

# Evaluating Foreign Transcripts: The A-Z Manual



New York City Department of Education  
Joel I. Klein, Chancellor

Published by the Office of Youth Development and School-Community Services  
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Shane Mulhern, Executive Director



# THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

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Michele Cahill

Senior Counselor to the Chancellor for Education Policy  
Office of Youth Development and School-Community Services

52 Chambers Street, Room 320, New York, NY 10007

Dear Principals and Counselors,

The New York City public schools in many ways embody the new, truly global city. Young people and their families come here from over 175 countries and speak more than 140 languages.

Newly arriving families face many difficult challenges in adapting to the demands of their new environment, and teenagers are no exception. Engaging these students, helping them overcome obstacles and participate fully in earning a high school diploma in a timely manner are all important objectives of the New York City Department of Education. School staff face challenges as well in providing a smooth transition between the student's native country and their new environment here in the United States. Therefore, school officials must be provided with the proper tools to understand and translate the knowledge and skills acquired in students' home countries in order to be able to properly place students in the appropriate grade and courses in their new school. Given the various differences between the systems used around the world, assessing educational credentials can be a daunting process. *Evaluating Foreign Transcripts: The A-Z Manual* provides guidelines specifically to support staff in completing this process.

We all share the goal of high academic achievement for young people in this city – whether they were born here or arrived yesterday. I would like to thank everyone involved in this process for their hard work and contributions in reaching this goal.

**Michele Cahill**

Senior Counselor to the Chancellor for Education Policy



## **Foreword**

The Office of Youth Development and School-Community Services (OYDSCS) of the New York City Department of Education (DOE) intend this document, *Evaluating Foreign Transcripts: The A-Z Manual*, as a reference tool for High School Principals and counselors. This manual includes guidelines and additional resources for assisting school staff members with evaluation of foreign transcripts.

When using this manual it is important to keep in mind that several school systems and grading policies might exist within each country, as in the United States. Careful judgment and discretion are advised when utilizing the information presented in this manual. The information provides a general picture of the most commonly used systems in other countries and grading scales, recommended courses, and the equivalent credit within the U.S. Public School System.

Evaluators are advised to:

- Carefully examine all official documents for authenticity.
- Ensure that translations are provided by a qualified source.
- Interview entering students and their parents/guardians.
- Contact the sending school, embassy, Ministry of Education or other authorized agencies when necessary.
- Consult with available resources provided by Central OYDSCS and your Regional Office of Student Placement, Youth, & Family Support Services (SPYFSS).
- Participate in professional development sessions arranged by Central OYDSCS and Regional SPYFSS of the New York City Department of Education.



## **Table of Contents**

		Page
<b>I.</b>	General Information	7
	☒ Roles and Responsibilities	ii
	☒ Regional Directors of Student Placement Youth and Family Services	iii
	☒ Guidelines for Evaluating Transcripts	iv
	☒ Transfer Credit: NYS Commissioners Regulation 100.5	v
	☒ Testing Exemptions for Transfer Students: NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5	vi
<b>II.</b>	Country Index	viii
<b>III.</b>	References and Resources	120
	☒ Embassies and/or Consulates Located in Washington D.C. and New York City	122
	☒ Foreign Language Assistance/Immigrant Services	134
<b>IV.</b>	Addendum	140
	Request to Translate Transcripts	142
<b>V.</b>	Bibliography	144



# **SECTION I**

## **General Information**

- ∅ Roles and Responsibilities
- ∅ Guidelines for Evaluating Transcripts
- ∅ Transfer Credit: NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5
- ∅ Testing Exemptions for Transfer Students: NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5



## **School Responsibility and Support Services**

### **School**

Schools are responsible for doing the evaluation of the transcript. As indicated in NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5 (see page iv), the principal, in consultation with relevant faculty, is responsible for the evaluation of transcripts from non-NYS registered schools and the awarding of appropriate credit.

Each school must have a well-defined procedure, including the roles and responsibilities of staff members involved, for timely evaluation of transcripts according to guidelines set forth in this manual.

### **Support Provided by Regional and Central Offices**

In each region, a staff member of the Office of Student Placement, Youth and Family Support Services (SPYFSS) will be designated as the contact person for issues and concerns relating to the evaluation of foreign transcripts. (Please refer to the contact list for Regional SPYFSS on the following page of this manual. You may also access the most recent contact information through the NYC Department of Education website.)

Responsibilities of Regional SPYFSS and Central OYDSCS will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- € Provide resources and assistance to schools experiencing difficulty with transcript evaluations.
- € Compile and maintain a list of personnel within each Region who can translate foreign transcripts from indicated languages into English.
- € Provide information for contacting the Central Translation Unit when the resources for translating are not available at the school or regional level.
- € Make available training and ongoing professional development.
- € Ensure that the most current information on regulations, procedures and resources are made available to all schools and will revise this manual and/or distribute addendums as needed.

## Regional Directors of Student Placement Youth and Family Services

Region	CSD	Contact Information
1	9, 10	1 Fordham Plaza Bronx, NY 10458 718-741-2805
2	8,11,12	1230 Zerega Avenue Bronx, NY 10462 718-828-3182
3	25,26, 28,29	30-48 Linden Place Queens, NY 11364 718-281-3470
4	24,30,32	28-11 Queens Plaza No. Long Island City, NY 11101 718-391-8393
5	19,23,27	82-01 Rockaway Boulevard Ozone Park, NY 11416 718-642-5736
6	17,18,22	5619 Flatlands Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11234 718-968-6234
7	20,21,31	129A Ocean Terrace Staten Island, NY 10301 718-420-5633
8	13,14, 15,16	131 Livingston Street Brooklyn, NY 11201 718-935-4140
9	1,2, 4,7	333 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave (28 <sup>th</sup> St) New York, NY 10001 917-339-1714
10	3,5,6	4360 Broadway New York NY 10033 917-521-3619
D75		400 First Avenue New York, NY 10010 212-802-1502
D79		90-27 Sutphin Blvd. Jamaica, NY 718-557-2681

## **Guidelines for Evaluating Transcripts**

The following are recommended procedures for the Principal or designee:

1. Examine official documents for authenticity.
2. Ensure transcripts in a language other than English are translated by a competent translator available within the school or region. In the event there is no available translator, the following options exist:
  - € Department of Education Translation & Interpretation Unit (see Section IV of this manual);
  - € A recognized community agency or certified private service, embassy or consulate (see Section III of this manual).

Documents translated by family members may not be accepted as official documents. All translations must be verbatim without interpretation or evaluation of information.

3. Interview the student and parent/guardian to review the transcript and prior studies in order to obtain clarification on curriculum, amount of time spent in each course, grading policies and other pertinent information helpful to the evaluation process.
4. Consult with the Assistant Principal of Supervision or Department Head if further clarification or placement testing is deemed necessary.
5. Consult with Regional SPYFSS personnel when further clarification is needed.
6. Refer to the Country Index (Section II of this manual) to assist with the conversion of grades to award appropriate course and grade credit.
7. Determine eligibility for course and/or exam waivers (refer to Testing Exemptions excerpt from NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5 found on page vi of the manual).
8. Follow established school procedures for ensuring that transfer credit is updated on the student's official transcript.
9. Establish a procedure for informing student and parent of the results of the evaluation.
10. Maintain all documentation in the student's official cumulative file.
11. Notify and consult with receiving teachers and Department Supervisors or Heads.

12. Ensure the evaluation process is completed in a timely manner.

## **Transfer Credit**

**Transfer credit to a high school student transferring from another state or another country is awarded by the principal of the receiving school, as indicated in NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5 below:**

***Excerpt:* New York State Commissioner's Regulation\* 100.5 (d)(5)(i)(a and b)**

(5) Transfer Credit. Transfer Credit is awarded for work done outside the registered New York State high school awarding the credit.

(i) The principal shall evaluate the transcript or other records of a transfer student enrolling in a New York State high school. Based on the student's transcript or other records, the principal shall award the appropriate units of transfer credit towards a high school diploma.

(a) The principal shall grant transfer credit for all credit awarded by any NYS registered public or nonpublic high schools.

(b) The principal, after consultation with relevant faculty, may award credit for work done at other educational and cultural institutions and for work done through independent study. The decision as to whether or not to award transfer credit for work done at educational institutions other than New York State registered high schools shall be based on whether the record indicates that the work is consistent with New York State commencement learning standards and is of comparable scope and quality to that which would have been done in the school awarding the credit.

## **Testing Exemptions for Transfer Students**

To receive a Local or Regents Diploma, transfer students from another state or another country who are entering a New York State public school for the first time in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades may be waived for certain tests by the principal of the receiving school, only as indicated in NYS Commissioner's Regulation 100.5 below:

### **Excerpt: New York State Commissioner's Regulation\*100.5 (d)(5)(iii – v)**

(iii) (a) Students who enter a registered New York State high school for the first time in grade eleven in the 2000-2001 school year but prior to the 2002-2003 school year, other than those students who have received home instruction pursuant to section 100.10 of this Part in New York State or who have been enrolled in a registered or non-registered public or nonpublic New York State high school, in order to receive a local high school diploma must pass the Regents comprehensive examination in English, a Regents examination in mathematics, a Regents examination in United States history and government, and a Regents examination in science, or approved alternatives. The principal may exempt a student from the requirement for the Regents examination in global history and geography ordinarily taken and passed before the date of the student's entry.

(b) Students who enter a registered New York State high school for the first time in grade eleven in the 2002-2003 school year and thereafter, other than those students who have received home instruction pursuant to 100.10 of this Part in New York State or who have been enrolled in a registered or non-registered public or nonpublic New York State high school, in order to receive a high school diploma must pass the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English, a Regents examination in mathematics, a Regents examination in United States history and government, and a Regents examination in science, or approved alternatives. The principal may exempt a student from the requirement for the Regents examination in global history and geography ordinarily taken and passed before the date of the student's entry.

(iv) (a) Students who enter a registered New York State high school for the first time in grade twelve in the 2002-2003 school year but prior to the 2004-2005 school year, other than those students who have received home instruction pursuant to section 100.10 of this Part in New York State or who have been enrolled in a registered or non-registered public or nonpublic New York State high school, in order to receive a local high school diploma must pass the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English, a Regents examination in

mathematics, and a Regents examination in United States history and government, or approved alternatives. The principal may exempt a student from the requirement for the Regents examination in science and the Regents examination in global history and geography ordinarily taken and passed before the date of the student's entry.

(b) Students who enter a registered New York State high school for the first time in grade twelve in the 2004-2005 school year and thereafter, other than those students who have received home instruction pursuant to section 100.10 of this part in New York State or who have been enrolled in a registered or non-registered public or nonpublic New York State high school, in order to receive a high school diploma must pass the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English, a Regents examination in mathematics, and a Regents examination in United States history and government, or approved alternatives. The principal may exempt a student from the requirement for the Regents examination in science and the Regents examination in global history and geography ordinarily taken and passed before the date of the student's entry.

(v) Transfer students who are exempted from taking specific State assessments shall have their transcript and permanent records so annotated.

## **SECTION II**

### Country Index

Afghanistan  
Albania  
Antigua & Barbuda  
Argentina  
Bangladesh  
Barbados  
Belarus  
Belize  
Bolivia  
Bosnia-Herzegovina  
Brazil  
Bulgaria  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
France  
Gambia  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Grenada  
Guatemala  
Guinea-Bissau  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Hong Kong  
India  
Indonesia  
Israel  
Italy  
Ivory Coast  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Korea, Republic of South  
Liberia  
Macedonia  
Mexico  
Nepal  
Nicaragua  
Nigeria  
Norway  
Pakistan  
Panama  
Peru  
Philippines  
Poland  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Sierra-Leone  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sri Lanka  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
St. Lucia  
Taiwan  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom  
Uzbekistan  
Venezuela  
Vietnam  
Yemen  
Zimbabwe



## **AFGHANISTAN**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 13  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 29%

### **School Year**

The academic year runs from April through November. Schools are closed for the winter due to the lack of heating facilities.

	<b>AFGHANISTAN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	1-6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Lower Secondary	Entrance exam (academic or vocational)		6-8	11-13 (14)
	7-9	12-14		
	End of compulsory education			
High School / Upper Secondary	10-12	15-17	9-12	14-18
	Certificate of upper-secondary completion		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

After completing 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students take an exam allowing them to enter either middle school or a vocational school for 3 years. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade completes their compulsory education. After the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students may take an examination to enter 3 years of either an academic or vocational upper school.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Afghanistan Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent
9-10	A	Excellent	4	90%
7-8	B	Good	3	80%
5-6	C	Fair	2	70%
3.5-4	D	Poor	0	55%
0-3	F	Failure	0	50%

## **ALBANIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 100%

### **School Year**

There are six half-days of school per week. Elementary (primary) runs from 8:00 AM to noon; Secondary runs from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

	<b>ALBANIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-school	5-6	1-8	6-14
	1-8	7-14	Elementary & Middle	
	Exam*			
Secondary	9-12	15-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Students continue to vocational or academic comprehensive secondary high school based on primary completion exam.

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking in the elementary school level. Classes are intentionally mixed so that students will benefit from the presence of higher academically-advantaged students. There is voluntary tracking on the secondary school level.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Albania Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
Excellent	5	90%
Good	4	80%
Fair	3	70%
Failure	2	F
Failure	1	F

*Passing is a grade of 3 or higher.*

## **ANTIGUA & BARBUDA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15  
11 years

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 88% (lowest in the Commonwealth Caribbean)

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters and runs from mid-September to mid-July, 5 days a week. Primary school hours are 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; Secondary school hours are 8:00 AM -1:30 PM.

	<b>ANTIGUA &amp; BARBUDA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	INFANT SCHOOL:		1-5	6-11
	1 year	4-5		
	PRIMARY:			
	6 years	5-11		
	Pass national exam at end			
Intermediate/Post-Primary	3 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
	Must pass a national certificate exam			
Secondary High School	2 years	16-17	9-12	14-18
	To receive diploma must pass the Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) Secondary school exam		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Students who do not meet the standards based on the post-primary national exam will be placed on a vocational educational track which may include cooperative work study programs.

(Continued)

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Antigua and Barbuda Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A+	10	95%
A	8-9	90%
B	7	80%
C	6	70%
D	4-5	65%
E	3	55%
F	1-2	50%

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education, Human Development and Culture  
E-mail: [doristeen.etinoff@ab.gov.ag](mailto:doristeen.etinoff@ab.gov.ag)

## **ARGENTINA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 95%

### **School Year**

The school year begins in the first week of March and ends in the first week of December. The winter vacation consists of two weeks in July. Summer vacation is for the two months of December and January. Five hours of school per day is mandated. There are five periods per day. In much of the country each school has two or three shifts due to the large population of school-age youngsters.

