutions of this kind, which are funded by central government. One of the universities comes under the Ministry of Agriculture. No fees are payable. Courses lead to first degrees (e.g. *kandidatexamen*), second degrees (e.g. *magisterexamen*) and advanced research degrees (*licentiatexamen (+)* and *doktorsexamen (+)*).

**Universitet (Университет)**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Grammatical variants:** Universiteti

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering long (full-, part-time or evening) courses based on two main cycles in most fields of study and advanced (full- or part-time) study and research. Courses are for students usually aged 19 or over who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*diploma za zavurcheno sredno obrazovanie*) obtained at ▶ *Gimnazia*, ▶ *Profilirana gimnazia*, ▶ *Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte* and ▶ *Profesionalna gimnazia* and meet institutional requirements. These public state-funded or private self-funded institutions can include ▶ *Kolej* and are established following a decision of the Council of Ministers. The National Assembly has overall responsibility for establishing, transforming or closing them down. Tuition fees are payable in private institutions and public institutions. Courses lead to first- and second-cycle degrees and to doctorates (*diploma za zavurchena stepen na vischeto obrazovanie*).

**Universitetas**

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetai, universitet\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution offering multidisciplinary medium-length and long courses to students, usually from the age of 18/19, who hold an upper secondary certification (*brandos atestatas*) awarded at ▶ *Vidurinė mokykla*,

◆ *Gimnazija*, in option 3 of ◆ *Profesinė mokykla*, at ◆ *Suaugusiųjų mokykla* or the post-reform ◆ *Konservatorija* at upper secondary level, and who meet institutional admission requirements. If there is pressure on places, admission is competitive (based on secondary education results and, in some cases, entrance examinations). The language of instruction is Lithuanian, but some programmes are conducted in foreign languages (English, German, Russian, and Polish). These public and private institutions are under the authority of the Department of Research and Higher Education at the Ministry of Education and Science. Public institutions are state funded while private ones are maintained by their founders. Since 2002, students admitted to state-funded places at public institutions have not paid tuition fees, while the remainder pay a tuition fee irrespective of the study programme concerned. Each semester, a rotation scheme is applied under which state-funded and self-paying students are reallocated in accordance with their performance. These institutions may admit a certain number of additional self-financing students for evening and extramural studies. Courses lead to degree qualifications (e.g. the *Bakalauro diplomas* or *Magistro diplomas*) and doctorates (e.g. the *Daktaro mokslo laipsnio diplomas*). Other equivalent institutions ◆ *Academija* offer courses at university level in specific fields.

### Universitetscenter

**Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Universitetscentret, universitetscentre, universitetscentrene

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Term which, for historical reasons, is used for some institutions with the status of ◆ *Universitet*.

### University

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering courses over a full range of disciplines including art and design, humanities, science and medicine for students from the age of 17 who hold an upper secondary qualification (*Leaving Certificate*) awarded at ◆ *Secondary school* or ◆ *Vocational school* and meet institutional and course requirements. These public institutions are funded by central government through the Higher Education Authority. Under the Free Fees Initiative, eligible students do not have to pay tuition fees. Courses lead to first and second degrees (*Bachelor's* and *Master's*), doctorates, and undergraduate and postgraduate diplomas.

### University

**Country:** Malta

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary short, medium-length or long-term university level programmes for students generally from the age of 18. Admission is subject to institutional and course requirements but students must normally hold a *secondary education certificate* and a *university matriculation certificate* (at advanced level and intermediate level) obtained at ◆ *Junior college*, ◆ *Higher secondary school* and some independent and Church ◆ *Area secondary schools*, or recognised equivalent qualifications (e.g. a *diploma in (+)* from the ◆ *Institute of tourism studies*). The general language of instruction, except for foreign language lectures, is English. The institution is funded by government and is autonomous and self governing. Full-time courses are free. Regular residents are entitled by the government to maintenance grants. Courses lead to a first-cycle *bachelor's degree*, a second-cycle *master's degree* and advanced research degrees (*doctorates*). Certificates and diplomas are also awarded for short courses.

### University

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- or part-time bachelors degrees, masters degrees and doctorates for students from the age of around 18. Some universities also offer sub-degree (e.g. *Foundation Degree*), *further education* (secondary level) and *access to higher education* (post-secondary) programmes. All universities have the power to award their own degrees – university title may be granted to a tertiary education institution with degree-awarding powers (research degree-awarding powers in Northern Ireland) and with a specified number of full-time students. Admission is subject to institutional and/or course requirements but applicants to undergraduate programmes must normally hold GCE *A-levels* or a recognised equivalent. Universities differ in size, mission, subject mix and history but most offer courses in a range of disciplines. Because of their diverse backgrounds their constitutional arrangements vary but all are legally independent corporate institutions and receive a large proportion of their funding from central government through the Higher Education Funding Councils (England and Wales) or the Department for Employment and Learning (Northern Ireland). Tuition fees are payable by most students.

**University****Country:** United Kingdom (Scotland)**Level:** ISCED 4, 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- or part-time bachelors degrees, masters degrees and doctorates for students from the age of around 17. Some universities also offer sub-degree (e.g. DipHE, CertHE, HND, HNC), *further education* (secondary level) and *access to higher education* (post-secondary level) programmes. All universities have the power to award their own taught and research degrees – a university title may be granted to a tertiary education institution with research degree-awarding powers and with a specified number of full-time students. Admission is subject to institutional and/or course requirements but applicants to undergraduate programmes must normally hold Scottish *Highers*, *Advanced Highers*, *GCE A-levels*, or a recognised equivalent. Universities differ in size, mission, subject mix and history but most offer courses in a range of disciplines. Because of their diverse backgrounds their constitutional arrangements vary but all are legally independent corporate institutions and receive a large proportion of their funding from central government through the *Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council*. Scottish and other EU students do not pay tuition fees in Scottish institutions, although a graduate endowment is payable after graduation.

**University college****Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS/NIR)**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution which has been granted taught degree-awarding powers, but is not eligible for, or does not wish to use, the title 'university'. For more information, see [▶ University](#).

**Univerza****Country:** Slovenia**Grammatical variants:** Univerze, univerz\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University structure organising medium-length professionally oriented courses in a range of disciplines, and medium-length and long academic and postgraduate courses within the [▶ Fakulteta](#), [▶ Akademija](#), [▶ Visoka strokovna šola](#).

**Univerzita****Country:** Slovakia**Grammatical variants:** Univerzity, univerzit\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time multidisciplinary medium-length and long programmes for students from the age of 19 who hold an upper secondary qualification *vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške* awarded at a [▶ Gymnázium](#), [▶ Konzervatórium](#), [▶ Stredná odborná škola](#) and [▶ Stredné odborné učilište](#). Each faculty sets admission procedures independently. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for this publicly-funded state institution. No fees are payable (except registration fees). In some study programmes, courses (for which fees are payable) are offered in English, German or French. Courses lead to qualifications at degree level (*bakalár, magister, inžinier*) and to doctorates (*doktor*).

**Univerzita (+)****Country:** Czech Republic**Grammatical variants:** Univerzity, univerzit\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** University institution. For all information, see [▶ Vysoká škola \(+\)](#). The name of this institution can be followed or preceded by the field of study and followed by its location, as in the case of *technická univerzita v Liberci* and *veterinárni a farmaceutická univerzita Brno*, or by the name of a person, as in *univerzita Karlova*.

**Uniwersytet****Country:** Poland**Grammatical variants:** Uniwersytety, uniwersyte\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-, part-time, extramural and evening multidisciplinary academically oriented courses to students, usually from the age of 19. For information on qualifications required for admission, see [▶ Akademia \(+\)](#). Students have to meet institutional and faculty requirements. The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these public institutions, funded through central government. No fees are payable (except for extramural or evening classes). For further information on qualifications obtained, see *akademia (ekonomiczna)*.



### Vakara (maiņu) vidusskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Vakara (maiņu) vidusskolas, vakara (maiņu) vidusskolā

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:**

- Institution providing part-time (upper) secondary education for those who have not completed or begun it at ▶ *Vidusskola*. A basic education certificate obtained at ▶ *Pamatskola*, *vidusskola* or *vakara (maiņu) vidusskola* is required for admission to an (upper) secondary programme, together with a school report from the previous class if the pupil began the programme in another institution. The examinations and final qualifications are the same as in *vidusskola*.
- The institution may also provide part-time basic education for pupils who have not completed *pamatskola*. In such cases, a school report is necessary to enter the next class of the basic education programme, and the examinations and final qualifications are the same as in *pamatskola*.

