

Hungarian National Education System

In Hungary, schools and kindergartens are established and maintained by the state, local governments, minority local governments, legal entities (foundations, churches, etc.) as well as natural persons. The state provides maintainers with a budget subsidy for the performance of their tasks. About 90 per cent of children attend public sector institutions.

The tasks related to administrative control and management responsibilities are shared among the central (national) government, the local (county and district level) authorities and the educational institutions. Overall responsibility lies with the [Ministry of Human Resources](#), which is in charge of education, culture, social affairs, health care, youth and sport. However, school-based VET and adult training is within the competence of the [Ministry for National Economy](#).

Participation in education is mandatory between the ages of 5 and 18, the upper limit currently being reduced to age 16.

Creche (nursery) is a welfare institution catering for children aged 20 weeks to 3 years and providing professional day care and development. **Kindergarten** education and care is offered for children aged 3-6 and is compulsory from age 5. From September 2015 it will be compulsory from age 3.

Primary and lower secondary education (ISCED 1, 2) is organized as a single-structure system in 8-grade basic schools (typically for pupils aged 6-14, covering grades 1-8). Upper secondary education (ISCED 3, typically for pupils aged 14-18, usually covering grades 9-12) is provided by general secondary schools, vocational secondary schools or vocational schools. However, general secondary schools are also allowed to offer longer programmes starting earlier (from Grade 5 or 7).

General secondary schools provide general education and prepare for the secondary school leaving examination, which is the prerequisite for admission to higher education. Secondary vocational schools provide general and pre-vocational education, prepare for the secondary school leaving examination and offer vocational post-secondary non-tertiary programmes (ISCED 4 C). **Vocational schools** provide general, pre-vocational and vocational education and may also provide remedial lower secondary general education for those who have not accomplished basic school.

More info:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Hungary:Redirect>