	<b>ARGENTINA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-9	5 6-14/15	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13 (14)
Secondary* High School	Polimodal	15-17(18)	9-12	14-18
	1 year: Commercial diploma 2 years: General academic diploma 3 years: Technical studies diploma		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking in primary school. On the secondary level, the main classes are the same for all the students but there is voluntary tracking. Each student can choose between:

- Bachillerato Mercantil (Commercial diploma)
- Bachillerato Nacional (General studies diploma)
- Bachillerato Technico (Technical studies diploma)

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Argentina Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Sobresaliente	9-10	A	95%
Distinguido	7-8	B	85%
Bueno	5-6	C	75%
Aprobado	4-4.9	D	65%
Insuficiente	0-3.9	F	55%
Aplazado	0-3.9	F	50%
Reprobado	0-3.9	F	45%

*Passing is a grade of 4 or higher.*

## **BANGLADESH**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 11  
Grades 1 through 5

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 35%

### **School Year**

The academic year runs from January through December for schools up to 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and July to June for higher grades. School is generally in session for 220 days, with 5.5 days per week.

	<b>BANGLADESH EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	1-5	6-11	1-5	6-11
Secondary	6-10	11-16	6-8	11-13 (14)
Compulsory Exam Higher Secondary	11-12	16-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system up to 10<sup>th</sup> grade. In some high schools there are arrangements for arts, science, business, agriculture, and industrial arts divisions for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. Passing the secondary certificate examination is a prerequisite for advancing to higher secondary school.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Bangladesh Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
A	4.0	60%-100%	90%
B	3.0	45%-59%	80%
C	2.0	33%-44%	70%
F	0	0%-32%	Below 65%

*Passing is a grade of C (33%) or higher.*



## **BARBADOS**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 16  
Grades 1 through 11

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99%

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters and runs from mid-September to mid-July. Primary school hours are 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM and secondary school hours are 8:00 AM -1:30 PM, 5 days per week.

	<b>BARBADOS SYSTEM</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	Infant school		1-5	6-11
	1 yr	5		
	Primary			
	6 years	6-11		
Intermediate/Lower Secondary	3 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Upper Secondary/High School	3 years	16-18	9-12	14-18
	Student must pass CXC (Caribbean Examination Council secondary school exam) in order to receive diploma.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

The curriculum for all of the schools follows the British model. Students may choose an academic or vocational program during the last two years of secondary school. Compulsory education is free in all government-run schools and scholarships are provided for study in the United Kingdom upon the passing of specialized examinations. They also have specialized schools for the deaf, blind and mentally disabled.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Barbados Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A+	76-100	90%
A		
B+	61-75	80%
B		
C+	45-64	70%
C		
D	35-44	65%
F	0-34	Below 65%

*Passing is a grade of D (35%) or higher.*

**Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports

E-mail: [mined1@caribsurf.com](mailto:mined1@caribsurf.com)

## **BELARUS**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99.8%

### **School Year**

The school year is 39 weeks long. The school day is divided into 6 or 7 academic periods, 45 minutes each, a lunch break of 20 minutes, and other breaks between periods of 10 minutes each. School runs five days a week.

	<b>BELARUS EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	1-5	6-10	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Intermediate	6-9	11-14	6-8	11-13 (14)
	Certificate after 9 <sup>th</sup> grade			
High School / Secondary*	10-11	15-16	9-12	14-18
	Diploma after 11 <sup>th</sup> grade		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

No tracking system exists. There are specialized high schools providing advanced education in mathematics, art, music, economics, etc. There are no final exams in elementary schools. Middle and high school students in Russia and Belarus have final exams after senior grade only, but in Ukraine, at the end of each school year.

### **Grading System**

Belarus Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
5	Excellent	A	95%
4	Good	B	85%
3	Satisfactory	C	75%
Pass	Poor	D	65%
2	Failure	F	55%

## **BELIZE**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 14  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 80% (UNESCO)  
93% (Belize Government)

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters and runs from mid-September to mid-July. Primary school hours are from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and secondary school hours are from 8:00 AM -1:30 PM for 5 days a week.

	<b>BELIZE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	8 years *exam	5-13	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School	4 years	14-18	9-12	14-18
	(Forms I-IV)		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Students must pass the Belize National Examination\* after the Primary Level is completed in order to advance to the Secondary Level. Students must pay a nominal tuition fee for Secondary Level education. There are two special schools for children with mental and physical disabilities.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Belize Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
81-100	A	90%
71-80	B	80%
61-70	C	70%
50-60	D	65%
35-49	E (fail)	55%
0-34	F (fail)	50%

*Passing is a grade of 50 (D) or higher.*

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Human Development  
E-mail: mhd@btl.net

## **BOLIVIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 12  
Grades K through 5

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 78%

### **School Year**

The school year lasts nine months. It begins in February and ends in October. Secondary school lasts for six years, at which point a high school diploma is issued. Night school and special sessions are offered to older students who are unable to attend the normal session, i.e., adults who want to study. There is no age limit for a public education.

	<b>BOLIVIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	K-5	5-11	1-5	6-11
Middle School			6-8	11-13 (14)
Secondary High School	1-6 years Full time and/or part time	12-no age limit	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Most public schools do not use tracking. Students are grouped by grade level in a classroom, similar to a homeroom. Teachers rotate according to subject area. In more remote areas, several grades are housed together in a classroom.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Bolivia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Excelente	5	A	90%
Bueno	4	B	80%
Regular	3	C	70%
Deficiente	2	D	55%
Malo	1	F	50%

## **BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 90%

### **School Year**

School begins each year at the beginning of September and ends in the third week of June. Each school has its own curriculum. Many schools have two separate sessions: morning, 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM; afternoon, 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

	<b>BOSNIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-8	5-6 7-14	1-5	6-11
	Compulsory exam			
Lower Secondary			6-8	11-13 (14)
High School	9-10 Voc.	14-16	9-12	14-18
	9-11 Voc. 9-12 Aca.	14-16 14(15)-18		

### **Tracking**

Students take a compulsory exam at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, dividing students into three groups: two-year vocational; three-year vocational; four-year academic secondary school.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Bosnia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Odlican	5	A+	Excellent
Vrlo Doba	4	A	Very Good
Dobar	3	B	Good
Dovoljan	2	C	Fair
Nedovoljan	1	F	Failure

*Passing is a grade of 2 or higher.*

## **BRAZIL**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 14  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 81%

### **School Year**

The school year is from March to December and is divided into two semesters. School is conducted five days a week, from 7:00 AM to noon. High school students have some special classes and tests on Saturday.

	BRAZIL EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-6	5-6 7-12	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Lower Secondary	7-8	13-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	3 years full time	15-17	9-12	14-18
	4 or 5 years part time	15-19	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking in Brazilian schools. All classes have the same curriculum and programs.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Brazil Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
Excelente	9-10	A
Muito bom	7-8.9	B
Regular	5-6.9	C
Insuficiente	3-4.9	D
Deficiente	0-2.9	F

*Passing is a grade of 5.0 or higher.*

*The student must have an overall average of 5 for promotion.*



## **BULGARIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

Bulgaria has undergone major changes since 1990. One significant change is the introduction of the privatization of education.

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98%

### **School Year**

Primary and secondary schools are in session from mid-September to the first week of June. The high school semester extends into the first week of July. Each school has two sessions, or shifts, per day: morning and afternoon. The morning session goes from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The afternoon session goes from 1 PM to 6:30 PM. Each class lasts 45 minutes. There is a break between classes. Schools operate five days per week.

	<b>BULGARIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	K 1-8	5 6-12	1-5	6-11
Secondary	Vocational* 9-10 Academic** 9-12	12-14  12-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Gymnasium	4	14(15)-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Secondary diploma

\*\*High School diploma

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking during elementary and secondary school. There is voluntary tracking during the Gymnasium. Students can choose schools offering the career they want.

(Continued)

**Grading System (U.S. Characters)**

Bulgaria Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
Otnneyet	6	Excellent	A
Mhoro Ao6bp	5	Very Good	A
Ao6bp	4	Good	B
CpeAeH	3	Average	C
Cna6	2	Fail	F
Now		Fail	F
3a4ntace		Pass	Pass

## **CAMBODIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 16  
Grades 1 through 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 74%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from the first week of September to the second or third week of June. School is held five days per week. The year is divided into trimesters: September to December, December to March, and March to June. Summer vacation is from mid-June until the end of August. There are two weeks of vacation in October. Due to the large school-age population, there are two sessions per day: 7:00 AM to noon and noon to 5:00 PM. There are fifteen-minute breaks between classes.

	<b>CAMBODIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-6	5-6 7-12	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Intermediate	7-10	13-16	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	11-13	17-19	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system.

### **Grading System**

Cambodia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Tres Bien	17-20	95%	A
Bien	14-16	85%	B
Assez Bien	12-13	75%	C
Passable	10-11	65%	D
Nul-mediocre	0-9	55%	F

*Passing is a grade of 10 or higher.*



## **CAMEROON**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 12  
Grades 1 through 7

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 65%

### **School Year**

The school year is 200 days, five days a week, Monday through Friday. English and French educational systems operate in the country. There are three terms in the academic year: September to December; January to April; and, April to June. Elementary and secondary schools run from 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Form 5 students return to classes from 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Form 5 students are expected to live in boarding houses or live close to the school. Catholic schools operate a boarding system for all their students.

	<b>CAMEROON EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	1-7 Compulsory Exams	6-12	1-5	6-11
Middle School			6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	Forms I-V	12(13)-16	9-12	14-18
	Compulsory Exams		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

A tracking system is in effect. Elementary school ranges from grades 1 to 7, at the end of which pupils take the entrance examination to the secondary school. Those students above 12 years of age who are not admitted to the government secondary schools may go to private school. Class 7 pupils in the elementary schools, as well as Form 5 students in the secondary schools, have extension classes in the evenings to prepare them for terminal exams and entrance exams to the next level of the educational system.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Cameroon Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
A+	95-100	95%	Excellent
A	80-94	90%	Excellent
B	75-79	85%	Very Good
C+	65-74	80%	Good
C	60-64	75%	Fairly Good
D	50-59	65%	Credit
E	40-49	65%	Pass
F	0-48	55%	Failure

*Passing is a grade of E (40) or higher.*

## **CANADA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5-6 to 15-17

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99%

### **School Year**

The school year is from September to June. Annualization, semesters, and trimesters all exist depending on the province and school. The education policy is a provincial responsibility and the period of compulsory education varies.

	<b>CANADA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary		ages 5 or 6 to 13-14	1-9	6-14
Intermediate				
Secondary	3 to 5 years		Grades 10-12	

### **Tracking**

Canada does not have a federal educational system. The responsibility for education is vested in the provinces; therefore, there are many different sets of standards. In general, high school programs consist of two streams. The first prepares the student for university; the second prepares the student for post-secondary education at community college or for the workplace. There are also special programs for students unable to complete the conventional courses of study. In some schools these decisions are based on examinations.

(Continued)

<b>GRADING SCALES</b>			
<b>U.S. Equivalence</b>	<b>Alberta</b>	<b>Brit.Columbia</b>	<b>Brunswick</b>
<b>95%</b>	80-100	86-100	80-100
<b>85%</b>	65-79	73-85	70-79
<b>75%</b>	50-64	60-72	60-69
<b>65%</b>	40-49	50-59	50-59
<b>55%(failing)</b>	0-39	0-49	0-49
<b>Manitoba</b>	<b>Newfoundland</b>	<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>Ontario</b>
4	80-100	80-100	75-100
3	70-79	70-79	66-74
2	60-69	60-69	60-65
1	50-59	50-59	50-59
0	0-49	0-49	0-49
<b>Prince Ed Island</b>	<b>Quebec</b>	<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<b>U.S. Equivalence</b>
80-100	80-100	90-100	<b>95%</b>
70-79	70-79	70-89	<b>85%</b>
60-69	60-69	60-69	<b>75%</b>
50-59	50-59	50-59	<b>65%</b>
0-49	0-49	0-49	<b>55%(failing)</b>

### **Additional Resources**

Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation  
[www.osstf.on.ca](http://www.osstf.on.ca)

Alberta Teachers' Association  
[www.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.teachers.ab.ca)

## **CHILE**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 92%

### **School Year**

The school year runs for 38 weeks, from the beginning of March to December 21. Schools operate on semesters or trimesters. Summer vacation is from the third week of December to March 1. The school day consists of five classes a day, each class 40 minutes long. They also operate on two or three shifts a day, depending on the school. School meets five days a week, 25 classes a week.

	<b>CHILE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-primary 1-5	5 6-11	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Basic Secondary	2 years Basic Secondary  Exam	11-13	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Higher Secondary*	2 years Higher Secondary  Exam	13-15	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

In the first two years of secondary school the basic classes are the same for everyone. In the latter two years of secondary school there is voluntary tracking. Each student can choose an area of interest to pursue.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Chile Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
Sobresaliente	7	A+	95%
Muy Bueno	6	A	90%
Bueno	5	B	85%
Mas que regular	4	B-	75%
Regular (suficiente)	3	C	70%
Menos que regular	2	F	55%
Deficiente	1	F	50%

## **CHINA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15/16  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 70%

### **School Year**

The length of the school year is roughly the same in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The fall term runs from September to January; the spring term runs from March to July. Winter recess is in February; summer vacation is in July and August. Elementary school students usually stay in the same room with the same teacher(s) all day long. Students in junior and senior high schools have to report to their homeroom for 30 minutes to one hour to study while the teacher takes attendance. Students attend school from Monday through Saturday. Seniors must return to school on Sunday morning to study. In elementary school the school day runs from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM, followed by a lunch break, and then schools run from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. In junior and senior high schools the school day runs from 7:00 AM to 11:30 AM, followed by a lunch break, and then school run from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

	<b>CHINA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Middle School/ Lower Secondary often called Normal School	3	13-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary often called Normal College	3	15-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

High school students will be programmed into two groups according to their marks, grades and test results at the beginning of the sophomore year. One group will prepare the students to major in literature, history, library science and law. Another group will prepare the students to major in science, mathematics and technology.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

China Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Excellent	9-10	A	4.0
Good	8-8.9	B	3.0
Fair	7-7.9	C	2.0
Poor	6-6.9	D	1.0
Failure	0-5.9	F	0

## **COLOMBIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15  
Grades 1 through 5

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 87%

### **School Year**

There are 200 days of school per year over 40 weeks, but there are many school holidays. There are two school calendars used in Colombia: Calendar A is used in most of the country. School runs from February 1 to June 15. Vacation is from June 15 to July 15. School continues from July 16 to November 30, and there is another vacation in December and January. Calendar B is used in the southwest part of the country. School runs from September 1 to December 15. There is a vacation from December 16 to January 15, and school resumes on January 16, continuing through June 30. There is vacation in July and August. School runs five days a week, Monday through Friday. The school day consists of a mandated six hours. There are two sessions, each of three periods (45 minutes in duration) with a lunch period in between. In much of the country there are two shifts due to the large school-age population: morning shift runs from 6:50 AM to 12:40 PM and an afternoon shift from 12:50 PM to 6:40 PM.

	<b>COLOMBIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-Primary 5 years	5-6 7-11	1-5	6-11
Middle School / Lower Secondary	Lower Secondary- Basic  4 years	12-15	6-9	11-14
High School / Upper Secondary*	Upper Secondary- Diversified  2 years	16-17	10-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

(Continued)

## Tracking

On the secondary level, the first four years are spent in the Basic Common Cycle, after which comes the choice between Arts and Sciences, Vocational, Commercial or Technical studies. These tracks are chosen according to students' aptitudes and abilities.