The instruction is in Latvian, or Latvian and a minority language (usually Russian) in institutions providing programmes for minority education. Although private institutions are possible in law, they do not exist at present. For further information on administrative responsibility and financing, see *pamatskola*.

### Vbo

**Country:** The Netherlands

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Former term for ▶ *Vmbo* before its amalgamation with *mavo*.

### Verbundene Haupt- und Realschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Verbundene Haupt- und Realschulen, Verbundenen Haupt- und Realschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** Synonym for ▶ *Hauptschule* and ▶ *Realschule* in the *Land* of Hesse.

### VHS

**Country:** Austria

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ▶ *Volkshochschule*.

### Videregående skole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Videregående skoler

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 3 to 4 years of full- or part-time general and vocational upper secondary education to students aged from 16 to 19/20. Admission is based on completion of ▶ *Grunnskole*. In the case of programmes and schools with more applicants than available places, admission may be based on grades. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for these county-funded public or grant-aided private institutions, which are co-educational and non-denominational. Religion/ethics is a compulsory subject in areas of study qualifying for entrance to tertiary education but not in vocational areas of study. No fees are payable, except in private establishments. At the end of general and some vocational programmes, successful students receive the *vitnemål* certificate, which gives access to tertiary education at ▶ *Høyskole* and ▶ *Universitet*. At the end of other vocational studies, successful apprentices receive the *fagbrev* or *svennebrev* certificate, which gives access to ▶ *Teknisk fagskole*, or a trade or occupation.

### Vidurinė mokykla

**Country:** Lithuania

**Grammatical variants:** Vidurinės mokyklos, vidurin\* mokykl\*

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of full-time general upper secondary education for students aged from 16/17 to 18/19. Admission is based on completion of ▶ *Pagrindinė mokykla* and possession of the *pagrindinio išsilavinimo pažymėjimas* certificate. Institutions may also offer primary and lower secondary education.

Provision is in accordance with the general curriculum and the teaching strategy for schools offering general education. Instruction in years 11-12 is differentiated into levels B (*bendrasis*, or general) and I (*išplėstinis*, or extended). *Vidurinės mokyklos* may offer provision with an emphasis on the humanities, sciences, technologies or arts. On completion of the course, students take school-leaving examinations and those who are successful receive a *brandos atestatas*, which is an essential precondition for access to all types of tertiary education and to *Profesinė mokykla* (option 4). For information on administrative arrangements, funding, religious and legal status, and the language of instruction, see *Mokykla-darželis*.

### Vidusskola

**Country:** Latvia

**Grammatical variants:** Vidusskolas, vidusskolu, vidusskolām, vidusskolās

**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering mainly 3 years of full-time general (upper) secondary education to students aged 16 to 19. A basic education certificate obtained at *Pamatskola* is required for admission. An entrance examination can be organised by the institution. On completing their course, students have to take the *centralizētais eksāmens* or *eksāmens* in 5 subjects and tests in 3 subjects. Those who are successful receive the general (upper) secondary education certificate (*atestāts par vispārējo vidējo izglītību*), which gives access to all types of tertiary education (see summary table). The institution may also provide full general basic education for pupils aged 7-15, as in *pamatskola*, and compulsory pre-school education (see *Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde*) for children aged 5-6 in a setting called a 'pre-school education group'. The language of instruction is Latvian, or Latvian and a minority language (in the respective academic year – Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Hebrew, Lithuanian, or Estonian) in institutions providing programmes for minority education. For information on administrative responsibility and financing, see *pamatskola*.

### Višja strokovna šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Višje strokovne šole, višj\* strokovn\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering short vocationally oriented courses to students, usually from the age of 19. Admission is based on satisfactory completion of *Srednja strokovna šola*, *Gimnazija* or a recognised equivalent. If admission is restricted, candidates are

selected on the basis of their achievement in the final examination and on general achievement in secondary school. Courses lasting 2 years lead to the *diploma višje šole* with *naziv strokovne izobrazbe* in the relevant discipline, which qualifies graduates to enter the labour market or continue in specialised professionally oriented courses at *Akademija*, *Visoka strokovna šola* or *Fakulteta*. For information on the authority responsible, status, funding and organisation, see *Poklicna šola*. However no tuition fees are payable for full-time courses only, in publicly funded institutions.

### Visoka strokovna šola

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Visoke strokovne šole, visok\* strokovn\* šol\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering medium-length professionally oriented and postgraduate specialised courses in a range of disciplines for students, usually from the age of 19. Admission is based on satisfactory completion of *Srednja strokovna šola*, *Gimnazija* or a recognised equivalent. Some study courses can also require special abilities and/or psychological and physical characteristics as a prerequisite for admission. If admission is restricted, candidates are selected on the basis of their achievement in the final examination and on general achievement in secondary school. Public institutions are organised within the university structure *Univerza*, while private institutions are organised as separate institutions. Courses lasting 3 years lead to the title of *diplomirani* (+) in the relevant discipline, which gives access to the labour market or to specialised studies leading to the title of *specialist* (+). In some disciplines, it is also possible to enrol in the third year of academic type courses. For information on administrative authority, status and funding, see *Fakulteta*.

### Vitenskapelig høyskole

**Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Vitenskapelige høyskoler

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering specialised courses in agriculture, veterinary medicine, economics and business administration, architecture, physical education and sport or music. Courses lead to occupational qualifications (*høyskolekandidat*), degree level qualifications (*bachelor i* (+) and *master i* (+)), and to doctorates (Ph.D.), depending on the type of institution. For further information, see *Høyskole*.

**Vmbo****Country:** The Netherlands**Level:** ISCED 2

**Explanatory note:** The name given to a type of education offered at an institution for secondary education providing 4 years of full-time general and pre-vocational education to pupils aged 12 to 16, merging with the previous forms of education offered by the former institutions *mavo* and *vbo* (up until 1998/99). A *vmbo* school offers the lower secondary school common core curriculum (*basisvorming*) lasting 2 years, and two further years during which pupils prepare for the final certificate (*diploma vmbo*) in one of four learning pathways and 'sectors'. Admission is based on academic suitability determined by the **Basisschool** recommendation (and standardised national tests where taken). The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector schools may be denominational. All approved establishments are funded by the public sector in accordance with the same criteria. No fees are payable. Education of this type can be provided within a **Scholengemeenschap**. Holders of the *diploma vmbo* have access to **Mbo** at a **Regionaal opleidingencentrum** or to **Havo** (pupils who have successfully completed the theoretical programme within *vmbo* can also go on to the fourth year of *havo*). Full term: *Vorbereidend middelbaar beroepsonderwijs*.

**Vocational school****Country:** Ireland**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing up to 6 years of full-time lower and upper secondary education for pupils/students aged 12 to 18. Admission is based on completion of **Primary school**. This institution used to emphasise practical subjects, but the full range of secondary courses is now available and general education combined with technical and vocational subjects is provided. The curriculum is divided into two stages. *Vocational schools* are public establishments, mainly co-educational and non-denominational. They are state funded and managed by the Vocational Education Committee. No fees are payable. All pupils in the junior stage (for those aged 12 to 15) follow a broad general curriculum leading to a *junior certificate*. Pupils in the senior stage (those aged 15 to 17 or 18) choose a course for one of three types of senior leaving certificate, with which they may enter all types of tertiary education institution (see summary table) or employment.

**Voksenopplæringscenter****Country:** Norway

**Grammatical variants:** Voksenopplæringsssenteret, voksenopplæringscentre, voksenopplæringsssentrene  
**Level:** ISCED 1, 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering part- or full-time general compulsory/basic and upper secondary education for adults. Admission requirements for publicly recognised educational programmes for adults are the same as those for young pupils. The municipalities are responsible for compulsory/basic education for adults, and for training in Norwegian language and civic life for adult immigrants. County authorities are responsible for upper secondary education for adults. Adult education associations and distance education institutions also offer courses at these levels. The Ministry of Education and Research has overall responsibility for these municipal or county funded institutions, which are public and non-denominational. No fees are payable, except in private establishments. Successful participants receive the *vitnemål* certificate, which gives access to upper secondary or tertiary education (depending on the level).

