

Information on the secondary education system in Ukraine

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1. Basic secondary education

The basic school (5-9 grades) after the primary school (1-4 grades) provides foundation of secondary education bringing students to the point when they are ready to choose a form of further education and even specialization. Schooling in the basic secondary school takes 5 years.

Basic curriculum. Schools have their study plans based on the recommendations (typical study plans) approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. The educational content of the basic secondary school is the same for all pupils. The personal approach may be implemented through individual study methods, as well as extracurricular classes.

Knowledge assessment in secondary school. The knowledge of pupils is measured on a 12-point scale with marks ranging from 1 to 12. Maximum grade is 12, minimum grade is 1, below 1 is “unattested” mark.

Level	I. Elementary			II. Average			III. Sufficient			IV. High		
Points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Graduate. Graduates of the basic school (9-grade pupils) should take State Final Attestation (SFA) exams (usually 3 exams, Ukrainian Language and Mathematics are mandatory), and receive Certificates of Basic Secondary Education with supplements specifying the grades earned for educational achievements for the year in each subject, and the results of the SFA. The list of the SFA exams are approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. For excellent academic achievements, graduates are awarded Certificates of Basic Secondary Education with Distinction.

Certificate of Basic Secondary Education gives right to its holder to pursue further education at the level of complete general secondary education, vocational-technical education, and prehigher professional education (with obtaining of complete general secondary education). Templates of the certificates are approved by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Because of COVID-19 in 2019/2020 and in 2020/2021 the SFA exams were cancelled and Certificates of Basic Secondary Education were issued with just the final grades for the year.

Please note that graduates of 2021/2022 will not have the SFA due to the situation in Ukraine, which is suffering from a brutal, open and large-scale war of the Russian Federation. In the line for the SFA results will be indicated ‘звільнено (exempted)’.

Options for the students now: Due to this tragic situation Optima Distance School opens free access to the learning platform for all children who have the Internet access. Preliminarily, access is open

for a month, but in case of continued hostilities, the school administration will extend it. During this period, students will be able to get access to the training platform and educational materials, and study free of charge. Link for the registration [page](#).

Also video lessons, tests and tasks for students of grades 5-11 are posted on the platform of the [Ukrainian School Online](#).

Please visit ENIC Ukraine site for information on [basic secondary education](#) and other information, and educational documents` [samples](#)

2.The end of the school year 2021-2022 for grades 10-11

- In accordance with Article 18 of the Law of Ukraine On Complete General Secondary Education **11 grade** students receive Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education with transcript on the basis of **annual assessment and State Final Attestation (SFA)**.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine together with the Committee on Education, Science and Innovation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine made a proposition *to cancel the SFA for graduate school students this year*. The relevant law is being considered by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Templates of the Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education and transcript of grades are approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science dated 16.10.2018 № 1109 On Some Issues of the Documents on General Secondary Education, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on November 12, 2018 № 1279/3273.

Transcript to the Certificate of Complete Secondary Education has annual grades in subjects determined by the *curriculum** of an educational institution and grades for the SFA in subjects, the list of which is approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (Order of 14.05.2021 № 528, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on July 5, 2021 at № 880/36502). In case of cancelling the SFA in the transcript of grades it will be indicated “exempted” («звільнено»).

- According to the Procedure for Admission of General Secondary Education Students to the Next Year of Study, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine 14.07.2015 № 762 (registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on July 30, 2015 № 924/27369) **10 grade** students are admitted to the 11th grade on the basis of the results of the final semester and annual assessment. Graduate students who do not have the results of the annual assessment may pass such assessment in the external form of education.
- In educational documents, the results of ***the final assessment*** are indicated by the ***assessment system*** defined by law.

Assessment is carried out on a 12-point scale in accordance with the general criteria for assessing student achievements (approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine № 371 of 05.05.2008) and in accordance with the indicative requirements for assessing student achievement in basic subjects in general secondary education (annex 2 to the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated 21.08.2013 № 1222).

The annual grades are based on the semester basis. If students do not have the results of assessment for the first semester, due to the situation in Ukraine, the annual assessment can be carried out based on the results of the second semester.

***Curriculum for 10-11 grade of general secondary education institutions**

Subjects	Number of hours per week in classes	
	10	11
Basic subjects¹	27 (29)	26 (28)
Ukrainian language	2	2
Ukrainian literature	2	2
Foreign literature	1	1
Foreign language ²	2	2
Language and literature of indigenous peoples, national minorities ³	2	2
History of Ukraine	1,5	1,5
World History	1	1
Civil education	2	0
Mathematics (algebra and the beginnings of analysis and geometry)	3	3
Biology and Ecology	2	2
Geography	1,5	1
Physics and Astronomy ⁴	3	4
Chemistry	1,5	2
Physical education ⁵	3	3
National defense	1,5	1,5
Elective and compulsory subjects⁶ (Informatics, Technology, Art)	3	3

Additional hours¹ for profile subjects, additional basic subjects, special courses, optional courses and individual lessons	8 (6)	9 (7)
Maximum weekly workload per a student	33	33
Total funded (excluding class division)	38	38

-1 In parentheses are the number of hours for educational institutions with instruction in the language of indigenous people or national minority.