## Grading System (Varies by School)

Colombia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent		
Excelente	9.5-10	A+	4.0	95%
Muy Bueno	8.5-9.4	A	4.0	90%
Bueno	7.5-8.4	B	3.0	85%
Regular	6.5-7.4	C	2.0	75%
Deficiente	6.0 passing	D	1.0	65%
No Aceptado	1-5.9	F	0	55%

*If a student receives a grade of below 6 in three subjects, the entire school year must be repeated.*

## Additional Resources

Colombian Institute for Higher Education  
<http://www.icfes.gov.co>

## **COSTA RICA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 13  
Grades K through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 93%

### **School Year**

The school year lasts nine months. It begins in March and ends in November. The school day starts at 7:00 AM and ends at 1:30 PM, lasting approximately 6-1/2 hours, five days a week.

	<b>COSTA RICA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	K-8	4.5-13	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-14
High School / Upper Secondary	Liberal Arts 1-5	13-17	9-12	14-18
	or Vocational Technical 1-6	13-18	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Students are tracked by career area for high school. Students can either enter five years of liberal arts in high school or enter six years of vocational training. Either track can apply to attend university upon completion.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Costa Rica Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent	
Sobresaliente	95%	Excellent	9-10	A	4.0
Muy Bueno	85%	Good	8-8.9	B	3.0
Bueno	75%	Fair	7.5-7.9	C	2.0
Suficiente	65%	Poor	6.0-7.4	D	1.0
Insuficiente	55%	Failure	0-5.9	F	0

## **CROATIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 97%

### **School Year**

The school year is from the beginning of September to mid-June, divided into two semesters. Students attend five days per week. Elementary school runs from 8:00 AM to noon; secondary school runs from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Each class is 45 minutes in duration. These are approximate times depending on the grade and on the differing programs in 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

	<b>CROATIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	Pre-Primary 1-8	5 6-13(14)	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13
High School / Secondary*	1-4	14-17	9-12	14-18
	Examination to University		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system on the elementary level. Voluntary tracking does exist in secondary school; students may choose between academic or trade programs.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Croatia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent			
Odlican	5	Excellent	A+	4.0	95%
Vrlo Doba	4	Very Good	A	3.0	85%
Dobar	3	Good	B	2.0	75%
Dovoljan	2	Fair/Passing	C	0	65%
Nedovoljan	1	Failure	F	0	55%

## **CUBA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 96%

### **School Year**

The school year commences early in September and ends in the first half of July. On the secondary level there are 34 weeks of study with an additional 6 to 9 weeks of non-academic work. The year is divided into two semesters. Vacation is for six weeks in July and August. The school day is 5<sup>1/2</sup> hours per day, five days per week, Monday to Friday.

	<b>CUBA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-Primary 1-6	5-6 7-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary	Secondary 7-9	12-15	9-12	14-18
	Pre-University 10-12	16-18	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Tracking exists in the secondary upper level (grades 10-12) where polytechnic and professional (trade) schools offer courses to under-schooled youngsters and dropouts. Here, study is usually combined with work.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Cuba Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent		
Sobresaliente	Excellent	90-100%	A	4.0	95%
Notable	Good	80-89%	B	3.0	85%
Aprovechado	Fair	70-79%	C	2.0	75%
Aprobado	Poor	60-69%	D	1.0	65%
Suspensio y Desaprobado	Failure	Below 60%	F	0	55%

*A grade of 60% or higher is passing.*

## **DOMINICA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 96%

### **School Year**

The school year consists of trimesters starting in mid-September to mid-July. The days are from 8 AM to 1:30 PM, five days per week.

	<b>DOMINICA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	7 years	5-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	5 years	13-17	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	2 years	17-19	9-12	14-18
	Student must pass the GCE advanced exam in order to graduate from high school and enter college.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

Education is free and provided by both government and religious schools, although enrollment of eligible children in the primary age group is approximately 70%. There are also a number of schools for the mentally and physically handicapped.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Dominica Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A	9-10	90-95%
B	8	85%
C	7	75%
D	5-6	65%
E	4	55%
F	1-3	50%

## **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 13

Seventy percent of all students are over-aged for their grade in the Dominican Republic. Forty-seven percent enrolled in primary schools finish the sixth grade and only nineteen percent of these finish in six years.

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 83%

### **School Year**

The school year is 196 days long. School begins on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September and ends on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. It is divided into trimesters. Students attend school five days a week in shifts. There are three shifts each day:

Morning: four hours—from 8:00 AM to noon

Afternoon: four hours—from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Evening: four hours—from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

All students completing each semester by attending one of these shifts receive the same certificate or diploma.

	<b>DOMINICAN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	Pre-Primary 1-7	5-6 7-13(14)	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	8	14(15)	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary*	1-4	15-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

On the secondary school level (grades 9-12), tracking occurs in the last year. Students may choose courses related to the professional interests that they plan to pursue in the university.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Dominican Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent		
Sobresaliente	Excellent	90-100%	A	4.0	95%
Muy Bueno	Good	80-89%	B	3.0	85%
Bueno	Fair	70-79%	C	2.0	75%
Suficiente	Poor	60-69%	D	0	65%
Insuficiente	Failure	0-59%	F	0	55%

*Passing is a grade of 60% or higher.*

## ECUADOR

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 88%

### **School Year**

There are ten months of school in a year. In the coastal regions, school begins in the first week of May and runs until February, with vacation in March and April. In the mountainous regions, school runs from September to June with vacation in July and August. The school year is divided into trimesters. Between each trimester there are four days of vacation. School runs five days per week, Monday through Friday. On the secondary level there are seven periods, each 45 minutes long. There are also three sessions: morning, afternoon and evening (only four hours).

	ECUADOR EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-Primary 1-6	5 6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Middle School Basic 1-3	12-14(15)	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	Secondary Voc (2 to 3 years Advance Voc. Diploma) or Secondary Academic 3 years	15-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

On the upper secondary level (9th-12th grades) tracking exists according to the student's career choice and abilities.

(Continued)

### Grading System (Varies by School)

Please note that there are a variety of systems so it is imperative to check with the individual school for the passing grade.

### School Classwork and Trimester examinations:

Ecuador Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent	
Excelente	Excellent	20	A+	4.0	95%
Muy Bueno	Very Good	18-19	A	4.0	90%
Bastante Bueno	Good	16-17	B	3.0	85%
Bueno	Good	13-15	C	2.0	75%
Regular	Passing	10-12	C-	1.0	65%
Malo	Failure	0-9	F	0	55%

### Final Examinations including Bachillerato examination

Ecuador Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent	
Excelente	Excellent	10	A	4.0	90%
Muy Bueno	Very Good	9	A	4.0	90%
Bastante Bueno	Good	7-8	B	3.0	85%
Bueno	Good	5-6	C	2.0	75%
Regular	Passing	3-4	C-/D	1.0	65%
Malo	Failure	Below 3	F	0.0	55%

*A grade of 5 or above is required for promotion.*

## **EGYPT**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 48%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from September to June for a total of 225 school days. Students are required to attend 90 percent of the school days. There is a two-week midyear break in addition to the holidays. School runs from Saturday to Thursday; Friday is a holiday and there is no school. In elementary school the day goes from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM and in preparatory school from 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM or from noon to 4:00 PM. High school runs from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. During the month of Ramadan the school day is shortened by two hours; schools start one hour later and end one hour earlier.

	<b>EGYPT EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	6 years.	6-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Lower secondary 3 years.	12-14 (15)	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary*	Upper 3 years	15-17 (18)	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

Students are grouped homogeneously according to their grades and national test results. Classes are programmed from class A (highest achieving students) to class B, C, D or E respectively. From elementary school on, students will be separated into schools by gender. In the first year of high school, students will choose between liberal arts or science majors. In the senior year, the science majors will have another choice between a math and biology minor. Students have a fixed program and are assigned to one classroom with the same group of students for the whole year; teachers move to classrooms.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Egypt Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent	
80-100%	Excellent	A	4.0	95%
70-79%	Good	B	3.0	85%
60-69%	Fair	C	2.0	75%
50-59%	Poor	D	0	55%
0- 9%	Failure	F	0	50%

*Passing is a grade of 60% or higher.*

## **EL SALVADOR**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 12  
Grades 1 through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 75%

### **School Year**

The school year begins in January and ends in October, lasting approximately nine months. School is conducted five days a week, Monday through Friday; the school day lasts six hours.

	EL SALVADOR EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	Early Primary Primary	6-8 9-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Upper Primary 7-9	12-14	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	Secondary 3 Years	15-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

Most schools do not have tracking. In some rural areas children of different ages will be grouped together, similar to a one-room schoolhouse. For the most part, students stay in their classroom and the teachers of each subject move from class to class.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

El Salvador Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent		
Excelente	Excellent	10	A+	4.0	95%
Muy Bueno	Very Good	9	A	4.0	90%
Bastante Bueno	Good	8	B	3.0	80%
Bueno	Good	6-7	C	2.0	75%
Regular	Passing	5	C-/D	1.0	65%
Malo	Failure	Below 1-4	F	0.0	55%

*Variations in grading practices exist from school to school. However, 5 is required for promotion.*



## **FRANCE**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages: 6 to 16

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99.9%

### **School Year**

The school year is from September to June from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM for 5½ days per week.

	<b>FRANCE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Nursery/Pre-School	2		Pre-school	
Primary/Elementary	Grades: 1-2 Grades: 3-5	6-7 7-10	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	4 years	10-14	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Lycee: Second generate 1 year Premier and terminale 2 years		9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*The high school diploma is called the Baccalaureat General or the Baccalaureat Technologique

### **Tracking**

Teachers meet in a council for the purpose of determining the students' abilities and interests. They then guide the students into the courses of study that are best suited for them. Often the council recommends repeating a year which is called redoublement. This ensures that all students master their studies at a very high level of achievement.

(Continued)

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

France Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
16.0-20.0	Tres Bien	95%
14.0-15.9	Bien	85%
12.0-13.9	Assez Bien	75%
10.0-11.9	Passable	65%
8.0-9.9	*failing*	55%

*In individual subjects, grades within the range of 8.0-9.9 are passing; therefore, care must be taken when awarding credit and grade equivalents.*

### **Additional Resources**

Agence France  
[www.expatica.com](http://www.expatica.com)

## **GAMBIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 8 to 16  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 30%

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters and runs from September to July. School is conducted five days a week, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Each class is 40 minutes. Evening schools are established for adults and run from 7:00 AM -10:00 PM.

	<b>GAMBIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	1-6	8-14	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Junior Secondary School 7-9	14-16	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary*	Senior Secondary School 10-12 GCE Diploma	16-18(19)	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

No tracking exists, even though there are technical schools. Regular courses are offered in the grammar schools.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Gambia Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent		
A = 80-100	A+	4.0	95%
B = 75-79	B+	3.0	85%
C = 60-74	C+	2.5	75%
D = 50-59	C	2.0	70%
E = 40-49	D	1.0	65%
F = 0-48	F	0	55%

*Passing is a grade of E (40) or above.*

## **GEORGIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Through Grade 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 96%

### **School Year**

The system is presently undergoing reform. Some schools still follow the Russian system (refer to Russian Federation in this manual).

	<b>GEORGIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	4 years	6-10	1-5	6-11
Intermediate/Lower Secondary	4 years End of compulsory education	10-14	6-8	11-13 (14)
Upper Secondary*/High School	3 years Completion of high school**	15-17	9-12 Diploma after 12th grade	14-18

\*Academic or Specialized Secondary Schools need 3 years

\*\*Vocational/Technical Secondary Schools need 4 years

### **Tracking**

Diversification occurs at the upper secondary school level where students may opt for a 3 year program of academic studies or a 4 year program of technical studies.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Georgia Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
5	Priadi	Excellent	90%
4	Kargi	Good	80%
3	Damakmakopilebeli	Satisfactory	70%
2	aradamakmakopilebeli	Unsatisfactory	60%

*Passing is a grade of 3 or higher. The grade of 2 is rarely shown on transcripts. A grade of Chatvla indicates credit is given but failed to pass required exam. This would equate to our CR (credit).*

### **Additional Resources**

[www.euroeducation.net](http://www.euroeducation.net)

## **GERMANY**

**Compulsory Education:** Varies from grades 1 to 9 or 1 to 10, depending on the state

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 100%

### **School Year**

The school year is usually 180 days in length, depending on the state. The school year is divided into three terms: April-July; September-December; January-March. There is a one month summer vacation, usually between July and August. There are also two weeks off for the New Year. Spring vacation comes after the annual examination. At the end of the school year there is a two-week break before the next year begins. Primary schools usually run classes only in the morning. Secondary schools, mostly grades 11-13, have classes both in the morning and afternoon. Students attend classes five days a week and two Saturdays a month.

	<b>GERMANY EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/ Elementary	4 years	4-8	1-5	6-11
Lower Secondary (also called Intermediate or Grammar School)/ Intermediate	5 or 6 years	8-13(14)	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary (Gymnasium)	4 or 2 years	15-16(18)	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

Exams are given at the end of intermediate/grammar school for admission into specialized schools. Comprehensive exams are given throughout the secondary school.

### **Tracking**

There is tracking during primary school and/or junior high school. There is also voluntary tracking for high schools. Students can choose between general education or vocational high schools.

(Continued)

### Grading System (Varies by School)

Germany Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent	
1	13-15	Sehr Gut	Very Good	A	95%
2	10-12	Gut	Good	B	85%
3	7-9	Befriedigend	Satisfactory	B-/C+	75%
4	4-6	Ausreichend	Sufficient	C	70%
5	1-3	Mangelhaft	Deficient	D	55%
6	0	Ungenugend	Failure	F	50%
Passing is a C/65% with a 4 or better					

### Additional Resources

Accreditation Council of Germany  
<http://www.akkreditierungsrat.de>

Federal Ministry of Education  
<http://www.bmbf.de>

## **GHANA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 16  
Grades 1 through 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 60%

### **School Year**

The school year is ten months, five days per week, with trimesters from September-December; January-April; April-June. Most schools are boarding schools. School days usually begin at 7:30 AM and end at 2:30 PM. Evening classes start at 3:30 PM and end at 5:00 PM.

	<b>GHANA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/ Elementary	6 years	6-11	1-5	6-11
Junior Secondary/ Intermediate	7-9(10) 3 or 4 years*	12-15(16)	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Senior Secondary	2,3,4 years	15-19	9-12	14-18
	2 years are Forms II and III 3 years are Forms I,II,III 4 years are Forms I, II, III, IV Diploma granted after exams at Form 3 (SS3)		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*A student who takes 4 years of junior secondary school begins senior secondary school at Form II

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking up to the tenth grade, after which students select an area of specialty.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Ghana Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
A	80-100	Distinction	95%
B	70-79	Very Good	85%
C	60-69	Good	80%
D	50-59	Credit	70%
E	40-49	Pass	65%
F	0-39	Fail	55%

*Passing is a grade of E (40) or higher.*

## **GREECE**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 93%

### **School Year**

The school year is 164 days. There are two months of summer vacation and one month between the winter and spring semesters. School runs five days a week with six academic periods. Each period is 45 minutes, with a five minute break between periods.