**Voksenuddannelsescenter****Country:** Denmark

**Grammatical variants:** Voksenuddannelsescentret, voksenuddannelsescentre, voksenuddannelsescentrene

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Adult education institution offering primary and general secondary education to students from the age of 18 on a full- or part-time basis, or in evening classes. Admission is based on age. Institutions are co-educational and non-denominational. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for the provision offered by these public institutions, which are funded by the counties. A small fee is payable. Courses lead to the final examinations of the **Grundskole**, as well as the upper secondary *højere forberedelseseksamen* on a single-subject basis. For information on final examinations and qualifications and the provision to which they give access, see *grundskole* and **HF-kursus**.

**Volkshochschule****Country:** Austria**Grammatical variants:** Volkshochschulen**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing general adult education in different fields and also offering:

- Preparatory courses for the *Hauptschulabschluss* (general secondary school certificate).

- Preparatory courses for the *Berufsreifeprüfung* (vocational matriculation examination) which gives access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table).

Admission requirements and age depend on the different courses. Courses are financed by fees, as well as by grants from different administrative bodies (e.g. the Ministry of Education, *Länder*, Austrian Employment Agency). Abbreviation: VHS.

### Volkshochschule

**Country:** Germany

**Grammatical variants:** Volkshochschulen

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering a wide range of continuing education courses in general, vocational and social subjects. Special courses prepare students for general secondary education qualifications. The academic supervision (*Fachaufsicht*) of teaching, other educational activity and examinations are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education. Examinations have to be taken before an examining board which has to be chaired by a representative of the school supervisory authority and has to consist of teachers from the *Volkshochschule* and teachers from a public-sector school. *Volkshochschulen* are run by municipalities with the status of a district (*kreisfreie Städte*), rural districts (*Landkreise*) and communities (*kreisangehörige Gemeinden*). Financing is based on a division of responsibilities between the *Länder*, the local authorities (*Kommunen*), the districts (*Kreise*) and the Federal Employment Agency (*Bundesagentur für Arbeit*). Tuition fees are payable and cover 30-50 % of the costs of *Volkshochschulen* courses (especially general continuing education).

### Volksschule

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Volksschulen

**Level:** ISCED 1

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 4 years of full-time primary education to pupils aged 6 to 10 (or very occasionally an upper stage for those aged 10 to 14). There are no admission requirements, but children must be ready for schooling. While there is no final examination progression to lower secondary education is based on pupil performance, which is indicated in an annual report. Most primary schools are in the public sector and mainly funded by the municipalities. Legislation is mainly the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, although legislative responsibility for some matters lies with the provinces. The local education authorities (*Bezirksschulräte*) are in charge of administration.

### Voluntary aided school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of a **Maintained school** which may be either a **Primary school** or a **Secondary school**. Established by a religious or voluntary body (mainly the Catholic church and the Church of England), the school's land and buildings are normally owned by a charitable foundation. *Voluntary aided schools* receive revenue funding from the local authority and the majority of capital funding from central government but must contribute to capital costs. The school governing body employs the school staff and has primary responsibility for deciding the admissions policy. Most *aided schools* are denominational and often give preference for admission to members of a particular faith or denomination.

### Voluntary controlled school

**Country:** United Kingdom (ENG/WLS)

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **Maintained school** which may be either a **Primary school** or a **Secondary school**. Established by a religious or voluntary body (mainly the Church of England), the school's land and buildings are normally owned by a charitable foundation. *Controlled schools* are fully funded for both revenue and capital costs by the local authority which employs the school staff and has primary responsibility for deciding the admissions policy.

### Voluntary grammar school

**Country:** United Kingdom (NIR)

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** A legal category of **Secondary school** owned by trustees and fully funded for revenue costs by the *Department of Education*, although some may contribute an element towards capital costs depending on their agreement with the *Department of Education*. The school's *Board of Governors* employs the staff and decides on admissions. Some schools may charge minimal fees. They are selective (ability is assessed on the basis of an entrance exam), although transfer arrangements in Northern Ireland are scheduled to change and there will no longer be selective schools. They may be single-sex or co-educational and may be denominational or non-denominational.

### Voluntary secondary school

**Country:** Ireland

**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:** Privately owned, denominational establishment offering lower and upper secondary education, mainly funded by the Department of Education and Science. See **Secondary school**.

**Vorbereidend middelbaar beroepsonderwijs****Country:** The Netherlands**Level:** ISCED 2**Explanatory note:** Full term for **▸** *Vmbo*.**Vorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs****Country:** The Netherlands**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** Full term for **▸** *Vwo*.**Vorschule****Country:** Belgium (German-speaking Community)**Grammatical variants:** Vorschulen**Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Synonym for **▸** *Kindergarten*.**VOŠ****Country:** Czech Republic**Level:** ISCED 5**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▸** *Vyšší odborná škola (+)*.**Vrije School****Country:** Belgium (Flemish Community)**Grammatical variants:** Vrije Scholen**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4**Explanatory note:** Institution offering full-time pre-primary, primary or post-secondary education (and sometimes also part-time secondary or part-time artistic education). Most of these institutions belong to the grant-aided private sector of education and are administered and partly funded by private individuals, free associations or non-profit-making organisations. Schools are also grant aided by the Ministry of the Flemish Community. Normally, no tuition fees are payable. The majority of schools are denominational and co-educational. The **▸** *Basisschool*, **▸** *Centrum voor basiseducatie*, **▸** *Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs*, **▸** *Kleuterschool*, **▸** *Lagere School*, **▸** *Middenschool*, **▸** *School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs*, **▸** *School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs*, **▸** *School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs* and **▸** *Secundaire school* may all be *Vrije Scholen*.**Vrtec****Country:** Slovenia**Grammatical variants:** Vrtci, vrtc\***Level:** ISCED 0**Explanatory note:** Non-school institution for children aged from 1 to 6 offering pre-school education and care. It can be organised as a separate establishment or in conjunction with **▸** *Osnovna šola*. Admission is based on age. Education is divided into two stages, with the first from the age of 1 to 3 and the second from 3 to 6. The language of instruction can be that of a national minority (Hungarian or Italian). The Ministry of Education and Sport has overall responsibility for these

municipally funded settings, which can be public or private and are co-educational. Some private settings are denominational. Fees (to an amount dependent on family income) have to be paid in both public and private settings.

**VŠ****Country:** Czech Republic**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **▸** *Vysoká škola (+)*.**Vuxengymnasium****Country:** Finland**Grammatical variants:** Vuxengymnasiet, vuxengymnasier, vuxengymnasierna**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for **▸** *Aikuislukio*.**Vwo****Country:** The Netherlands**Level:** ISCED 2 and 3**Explanatory note:** The name given to a type of education offered at an institution offering 6 years of full-time general lower and upper secondary education to pupils/students aged 12 to 18. Admission is based on academic suitability determined by the **▸** *Basisschool* recommendation (and standardised national tests where taken). The curriculum is divided into two stages each lasting three years: in the first stage, all pupils complete the lower secondary school common core curriculum (*basisvorming*); in the second, they prepare for the final certificate (*diploma vwo*) in one of four disciplinary 'profiles'. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has overall responsibility for this public or private institution, which is co-educational. Subsidised private-sector schools may be denominational. All approved establishments are funded by the public sector in accordance with the same criteria. Fees are charged for students aged 16 and over. The **▸** *Atheneum*, **▸** *Gymnasium* and **▸** *Lyceum* are subtypes of a *Vwo* school. Education of this kind can be offered within a **▸** *Scholengemeenschap*. Holders of a *diploma vwo* have access to tertiary professional education at **▸** *Hogeschool* or to university education at **▸** *Universiteit*. Full term: *Vorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs*.**Vysoká škola****Country:** Slovakia**Grammatical variants:** Vysoké školy, vysok\* škol\***Level:** ISCED 5 and 6**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full- and part-time medium-length and long courses for students from the age of 19. Courses lead to occupationally oriented qualifications (*absolventský diplom*), degree level qualifications (*bakalár*) and doctorates (*doktor*). For information on admission requirements, the authority responsible and funding, see **▸** *Univerzita*.

