

# THE ROMANIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

*So different and so alike:  
everybody needs a chance!*

# General presentation


- The Romanian educational system strives to provide its citizens with the knowledge they need to succeed when they embark on their careers, whether in Romania or abroad.
- The Romanian educational system consists of four levels of studies. These levels are:
  - kindergarten,
  - primary,
  - secondary and
  - higher education.

# Basic of the Education System

In Romania, education and training are based on the following main principles:

- ⇒ Education is a national priority;
- ⇒ School must promote a democratic, open and humanistic education;
- ⇒ The education system should offer equal opportunities for all citizens;
- ⇒ Education provided by state institutions is free of charge;
- ⇒ Members of ethnic minorities can learn in their mother tongue;



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- ⇒ The education network will be adapted to demographic evolution and vocational training needs;
  - ⇒ Education is free of political ideologies;
  - ⇒ The Ministry of Education is entitled to define and implement the education policy;
  - ⇒ Higher education institutions have financial and administrative autonomy;
  - ⇒ Alternative models of education are accepted and encouraged.



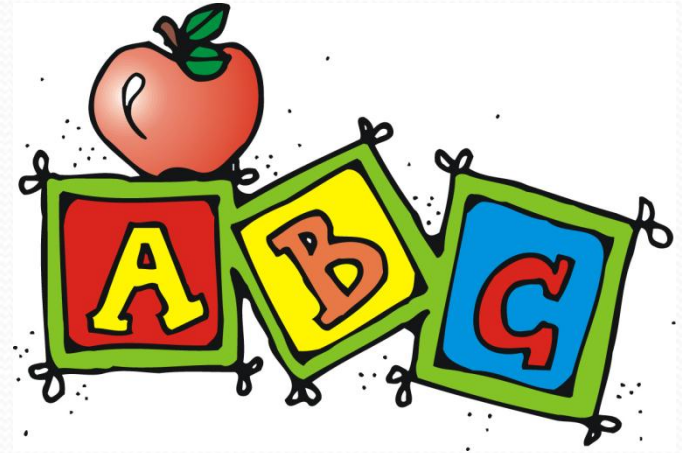




# Kindergarten

- The kindergarten level isn't optional any more and is available for children as young as three years old until they reach six years old. The level is divided either into three or four sub-levels.
- Kindergarten classes include optional foreign language teaching (usually German or English) and lessons in dancing, swimming and other physical exercises.
- The main objectives of pre-primary education are the socialization and the mental, emotional, cognitive and intellectual development of children.







## Kindergarten Schedules

There are basically three types of kindergarten programs:

- a short schedule, which lasts for five hours, (8 in the morning - 12 midday)
- The medium schedule lasts for seven hours (8 in the morning and ends at 3 )
- a long schedule which runs from 8 in the morning to 5 or 6 in the evening and includes three snacks, one meal and a nap time.





# Elementary or Primary School

- Elementary school or primary school is a compulsory educational level in Romania, and lasts for five years. Students usually enter primary school at the age of six.
- The first level is called The Preparation Class.
- Public schools offer free education, but textbooks and some school materials like pencils, notebooks and uniforms may need to be separately purchased.
- After the Preparation Class the next four years of elementary school follows a system called “calificative” /qualifying or ratings such as **Excellent**, **Good**, **Satisfactory** (which connotes a barely passing grade) and **Insufficient** for failed marks.

# Secondary school

- The next four years are called “gimnaziu” and it is actually an elementary school for upper classes.
- A different grading system is used for upper elementary levels. (use a 1 to 10 grading system, with 1 (one) being the lowest grade and 10 being the highest.)
- Compulsory education covers the 7- to 15-year-old age group. According to the law, the obligation to attend school ends when pupils are 16 years old or when they have completed lower secondary school, whichever occurs first.



# Subjects (primary & secondary school)

- Most subjects for the first five years are taught by just one teacher, with additional teachers assigned only for some specialized subjects (foreign languages, sports, computers).
- Primary subjects include Math, Romanian Language, Foreign Languages, History, Geography, Science, Art, Religion, Music, Physical Education and Civic Education.
- Upper level students (fifth grade onwards) have additional subjects and may have around thirty hours of class per week. Additional subjects include Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Latin and Technology. Some optional subjects, may also be added depending on students 'choice.

# School uniform

Our students have to wear a uniform during school classes. It consists of a dark blue skirt or a pair of trousers, a white shirt, dark blue tie, a vest and a jacket in same colour. The vest has red checked lapels.





# High Schools

- After the 8th grade, students are required to take the National Test. This is a nationwide examination that can only be taken once. The subjects included in the test are Romanian Language and Literature and Maths. The passing grade is an average of 5 for for the two exams, and will allow the student to enroll in high school.
- Unlike elementary schools where there is an automatic enrollment, in order to enroll for high school, the student chooses the school he wishes to attend. The choice is also based on his National Test result.

# Different Types of Romanian High Schools

- There are different types of Romanian high school that allow access to higher education. However, because of the difference in the subjects taught in some high schools, admissions to certain universities might be difficult to attain.
- High school comprises four years of studies, with two compulsory year levels (9th and 10th grade) and two non-compulsory levels (11th and 12th grade).
- Standard High Schools are average high schools that offer one type of academic program







## Academic Programs

Each high school can choose to offer one or more of the academic profiles or programs available.

### Theoretical Programme

- ✓ Technical Programs
- ✓ Vocational programs
- ✓ Services and Economics Programs

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# High School Life

High school students follow rules and regulations similar to elementary school. Some schools have uniforms, but are only usually worn on special occasions.