	<b>GREECE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	K-6	5½ -12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	7-9	13-14	6-8	11-13 (14)
Secondary*/ High School	10-12	15-18	9-12	14-18
	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking up to the tenth grade. Eleventh and twelfth grade students may elect a major: Humanities, Sciences or Vocational. The Lyceum Academic Certificate (Apolitirion), as well as the general level of grades in all three grades (10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>), are requirements for entry, along with the successful passing of examinations into the country's establishment of Higher Education. Those who have failed their entrance exams are entitled to try an infinite number of times to improve their grades in order to be accepted by the school of their choice.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Greece Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Excellent	18-20	A	95%
Good	14-17	B	85%
Fair	12-13	C	75%
Poor	10-11	C-/D	65%
Failure	0-9	F	55%

*Passing is a grade of 10 or above.*

**Additional Resources**

<http://www.icfes.gov.co>

## **GRENADA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15  
Attendance is not enforced

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99.9%

### **School Year**

The school year is from September to August for 5 days a week.

Primary school runs from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM and Secondary school runs from 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM.

	<b>GRENADA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	7 years	5-12	1-5	6-11
Junior Secondary/ Intermediate	5 years	12-17	6-8	11-13(14)
Senior Secondary/ High School	2 years	17-19	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Students must pass an examination in order to be eligible for senior secondary school. The government provides the students with scholarships that allow them to attend for free.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Grenada Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
70-100	A	90%
50-69	B	80%
40-49	C	70%
30-39	D	65%
20-29	E	55%
0-19	F	50%

*Passing is a grade of 30 (D) or higher.*

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education and Labor

E-mail: psmind@yahoo.com

## **GUATEMALA**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 7 to 14  
Grades 1 through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 55%

### **School Year**

The school year begins the first or second week of January and finishes in the third week of October. There are 180 school days per year. School runs five days per week, Monday through Friday. There are five hours of class per day. Each period is 40-45 minutes. There are 35 periods per week.

	<b>GUATEMALA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/ Elementary	Pre-Primary 1-6 end of compulsory education	5-6 7-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	3 years	12-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	2 to 3 years depending on course of study	14-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

The diversified cycle of secondary school (equivalent to 10th-12th grades) offers the student the choice between academic courses or a more vocational/technical course of study.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Guatemala Equivalent					Recommended US Equivalent
Sobresaliente	Excellent	81-100	A	4.0	95%
Muy bueno	Good	71-80	B	3.0	85%
Bueno	Fair	61-70	C	2.0	75%
Suficiente	Poor	51-60	D	0	65%
Aplazado	Failure	0-50	F	0	0%

*Passing is 51% or higher.*

## **GUINEA-BISSAU**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 13

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 59%

### **School Year**

The educational systems in Guinea-Bissau are patterned on the system in France. French is the language of instruction. Although curriculum and structure is French, since the country's independence, African History and Geography are now stressed.

	<b>GUINEA-BISSAU EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	6 years	7-13	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary/ High School	7 years	13-19	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Although education by law is compulsory until the age of 13, in practice few children complete their schooling. According to UNESCO reports, approximately 40% attend primary school and enrollment in secondary school is approximately 12%.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Guinea-Bissau Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
19-20	95%
16-18	90%
14-17	85%
12-13	75%
10-11	65%
8-9	Credit in some schools, failing in others

## **GUYANA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
8 years

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98.6% (highest in South America)

### **School Year**

The school year is from September to August, 5 days per week.

	<b>GUYANA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	Infant school: 1 year	5	1-5	6-11
	Primary: 6 years	6-12		
Lower Secondary/ Intermediate	4 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Upper Secondary/ High School	1 to 2 years	16-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Education is free and compulsory between the ages six and fourteen. Entrance into secondary school is based upon the results of the Secondary School Entrance Examination (SSEE). Students take this test at the age of eleven.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Guyana Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A+	90-100	95%
A	76-89	90%
B	70-75	80%
C	60-69	70%
D	59-50	65%
F	0-49	55%

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education  
E-mail: moegyweb@yahoo.com

## HAITI

**Compulsory Education:** Grade 6 in Traditional System  
Grade 9 in Reform System

Primary: 6 years (Traditional), 9 years (Reform)  
Secondary: 5-7 years (Traditional), 3 years (Reform)

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 53%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from October to mid-July when promotional examinations are given. Primary school lasts for six years. Students stay with the same teachers five days a week, Monday through Friday. There are two parallel systems of education in Haiti. In the Traditional system the secondary program is offered in four streams: A–Latin and Greek; B–Latin, languages and literature; C–mathematics and physical sciences; D–mathematics and natural sciences. The Reform system, which is now being implemented in large cities, is similar to the United States' system. At present, both systems are in operation. It is also important to note that in rural areas many students do not have opportunities for secondary education.

### **REFORM SYSTEM**

	HAITI EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	9 years		1-5	6-11
	end of compulsory education			
Intermediate			6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary	3 years (Form III, II, I) then exams for University		9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

High school students, beginning the seventh year of study, immediately following the completion of the primary school sequence, have an option of either entering pre-vocational school or following an academic track. After the ninth year of school those students who chose the academic track have another opportunity to enter vocational training, called Second Degree Vocational Training. Young girls make up 90% of the enrollment in the pre-vocational programs.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Haiti Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent		
19-20	10	Excellent	91-100%	A	4.0	95%
17-18	9	Tres Bien	80-90%	B	3.0	85%
15-16	8	Bien	60-79%	C	2.0	75%
13-14	7	Moyen	50-59	C	2.0	70%
11-12	6	Passable	40-49%	D	1.0	65%
			Below 40	F	0	55%

*Passing is a grade of 40% (11-12 or 6) or higher.*

## **HONDURAS**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 7 to 12  
Grades 1 through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 73%

### **School Year**

The school year consists of 200 class days and runs from February to November, six days per week, Monday through Saturday. The school year is divided into five cycles: February-March; April-May; June-July; August-September; October-November. Vacation takes place in December and January. On the secondary level students normally receive 36 hours of instruction, but there are schools where the class load is up to 44 hours per week, according to the course of study.

	HONDURAS EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-Primary 1-6	5-6 7-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	1-3	13-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	1-2 or 3	16-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

Students in grades 10 through 12 may choose from among 10 tracks offered in academic studies, business, commercial studies, science, social sciences, etc.

### **Grading System (Secondary Only)**

Honduras Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent		
Sobresaliente	91-100%	Excellent	1	A	4.0	95%
Muy Bueno	80-90%	Good	2	B	3.0	85%
Bueno	60-79%	Fair	3	C	2.0	75%
Aplazado	40-59%	Poor	4	F	0	55%
Insuficiente	1-39%	Failure	5	F	0	50%

*Passing is a grade of 60% or higher.*



## **HONG KONG**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 90%

### **School Year**

The length of the school year is roughly the same in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The school year is broken up into two terms. The fall term runs from September to January; the spring term runs from March to July. School runs six days per week, Monday through Saturday. Seniors must return to school on Sunday morning to study. In elementary school the school day runs from 7:30 AM -11:30 AM, followed by a lunch break, and then more school from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Junior high school and senior high school days run from 7:00 AM -11:30 AM, followed by a lunch break, and then more school from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

	<b>HONG KONG EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	1-9	6-15	1-5	6-11
Intermediate/ Lower Secondary	3 (being phased in)		6-8	11-13 (14)
	End of compulsory education			
High School / Upper Secondary	2		9-12	14-18
	Exams Receive Certificate of Education		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
Advanced Secondary/Pre- University	1 or 2 years exams		Advance Placement=US College Credit	

Note: Some schools still use the British system of six years of primary school, five years of secondary Form IV. After the high school diploma is awarded, students may opt for Form VI in preparation for the university entrance examination.

(Continued)

## Tracking

High school students will be programmed into two groups according to their marks, grades and test results at the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> year. One group will major in literature, history, library science, law, etc. Another group will major in science, mathematics and technology.

## Grading System (Many grading systems are used; several are listed below.)

<b>System 1</b>	<b>System 2</b>	<b>Recommended US Equivalent</b>
Pass with Distinction	A	90%
Pass with Credit	B,C	80%
Pass	D,E	70%
Fail	F,G,H	55%
<b>System 3</b>	<b>System 4</b>	<b>System 5</b>
A	1	75-100%
B	2	65-74%
C	3	50-64%
D	4	40-49% (Pass)
E*	5*	
F	6 failure	

*\*Fail or Pass, depending on school*

## Additional Resources

Institute of International education

<http://www.iiehongkong.org/hked/hkededucation.htm>

## **INDIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 6 to 14  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 48%

### **School Year**

The academic years vary from state to state. Usually the school year starts in June and ends nine months later in March or April. The year is divided into three terms of 15 weeks each, six days a week. The number of weeks varies widely, but the standard is 39 weeks in many regions. External exams are given at the end of class 10 and 12. There are 220 days of school; 48 periods a week, each period being 30-40 minutes in length. School is conducted for 5-1/2 days per week. The school day is approximately five hours long for primary school (grades 1-5) and six hours long for higher primary (6-8 grades) and secondary (9-10 grades).

	<b>INDIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>U.S. EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	5	6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	3	11-14	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Lower Secondary	2 exam	15-16	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
Upper Secondary	exam 1 to 2 years completes H.S.	18-19		
Pre-Professional Certificate	1 (college level work)	18-19		

Note: Students may receive their High School diploma after the 11<sup>th</sup> grade depending on their successful completion of their compulsory examinations.

### **Tracking**

Curriculum at the lower secondary stage seeks to give all students the “competence to enter life.” At the upper secondary stage the national plan calls for providing introductory courses for college education.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

India Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
First Division, Class I	60% or higher	A	85%-95%
Second Division, Class II	45%-59%	B	75%-84%
Pass, Class III	33%-44%	C	65%-74%

*Passing is a grade of 33% or higher.*

**Additional Resources**

Directory of Indian Government Websites, Educational  
<http://goidirectory.nic.in/education.htm>

## **INDONESIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15.  
9 years

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 84%

### **School Year**

The school year is from July to June.

	<b>INDONESIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	6 years	7-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	6 years	12-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\* Secondary High School is comprised of two cycles of 3 years each with compulsory exams.

### **Tracking**

Education is mainly under the control of the Ministry of National Education, but the Ministry of Religious Affairs is in charge of Islamic religious schools at the primary level. At the end of the first 3-year cycle of (general junior) secondary school, the exams indicate the senior secondary school program students will be given.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Indonesia Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
10	90%
9	80%
8	75%
7	70%
6	65%
1-5	

*Generally the passing grade is 6; however, in a few private schools, 5 is passing.*

## **ISRAEL**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to15

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99.9%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from September to June and is generally annualized.

	<b>ISRAEL EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	1-6	6-11	1-5	6-11
Lower Secondary/ Intermediate	3	12-14	6-8	11-13(14)
Upper Secondary/ High School	3	15-17	9-12 Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	14-18

### **Tracking**

Many students take college level courses in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of upper secondary school, which is similar to our advanced placement program.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Israel Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
10	90-100%	Excellent	95%
9	85-94%	Very Good	85%
8	75-84%	Good	80%
7	65-74%	Almost Good	75%
6	55-64%	Satisfactory	70%
5	45-54%	Almost Satisfactory	65%
0-4	0-44%	Fail	55%

*Passing is a grade of 5 (45%) or higher.*

## ITALY

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grade 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98.5%

### **School Year**

The school year is from September to June.

	ITALY EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	8 or 5 years		1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Upper Secondary* and Lycees/ High School	1 to 5 years a)1 yr compulsory (equiv. to grade 9) a)2-3 years vocational b)3 years teacher training for pre-school c)4 years diploma de maturito d)5 years diploma de maturito with state examinations		9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*One year of upper secondary school is compulsory.

### **Tracking**

After the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students may opt for 2 to 3 vocational programs to complete their education; however, these programs do not make them eligible to attend university. Students who opt for a 4 or 5 year secondary program receive the equivalent of the U.S. high school diploma. Upon completion, they are eligible for university. The 5 year diploma is generally for students studying the classics, science, linguistics, technical studies and business.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Italy Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
10	A+	95%
9	A	90%
8	B	85%
7	C	80%
6	D	75%
0-5	F	50-55%

(Continued)

**Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research

E-mail: [comunicazione.uff2@istruzione.it](mailto:comunicazione.uff2@istruzione.it)

## **IVORY COAST**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 12

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 51%

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters, September to June, 5½ days per week. Since the Civil War in 2002 many students have had interrupted schooling, particularly in rural areas.

	<b>IVORY COAST EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	6 years	7-12	1-5	6-11
	A) Preparatory 7-9 B) Elementary 9-10 C) Intermediate 11-12 CEPE exam			
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary/ High School*	Lower secondary 4 years	12-16	9-12	14-18
College	BEPC EXAM 2-3 years Baccalaureate Degree	16-19	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

The Ivorian education system is an adaptation of the French system; however, most instruction encourages mental discipline of memorization and oral recitation rather than analytical thinking or creativity. Performance on the primary school-leaving examination determines entrance into secondary institutions. After 4 years of study in a secondary school, students are required to pass an examination for further study in the Lycee or college (further secondary school), after which they earn a Baccalaureate Degree.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Ivory Coast Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
17-20	14-20	95%
14-16	12-13	85%
12-13	10-11	75%
10-11	9	65%
9	0-8	55%

*Check the legends; in some schools 9 is passing while in other schools it is failing.*

## JAMAICA

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 88%

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters from September to July for 5 days per week. In primary school pupils are in large classes of 60 students, sit in long neat orderly rows and may not speak unless called upon.

	<b>JAMAICA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	infant school: 1 year 6	4-5 6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary/ High School	<b>Lower:</b> 3 years (Forms 1-3) then exam (GNAT) <b>Upper:</b> 2 years (Forms 4-5, after form 5 , completion of HS with the passing of CXC or GCE exam) <b>Post sec:</b> 1 or 2 years (Form 6, for students who have passed the CXC exam and are preparing for college)		9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Entrance into the Lower secondary school is on the basis of the performance on the common entrance (CE) examination. Students will be tracked according to vocational or academic indications. At the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade (Form 3) all students must take the Grade Nine Assessment Test (GNAT). Promotion to the next grade (Form 4) is based on the test results. At the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> grade (Form 4) all students must take the Jamaica School Certification Examination (JSC). Promotion to the next grade is based on the test results. At the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade (Form 5) students must take the Caribbean Examination Council Examination (CXC). The exam is used for entry into Form 6 in preparation for college.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Jamaica Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
	A+	10	95%
1	A	8.0-9.9	90%
2	B	6.9-7.9	80%
3	C	5.0-5.9	70%
4	D	4.0-4.9	65%
5/6	E/F	1-3.9 (failing)	55/50%

*Note: Many different grading scales are used; always check the report card legend or whenever possible contact the individual school.*

## **JAPAN**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 through 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 100%

### **School Year**

School year is from April to March in an annualized system. Classes are 5 and a half to 6 days per week, generally from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

	<b>JAPAN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Yochien/Primary/Elementary	Kindergarten 1-6	3-5 6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Lower: 3 years	12-14	9-12	14-18
	End of compulsory ed. Entrance exam		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
	Upper: 3 years completion of HS			
	University Prep: 1 year			

\*Vocational and Academic

### **Tracking**

Students take examinations to get into schools of their choice, beginning in pre-school and continuing throughout the educational levels. Entrance into upper secondary, the stage following compulsory levels, is by exam only and most charge tuition.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Japan Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
5	95%
4	85%
3	75%
2	65%
1	55%

(Continued)

**Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education

[www.europaworld.com](http://www.europaworld.com)

[www.mext.go.jp](http://www.mext.go.jp)

## KOREA, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 96%

### **School Year**

The school year consists of 220 school days. The first semester runs from March through June, followed by summer vacation in July and August. The second semester runs from September through December, followed by a winter vacation in January and February. School is conducted 5 and a half days a week, Saturday being a half-day.