-2 If the conditions are right, the educational institution can increase the number of hours for learning a foreign language, using additional hours.

-3 In student groups with instruction in the language of the indigenous people or national minority it belongs to the basic subjects. In other student groups this subject can be studied using additional hours.

-4 It can be taught as one subject (according to the program of the author's team led by Lyashenko O.I.) or as two separate subjects: "Physics" (according to the program of the author's team led by Loktev V.M.) and "Astronomy" (team led by Yatskiv Y.Y.)

-5 Hours of Physical education are not included in the maximum weekly workload per student.

-6 "Financial literacy" can be studied as an optional subject if appropriate conditions are available.

3.Education of children with special educational needs

According to the Law of Ukraine "On Education", children with special educational needs can study in special general secondary education institutions or inclusive or special classes of general secondary education institutions.

The right to choose an educational institution belongs to the parents or official representatives of a child.

If parents (official representatives) choose to educate their child in an inclusive form, they apply to a general secondary education institution at their place of residence.

Based on the application of one of the parents (official representatives) of a student and the conclusion of a comprehensive psychological and pedagogical assessment of the child's development, provided by an inclusive resource center, the head of the educational institution forms an inclusive classroom and organizes inclusive education as recommended by the inclusive resource center.

For students who need support in the educational process, the head of the educational institution forms a team of psychological and pedagogical support and ensures its work in the educational institution.

To organize inclusive student learning, the team creates an individual development program within two weeks. Individual development program – a document that provides individualization of education for a child with special educational needs, establishes a list of necessary psychological and pedagogical, correctional needs/services for the child development and is developed by a group of specialists with mandatory involvement of parents (official representatives) to determine specific learning strategies and approaches to the teaching process.

The individual development program is signed by all team members, one of the parents (official representatives) of the student and approved by the head of the educational institution. The individual development program is reviewed at least twice a year and should be taken into account by teachers during the educational process in an inclusive classroom.

An individual curriculum can be also developed for students. The individual curriculum should contain, in particular, information about the name of the educational institution, surname and first name of the student; the class in which he or she studies; goals of implementation and the period of validity of the individual curriculum; the total amount of study load and the number of hours per week for studying the subject (integrated course); information on the adaptation or modification of the content of educational components of the educational program, the sequence, form and pace of the learning process, expected learning outcomes.

Organization of the educational process in special institutions of general secondary education for children with special educational needs

According to the laws of Ukraine in the field of education for children with hearing, vision, intellectual development, musculoskeletal and severe speech disorders, there are special schools, as well as training and rehabilitation centers for children with severe disabilities.

If parents (official representative) choose a special institution of general secondary education for their child, they make a proper application with the conclusion of the inclusive resource center to this institution.

Special institutions provide:

- education to students in accordance with the state standards of complete general secondary education, the state standard of preschool education (if there is a preschool unit);
- implementation of the correctional and developmental component of the educational program and provision of psychological, pedagogical and correctional-developmental services.

The maximum class size is: for deaf students – eight people; for the students with hearing loss - ten people; with severe speech disorders – twelve people; blind students – eight people; with reduced vision – twelve people; with mild intellectual disabilities – twelve people; with moderate intellectual disabilities – six people; with musculoskeletal disorders – ten people; with severe developmental disorders – six people; with autism spectrum disorders – six people.

A class is created if there is more than 50 percent of the maximum class size.

The educational process in a special school ensures compliance with state standards of general secondary education and is aimed at developing the personality of the student, the formation and application of his competencies, has a corrective focus and ensures mastering the educational program, skills development and further socialization of students. If necessary, the study period for children with special educational needs can be extended by one year at the level of primary and basic secondary education.

The educational program of a special school must contain correctional-developmental and educational components that take into account the specifics of development and needs of students.

Students with intellectual disabilities study according to original educational programs and plans adapted in accordance with their abilities.

- [Procedure for Organizing Inclusive Education in General Secondary Education Institutions](#) (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of September 15, 2021 № 957)
- [Regulations on Inclusive Resource Center](#) (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of July 12, 2017 № 545)
- [Regulations on Special School, Regulations on Training and Rehabilitation Center](#) (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of March 6, 2019 № 221 (amended by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of November 3, 2021 № 1132)
- [State Standard of Primary Education](#) (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of February 21, 2018 № 87)
- [State Standard of Basic Secondary Education](#) (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of September 30, 2020 № 898)
- [Typical educational programs for students of special educational institutions](#)

4.Verification of Ukrainian teacher`s credentials

Until the functioning of the United State Electronic Database on Education (USEDE) is restored, and the SC Information and Image Center (ENIC Ukraine) resumes its work, the verification of Ukrainian teacher`s credentials could be done via sending enquiries to the previous place of work of a teacher. Ukrainian teacher can provide full information about his/her previous place of work and Ukrainian employer will be able to confirm teachers` qualifications. This in a verification option in cases if a secondary education institution is not destroyed and there is a way to connect.

Secondary education institutions employ teachers on the basis of the relevant document on education, certifications, etc. So they know really well the information about a teacher.

