

# BULGARIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM





# STRUCTURE

Pre-school education and training

## PRIMARY EDUCATION

EARLY STAGE

SECONDARY SCHOOL STAGE

## SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

NON-PROFILED PREPARATION

PROFILED PREPARATION

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION  
16 YEARS OLD

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION  
ABOVE 16 YEARS OLD

EDUCATION IN PROFESSIONAL  
COLLEGE

## HIGHER EDUCATION

STEPPING:  
Professional Bachelor  
Bachelor  
Master  
Doctor

# PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Kindergarden is an institution in the system of pre-school and school education in which are grown, educated, socialized and educated children from the age of three until their entry into the 1st grade in accordance with the state educational standard for pre-school education. The education, training, socialization and raising of children in kindergardens is organized and carried out in accordance with the state educational standard for pre-primary education and ensures the readiness of the children for school.

# PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Educational Standard of the country is a set of requirements for learning outcomes and defines: the educational areas in which pre-school education takes place; the objectives and content of the individual educational areas and the requirements for the learning outcomes in each educational field in the different age groups.



# Pre-school education and training

## **Duration:**

**Pre-primary education includes children from the age of 3 until their entering the first grade. In kindergardens, children's visit can be interrupted and renewed at any time with prior notification from parents or guardians. Preparations are allowed to be absent for good reasons only.**

# PRIMARY EDUCATION - INITIAL STAGE

Primary education takes place in two stages - primary and lower secondary. The starting stage is from I to IV class inclusive.

Duration: 4 years (1st to 4th grade);

School education starts from the school year beginning in the year of the child's 7 years of age.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION - INITIAL STAGE

School education can start from the school year starting in the age of the child's 6 years of age at the discretion of the parent and in the readiness to school certified under the conditions and by the order specified in the state education standard for pre-school education.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION - INITIAL STAGE

The beginning of school education may be postponed for one school year when the child's health does not allow entry into the first grade established by the order specified in the state education standard for pre-school education.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION - INITIAL STAGE

- Students who are admitted to an approved state plan for admission to cultural schools, art schools and sports schools, as well as schools with a profile of Music, Fine Arts, Physical Education and Sports, can check capabilities.
- Students of grades I to IV may move from one school to another throughout the whole school year without qualifying for a level-playing field.

# PRIMARY EDUCATION - INITIAL STAGE

- **Mode of completion:**
- **A student in the initial stage of basic education continues his / her training in the next grade regardless of his / her annual grades on the subjects he / she is learning if he / she is trained in a daily, individual, independent, distance or combined form and his or her age is relevant to or exceeds the class; with no more than three years. Students who have completed their IV grade education shall be awarded a certificate of completed initial stage of primary education, which shall include the annual marks for each subject studied in the IV grade in compulsory Nittel and elective classes This document gives the right to continue their education in lower secondary education.**

# PRIMARY EDUCATION- HIGH SCHOOL STAGE

The junior high is from V to VII grade inclusive. Students who have completed the initial stage of primary education continue their V grade education.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION- HIGH SCHOOL STAGE

Students who are admitted to an approved state plan for admission to cultural schools, art schools and sports schools, as well as schools with a profile of Music, Fine Arts, Physical Education and Sports, can check capabilities. Profiled high schools with a mathematical or natural sciences profile are also entitled to undertake training in upper secondary education classes in accordance with an established state plan.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION- HIGH SCHOOL STAGE

Profiled high schools with a mathematical or natural sciences profile are also entitled to undertake training in upper secondary education classes, in accordance with an established state plan.