	SOUTH KOREA EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	1-6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	7-9	12-15	6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Upper Secondary*	10-12	15-18	9-12	14-18
	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system up to the tenth grade. For 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, students select a major: humanities, science or vocational. There is no grouping according to ability, only preference of study.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

South Korea Equivalent				Recommended US Equivalent		
90-100	A	Excellent	9-10	A	4.0	95%
80-89	B	Good	7-8	B	3.0	85%
70-79	C	Fair	5-6	C	2.0	75%
60-69	D	Poor	3.5-4	D	0	70%
0-59	E	Failure	0-3	F	0	65%

*There are no failures in the grading system. E is the lowest grade a student can achieve. Students never repeat a course. In rare cases, students are compelled to repeat the entire school year.*

## **LIBERIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 7 to 12  
Grades 1 through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 40%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from March to December and consists of two semesters. The first semester is from March to July, with a two-week break; the second semester is from July to December. School is conducted five days a week, Monday through Friday. Day schools run from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM with a 30-minute break. Night session with full programs run from 6:00 PM to 10:30 PM. The night schools are designed to accommodate adults and workers.

	LIBERIA EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	1-6	7(8)-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	7-9	13-15	6-8	11-13(14)
High School / Upper Secondary*	10-12	15-18	9-12	14-18
	GCE diploma		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system. Every child takes general courses in the primary schools. Secondary schools are organized into two phases: junior secondary school (grades 7-9) and senior secondary school (grades 10-12).

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Liberia Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent		
90-100%	Excellent	9-10	A	4.0	95%
80-89%	Good	7-8	B	3.0	85%
73-79%	Fair	5-6	C	2.0	75%
70-72%	Sufficient	3.5-4	D	0	65%
0-69%	Poor	0-3	F	0	55%

## **MACEDONIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Age 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 89%

### **School Year**

The school year begins in September and lasts to mid-June; it is divided into two semesters. Students attend five days a week. In elementary school the day runs from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM; the secondary school day runs from 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

	MACEDONIA EQUIVALENT		U.S. EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary	Pre-Primary 1-8	5-6 7-14	1-5	6-11
	Completion of Compulsory education			
Intermediate			6-8	11-13 (14)
High School / Secondary*	1-3 Vocational Diploma 1-4	15-18	9-12	14-18
	(entrance exam, academic diploma)		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive. Students must pass an entrance exam in order to attend the academic secondary school.

### **Tracking**

No tracking system exists on the primary level. There is voluntary tracking during secondary school—students may choose between an academic or trade program. Those choosing academic tracks must pass entrance examinations.

(Continued)

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Macedonia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
5	OtnNyho	Excellent	95%
4	MhoroAobpe	Very Good	85%
3	Aobpe	Good	75%
2	3aAoBonNtenHo	Fair	65%
1	be3ycnewHo	Insufficient	55%

### **Additional Resources**

Euroeducation

<http://www.euroeducation.net/prof/macenco.htm>

University of Skopje

<http://www.ukim.edu.mk>

## MEXICO

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 92%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from September to mid-June. School is Monday through Friday. Saturday classes are optional for both secondary school students and prep students.

	MEXICO EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	6 years	6-12	1-5	6-11
	End of compulsory education			
Lower Secondary/Intermediate	3 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Upper Secondary/High School	2 to 3 years	15-18	9-12	14-18
	High School Degree after obtaining an avg. of 8 (80%) or better			
	4 years (HS plus teaching degree)	15-19		

### **Tracking**

Tracking does not normally occur until the first year of preparatory school, where a student may select a course of study, e.g., medicine, science, humanities. Selection of a career field of study does take place during the first year of preparatory school. After two years, the student is ready for admission to the university. A third optional year is for those students whose grades are below an 8 (or B in U.S. terms).

(Continued)

### Grading System (Varies by Schools)

Mexico Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
<b>Two types generally used:</b>		
<b>Six Point Scale</b>		
10	Excelente	95%
9-9.9	Muy Bien	90%
8-8.9	Bien	80%
7-7.9	Regular	75%
6-6.9	Suficiente/pass	65%
0-5.9	No Suficiente	50%
<b>Five Point Scale</b>		
10	Excelente	95%
9-9.9	Muy Bien	90%
8-8.9	Bien	80%
7-7.9	Suficiente	70%
0-6.9	No Suficiente	50%

#### Additional Resources

Secretary of Public Education

<http://www.sep.gob.mx>

## **NEPAL**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 44%

### **School Year**

The school year is year-round.

	NEPAL EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	5 years	6-10	1-5	6-11
Lower Secondary/ Intermediate	3 years	11-13	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Upper 2 years	14-15	9-12	14-18
	Higher 2 years	16-17	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Free primary education is available for ages 6 to 11 with approximately only 80% of eligible students attending, mostly boys. Traditional schools (pathshalas) provide a classical education emphasizing languages. A national curriculum is slowly expanding into all schools and replacing the traditional school. Gompas along the northern border train boys and men to become Buddhist religious leaders. Less than 50% of students attend school past the primary level.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Nepal Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
Division I	85-100	90%
Division II	75-84	80%
Division III	60-74	70%
Failing	45-59	65%
	Below 45 failing	

*Note: Two types of grading systems seem to exist. Check the legends for individual school differences.*

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education and Sports  
[www.moe.gov.np](http://www.moe.gov.np)

## **NICARAGUA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 16  
Grades 1 to 11

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 74%

### **School Year**

The school year is 187 days, consisting of two semesters and running from mid-February to July and August to November, with a vacation of 15 days at the end of July.

	<b>NICARAGUA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-6	5-6 7-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Secondary Basic: 1-3	13-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Secondary Diversified: 1-2	16-17	9-12 Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	14-18

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

In the last two years of secondary school, students move into the diversified cycle. The three tracks available are Academic (general studies), Normal (teacher education) and Technical. Each track enables a student to enter the university.

### **Grading Systems (Varies by Schools)**

Nicaragua Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Sobresaliente	9.51-10	A	95%
Muy Bueno	8.51-9.50	B	85%
Bueno	7.51-8.50	C	75%
Regular	6.51-7.50	D	65%
Deficiente	Below 6.51	F	55%

## **NIGERIA**

**Compulsory Education:** None

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 42%

### **School Year**

The length of the school year is about 220 days divided into trimesters. Each term ends with an exam while an additional final exam is given at the end of the third term. The school day is about 6½ hours with a recess period of about one hour. School generally starts at 8:00 AM and ends at 2:30 PM. There are usually extension periods for the seniors for the preparation of their final National Exam.

	<b>NIGERIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary	3-5	1-5	6-11
	Primary 1-6(7)	6-11		
Intermediate	Junior School 3 years	12-14	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Senior School 3 years	15-17(18)	9-12	14-18
	GCE diploma with an average of 6 or better on the National Exams		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

The junior secondary school is both pre-vocational and academic in nature. The senior secondary schools are comprehensive with a core curriculum which every pupil must take in addition to his or her specialties.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

West African School Certificate		Recommended US Equivalent
1	A+	95%
2	A	90%
3	B	85%
4-6	C	75%
7-8	D (Failure for GCE)	65%
9	F	55%

\*GCE=General Certificate of Education

(Continued)



## NORWAY

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 16

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 100%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from September to June.

	NORWAY EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Lower (barnetrinnet)	Kindergarten 1-4	5 years old 6-10	Kindergarten 1-6	5 years old 6-11
Intermediate (Mellontrinnet)	3	0-13	6-8	11-13(14)
(Ungdomstrinnet)	3	13-16		
Gymnasium/High School	1-3 years		9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

After 10 years of compulsory education, students may choose from a variety of options for secondary school:

- a) **vocational 1 year**- completes high school education
- b) **academic 3 years**- completes high school education and grants access to university
- c) **vocational 3 years**- completes high school education and qualifies for vocational trades and university.

In addition to the regular educational system, there also exist Folk High Schools to provide students with personal growth and development rather than academic. These are associated with the Scandinavian tradition of public enlightenment.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Norway Equivalent Beginning in 2002-2003	Recommended US Equivalent
A	A
B	B
C	B-
D	C+
E	C
F (failing)	F
Prior to 2002-2003	
1.0-1.5	A+
1.6-2.5	A
2.6-3.2	B+
3.3-4.0	C+
<i>Passing is a grade of 4.0 or higher.</i>	

## **PAKISTAN**

**Compulsory Education:** None

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 26%

### **School Year**

The length of the school year is 220 days: January to December up to the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, July to June beyond the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Education is not compulsory, though it is free, recommended and encouraged. A new law will soon make it compulsory. The length of the school day is 5 to 6 hours long.

	<b>PAKISTAN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	K-5	5-10(12)	K-5	5-11
Intermediate	Lower Secondary 6-10	11-15(17)	6-8	11-13(14)
	Completion certificate			
High School*	Higher secondary	16-17(19)	9-12	14-18
	1 year for certificate.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
	Highest Secondary 2 years			
	Secondary school certificate.			

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

Grouping in Humanities, Science and Business starts from the ninth grade in some schools only. However, there's no tracking in general up to 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Tracking starts from 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Students choose their preference rather than being placed in school.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Pakistan Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
<b>School Grading</b>			
Excellent	79-100	A+	
Very Good	60-79%	A	
Good	50-59%	B	
Average	40-49%	C	
Passable	33-39%	C-	
Failure	0-32%	F	
<b>External Examination and Post Secondary (grades 11 and 12)</b>			
First Division	60-100%	A	95%
Second Division	45-59%	B	85%
Third Division	33-44%	C	75%
A grade of 33 is passing			

## **PANAMA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 11  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 88%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from April until mid-December. In some schools the year is divided into four semesters, in others into trimesters. There has been a move to unify the system between the public and private schools. The vacation period is from mid-December to the end of March (the dry season) with an additional two weeks of vacation in August. The school day normally runs from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Each class is 45 minutes long with 7 class periods per day.

	PANAMA EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-6	5 6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Secondary (1 <sup>st</sup> cycle) 1-3	12-14	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Secondary (2 <sup>nd</sup> cycle) 4-6 (3 years)	15-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

During the last three years of secondary school (grades 10-12) students are in the diversified cycle. They can choose between six tracks: academic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, normal and vocational.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Panama Equivalent					Recommended US Equivalent	
Sobresaliente	5	1	10	91-100%	A	95%
Bueno	4	1	8-9	81-90%	B	85%
Regular	3	3	6-7	71-80%	C	75%
				61-70%		
Malo or Fracasado	1,2	4,5	0-5	0-60%	F	55%

## PERU

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 16  
Grades K through 11

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 89%

### **School Year**

The school year goes from early April to mid-December with 4 terms each year. There are two sessions each day: mornings run from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM and afternoons run from 1:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

	PERU EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	K-6	5-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	1-5	12-17	9-12	14-18
	Exam (see tracking info below)		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

The public schools are becoming co-educational. Students who have been left back are placed in a special class apart from the main track. There is an evening track for students over 15 years of age. On the upper secondary level (last two years of secondary school) there are separate tracks for students who take general education and are university-bound and those who are looking to attain marketable skills and intend to enter the work force after high school.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Peru Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
Excelente	16-20	90%
Muy Bueno	14-15	80%
Bueno	13-13.5	70%
Aprobado	11-12	55%
Aplazado, Malo or Reprobado	0-10	50%

*Passing is a grade of 13 or higher.*

## **PHILIPPINES**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Grades 1 through 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 89%

### **School Year**

The school year lasts ten months, starting the second or third week of June, and ending the last week of March or first week of April. The school day is from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Each class lasts 45 minutes. During the lunch break most of the students go home. There are five school days per week.

	<b>PHILIPPINES EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	Pre-Primary	5-6	1-5	6-11
	Primary 1-6	7-12		
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary / High School*	4	13-16	9-12	14-18
	High school diploma awarded at completion of compulsory education.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking on the elementary school level. Students with higher grades in elementary school have the option to go to a specialized Science and Arts high school. The majority of high school students follow the regular academic track. There are also specialized trade schools available. Diplomas are awarded at the end of secondary school and students can then enter the university level.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Philippines Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
1.0-1.5	91-100%	95%
1.75-2.25	82-90%	85%
2.5-3.0	75-81%	75%
3.25-5.0(failing)	Below 75%	55%

*1 is the highest grade, 3.0 is passing. Below 75% is failing.*

## **POLAND**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 through 14  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99%

### **School Year**

There are 180 school days in two semesters from September to January and February to June. Due to overcrowding, students attend either morning or afternoon sessions, five days per week.

	<b>POLAND EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	1-8	6-14	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	9-12 or 9-13 for advanced diploma	14-18(19)	9-12	14-18
	*diploma after 12(13) grade*		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

There is a selection done by exams and grades for students entering high schools and colleges. There is no grouping according to ability, only preference of study. In academic high schools students select a major: Humanities, Science or Vocational.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Poland System		Recommended US Equivalent	
Bardso Dobry	Very Good	A	95%
Dobry	Good	B	85%
Dostateisny	Satisfactory	C	75%
Nie Dostateisny	Unsatisfactory	F	55%

## **ROMANIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 15  
Grades 1 through 8

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 95%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from October thru July, in trimesters. Primary schools are 4 hours a day, lower secondary schools are 5 to 6 hours a day and high schools are 6 to 7 hours a day, for 5 days a week.

	<b>ROMANIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	Pre-primary 1-4	5-6 7-10	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	Lower secondary gymnasium 5-8	11-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Upper secondary 1-4	15-18	9-12	14-18
	Diploma of Bacalaureat or Certificate of Absolvire a Liceuli		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

Tracking is only available to gifted students on the elementary level. Voluntary tracking is available to high school students who choose academic, vocational or trade curricula. Both high school completion diplomas (Bacalaureat or Absolvire a Liceuli) are equivalent to the United States high school diploma.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Romania Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Excellent	9-10	A	95%
Good	7-8	B	85%
Satisfactory	5-6	C	75%
Failing	below 5	F	55%

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 16  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98%

**School Year**

The school year runs from September through June

	RUSSIAN EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	1-6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate	3 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
	Certificate after 9 <sup>th</sup> grade			
Secondary High School*	2 to 3 years	15-17	9-12	14-18
	2 <sup>nd</sup> yr of incomplete secondary education. Year is equivalent to 1 year of college in US.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

**Tracking**

No tracking system exists. There are high schools providing advanced education in Math, Art, Music, Economics, etc. There are no final exams in Elementary schools. Middle and high school students in Russia and Belarus have final exams after senior grade only, but in Ukraine at the end of each school year.