# The Baccalaureate Examination

- Graduating high school students are required to take the National Baccalaureate Exam. This examination involves two or three oral exams and four or five written exams, and spans a course of one week and a half.
- This exam is required for students who wish to enroll in a university, because basically, without passing the exam, a student is still not considered as a high school graduate.



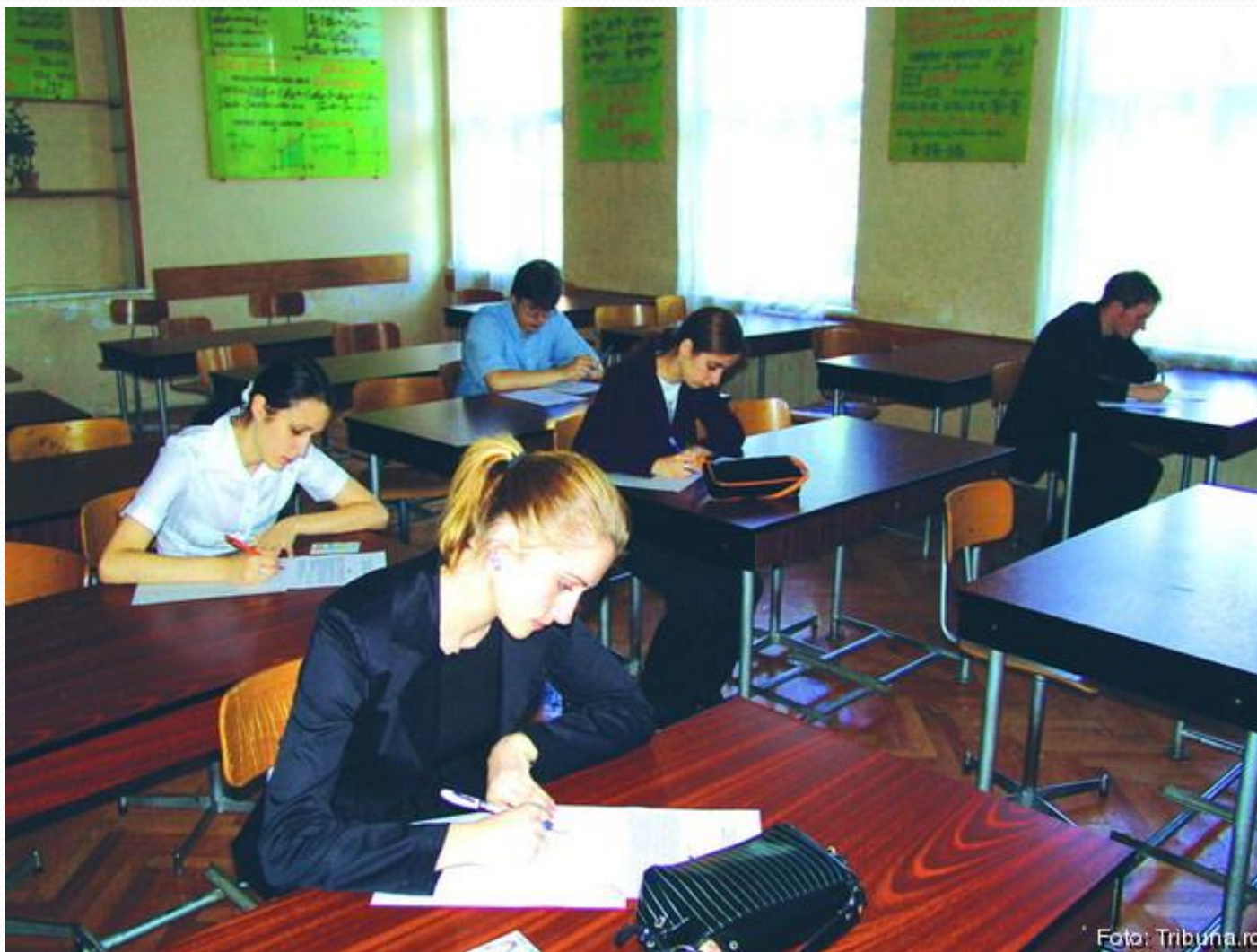


Foto: Tribuna.ro



# Admission to Universities

Most universities have an admission exam, but have also begun to implement other assessment methods such as essays and interviews in order to better assess a student's actual performance.





# University level studies

- **University level first stage:** The first stage of university-level study comprises short-term (3 years) or long-term diplomas (4 to 6 years, according to the field of study).
- **University level second stage:** Master
- **University level third stage:** Doctoral studies
- Some universities have been trying to adapt curricula used by Western European or North American schools. University diplomas are usually recognized by other European countries.
- Universities have also developed international programs like Tempus, Socrates/Erasmus, CEEPUS, Copernicus, eLearn and Monet. Fulbright Programs have been developed with the United States.





## **“Gheorghe Banea” secondary school**

Our school is a middle school that includes both primary and secondary school grades. The school has classrooms and labs and it is considered one of the best school in our county for students' performances.





# Primary school



Alternative way Step by Step









Learning and ...dancing





4th grade





# Upper elementary – secondary school classes



5th grade/7<sup>th</sup> grade







Chemistry Lab /  
Computer studies Lab







In the school yard.../  
in the Physics Lab







Extra activities....







Hiking/Competing/  
Taking photos!







Sports activities...







## Sports & Art







Extracurricular activities



**Thank you!**

Romanian Team