### Vysoká škola (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Vysoké školy, vysok\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** General term for tertiary education institutions which provide accredited study programmes for students from the age of 19 who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate obtained (for example) at † *Gymnázium*, † *Konzervatoř*, † *Střední odborná škola* or † *Střední odborné učiliště*, and meet institutional or faculty requirements. Tertiary education institutions are legal entities and are either of university or non-university type. While both types offer programmes with two cycles or one long cycle, university institutions also offer programmes of advanced study and research. All institutions are public, private, or state establishments (in the case of those for the military and police). The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for public (state-funded or state-subsidised) and private (state-subsidised or self-funded) institutions. The Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Defence exercise overall responsibility for the police and military establishments, respectively. Entrance fees may be payable at both public and private institutions, but tuition fees only in private ones. Graduates obtain a *vysvědčení o státní závěrečné zkoušce* or *vysvědčení o rigorózní zkoušce* certificate and, following programmes of advanced study and research, a

*vysvědčení o státní doktorské zkoušce* and, depending on the programme concerned, a relevant academic title. The term *vysoká škola* can be a part of the name of a specific institution, in which case it is followed or preceded by the field of study, as in *vysoká škola ekonomická* or *vysoká škola pedagogická*. Abbreviation: VŠ. Other types of tertiary education institution include † *Univerzita* (+), † *Akademie* (+) and † *Institut* (+).

### Vyšší odborná škola

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Vyšší odborné školy, vyšší\* odborn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering specialised technical short or medium-length courses (lasting 2 to 3½ years) to students from the age of 19, who hold an upper secondary school leaving certificate (*vysvědčení o maturitní zkoušce*) obtained at (for example) † *Gymnázium*, † *Konzervatoř*, † *Střední odborná škola* or † *Střední odborné učiliště*, and meet institutional requirements. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these public and private (state-subsidised) institutions. Fees may be payable at both public and private institutions. Courses lead to the *absolutorium* examination and successful students receive the *vysvědčení o absolutoriu* certificate. Abbreviation: VOŠ.



## WIFI

**Country:** Austria

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of **Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut**.

## Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut

**Country:** Austria

**Grammatical variants:** Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitute

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution of the *Wirtschaftskammer* (Austrian Economic Chamber) offering vocational part-time courses for adults, which may lead to different accredited vocational qualifications. It also offers preparatory courses for the *Berufsreifeprüfung* which provides access to all types of post-secondary and tertiary education (see summary table) and various **Fachhochschule** study courses. Admission requirements and age depend on the different courses. Courses are financed mostly by fees. Abbreviation: WIFI.

## Wyższa szkoła (+)

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Wyższe szkoły, wyższ\* szkoł\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering full-, part-time, extramural and evening programmes to students, usually from the age of 19. For information on qualifications required for admission, see **Akademia (+)**. Other admission requirements vary from one type of institution or faculty to the next. There are different types of *wyższa szkoła*, depending on the area of specialisation:

- *Wyższa szkoła morska* is an institution specialising in maritime education. Students have to pass a specialist entrance examination. The Ministry of Infrastructure has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded by central government. No fees are payable for full-time day courses. Long courses lead to the degree of *magister inżynier*. First- and second-cycle courses lead to the degree of *inżynier* and *magister inżynier* respectively. Specialist postgraduate courses are also offered.
- *Wyższa szkoła pedagogiczna* is an institution specialising in educational sciences. The Minis-

try of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for this state-funded institution, which can be public or private. Long courses lead to the degree of *magister*. First- and second-cycle courses lead to the degree of *licencjat* and *magister* respectively. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) and specialist postgraduate courses are also offered. Synonym: *Akademia pedagogiczna*.

- *Wyższa szkoła policji* is an institution specialising in police and security matters. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration has overall responsibility for this public institution, which is funded by central government. No fees are payable. The institution offers three-year vocational training courses and graduates obtain the professional title of *oficer dyplomowany* (certified officer) equivalent to the title of *licencjat*. Specialist courses are also available for policemen, border guards, state security office staff, government guard agency staff and military police.
- *Wyższa szkoła wojskowa* is an institution specialising in military education. Students have to pass a specialist entrance examination. The Ministry of National Defence has overall responsibility for this public institution which is funded by central government. No fees are payable. Graduates obtain the title of *inżynier* (short courses), *magister inżynier* or *lekarz* (long courses), and are given the title of *podporucznik* (second lieutenant) on completion of *magister* level studies. Advanced research degrees (*doktor*) are also offered. Synonym: *Akademia wojskowa*.
- *Wyższa szkoła zawodowa* is an institution offering multidisciplinary professional and vocational courses. The Ministry of National Education and Sport has overall responsibility for this state-funded institution, which can be public or private. Fees are payable in private establishments. Study courses lasting three or four years lead to the degree of *licencjat/inżynier*.

## Wyższa szkoła teatralna

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Wyższe szkoły teatralne, wyższ\* szkoł\* teatraln\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Type of **Uczelnia artystyczna** specialising in drama.





## Yliopisto

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Yliopistot, yliopisto\*

**Level:** ISCED 5 and 6

**Explanatory note:** Tertiary education institution offering multidisciplinary two-cycle degree or doctoral programmes to students, usually from the age of 19, who have taken the matriculation examination at ♦ *Lukio*, ♦ *Aikuislukio* or ♦ *Kansanopisto*, or who hold a vocational upper secondary qualification following at least three years of study at ♦ *Ammatillinen oppilaitos*, ♦ *Ammatillinen aikuiskoulutuskeskus*, ♦ *Musiikkioppilaitos*, ♦ *Liikunnan koulutuskeskus* or *kansanopisto*, or a former post-secondary vocational qualification or a polytechnic degree obtained at ♦ *Ammattikorkeakoulu* or, finally, a corresponding international or foreign qualification. Universities may also admit applicants from the open university and those whom they deem to have sufficient ability to complete their course. Institutions set their own additional admission requirements based on entrance test results, grades in the matriculation certificate, work experience or former study experience. Some universities specialise in economics and business administration, engineering and architecture and fine arts. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public institu-

tions, which are funded by central government. No fees are payable. Courses may lead to the *kandidaatin tutkinto*, *maisterin tutkinto*, *lisensiaatin tutkinto* and *tohtorin tutkinto*, or other equivalent degree. Swedish term: *Universitet*.

## Yrkeshögskola

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -skolan, -skolor, -skolorna

**Level:** ISCED 5

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ♦ *Ammattikorkeakoulu*.

## Yrkesinriktade vuxenutbildningscenter

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** -centret, -centren

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ♦ *Ammatillinen aikuiskoulutuskeskus*.

## Yrkesläroanstalt

**Country:** Finland

**Grammatical variants:** Yrkesläroanstalten, yrkesläroanstalter, yrkesläroanstalterna

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Swedish term for ♦ *Ammatillinen oppilaitos*.





### Základná škola

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Základné školy, základn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time primary and lower secondary education for pupils aged 6 to 15. Admission is based on age. Education is divided into two stages of 4 and 5 years, but there is no examination between them. The language of instruction in public establishments may be other than Slovak (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Polish or German). On completion of the fourth year of primary education, pupils may be admitted to the eight-year *Gymnázium*. After eight or nine years of education in this establishment, successful pupils can enter the four-year or bilingual five-year *gymnázium*. For information on the authority responsible and funding, see *gymnázium*.

### Základní škola

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Základní školy, základn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 9 years of full-time compulsory/basic education to children aged 6 to 15. Admission is based on age and the child's maturity. School enrolment follows an interview to assess maturity and especially speaking ability. The curriculum is divided into 2 stages, the first lasting five years and the second, four years. The language of instruction is Czech but schools for minorities also teach in Polish. There is no examination between the two stages, and no final examination at the end of the second stage. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and municipally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidised private ones. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. All institutions are co-educational. Successful completion of schooling (its first or second stage) leads, for example, to *Gymnázium*, *Konzervatoř*, *Střední odborná škola*, *Střední odborné učiliště* or any other upper secondary school. Early leaving pupils can continue their studies at *Učiliště*. Abbreviation: ZŠ.

### Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Zasadnicze szkoły zawodowe, zasadnicz\* szkol\* zawodow\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Since the 2002/03 school year, this institution has offered 2-3 years of full-time upper secondary vocational education to students aged 16 to 18/19. Admission is based on the *świadectwo ukończenia gimnazjum* obtained at *Gimnazjum*. The curriculum is developed on the basis of the national core curriculum and is not divided into stages. On completion of the programme, students have been able (since 2004) to take the new external vocational examination (*egzamin zawodowy*), and those who are successful receive the certificate *świadectwo ukończenia zasadniczej szkoły zawodowej*, which qualifies them for a trade or occupation, or for enrolment in the *Liceum (+) (uzupełniające)* or *Technikum uzupełniające*. Before 2002/03, this institution offered 3 years of full-time basic vocational education to students aged 15 to 18. For information on the authority responsible for these institutions, their status and funding, see *liceum (+)*.

### Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa dla dorosłych

**Country:** Poland

**Grammatical variants:** Zasadnicze szkoły zawodowe dla dorosłych, zasadnicz\* szkol\* zawodow\*

**Level:** ISCED 3 (A.Ed.)

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 2 years of part-time vocational upper secondary education to adults. For further information, see *Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa*.

### Zavod za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok s posebnimi potrebami

**Country:** Slovenia

**Grammatical variants:** Zavodi za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok s posebnimi potrebami, zavod\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1, 2 and 3 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** General term denoting different types of educational institution for children and young people aged 3 to 19 with special needs (hearing or visual impairments, learning difficulties, personal or behavioural difficulties, or physi-

cal disabilities). Special education institutions provide education at levels from pre-school to the end of secondary school, day care and all necessary health services in cases of severe difficulty in which mainstreaming of pupils is not possible. Admission is based on the decision of a special placement committee which determines the type and extent of the child's impediment or difficulty. The Ministry of Education and Sport and Ministry of Health are responsible for these public centrally funded institutions, which are co-educational. The qualifications awarded are the same as in mainstream education.

### Združená stredná škola

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Združené stredné školy, združen\* stredn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 3

**Explanatory note:** Centre containing two or more upper secondary schools at different levels and in different fields of education (♣ *Gymnázium*, ♣ *Stredná odborná škola*, ♣ *Stredné odborné učilište*).

### ZŠ

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Level:** ISCED 1 and 2

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ♣ *Základní škola*.

### Zvláštní škola (+)

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Zvláštní školy, zvláštn\* škol\*

**Level:** ISCED 0, 1 and 2 (SEN)

**Explanatory note:** School offering pre-primary and compulsory education to pupils aged between 6 and 15/16 who have intellectual difficulties that prevent them from being taught in the mainstream ♣ *Základní škola* or ♣ *Speciální základní škola* (+). Pupils may attend the school for 10 years. There is no leaving examination or certificate but those who have completed compulsory education can proceed to ♣ *Praktická škola* (+), ♣ *Odborné učiliště* (+) or any upper secondary school provided they satisfy the admissions criteria. For further information on legal status, funding and administration, see *speciální základní škola* (+). The name of the institution may be followed by the types of disability catered for.



### Základná škola

**Country:** Slovakia

**Grammatical variants:** Základné školy, základn\* škol\*

**Level:** Primary/lower secondary

**Explanatory note:** Institution providing 9 years of full-time primary and lower secondary education for pupils aged 6 to 15. Admission is based on age. National curricula are adopted throughout the country. Education is divided into two cycles, of four and five years, but there is no examination between them. The language of instruction in public establishments may be other than Slovak (Hungarian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Polish or German). On completion of the fourth year of primary school, pupils may be admitted to the eight-year ► *Gymnázium*. After eight or nine years of education in this establishment, successful pupils can enter the four-year or bilingual five-year ► *Gymnázium*. The Ministry of Education has overall responsibility for these public or private - and mainly state-funded - institutions, which are normally co-educational. Private institutions may be denominational. No fees are payable except in the case of private establishments.

### Základní škola

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Grammatical variants:** Základní školy, základn\* škol\*

**Level:** Primary/lower secondary

**Explanatory note:** Institution offering 9 years of full-time education to children aged 6 to 15. Admission is based on age and the child's maturity. The school provides general

primary and lower secondary education. The curriculum is divided into 2 cycles: the first lasts five years, and the second four years. The language of instruction is Czech but schools for the minorities teach in Polish and Slovak as well. There is no examination between the two cycles, and no final examination at the end of the second cycle. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport exercises overall responsibility for these centrally and municipally funded public institutions, and for the state-subsidized private ones. They are normally co-educational. Private establishments can be denominational, and may charge fees. Abbreviation: ZŠ.

### ZŠ

**Country:** Czech Republic

**Level:** Primary/lower secondary

**Explanatory note:** Abbreviation of ► *Základní škola*.



## **Part II – Summary tables**



## Belgium (French Community)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	École maternelle	École spécialisée
<b>ISCED 1</b>	École primaire	École spécialisée
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Athénée Collège Institut Lycée	École spécialisée
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Athénée Centre d'éducation et de formation en alternance (CEFA) (●) Collège Institut Lycée	École spécialisée
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Athénée Collège Institut Lycée	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Académie des Beaux-Arts Conservatoire Royal École supérieure des arts Haute École Institut supérieur d'architecture Université	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Université	
<b>Adult education</b>	École de promotion sociale	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Belgium (German-speaking Community)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Grundschule Kindergarten (Vorschule)	Sondergrundschule
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Grundschule Primarschule	Sondergrundschule Sonderprimarschule
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Athenäum Institut Sekundarschule	Sondersekundarschule
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Athenäum Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Institut Krankenpflegeschule Sekundarschule	Sondersekundarschule
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Krankenpflegeschule	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Autonome Hochschule in der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Krankenpflegeschule Pädagogische Hochschule	
<b>ISCED 6</b>		
<b>Adult education</b>	Institut für schulische Weiterbildung	

## Belgium (Flemish Community)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Basisschool Gemeentelijke School Kleuterschool Provinciale school School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs Vrije School	School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Basisschool Gemeentelijke School Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs (●) Lagere School Provinciale school School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs Vrije School	School voor buitengewoon basisonderwijs School voor buitengewoon lager onderwijs
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gemeentelijke School Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs (●) Middenschool Provinciale school School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs Secundaire school Vrije School	School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Centrum voor deeltijds beroepsonderwijs Gemeentelijke School Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs (●) Provinciale school School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs Secundaire school Vrije School	School voor buitengewoon secundair onderwijs
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Gemeentelijke School Instelling voor deeltijds kunstonderwijs (●) Provinciale school School van het Gemeenschapsonderwijs Secundaire school Vrije School	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Hogeschool Universiteit	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Universiteit	
<b>Adult education</b>	Centrum voor basiseducatie Centrum voor volwassenenonderwijs	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Czech Republic

	Mainstream education	Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Mateřská škola (MŠ)	Pomocná škola (+) Přípravný stupeň Speciální mateřská škola (+) Speciální základní škola (+) Zvláštní škola (+)
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Základní škola (ZŠ)	Pomocná škola (+) Speciální základní škola (+) Zvláštní škola (+)
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gymnázium (●) Konzervatoř Základní škola (ZŠ)	Pomocná škola (+) Praktická škola (+) Speciální základní škola (+) Zvláštní škola (+)
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gymnázium (●) Konzervatoř Střední odborná škola (SOŠ) (●) Střední odborné učiliště (SOU) (●) Učiliště	Odborné učiliště (+) Speciální gymnázium (+) Speciální střední odborná škola (+) Speciální střední odborné učiliště (+)
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akademie (+) Institut (+) Konzervatoř Univerzita (+) Vysoká škola (+) (VŠ) Vyšší odborná škola (VOŠ)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Akademie (+) Institut (+) Univerzita (+) Vysoká škola (+) (VŠ)	
<b>Adult education</b>		

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

**Note:**

Data presented are valid up to the end of 2004. A new School Act was approved in September 2004 and will come into force in January 2005. Statutory instruments to the Act will be introduced throughout 2005. These will cause many changes in the education system, especially in the organisation of special education which will have impact on the terms of SEN establishments.