# PRIMARY EDUCATION- HIGH SCHOOL STAGE

- There are students who have successfully completed the initial stage of primary education, who have appeared on the national external evaluation in the IV grade and have participated in the courses in Mathematics or Natural Sciences. the calendar of the MES Olympiad at the regional level and at least one competition that is in the field of mathematics or natural sciences or in at least two competitions in the field of mathematics or natural sciences. Competitions and Olympiads are determined by the Pedagogical Board and made public on the school's website before the start of each school year.
- Duration: 3 years (from V to VII grade)

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– NON- PROFILED TRAINING

- Unprofessional training ensures the use of a general education minimum that meets specific state educational requirements. The general education minimum is achieved through first-level curricula by compulsory subjects (Part A of the curriculum). The subjects studied at this level of education are grouped in the following cultural and educational fields:
- Bulgarian language and literature
- Natural sciences and ecology
- Foreign languages
- Arts
- Mathematics, Informatics and Information Technologies
- Behavior and technology
- Social sciences and civic education
- Physical culture and sport

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– NON- PROFILED TRAINING

- **Mode of completion:**
- **Secondary education is acquired after successfully completing the thirteenth grade and after successfully passing two state matriculation exams on subjects or a cycle of subjects studied at the high school stage:**
- **in Bulgarian language and literature;**
- **another subject determined by the student's choice of subjects: "foreign language", "mathematics", "physics and astronomy", "biology and health education", "chemistry and environmental protection", "history and civilization", "geography and economics" and the subject "philosophy" studied in the compulsory general education classes.**
- **Issuance of a document - a diploma of completed secondary education, which also includes the overall success; the diploma is final and gives the right to continue at higher education or vocational training.**
- **Opportunities for realization after graduation of secondary education**
- **- continuing education at college or university;**
- **- realization in the labor market.**

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– NON-PROFILED TRAINING

- Issuance of a document - a diploma of completed secondary education, which also includes the overall success; the diploma is final and gives the right to continue at higher education or vocational training.
- Post-graduation opportunities:
- continuing education at college or university;
- labor market.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- Profiled education takes place at an intermediate level through:
- general education and advanced education - in the first high school stage, and through:
- general education and profiling - in the second high school stage, where it can also be done through extended training.

# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- Profile profiling involves in-depth competencies in an account defined by the state education standard for profiling.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- The profile is a complex of training subjects, two of which are determined by the state educational standard and the rest are determined by the school with the school curricula and are the same for the XI and XII grade.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- Mandatory modules for each profiling subject are defined by the state educational standard for profiling. Based on the state educational standard for profiled training, the Minister of Education and Science approves curricula for compulsory modules.

# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- Elective modules acquire competencies defined in curricula approved by the school head. Curricula may be developed in cooperation with higher education institutions and with representatives of employers and non-profit legal entities.

# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

- **Mode of completion:**
- **Students who have successfully completed the X grade receive a certificate of completed upper secondary education, which entitles them to continue their education in secondary secondary education and vocational training. Pupils with special educational needs who have completed their X grade education receive a certificate of completed X grade, which entitles them to continue their education in the XI grade and to vocational training. Students who have successfully completed the 12th grade become mature students acquire the right to appear in state matriculation exams and state exam for acquiring professional qualification.**

# SECONDARY EDUCATION–PROFILED TRAINING

**Possibilities for realization after graduation of secondary education - continuing education at college or university - realization in the labor market.**

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Vocational education provides the assimilation of the general educational minimum and the acquisition of a degree of professional qualification by profession. Vocational education and training is carried out on professions listed in the Vocational Education and Training List.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Degrees of professional qualification:**

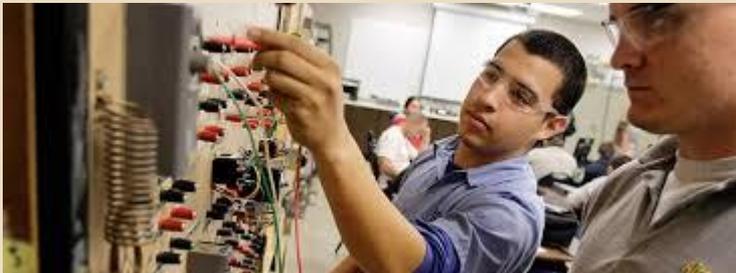
**By complexity of the acquired professional competences the professions are classified into four degrees of professional qualification.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**First degree of professional qualification has the lowest complexity of acquired professional competences for exercising professions involving routine activities carried out under non-changing conditions.**