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Russian Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent	
otnNuho	Excellent	5	A	95%
Xopowo	Good	4	B	85%
YaoBnetBopntenbHo	Satisfactory	3	C	75%
3auet/3auteHo	Pass			65%
nnoxo/heyaoBnetBopNtenHo	Unsatisfactory	2	F	55%

## **SIERRA-LEONE**

**Compulsory Education:** None

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 21%

### **School Year**

The length of school year is 200 school days. There are three terms in the school year: September - December; January - April; and May - June. School starts at 8:00 AM and ends at 2:00 PM. Evening classes are also held between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM.

	<b>SIERRA-LEONE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary	1-6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Junior Secondary/ Intermediate	Forms 1,2,3	13-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Senior Secondary/ High School*	Forms 4,5,6,	16-18	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking system but there are special vocational schools.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Sierra-Leone Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
A	80-100	Distinction	95%
B	70-79	Very Good	85%
C	60-69	Good	75%
D	50-59	Credit	70%
E	40-49	Pass	65%
F	0-39	Fail	55%

## **SLOVENIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 14  
Grades 1 through 8/9

Laws are attempting to raise the compulsory education age to 15 and to grade 9. The Slovenian educational system is continuing to evolve.

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from October to June. The year consists of two semesters.

	<b>SLOVENIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	Pre-primary 1-8	5-6 7-14	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	1-4	15-18	9-12	14-18
	Some specialized programs require five years  Exam		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

There is no tracking on the primary level except for gifted students. There is voluntary tracking on the secondary level for vocational studies, trades, and the 5-year advanced high school program.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Slovenia Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
Odično/Zelo uspesno	5	A
Pravdobro/upesno	4	A
Dobro/upesno	3	B
Zadostno/manjuspesno	2	C
Nezadostno	1	F

## **SPAIN**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 16

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 97%

### **School Year**

Usually the academic year runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September to the end of June. The daily schedule runs for five hours, usually three hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Each class lasts anywhere from 50 minutes to one hour, five days per week.

	<b>SPAIN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Lower Secondary/ Intermediate	4	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
	Bachillerato de Grado Diploma			
Upper Secondary/ High School*	Pre-Univ 1	15	9-12	14-18
	Bachillerato de Grado Superior (U.S. 11 <sup>th</sup> grade--equals high school diploma)		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
	Colegio 2	16-17		
	Bachillerato Unificado (U.S. 11 & 12 grade or grade 12 & 13--also equals U.S. high school diploma)			

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

Tracking may take place at the upper secondary level. Students may opt for a 1, 2, or 3 year upper secondary option, depending on their post-secondary plans. These studies are very rigorous in their specific fields of study. The curriculum does not equate well to the United States' system.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Spain Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
Sobresaliente	8.5-10	A	90%
Notable	7.0-8.49	B	80%
Aprobado	5.0-6.99	C	70%
Suspenso	Below 5.0	F	55%



## **SRI LANKA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15  
Grades 1 through 10

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 87%

### **School Year**

Schools are open 190 days a year, 5 days per week. The school year is divided into trimesters from October-December, January-March and April-July. In some urban schools there are morning and afternoon sessions, reducing the time spent on instruction.

	<b>SRI LANKA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	1-5	5-10	1-5	6-11
Secondary/Intermediate	6-10 Exam	11-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Advanced Secondary/ High School	2 years	entry by exam	9-12	14-18
	Exam to receive general certificate of advanced education		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

At the primary stage (1-5) and at the secondary stage (grades 6-10) students' progress is monitored by the school. At the end of the compulsory cycle (usually at the age of 15), qualified students may take the General Certificate of Education-Ordinary-Level (GCEO Level) examination and may study for two more years and take the General Certificate of Advanced Education Level (GCEA-level) examination prepared and administered by the Commissioner of Examinations under the Ministry of Education.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Sri Lanka Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
4	95%
3	85%
2	75%
1 (fail)	55%(fail)
0 (fail)	50%(fail)

## **ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

**Compulsory Education:** 7 years

Ages 5 to 12 (not enforced and low attendance is reported)

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 85%

### **School Year**

The school year is in trimesters, from mid-September to mid-July. Primary school hours are from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and Secondary school hours are from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM; both are for 5 days per week. 76% of eligible students attend primary school and 24% attend secondary schools. Many of the students receive interrupted education.

	<b>ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	7 years Exam	5-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School*	Stage I: 5 years	12-16	9-12	14-18
	Stage II: 2 years	6-18	Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

At the end of primary school, all students must pass the Primary-School Learning Certificate Examination and/or the Common Entrance Examination before moving to the next level of schooling. Most secondary schools are run by religious organizations. Government schools for children with special needs serve handicapped students

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A+	9.5-10	95%
A	7.5-9.4	90%
B	6-7.4	80%
C	5-5.9	70%
D	4-4.9	65%
E/F (failing)	0-3.9	55/50%

**Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

E-mail: [minedsvg@vincysuf.com](mailto:minedsvg@vincysuf.com)

## **ST. LUCIA**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 15  
10 years

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 77%

### **School Year**

The school year runs in trimesters, which are from mid-September to mid-July. Primary school hours are from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM and secondary school hours are from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM, all for 5 days per week.

	<b>ST. LUCIA EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/ Primary Infant School	7 Exam	5-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate/Junior Secondary	3 Exam	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
Senior Secondary/ High School	2	15-17	9-12	14-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Promotion from one grade to the next is automatic if students meet minimum requirements. After 7 years of school, the student must take the common entrance exam in order to determine placement in secondary school. After the completion of the last year of junior secondary school, the student must take the common Middle School Examination. For some, this is the end of their formal education. Others are allowed to continue their education for two more years, thus earning a diploma of completion.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

St. Lucia Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
A	8-10
B	6.6-7.9
C	4.5-6.5
D	3.5-4.4
E/F (failing)	0-3.5

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports  
E-mail: mineduc@candw.le



## **TAIWAN**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 90%

### **School Year**

The length of the school year is roughly the same in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The fall term is from September to January and the spring term is from March to July. Students attend school from Monday through Saturday. Seniors must return to school on Sunday morning to study. In elementary school, the length of the school day is from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. In junior high school and high school the length of the day is from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There are 6 days per week of school.

	<b>TAIWAN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary/Elementary	6	6-12	1-5	6-11
Intermediate/Junior High/Lower Secondary	3	12-14	6-8	11-13(14)
	Lower high school certificate Upper high school (upper secondary) entrance exams			
Upper Secondary/ High School*	3	14-17	9-12	14-18
	Exam Senior High School graduation certificate		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive.

### **Tracking**

Upper secondary school students will be programmed into two groups according to their marks, grades and test results at the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> year. One group will prepare the students majoring in the Humanities. Another group will prepare the students majoring in Sciences.

(Continued)

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Taiwan Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
80-100%	A	95%
70-79%	B	85%
60-69%	C	75%
50-59%	D fail	55%
below 50%	F fail	50%

*Passing is a grade of 60% (C) or higher. Some private schools differ; always check secondary school transcripts legends.*

### **Additional Resources**

Ministry of Education of Taiwan

## **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to12  
Grades 1 through 6.

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98%

### **School Year**

The school year is divided into trimesters, from August to May, 5 days per week. Many schools are administered jointly by the state and religious bodies so schools are closed for many holidays. There are two types of secondary education. The traditional system consists of 5 years of secondary school while the new system provides 3 years of junior secondary school and 2 years of senior secondary school. Five years of study in either system qualifies the student to sit for the National Exam or the CXC exam. Students must pass one of these exams to be awarded their high school diploma. The passing of the CXC is needed to enter pre-university level.

	<b>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	7 years		1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School	a)junior: 3 years Forms 1,2,3 b)senior:2 years Forms 4,5 National exam or CXC*		9-12	14-18
Pre-University	2 years Form 6		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*A national examination, The Caribbean Examinations Council of Secondary Education Certificate (CXC), administered by the British Examining Board, is given at the end of secondary school and is needed to obtain a diploma and move into the pre-university level.

### **Tracking**

At the end of each stage of schooling there is an examination required for promotion to the next level. Many students, therefore, end their education after 6<sup>th</sup> grade, which is the end of compulsory education.

(Continued)

**Grading System (Varies by School)**

Trinidad and Tobago Equivalent	Recommended US Equivalent
1	90%
2	85%
3	80%
4	75%
5	70%
6-fail	
7-fail	

*Note: In some schools a grade of 40% or lower is failing.*

## UKRAINE

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Grades 1 to 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 98%

### **School Year**

The school year is 39 weeks, from September to June.

	UKRAINE EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	1-6	6-11	1-5	6-11
Intermediate/Lower Secondary	7-9	11-14	6-8	11-13(14)
	Certificate after 9 <sup>th</sup> grade			
Upper Secondary/High School*	2 to 3	15-16(17)	9-12	14-18
	Diploma after 2 years. Advanced academic diploma after 3 years.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

No tracking system exists. There are high schools providing advanced education in Math, Art, Music and Economics. There are no final exams in elementary schools. Middle and high school students in Russia and Belarus have final exams after senior grade only, but in Ukraine, at the end of each school year.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Ukraine Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
Excellent	5	10-12	95%
Good	4	7-9	85%
Satisfactory	3	4-6	75%
Unsatisfactory	2	1-3	55%
3apaxoBaho= Pass			



## UNITED KINGDOM

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 5 to 16  
Through grade 11

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99.9%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from October to July.

	UNITED KINGDOM EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Nursery Primary	1 6 years	5	K-5	5-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School	Lower:3 years, Forms 1,2,3 Upper:2 years, Forms 4,5		9-12	14-18
Pre-University	Completion of HS after attendance of 11 years Certificate of Secondary Education May be admitted to pre-university level based on passing the National Examinations  Pre-univ: 2 years, Form 6		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

Note: There is no official method of equating the British and American systems. However, it is generally accepted that completion of Form 5, or 5GCSE exam, is equivalent to a United States high school diploma.

### **Tracking**

Officially, no tracking system exists. However, based upon student interests and teacher evaluation, students may select academic or vocational training programs.

(Continued)

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

United Kingdom Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
A	95%	A+
B	90%	A
C	80%	B
D	75%	C+
E	70%	C
F	55%	F
G	50%	F

*Note: The American concept of school reports or transcripts is not used. Schools in the United Kingdom base promotion and achievement on standardized national examinations.*

### **Additional Resources**

Department for Education and Skills  
[www.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.dfes.gov.uk)  
E-mail: [info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk)

## UZBEKISTAN

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Grades 1 through 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 99%

### **School Year**

The school year runs from September to June. Uzbekistan is in the process of educational reform. Some schools still use the Russian system (refer to Russian Federation in this manual). In addition, Uzbekistan is changing its alphabet from Cyrillic into Latin.

	UZBEKISTAN EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	4 years	1-4	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School A) general secondary B) specialized secondary	A) 5 years	5-9	9-12	14-18
	B) 2 years vocational OR 3 years academic		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Students may enter either a vocational (2 years) or academic (3 years) upper secondary program. Both lead to a high school completion certificate.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Uzbekistan Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
5	Excellent	90%
4	Good	80%
3	Satisfactory	70%
2	Unsatisfactory	55%
1	Unsatisfactory	50%

*Passing is a grade of 3 or higher. Grades of 2 or 1 are rarely shown on transcripts. A pass mark is issued when an exam was not taken but all course requisites were met. This can be equated to a CR (credit) in our system.*

## VENEZUELA

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 7 to 12  
Grades 1 through 6

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 92%

### **School Year**

Some schools are year-round, others are from 6 to 10 months. Usually schools operate on semesters or trimesters, ending each one with an exam. About 50% of the schools are private and can pick their own schedule. Classes are from 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Each class lasts about 45 minutes.

	VENEZUELA EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary	Pre-primary 1-6	5-6 6(7)-12	1-5	6-11
Lower or Basic Secondary/ Intermediate	3 years	13-15	6-8	11-13(14)
	Certificado de educacion primaria			
Secondary High School*	Upper-2years	16-17	9-12	14-18
	Certificado de educacion secundaria (Equivalent to US HS diploma) diversified Secondary 1 year Bachiller ciclo diversificado.		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Vocational or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

All public schools in Venezuela are co-educational. On the secondary level there are three voluntary tracks: general (grades 10-11), professional (grades 10-12) and technical (grades 10-11).

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Venezuela Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent	
16-20	Sobresaliente	A	90-95%
14-15	Distinguido	B	80-85%
10-13	Bueno	C	70-75%
1-9	Aplazado	F(fail)	50%

*Passing is a grade of 10 (C) or higher.*

## **VIETNAM**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 14  
Completion of grade 9

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 88%

### **School Year**

The school year runs for nine months, from September through May, six days a week, Monday through Saturday. The overall attendance in all schools is excellent, hovering consistently around 98%. Absenteeism and truancy are practically nonexistent.

	VIETNAM EQUIVALENT		US EQUIVALENT	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Elementary/Primary/ Level I	5 years	6-12	1-5	6-11
	Certificate of Lower Level Completion			
Intermediate/Level II	4 years	12-15	6-8	11-13(14)
	Diploma of Completion of Lower/Pre Secondary School			
Secondary High School/ Level III*	3 years	15-18(19)	9-12	14-18
	Specialized Secondary Upper School Diploma		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

\*Technical or Academic Comprehensive

### **Tracking**

Schools provide a high achievement class in the sciences and math at the third level (10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade).

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Vietnam Equivalent		Recommended US Equivalent
8-10	Excellent	A
7-7.5	Very good	B
6-6.5	Good	B-
5-5.5	Average	C
below 5	Below Avg.	Failure

*Passing is a grade of 5 or higher.*

## **YEMEN**

**Compulsory Education:** Ages 6 to 15  
Compulsory education is not enforced

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 40%

### **School Year**

The school year is year-round with numerous holidays, dependant upon the Islamic Lunar calendar.

	<b>YEMEN EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	9 years	6-15	1-5	6-11
Intermediate			6-8	11-13(14)
Secondary High School	3 years 2 years	16-18 18	9-12	14-18
Military	Compulsory for males		Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

The education system is based on Islamic Law.

### **Grading System (Varies by School)**

Yemen Equivalent			Recommended US Equivalent
90-100	1	A	95%
80-89%	2	B	85%
65-79%	3	C	75%
50-64%	4/5	D/fail	65%

*Passing is a grade of 50% or higher.*

## **ZIMBABWE**

**Compulsory Education:** Grades 1 to 5

**Adult Literacy Rate:** 76% (UNESCO)  
90% (Zimbabwe government estimates)

### **School Year**

The school year runs from January to December, with three-month terms broken up by one-month vacations after each term. Due to a lack of funding, many primary schools are on double sessions, with students attending 4 hours per day.