## Denmark

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Børnehave Folkeskole (Grundskole) Privat grundskole (Friskole, Lilleskole, Privatskole, Realskole)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Folkeskole (Grundskole) Privat grundskole (Friskole, Lilleskole, Privatskole, Realskole)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Efterskole Folkeskole (Grundskole) Husholdningsskole Privat grundskole (Friskole, Lilleskole, Privatskole, Realskole) Ungdomsskole	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Erhvervsskole (●) Gymnasium Handelsskole (Handelsgymnasium) HF-kursus Husholdningsskole Landbrugsskole Social- og sundhedsskole Teknisk skole (Teknisk gymnasium)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Center for Videregående Uddannelse (CVU) Erhvervsakademi Erhvervsskole (●) Handelsskole Højskole (+) Kunstakademi Landbrugsskole Musikkonservatorium Seminarium (+) Skole (+) Teknisk skole Universitet (Universitetscenter)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Højskole (+) Musikkonservatorium Universitet (Universitetscenter)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Studenterkursus Voksenuddannelsescenter	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Germany

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Kindergarten	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Grundschule	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gesamtschule Gymnasium Hauptschule (Erweiterte Realschule, Integrierte Haupt- und Realschule, Mittelschule, Regelschule, Regionale Schule, Sekundarschule, Verbundene Haupt- und Realschule) Realschule (Erweiterte Realschule, Integrierte Haupt- und Realschule, Mittelschule, Regelschule, Regionale Schule, Sekundarschule, Verbundene Haupt- und Realschule)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Berufliches Gymnasium (Fachgymnasium) Berufsfachschule Berufsoberschule Berufsschule Fachoberschule Gymnasium	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Berufsakademie Fachhochschule (Hochschule) Fachschule Kirchliche Hochschule (Hochschule) Kunsthochschule (Hochschule) Musikhochschule (Hochschule) Pädagogische Hochschule (Hochschule) Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule (Hochschule) Schule des Gesundheitswesens Technische Universität (Hochschule, Technische Hochschule) Universität (Hochschule)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Kirchliche Hochschule (Hochschule) Kunsthochschule (Hochschule) Musikhochschule (Hochschule) Pädagogische Hochschule (Hochschule) Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule (Hochschule) Technische Universität (Hochschule, Technische Hochschule) Universität (Hochschule)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Abendgymnasium, Abendhauptschule, Abendrealschule, Kolleg, Volkshochschule	

## Estonia

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Koolieelne lasteasutus Lasteaed Lastesõim	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Põhikool	Erivajadustega laste kool
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Põhikool	Erivajadustega laste kool
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gümnaasium Kutseõppeasutus	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Kutseõppeasutus	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Kutseõppeasutus Rakenduskõrgkool Ülikool	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Ülikool	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Greece

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Nipiagogeio (Νηπιαγωγείο)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Dimotiko scholeio (Δημοτικό σχολείο)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gymnasio (Γυμνάσιο)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Eniaio lykeio (Ενιαίο λύκειο) Technologiko eraggelmatiko ekpedeftirio (Τεχνικό επαγγελματικό εκπαιδευτήριο) (TEE)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Institutou eraggelmatikis katartisis (Ινστιτούτο επαγγελματικής κατάρτισης) (IEK)	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο) (Anotato ekraideftiko idryma / Ανώτατο εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα – AEI) Polytechneio (Πολυτεχνείο) (Anotato ekraideftiko idryma / Ανώτατο εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα – AEI) Technologiko ekraideftiko idryma (Τεχνολογικό εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα) (TEI)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο) (Anotato ekraideftiko idryma / Ανώτατο εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα – AEI) Polytechneio (Πολυτεχνείο) (Anotato ekraideftiko idryma / Ανώτατο εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα – AEI)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Scholeio defteris efkerias (Σχολείο δεύτερης ευκαιρίας)	

## Spain

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Centro concertado de educación infantil Centro concertado de educación primaria Colegio de educación primaria (Colegio público) Colegio rural agrupado (CRA) Escuela de educación infantil (EEI)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Centro concertado de educación primaria Centro integrado Colegio de educación primaria (Colegio público) Colegio rural agrupado (CRA) Conservatorio (+) Conservatorio elemental Conservatorio profesional	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Centro concertado de educación primaria Centro concertado de educación secundaria Centro integrado Colegio de educación primaria (Colegio público) Conservatorio (+) Conservatorio elemental Conservatorio profesional Escuela oficial de idiomas (EOI) Instituto de educación secundaria (IES)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Centro concertado de educación secundaria Centro concertado de formación profesional Centro integrado Conservatorio (+) Conservatorio profesional Escuela de arte Escuela oficial de idiomas (EOI) Instituto de educación secundaria (IES)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Academia básica del aire Academia general Academia general básica de suboficiales del ejército de tierra Centro concertado de educación secundaria Centro concertado de formación profesional Conservatorio (+) Conservatorio superior Escuela de suboficiales de la armada Escuela naval militar Escuela superior (+) Escuela técnica superior (ETS) Escuela universitaria (EU) Facultad Instituto de educación secundaria (IES) Instituto de formación profesional superior Universidad	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Instituto universitario Universidad	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## France

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	École maternelle	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	École élémentaire	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Collège	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Lycée d'enseignement général et technologique (LEGT) Lycée professionnel (LP)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	École Normale Supérieure (ENS) Grande école Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres (IUFM) Institut Universitaire de Technologie (IUT) Institut Universitaire Professionnalisé (IUP) Université	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	École Normale Supérieure (ENS) Grande école Université	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Ireland

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Primary school (National school)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Primary school (National school)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Community/Comprehensive school Secondary school Vocational school Voluntary secondary school	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Community/Comprehensive school Secondary school Vocational school Voluntary secondary school	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	College of Education Institute of Technology National College of Art and Design University	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	University	
<b>Adult education</b>	National Learning Network	

## Italy

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Scuola dell'infanzia	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Scuola elementare	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Scuola media	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Istituto d'arte Istituto professionale Istituto tecnico Liceo artistico Liceo classico Liceo scientifico	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Accademia (+) Conservatorio di musica Istituto superiore per le industrie artistiche (ISIA) Istituto universitario Politecnico Scuola superiore Università	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Istituto universitario Politecnico Università	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Cyprus

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Dimosio niriagogeio (Δημόσιο νηπιαγωγείο) Koinotiko niriagogeio (Κοινοτικό νηπιαγωγείο) Niriagogeio (Νηπιαγωγείο)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Dimotiko scholeio (Δημοτικό σχολείο)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Esperino scholeio (Εσπερινό γυμνάσιο) Gymnasio (Γυμνάσιο)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Eniaio lykeio (Ενιαίο λύκειο) Esperino scholeio (Εσπερινό σχολείο) Techniki scholi (Τεχνική σχολή)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Dimosia scholi tritovathmias ekpαιdefsis (Δημόσια σχολή τριτοβάθμιας εκπαίδευσης) (Dimosia anoteri scholi/Δημόσια ανώτερη σχολή) Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Panepistimio (Πανεπιστήμιο)	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Latvia

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Pamatskola Pirmsskolas izglītības iestāde (Bērnu dārzs) Sākumskola	Speciālās izglītības iestāde
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Pamatskola Sākumskola Vidusskola	Speciālās izglītības iestāde
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Arodskola Ģimnāzija Pamatskola Sākumskola Vakara (maiņu) vidusskola Vidusskola	Speciālās izglītības iestāde
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Arodvidusskola (+) (Amatniecības vidusskola, Tehnikums) Ģimnāzija Koledža Profesionālā vidusskola Vakara (maiņu) vidusskola Vidusskola	Speciālās izglītības iestāde
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Augstskola (Akadēmija, Institūts) Koledža Universitāte	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Augstskola (Akadēmija, Institūts) Universitāte	
<b>Adult education</b>	Pieaugušo izglītības iestāde (Pieaugušo izglītības centrs)	

**Note:**

Although vocational continuing or in-service training programmes classified as ISCED 4B exist, this type of education is classified in Latvia as secondary stage education provided by institutions mostly offering ISCED 3 programmes.