**Graduates receive a certificate of professional qualification.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Professions requiring first degree training:**

**cashier, calculator, welder, turning machine,  
locksmith, harbor worker, shoemaker, carpet maker,  
knitter, construction assistant, chambermaid, pictorial  
worker, landscaping worker, worker in the food  
industry, animal husbandry worker.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Second degree of professional qualification:  
includes acquired professional competences for  
exercising professions involving complex  
activities carried out under changing conditions.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Professions requiring a second degree of professional training:**

**business services, office secretary, machine operator, machine fitter, precision technician, electrical installer, computer systems installer, ship installer, baker, conveyor, restorer, contractor, installer and others.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Third degree of professional qualification:  
professional competences are acquired for the  
pursuit of professions involving complex  
activities carried out under changing conditions,  
as well as taking responsibility for the work of  
other persons.**



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Professions requiring a third degree of professional qualification:

artist, instrumentalist, ballet, dancer, computer animator, graphic designer, luthier, sales representative, tax and customs agent, operative accountant, organizer Internet applications and others.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**The fourth degree of professional qualification acquired professional competences for exercising professions involving a wide range of complex activities carried out under changing conditions as well as assuming managerial responsibilities for the work of others and for the allocation of resources.**

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Professions requiring a fourth degree of professional training:

photographer, reporter and lead, company manager, computer network designer, optometrist, aviation technician, fitness instructor, sports masseur, ergonomist instructor, governess, dangerous goods consultant and others.



# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The vocational training curriculum includes:

A general education preparation that provides the general education minimum necessary for secondary education. Mastering a general knowledge minimum guarantees the possibility of passing state matriculation exams, obtaining secondary education from all students in vocational education, and equal access to all higher education specialties.

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- **Compulsory vocational training includes:**
- **General vocational training - unified for all professional fields and training in the theory of the profession, as well as practical training (teaching practice).**
- **Sectoral vocational training - unified for all professions from a given professional field, taking into account the specifics of each profession; includes theoretical training and practical training (teaching practice)**
- **Specific vocational training for each profession - includes theoretical training and practical training (training and production practice); practical training hours may not be less than 40% of the total number of hours of vocational training**

# SECONDARY EDUCATION– PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Mandatory foreign language training in the profession.**

**Elective preparation - extended and optional preparation.**



# GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Students who have successfully completed the X grade receive a certificate of completed upper secondary education, which entitles them to continue their education in secondary secondary education and vocational training.



# GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Students who have successfully completed the 12th grade become mature students and are eligible for state matriculation exams and a state examination for acquiring professional qualifications.



# GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Completed vocational training is certified by:  
high school diploma.  
certificate of professional qualification.



# Opportunities for realization after graduation of vocational education and training

- Upon completion of vocational education, students can continue their studies at university, having access to all the specialties and universities without any restriction, or start work on the profession and specialty studied.
- Upon completion of the vocational training, students can start work on the profession and specialty studied.

# HIGHER EDUCATION

The aim of higher education is the training of highly qualified specialists above secondary education and the development of science and culture. Higher education is acquired in higher education institutions that have received accreditation from the National Agency for Assessment and Accreditation



# HIGHER EDUCATION

**Educational-qualification degrees in the field of  
higher education:**

**Professional Bachelor**

**Bachelor**

**Master**

**Educational and scientific degree "doctor"**



# HIGHER EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

- **Universities**
- **Specialized higher education institutions**
- **Independent colleges**



# UNIVERSITIES

Higher education institutions that teach a wide range of professional courses in at least three or four major areas of science.

Grades are being trained:

Bachelor, Master and Doctor, in relevant major areas of science.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!