	<b>ZIMBABWE EQUIVALENT</b>		<b>US EQUIVALENT</b>	
	Years of School	Approximate Ages	Years of School	Approximate Ages
Primary	7	6-12	1-5	6-11
Junior Certification Forms I and II	2	13-14	6-8	11-13(14)
	Lower high school certificate Upper high school (upper secondary) entrance exams			
O Level (Forms III and IV)	2	15-16	9-10	14-16
A Level (Forms V and VI)	2	17-19	11-12	17-18
			Diploma after 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	

### **Tracking**

Huge discrepancies exist between rural and urban, private, boarding and public schools. "Group A" schools are more rigorous academically and have greater resources. In Group A schools, students study English beginning in the first grade; in other schools, the study of English begins in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Placement into primary schools is based upon ability to pay.

Placement into secondary schools is based on the grades earned on the four required primary school national examinations, as well as the ability to pay. Based on the Form I and Form II reports, students are assigned to courses and tracked classes for their O Level programs. Only students who receive sufficient scores on their CSE (Forms III and IV) exams are accepted into A Level programs to study science, business or the arts. Most students end their formal education at the end of Form IV.

(Continued)

### **Grading System**

Zimbabwe National Exam Grades	Recommended US Equivalent
A	90%
B	80%
C	70%
Below C is failing	55%

*Passing is a grade of 60% (C) or higher. Some private schools differ; always check secondary school transcripts legends.*

It is important to note that secondary schools do not usually produce transcripts for their students. Students receive informal, handwritten school reports twice a year. Also, teachers often downgrade all student reports the term before exams as a motivator for them to work harder. The O and A Level certificates are considered the official academic qualifications, as opposed to a school-generated report. The exam results are certified and stamped by the Head Master, the Minister of Education or the United States Embassy.

## **SECTION III**

### References and Resources

- € Embassies and/or Consulates located in Washington D.C. and New York City
- € Foreign Language Assistance/Immigrant Services

The references and resource lists contained in this section may assist you if you require further information on a particular country.

References included throughout this manual are intended to be those which are readily available. Internet and agency references were all available at the time of publications; however, these references may change.



## **Consulates and Embassies Located in New York City and/or Washington D.C.**

### **Afghanistan**

Embassy of the Republic of Afghanistan  
2341 Wyoming Ave., NW  
Washington DC 20008  
Telephone: (202) 234-3770

Consulate General of the Republic of  
Afghanistan  
360 Lexington Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-972-2276

### **Albania**

The Republic of Albania Embassy  
2100 S. Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-223-4942

### **Antigua & Barbuda**

Antigua and Barbuda Embassy  
3216 New Mexico Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-362-5122

### **Argentina**

Embassy of the Argentine Republic  
1600 New Hampshire Avenue, NW,  
Washington DC 20009  
202-238-6400

Consulate General of Argentina  
12 West 56<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10019  
212-603-0400

### **Australia**

Australian Embassy  
1601 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036-2273  
202-797-3000  
Fax: 202-797-3168

Australian Consulate General  
150 East 42<sup>nd</sup> St., 34<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-351-6500

### **Austria**

Austrian Embassy  
3524 International Court  
Washington D.C. 20008-3035  
202-895-6750

Austrian Consulate General  
31 East 69<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-737-6400

Austrian National Tourist Office  
P.O.Box 1142  
New York, NY 10018-1142  
212-944-6880  
Fax: 212-730-4568

### **Bahamas**

The Commonwealth of the Bahamas Embassy  
2220 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-319-2660

## Bangladesh

The People's Republic of Bangladesh Embassy  
3510 International Drive, NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-244-2745

Consulate General of Bangladesh  
211 East 43<sup>rd</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10017  
212-599-6767

## Barbados

Barbados Embassy  
2144 Wyoming Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-939-9200

Consulate General of Barbados  
800 Second Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-867-8435

## Belarus (Republic of)

Embassy of Belarus  
1619 New Hampshire Avenue., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20009  
202-986-1606

Consulate General of the Republic of Belarus  
708 Third Avenue #21  
New York, NY 10017  
212-682-5392

## Belgium

Embassy of Belgium  
3330 Garfield Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 333-3079

Belgium Consulate General  
330 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10014  
212-586-5110

Belgian National Tourist Office  
220 East 42nd Street, Suite 3402  
New York, NY 10017  
(212) 758-8130

## Belize

Embassy of Belize  
2535 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-332-9636

## Bolivia

Embassy of Bolivia  
3014 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-483-4410  
Consulate General of Bolivia  
211 East 43<sup>rd</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10017  
212-687-0530

## Bosnia-Herzegovina

Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
2109 E Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
202-337-1500

## Brazil

Brazilian Embassy  
3006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008-3634  
202-238-2700

Brazilian Consulate General  
1185 Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue),  
21st Floor  
New York, NY 10036  
917-777-7777

## Bulgaria

Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria  
1621 22nd Street, NW  
Washington D.C. 20008  
202-387-0174

Bulgarian Consulate General  
121 East 62nd Street,  
New York, NY 10021  
212-935-4646

## Burma

The U.N. Permanent Mission of Myanmar  
10 East 77<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-535-1310

## Cambodia

The Royal Embassy of Cambodia  
4530 16th Street NW  
Washington D.C. 20011  
202-726-7742

## Cameroon

Embassy of the Republic of Cameroon  
2349 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-265-8790

## Canada

Canadian Embassy  
501 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001  
202-682-1740

Canadian Consulate General  
1251 Avenue of the Americas (50<sup>th</sup> St.)  
New York, NY 10020-1175  
212-596-1783

## Chile

Embassy of Chile  
1732 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-785-1746

Consulate General of Chile  
866 U.N. Plaza, Suite 601  
New York, NY 10017  
212-980-3366

## China

Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
2300 Connecticut Ave., NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-328-2500

Consulate General of the People's Republic of  
China  
520 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New York, NY 10036  
212-244-1467

## Colombia

Embassy of Colombia  
2118 Leroy Place  
Washington D.C. 20008  
202-387-8338

Consulate General of Colombia  
10 East 46<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10017  
212-949-9898

## Costa Rica

Embassy of Costa Rica  
2114 "S" Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-234-2945

Consulate of Costa Rica  
80 Wall St., Suite 718  
New York, NY 10005  
212-509-3066

## Croatia

Embassy of Croatia  
2343 Massachusetts Ave., NW  
Washington DC, 20008-2803  
202-588-5899

Consulate General of Croatia  
369 Lexington Avenue, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-599-3066

## Cuba

Permanent Mission to the UN  
315 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-689-7215

## Czech Republic

Embassy of the Czech Republic  
3900 Spring of Freedom Street, N.W., Suite 705  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-274-9100

## Denmark

Royal Danish Embassy  
3200 Whitehaven Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008-3683  
(202) 234-4300

Royal Danish Consulate General  
1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
212-223-4545

## Dominica

The Commonwealth of Dominica  
3216 New Mexico Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-364-6781/2

## Dominican Republic

Embassy of the Dominican Republic  
1715 22nd Street NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-332-6280

Dominican Consulate  
1501 Broadway  
New York, NY 10036  
212-768-2480

## Ecuador

Ecuador Embassy  
2535 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-234-7200

Consulate General of Ecuador  
800 Second Avenue #600  
New York, NY 10017  
212-808-0170

## Egypt

Arab Republic of Egypt Embassy  
3521 International Court, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-895-5400

Consulate of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
1110 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., Room 201  
New York, NY 10022  
212-759-7120

## El Salvador

Embassy of El Salvador  
2308 California Street, NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-265-9671

Consulate General of El Salvador  
46 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-889-3608

## Estonia

Embassy of Estonia  
1730 M Street, Suite 503, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-588-0101

Consulate General of the Republic of Estonia  
600 Third Avenue, 26th floor  
New York, NY 10016  
212-883-0636

## Ethiopia

Ethiopia Embassy  
3506 International Drive, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-364-1200

Ethiopian Consulate General  
866 Second Ave. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-421-1830

## Finland

Embassy of Finland  
3301 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(202) 298-5800

Consulate General of Finland  
866 U.N. Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
212-750-4400

## France

Embassy of France  
4101 Reservoir Road, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-944-6000

Consulate General of France  
10 E 74<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-606-3600

## Fiji

Embassy of Fiji  
2233 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-337-8320

## Gambia

The Gambia Embassy  
1155 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-785-1399

## Georgia

Embassy of the Republic of Georgia  
1615 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-387-2390

## Germany

Embassy of Germany  
4645 Reservoir Road, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-298-4000

Consulate General of Germany  
871 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
212-610-9700

## Ghana

Embassy of Ghana  
3512 International Drive, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-686-4520

## Gibraltar

Gibraltar Information Bureau  
1155 15<sup>th</sup> St., N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-452-1108

## Great Britain

Embassy of the United Kingdom  
3100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-588-6500

British Consulate General  
845 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
212-745-0202

## Greece

Embassy of Greece  
2221 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-939-1300

Consulate General of Greece  
69 East 79th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
212-988-5500

## Grenada

Consulate General of Grenada  
800 Second Avenue #400K  
New York, NY 10017  
212-599-0301

## Guatemala

Embassy of Guatemala  
2200 "R" Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-745-4952

Consulate General of Guatemala  
57 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-686-3837

## Guinea-Bissau

The Republic of Guinea-Bissau Embassy  
15929 Yukon Lane  
Rockville, MD 20855  
301-947-3958

## Guyana

Embassy of Guyana  
2490 Tracy Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-265-6900

Consulate General of Guyana  
370 Seventh Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
212-947-5110

## Haiti

Embassy of the Republic of Haiti  
2311 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-332-4090

Consulate General of Haiti  
271 Madison Ave #5  
New York, NY 10016  
212-697-9767

## Honduras

Consulate General of Honduras  
80 Wall St.  
New York, NY 10005  
212-269-3611

## Hong Kong

Hong Kong Tourist Association  
115 E 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10022  
212-421-3382

## Hungary

Embassy of the Republic of Hungary  
3910 Shoemaker St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-362-6730

Consulate of Hungary  
223 East 52<sup>nd</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10022  
212-752-0662

## Iceland

Consulate General of Iceland  
800 Third Ave  
New York, NY 10022  
212-593-2700

## India

Embassy of India  
2107 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-939-7000

Consulate General of India  
3 East 64<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-774-0600

## Indonesia

Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia  
2020 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-775-5200

Consulate General of Indonesia  
5 East 68<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-879-0600

## Ireland

Embassy of Ireland  
2234 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-462-3939

Consulate of Ireland  
345 Park Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10154  
212-319-2555

## Israel

Embassy of Israel  
3514 International Dr. N.W.  
Washington DC 20008  
202-364-5500

Consulate General of Israel  
800 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-449-5400

## Italy

Embassy of Italy  
3000 Whitehaven Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-612-4400

Consulate General of Italy  
690 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
212-737-9100

## Ivory Coast

The Republic of Cote d'Ivoire Embassy  
2424 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-797-0300

## Jamaica

Jamaica Embassy  
1520 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-452-0660

## Japan

Embassy of Japan  
2520 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-238-6700

Consulate of Japan  
299 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10171  
212-371-8222

## Kenya

Embassy of Kenya  
2249 R St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-387-6101  
Fax: 202-462-3829

Consulate of Kenya  
424 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-486-1300

## Korea

Embassy of the Republic of Korea  
2450 Massachusetts Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-939-5600

Consulate General of Korea  
335 E 45<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10017  
646-674-6000

## Lebanon

9 East 76<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-744-7905

## Liberia

The Republic of Liberia Embassy  
5201 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20011  
(202) 723-0437

## Lithuania (Republic of)

Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania  
2622 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009-4202  
202-234-5860

Consulate General of Lithuania  
420 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018  
212-354-7840

## Luxembourg

Embassy of Luxembourg  
2200 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-265-4171

Consulate General of Luxembourg  
17 Beekman Place  
New York, NY 10022  
212-888-6664

## Macedonia

Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia  
1101 30<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 302  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-337-3063

## Malaysia

Consulate General of Malaysia  
313 E 43<sup>rd</sup> Street #1  
New York, NY 10017  
212-490-2722

## Mexico

Embassy of Mexico  
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006  
202-728-1600

Consulate General of Mexico  
27 East 39<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10016  
212-217-6400

## Monaco

Consulate General of Monaco  
565 Fifth Ave #23  
New York, NY 10017  
212-286-0500

## Morocco

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco  
1601 21<sup>st</sup> St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20009  
202-462-7979

Consulate General of Morocco  
10 East 40<sup>th</sup> St., 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016  
212-758-2625

## Nepal

Nepal Mission to the U.N.  
820 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-370-3988

## Netherlands

Embassy of the Netherlands  
4200 Linnean Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
212-244-5300

Consulate General of Netherlands  
1 Rockefeller Plaza, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10020  
212-246-1429

## New Zealand

Embassy of New Zealand  
37 Observatory Circle, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-328-4800

## Nicaragua (Republic of)

Consulate General of Nicaragua  
820 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-986-6562

## Nigeria

Consulate General of Nigeria  
828 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-850-2200

## Norway

Royal Norwegian Embassy  
2720 34<sup>th</sup> St, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-333-6600

Royal Norwegian Consulate General  
825 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
212-421-7333

## Pakistan

Embassy of Pakistan  
3517 International Court, NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-243-6500

Consulate General of Pakistan  
12 East 65<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021  
212-879-5800

## Panama

Consulate General of Panama  
1212 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036  
212-840-2450

## Paraguay

Consulate of Paraguay  
211 E 43<sup>rd</sup> Street #2101  
New York, NY 10017  
212-682-9441

## Peru

Consulate General of Peru  
215 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-481-7410

## Philippines

Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines  
1600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-467-9300

Philippine Consulate General  
556 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10036  
212-764-1330

## Poland (Republic of)

Embassy of Poland  
2640 16th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
202-234-3800

Consulate General of the Republic of Poland  
233 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-561-8169

## Portugal

Embassy of Portugal  
2125 Kalorama Road, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-328-8610

Consulate General of Portugal  
590 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10036  
212-221-3165

## Romania

Embassy of Romania  
1607 23rd Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-332-4848

Consulate General of Romania  
200 East 38<sup>th</sup> St. #3  
New York, NY 10016  
212-682-9120

## Russia

Embassy of the Russian Federation  
2650 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
202-298-5700

## Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone Embassy  
1701 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-939-9261

## Saudi Arabia

Consulate General of Saudi Arabia  
866 UN Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
212-752-2740

## Scandinavia

Scandinavian Tourist Board  
655 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-855-9700

## Slovenia

Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia  
1525 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 667-5363

Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia  
600 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
212-370-3006

## South Africa

Embassy of South Africa  
3051 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-232-4400

South African Consulate-General  
333 E. 38<sup>th</sup> St., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016  
212-213-4880

## Spain

Embassy of Spain  
2375 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037  
202-452-0100

Consulate General of Spain  
150 East 58<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10155  
212-355-4080

## Sri Lanka

Embassy of Sri Lanka  
2148 Wyoming Avenue NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-483-4025 to 28

Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka  
630 Third Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-490-3690

## St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Embassy of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
3216 New Mexico Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
202-364-6730

Consulate General of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
801 Second Avenue, 21<sup>st</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-687-4490

## St. Lucia

Saint Lucia Embassy  
3216 New Mexico Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-364-6792/93/94/95

## Sweden

Embassy of Sweden  
1501 M Street, NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-467-2600

Consulate General of Sweden  
885 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-583-2550

## Switzerland

Embassy of Switzerland  
2900 Cathedral Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
202-745-7900

Consulate of Switzerland  
633 Third Ave  
New York, NY 10017  
212-599-5700

## Taiwan

The Republic of China on Taiwan Embassy  
4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-895-1800

## Trinidad & Tobago

Consulate of Trinidad and Tobago  
733 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-682-7272

## Turkey

Embassy of the Republic of Turkey  
2525 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-612-6700

Consulate General of Turkey  
821 U.N. Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
212-949-0160

## Ukraine

Ukraine Embassy  
3350 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
202-333-0606

Consulate General of Ukraine  
240 East 49<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10017  
212-371-5690

## Uruguay

Consulate General of Uruguay  
747 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017  
212-753-8581

## Uzbekistan (Republic of)

Embassy of Uzbekistan  
1746 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036-1903  
202-887-5300

Consulate of Uzbekistan  
801 Second Avenue, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-754-7403

## Venezuela (Republic of)

Embassy of Venezuela  
1099 30th St., N.W.,  
Washington D.C. 20007  
202-342-2214

Consulate General of Venezuela  
7 East 51<sup>st</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10022  
212-826-1660

## Vietnam

Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam  
1233 20<sup>th</sup> St, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
202-861-0737

## Yemen

Embassy of the Republic of Yemen  
2319 Wyoming Avenue, NW  
Washington DC 20008  
202-965-4760

## Zimbabwe

The Republic of Zimbabwe Embassy  
1608 New Hampshire Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009



## **Foreign Language Assistance/Immigrant Services**

The following organizations provide services (e.g. counseling, legal, health, or translation services) for immigrants from other countries.