## Lithuania

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Darželis Lopšelis-darželis Mokykla-darželis	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Mokykla-darželis Pagrindinė mokykla Pradinė mokykla Vidurinė mokykla	Specialioji mokykla
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gimnazija Jaunimo mokykla Konservatorija Pagrindinė mokykla Profesinė mokykla Vidurinė mokykla	Specialioji mokykla
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gimnazija Konservatorija Profesinė mokykla Vidurinė mokykla	Specialioji mokykla
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Profesinė mokykla	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akademija Aukštesnioji mokykla Kolegija Universitetas	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Akademija Universitetas	
<b>Adult education</b>	Suaugusiųjų mokykla	

## Luxembourg

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Spillschoul	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	École primaire	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Lycée Lycée technique	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Lycée Lycée technique	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Centre universitaire (CUNLUX) Institut d'études éducatives et sociales (IEES) Institut supérieur d'études et de recherches pédagogiques (ISERP) Institut Supérieur de Technologie (IST) Université	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Université	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Hungary

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Óvoda	Gyógypedagógiai óvoda
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Általános iskola Művészeti általános iskola	Gyógypedagógiai általános iskola
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Általános iskola Gimnázium Kéttannyelvű gimnázium Művészeti általános iskola Művészeti szakközépiskola Szakiskola Szakközépiskola Szakmunkásképző iskola	Gyógypedagógiai általános iskola Speciális gyógypedagógiai szakiskola
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gimnázium Kéttannyelvű gimnázium Művészeti szakközépiskola Szakközépiskola	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Egyetem Főiskola	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Egyetem	
<b>Adult education</b>	Dolgozók általános iskolája Felnőttek gimnáziuma Felnőttek szakközépiskolája	

## Malta

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Kindergarten centre	Special school
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Primary school	Special school
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Area secondary school Boys' school Girls' school Junior lyceum	Special school
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Higher secondary school Institute of tourism studies Junior college Malta college of arts, science and technology (MCAST)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Institute of tourism studies Malta college of arts, science and technology (MCAST)	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	University	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	University	
<b>Adult education</b>		

**Note:**

All state schools at ISCED level 2 are single gender. Institutions at ISCED level 3 and above are co-educational.

## The Netherlands

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>		
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Basisschool (School voor basisonderwijs) Bijzondere school Openbare school	School voor speciaal basisonderwijs School voor speciaal onderwijs (Speciale school voor basisonderwijs)
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Agrarisch opleidingscentrum (Aoc) (●) Atheneum Bijzondere school Categoriale school Gymnasium Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs (Havo) Lyceum Mavo Openbare school Praktijkonderwijs Scholengemeenschap Vbo Vorbereidend middelbaar beroepsonderwijs (Vmbo) Vorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs (Vwo)	School voor speciaal onderwijs School voor voortgezet speciaal onderwijs
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Agrarisch opleidingscentrum (Aoc) (●) Atheneum Bijzondere school Categoriale school Gymnasium Hoger algemeen voortgezet onderwijs (Havo) Lyceum Middelbaar beroepsonderwijs (Mbo) Openbare school Regionaal opleidingscentrum (Roc) (●) Scholengemeenschap Vorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs (Vwo)	School voor speciaal onderwijs School voor voortgezet speciaal onderwijs
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Hogeschool Universiteit	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Universiteit	
<b>Adult education</b>		

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Austria

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Kindergarten	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Volksschule (Grundschule)	Sonderschule
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Allgemein bildende höhere Schule (AHS) Hauptschule	Sonderschule
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Allgemein bildende höhere Schule (AHS) Berufsbildende höhere Schule (BHS) Berufsbildende mittlere Schule (BMS) Berufsbildende Pflichtschule (Berufsschule) Bildungsanstalt für Kindergartenpädagogik Bildungsanstalt für Sozialpädagogik Polytechnische Schule	Sonderschule
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Berufsbildende höhere Schule (BHS) Bildungsanstalt für Kindergartenpädagogik Bildungsanstalt für Sozialpädagogik Kolleg Schule für Gesundheits- und Krankenpflege	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akademie (+) Fachhochschule Militärakademie Universität	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Universität	
<b>Adult education</b>	Berufsförderungsinstitut (BFI) Ländliches Fortbildungsinstitut (LFI) Volkshochschule (VHS) Wirtschaftsförderungsinstitut (WIFI)	

## Poland

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Przedszkole	Przedszkole specjalne Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Szkoła podstawowa	Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy Szkoła podstawowa specjalna
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gimnazjum	Gimnazjum specjalne Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Liceum (+) Technikum Technikum uzupełniające Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa	Liceum specjalne Specjalna zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa Specjalne technikum uzupełniające Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy Technikum specjalne
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Szkoła policealna	Specjalna szkoła policealna Specjalny ośrodek szkolno-wychowawczy Specjalny ośrodek wychowawczy
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akademia (+) Kolegium nauczycielskie (KN) Nauczycielskie kolegium języków obcych (NKJO) Politechnika Uczelnia artystyczna (Akademia artystyczna, Akademia muzyczna, Akademia sztuk pięknych, Akademia teatralna, Wyższa szkoła teatralna) Szkoła Główna Służby Pożarniczej Uniwersytet Wyższa szkoła (+) (Akademia pedagogiczna)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Akademia (+) Politechnika Uczelnia artystyczna (Akademia artystyczna, Akademia muzyczna, Akademia sztuk pięknych, Akademia teatralna, Wyższa szkoła teatralna) Uniwersytet Wyższa szkoła (+) (Akademia pedagogiczna)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Gimnazjum dla dorosłych, Liceum dla dorosłych (+), Szkoła podstawowa dla dorosłych, Szkoła policealna dla dorosłych, Technikum dla dorosłych, Zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa dla dorosłych	

## Portugal

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Escola básica do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância (EB1/JI) Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância (EBI/JI) Jardim-de-infância (JI)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Escola básica do 1.º ciclo (EB1) Escola básica do 1.º ciclo com jardim-de-infância (EB1/JI) Escola básica do 2.º ciclo (EB2) Escola básica dos 1.º e 2.º ciclos (EB12) Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos (EB23) Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário (EB23/S) Escola básica integrada (EBI) Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância (EBI/JI)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos (EB23) Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário (EB23/S) Escola básica integrada (EBI) Escola básica integrada com jardim-de-infância (EBI/JI) Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico (ES/EB3)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Escola básica dos 2.º e 3.º ciclos com ensino secundário (EB23/S) Escola profissional (EP) Escola secundária (ES) Escola secundária artística (ESA) Escola secundária com 3.º ciclo do ensino básico (ES/EB3)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Escola tecnológica	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Academia (+) Escola superior (+) Faculdade Instituto politécnico Instituto superior (+) Universidade	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Academia (+) Faculdade Instituto superior (+) Universidade	
<b>Adult education</b>		

**Note:**

In the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores, central administration budgetary transfers are combined with the resources of those regions.

## Slovenia

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Glasbena šola (GŠ) Vrtec	Zavod za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok s posebnimi potrebami
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Glasbena šola (GŠ) Osnovna šola (OŠ)	Zavod za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok s posebnimi potrebami
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Glasbena šola (GŠ) Osnovna šola (OŠ)	Zavod za vzgojo in izobraževanje otrok s posebnimi potrebami
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gimnazija Glasbena šola (GŠ) (●) Poklicna šola (Srednja poklicna šola) Šolski center (ŠC) Srednja strokovna šola (Srednja tehniška šola)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akademija (Umetniška akademija) Fakulteta Šolski center (ŠC) Univerza Višja strokovna šola Visoka strokovna šola	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Akademija (Umetniška akademija) Fakulteta Univerza	
<b>Adult education</b>	Ljudska univerza (LU)	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

**Note:**

All mainstream education institutions can offer adult education programmes.

## Slovakia

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Materská škola	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Základná škola	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gymnázium Konservatórium Základná škola	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gymnázium Konservatórium Stredná odborná škola Stredné odborné učilište Združená stredná škola	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Konservatórium	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Akadémia Stredná odborná škola Univerzita Vysoká škola	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Akadémia Univerzita Vysoká škola	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Finland

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Päiväkoti (Daghem) Peruskoulu (Grundskola)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Musiikkioppilaitos (Musikläroanstalt) Peruskoulu (Grundskola)	Erityiskoulu (Specialskola)
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Musiikkioppilaitos (Musikläroanstalt) Peruskoulu (Grundskola)	Erityiskoulu (Specialskola)
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Ammatillinen oppilaitos (Yrkesläroanstalt) (●) Lukio (Gymnasium) Musiikkioppilaitos (Musikläroanstalt)	Ammatillinen erityisoppilaitos (Specialyrkesläroanstalt) (●)
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Ammattikorkeakoulu (AMK) (Yrkeshögskola) (●) Maanpuolustuskorkeakoulu (Försvarshögskola) Yliopisto (Universitet)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Yliopisto (Universitet)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Aikuislukio (Vuxengymnasium) Ammatillinen aikuiskoulutuskeskus (Yrkesinriktade vuxenutbildningscenter) Kansanopisto (Folkhögskola) Liikunnan koulutuskeskus (Idrottsutbildningscenter)	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Sweden

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Förskola Grundskola	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Fristående grundskola Grundskola Sameskola	Särskola Specialskola
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Fristående grundskola Grundskola Sameskola	Särskola Specialskola
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Fristående gymnasieskola Gymnasieskola	Särskola
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Kompletterande utbildning	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Högskola Universitet	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Högskola Universitet	
<b>Adult education</b>	Folkhögskola Kommunal vuxenutbildning Särvux	

## United Kingdom (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Catholic maintained school (NIR) Children's centre (ENG/WLS) Community school (ENG/WLS) Controlled school (NIR) Day nursery (ENG/WLS/NIR) First school (ENG) Foundation school (ENG/WLS) Grant-aided nursery school (NIR) Grant-aided school (NIR) Infant school (ENG/WLS) Maintained nursery school (ENG/WLS) Maintained school (ENG/WLS) Nursery Centre (ENG/WLS) Nursery school (ENG/WLS/NIR) Playgroup (Pre-school group) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Primary school (ENG/WLS/NIR) Voluntary aided school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary controlled school (ENG/WLS)	Community special school (ENG/WLS) Foundation special school (ENG/WLS) Special school (ENG/WLS/NIR)
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Catholic maintained school (NIR) Community school (ENG/WLS) Controlled integrated school (NIR) Controlled school (NIR) First school (ENG) Foundation school (ENG/WLS) Further education college (FE college) (●) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Grant maintained integrated school (NIR) Grant-aided school (NIR) Infant school (ENG/WLS) Junior school (ENG/WLS) Maintained school (ENG/WLS) Middle school (ENG) Primary school (ENG/WLS/NIR) Pupil referral unit (PRU) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Tertiary college (●) (ENG/WLS) Voluntary aided school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary controlled school (ENG/WLS)	Community special school (ENG/WLS) Foundation special school (ENG/WLS) Special school (ENG/WLS/NIR)

**United Kingdom (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)** (continued)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Academy (ENG) Catholic maintained school (NIR) City academy (ENG) City Technology College (CTC) (ENG) Community school (ENG/WLS) Comprehensive school (ENG/WLS) Controlled integrated school (NIR) Controlled school (NIR) Foundation school (ENG/WLS) Further education college (FE college) (●) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Grammar school (ENG/NIR) Grant maintained integrated school (NIR) Grant-aided school (NIR) High school (ENG/WLS) Maintained school (ENG/WLS) Middle school (ENG) Post-primary school (NIR) Pupil referral unit (PRU) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Secondary modern school (ENG) Secondary school (ENG/WLS/NIR) Specialist school (ENG) Tertiary college (●) (ENG/WLS) Voluntary aided school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary controlled school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary grammar school (NIR)	Community special school (ENG/WLS) Foundation special school (ENG/WLS) Special school (ENG/WLS/NIR)
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Academy (ENG) Catholic maintained school (NIR) City academy (ENG) City Technology College (CTC) (ENG) Community school (ENG/WLS) Comprehensive school (ENG/WLS) Controlled integrated school (NIR) Controlled school (NIR) Foundation school (ENG/WLS) Further education college (FE college) (●) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Grammar school (ENG/NIR) Grant maintained integrated school (NIR) Grant-aided school (NIR) High school (ENG/WLS) Maintained school (ENG/WLS) Post-primary school (NIR) Pupil referral unit (PRU) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Secondary modern school (ENG) Secondary school (ENG/WLS/NIR) Sixth-form college (ENG/WLS) Specialist school (ENG) Tertiary college (●) (ENG/WLS) Voluntary aided school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary controlled school (ENG/WLS) Voluntary grammar school (NIR)	Community special school (ENG/WLS) Foundation special school (ENG/WLS) Special school (ENG/WLS/NIR)
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Further education college (FE college) (●) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Tertiary college (●) (ENG/WLS)	

**United Kingdom (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)** (continued)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Further education college (FE college) (●) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Higher education College (HE college, College of higher education) (ENG/WLS/NIR) Tertiary college (●) (ENG/WLS) University (ENG/WLS/NIR) University college (ENG/WLS/NIR)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Higher education College (HE college, College of higher education) (ENG/WLS/NIR) University (ENG/WLS/NIR) University college (ENG/WLS/NIR)	
<b>Adult education</b>	Adult education centre (Adult education institute) (ENG/WLS) Community college (ENG/WLS)	

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

**Note:**

An institution where the majority of students are following a higher education programme is designated a 'higher education institution' (HEI). This is the generic term commonly used to describe universities, university colleges and other higher education colleges.

## United Kingdom (Scotland)

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Community nursery Day nursery Nursery centre Nursery school Pre-school education centre	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Primary school	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Secondary school (Comprehensive school)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Secondary school (Comprehensive school)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Higher education specialist institution (HE specialist institution) University	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Higher education specialist institution (HE specialist institution) University	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Higher education specialist institution (HE specialist institution) University	
<b>Adult education</b>	Community education centre Further education college (College)	

## Iceland

	Mainstream education	Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Leikskóli	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Grunnskóli	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Grunnskóli	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Fjölbautaskóli (●) Iðnskóli (●) Menntaskóli (●) Sérskóli	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Fjölbautaskóli (●) Iðnskóli (●)	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Háskóli Kennaraháskóli Landbúnaðarháskóli Listaháskóli	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Háskóli Kennaraháskóli	
<b>Adult education</b>		

(●) Institution also offering adult education programmes.

## Liechtenstein

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Kindergarten	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Primarschule	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gymnasium Oberschule Realschule	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Berufsmittelschule Gymnasium	
<b>ISCED 4</b>		
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Hochschule Liechtenstein	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Internationale Akademie für Philosophie (IAP) Universität für Humanwissenschaften	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Norway

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Barnehage	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Grunnskole	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Grunnskole	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Folkehøyskole Videregående skole	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Teknisk fagskole	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Høyskole Kunsthøyskole Statlig høyskole Universitet Vitenskapelig høyskole	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Høyskole Statlig høyskole Universitet Vitenskapelig høyskole	
<b>Adult education</b>	Voksenopplæringscenter	

## Bulgaria

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Detska gradina (Детска градина)	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Natchalno utchilishte (Начално училище) Osnovno utchilishte (Основно училище) (OY) Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte (Средно общообразователно училище) (COY)	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Osnovno utchilishte (Основно училище) (OY) Professionalno utchilishte (Професионално училище) Progimnazia (Прогимназия) Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte (Средно общообразователно училище) (COY)	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Gimnazia (Гимназия) Profesionalna gimnazia (Професионална гимназия) Professionalno utchilishte (Професионално училище) Profilirana gimnazia (Профилирана гимназия) Sredno obchtoobrazovatelno utchilishte (Средно общообразователно училище) (COY)	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Profesionalen kolej (Професионален колеж)	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Academia (+) (Академия) Kolej (Колеж) Universitet (Университет)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Academia (+) (Академия) Universitet (Университет)	
<b>Adult education</b>		

## Romania

	<b>Mainstream education</b>	<b>Separate schools for pupils/ students with SEN</b>
<b>ISCED 0</b>	Grădiniță	
<b>ISCED 1</b>	Școală generală Școală primară	
<b>ISCED 2</b>	Gimnaziu Liceu Școală de arte și meserii Școală generală	
<b>ISCED 3</b>	Liceu Școală de arte și meserii Școală de ucenici Școală profesională	
<b>ISCED 4</b>	Școală postliceală	
<b>ISCED 5</b>	Academie (+) Colegiu universitar Conservator (Universitate de muzică) Institut (+) Universitate (+)	
<b>ISCED 6</b>	Academie (+) Conservator (Universitate de muzică) Institut (+) Universitate (+)	
<b>Adult education</b>		



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