### **AFRICAN RESOURCES**

#### **African Business Community**

P.O. Box 8614  
New York, NY 10116-8614  
Tel: (212) 439-8047

#### **African People's Council**

6 Maiden Lane, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10038  
Tel: (212) 346-9750

#### **African Services Committee**

429 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel: (212) 222-3882  
[www.africanservices.org](http://www.africanservices.org)

#### **The Coalition of Ethiopian Women for Mutual Support**

17 Battery Place, Suite 966-N  
New York, NY 10004  
Tel: (212) 968-0749

### **ASIAN RESOURCES**

#### **American-Nepal Friendship Society**

NAC  
3077 N. Foxridge Ct.  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105  
(734) 663-7225

#### **American Bangladeshi Friendship Association**

169-08 Grand Central Parkway  
Jamaica Estates, NY 11432  
Tel: (718) 526-7698  
(718) 206-9496

#### **The Gambian Society in New York**

1230 Jerome Ave., P.O.Box 297  
Bronx, NY 10452  
Tel: (718) 861-2389

#### **Nah We Yone, Inc.**

103 W. 136<sup>th</sup> Street, #2  
New York, NY 10030  
Tel: (212) 862-9703

#### **Nigerian Community Help Center**

5 W. 46<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10036  
Tel: (212) 921-5563  
[www.geocities.com/kerrynchc](http://www.geocities.com/kerrynchc)  
E-mail: [keraynchc@aol.com](mailto:keraynchc@aol.com)

#### **United African Congress (UAC)**

44 East 32<sup>nd</sup> St., 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016  
Tel: (212) 685-2848  
[www.unitedafricancongress.org](http://www.unitedafricancongress.org)

#### **Asian Americans for Equality**

108 Norfolk Street  
New York, NY 10002  
Phone: (212) 979-8381  
AAFE.org

#### **Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)**

99 Hudson Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10013  
Tel: (212) 966-5932  
[www.aaldef.org](http://www.aaldef.org)

#### **Asian-American Mental**

**Health Services**

National Asian American Pacific Islander  
Mental  
Health Association (NAAPIMHA)  
1215 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Suite A  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
Tel: (303) 298-7910  
<http://www.naapimha.org>

**Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition  
on HIV/AIDS, Inc.**

150 Lafayette St., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10013  
(212) 334-7940

**Brooklyn Chinese-American Association**

5000 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11220  
Tel: (718) 438-0008

**Chinese-American Planning Council** 150

Elizabeth St.  
New York, NY 10012  
Tel: (212) 941-0920  
<http://www.cpc-nyc.org>

**Coalition for Asian American Children  
and Families**

50 Broad St., Suite 1701  
New York, NY 10004  
Tel: (212) 809-4675  
<http://www.cacf.org>

**Council of Peoples Organization**

(South Asians)  
1081 Coney Island Ave,  
Brooklyn, NY 11230  
Tel: (718) 434-3266

**Hamilton Madison House**

50 Madison St.  
New York, NY 10038  
Tel: (212) 349-3274

**Community Center**

170 Forsyth St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10002  
Tel: (212) 226-0317

**Japanese American Social  
Services (JASSI)**

275 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 442-1541  
<http://www.jassi.org>

**Korean Community Services of  
Metropolitan New York, Inc.**

134-23 Northern Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Flushing, NY ,11354  
Tel: (718) 939-6137  
[www.kcsny.org](http://www.kcsny.org)

**Phillippine American Center**

185-14 Hillside Avenue  
Jamaica, NY 11432  
Tel: (718) 883-1295  
<http://www.fahsi.org>

**Pragati., Inc.**

119-45 Union Turnpike, Lower Level Forest  
Hills, NY 11375  
Tel: (718) 459-0914

**Sakhi for South Asian Women**

P.O. Box 20208  
Greeley Square Station  
New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 714-9153

## **CARIBBEAN RESOURCES**

**Caribbean American Center of NY**  
195 Cadman Plaza W  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Tel: (718) 625-1515

**Caribbean Women's  
Health Association**  
100 Parkside Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11226  
Tel: (718) 826-2942  
<http://www.cwha.org>

**Flatbush Haitian Center**  
2211 Church Ave. Suite 306  
Brooklyn, NY 11226  
Tel: (718) 693-5700

## **LATIN-AMERICAN RESOURCES**

**Alianza Dominicana, Inc.**  
2410 Amsterdam Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10033  
Tel: (212) 740-1960

**Central American Refugee Center**  
(CARECEN-NY)  
91 N. Franklin St. Suite 211  
Hempstead, NY 11550

**Centro Comunitario**  
8422 Roosevelt Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Jackson Heights, NY 11372  
Tel: (718) 651-1118

**Circulo de la Hispanidad**  
62 West Park Avenue  
Long Beach, NY 11561  
Tel: (516) 889-3869

**Concerned Citizens of Queens**  
40-18 Junction Blvd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Corona, NY 11368  
Tel: (718) 478-1600

**Hispanic AIDS Forum**

**Haitian Centers Council**  
50 Court St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Tel: (718) 855-7275

**National Coalition for Haitian Rights**  
275 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 337-0005

*Manhattan*  
213 W. 35<sup>th</sup> St., 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 563-4500

*Queens*  
62-07 Woodside Ave. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Woodside, NY 11377  
Tel: (718) 803-2766

*Bronx*  
886 Westchester Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10459  
Tel: (718) 328-4188  
<http://www.hafnyc.org>

**Hispanic Brotherhood of Rockville  
Centre, Inc.**  
59 Clinton Ave.  
Rockville Centre, NY 11570  
Tel: (516) 766-6610  
<http://www.hispanicbrotherhood.org>

**Hispanic Federation, Inc.**  
130 William St., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Room 925

New York, NY 10038  
Tel: (212) 233-8955  
<http://www.hispanicfederation.org>

**Jacob Riis Settlement**  
Immigration and Refugee Program  
10-25 41<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Long Island City, New York 11101  
Tel: (718) 784-7447  
<http://www.riissettlement.org/>

**Latin America Integration Center**

## **EUROPEAN SOURCES**

**American Committee on  
Italian Migration**  
25 Carmine St.  
New York, NY 10014  
Tel: (212) 247-7373

**Armenia Center**  
6923 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Woodside, NY 11377-6034  
Tel: (718) 651-4687

**The Diocese of the Armenian  
Church of America**  
630 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
New York, NY 10016  
Tel: (212) 686-0710  
<http://www.armenianchurch.org>

**German Society of City of NY**  
6 E. 87<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10128  
Tel: (212) 360-6022

**Hellenic American Neighborhood Action**

*Queens Center*  
49-06 Skillman Ave.  
Woodside, New York 11377  
Tel: (718) 565-8500

*Staten Island Center*  
463 Port Richmond Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10302  
Tel: (718) 727-1222

**Mercy Center**  
377 E. 145<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bronx, NY 10454  
Tel: (718) 993-2789  
<http://www.mercycenterbronx.org/>

**Committee (HANAC)**  
31-14 30<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Astoria, NY 11102  
Tel: (718) 728-3586  
(212) 840-8005  
[www.hanac.org](http://www.hanac.org)

**Jewish Community House (JCH)**  
Department of Immigrant Services  
Russian Service Center  
7802 Bay Parkway  
Brooklyn, NY 11214  
Tel: (718) 331-6800

**Polish American Immigration  
and Relief Committee**  
180 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., #1003  
New York, NY 10003  
Tel: (212) 254-2240

**Polish and Slavic Center**  
Immigration/Legal Services Program

176 Java St.  
Brooklyn, New York 11222  
Tel: (718) 349-1143  
(718) 349-7078  
<http://www.pscenter.org/english.htm>

**Referral Center (RIRC)**  
47-01 Queens Blvd., Suite 203  
Long Island City, NY 11104  
Tel: (718) 472-2246  
E-mail: [info@nyrirc.org](mailto:info@nyrirc.org)

**Swiss Benevolent Society of New York**  
500 Fifth Avenue, Room 1800  
New York, NY 10110  
Tel: (212) 246-0655

## **Romanian Information &**

### **MIDDLE EASTERN RESOURCE**

**Arab American Family  
Support Center**  
150 Court St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Tel: (718) 643-8000  
<http://www.aafscny.org>

### **MULTILINGUAL RESOURCES**

**Cabrini Immigrant Services**  
St. Teresa Parish  
141 Henry St.  
New York, NY 10002  
Tel: (212) 791-4590

**CAMBA Immigration and  
Refugee Services**  
1720 Church Avenue 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
Brooklyn, NY 11226  
Tel: (718) 287-2600

**Catholic Charities Community Services,  
Archdiocese of New York**  
Immigrant Services Program  
1011 First Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
Tel: (212) 419-3700 (legal services)  
Tel: (212) 371-1011 x2800 (education)

**Committee for Humanitarian  
Assistance to Iranian  
Refugees (CHAIR)**  
17 Battery Pl., Room 605N  
New York, NY 10004  
Tel: (212) 747-1046  
[www.Farsinet.com/chair/](http://www.Farsinet.com/chair/)  
**City University of New York  
(CUNY) & Immigration Program**  
Queensborough Immigrant Center  
39-07 Prince St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Flushing, NY 11354  
Tel: (718) 762-5580

**Emerald Isle Immigration Center**  
Queens Office  
59-26 Woodside Ave.  
Woodside, NY 11377  
Tel: (718) 478-5502  
<http://www.eiic.org/>  
**Hebrew Immigrant Aid  
Society (HIAS)**

333 Seventh Ave., 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 967-4100

**Imani House, Inc.**

76-A 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11217  
Tel: (718) 638-2059  
[www.imanihouse.org](http://www.imanihouse.org)

**Immigration Advocacy Services**

24-40 Steinway St.  
Astoria, NY 11103  
Tel: (718) 956-8218 or  
Tel: (718) 956-6800  
<http://immigrantadvocacy.com>

**Betances Health Center**

280 Henry St.  
New York, NY 10002  
Tel: (212) 227-8401  
[www.betances.org](http://www.betances.org)

**The International Center in NY**

50 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St., 7<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
New York, NY 10010-5025  
Tel: (212) 255-9555

**International Immigrants Foundation**

Immigrants Building  
7 West 44 Street Floor #2  
New York, NY 10036  
Tel: (212) 302-2222

**Liberty Center for Immigrants**

125-09 Jamaica Ave.  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418  
Tel: (718) 847-3757

**Lutheran Family and  
Community Services**

*Chinatown Office*  
195 Worth St.  
New York, NY 10013  
Tel: (212) 748-1754

*Midtown Office*  
308 W. 46<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10036  
Tel: (212) 399-0899  
Lutheran immigration and refugee service

**New York Association for  
New Americans**

17 Battery Pl.  
New York, NY 10004  
Tel: (212) 425-2900  
[www.nyana.org](http://www.nyana.org)

**Queens Child Guidance Center**

60-02 Queens Blvd., Lower Level  
Woodside, NY 11377  
Tel: (718) 651-7770

## **SECTION IV**

### **Addendum**

### **Request to Translate Transcripts\***

The following Request to Translate Transcripts form may be used to request translation of a foreign transcript into English if the school does not have the internal resource to do so.



# REQUEST TO TRANSLATE TRANSCRIPTS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION • TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION UNIT • 45-18 COURT SQUARE FLOOR 2 • LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101  
 TEL: 718-752-7373 • FAX: 718-752-7390 • E-MAIL: [TRANSLATIONS@NYCBOE.NET](mailto:TRANSLATIONS@NYCBOE.NET)

## Please Read Before Completing this Form

Foreign-language transcripts in languages that cannot be translated with internal school resources may be submitted to the Translation and Interpretation Unit for translation. When doing so, a legible copy of the transcript, along with this request form, must be submitted electronically or via school mail. Fax copies will not be accepted.

Please note, however, that the Translation and Interpretation Unit only provides the translation of the submitted transcript, not the interpretation or evaluation of scores, grades or test results. Also, keep in mind that turnaround time is dependent on several factors (i.e., amount of text to be translated, language involved, legibility of text and current backlog). Please plan ahead.

Date of Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Total No. of pages to be translated: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

Req. Office/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### Translation requested into ENGLISH from:

- |                                  |   |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arabic  | <input type="checkbox"/> Haitian Creole | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bengali | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean         | <input type="checkbox"/> Urdu         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Russian        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

*You may attach up to 3 transcripts per request as long as they are all the same foreign language.*

	Student First Name	Student Last Name	No. of Pages
Transcript No. 1			
Transcript No. 2			
Transcript No. 3			

Translations are returned via e-mail as Word files. Please provide your e-mail address:

Additional Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **SECTION V**

### **Bibliography**



## **Bibliography**

In addition to the numerous websites referenced throughout the manual, the publications below were consulted.

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Feagles, Shelley. A Guide to Education Systems around the World. Washington: National Association of Foreign Student Affairs (NAFSA), 1999.

Husen, Torsten and T. Neville Postlethwaite, eds. The International Encyclopedia of Education. 12 vols., 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Oxford, England: Pergamon, 1994.

International Education Research Foundation, The New Country Index (Volume 1). Berkeley, CA: Ten Speed Press, 2004.

Routledge Taylor and Francis Group. The Europa World Year Book 2005. 2 vols., 46<sup>th</sup> edition. New York, NY: Routledge, 2005.

International Association of Universities (UNESCO), ed. World Higher Education Database. London, England: Palgrave MacMillan: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004.

World Almanac and Book of Facts. 2005 ed.

Worldmark Encyclopedia of Nations. 2004 ed.