

Lebanon - Education system

INSTITUTION TYPES & CREDENTIALS

Types of higher education institutions:

University Institute

School leaving Certificates:

Baccalauréat libanais (modified to **Lebanese General Secondary Certificate**)

Technical Baccalaureat, Baccalaureat Technique

Higher education credentials:

Diplôme de Technician Supérieure

Diplôme universitaire de Technologie (DUT)

Diplôme d'études universitaires générales (DEUG)

Licence Bachelor's Degree

Diplôme d'Ingénieur

Diplôme d'Université

Teaching Diploma

Diplôme d'Etudes supérieures (DES)

Diplôme d'Etudes supérieures spécialisées (DESS)

Diplôme d'Etudes approfondies (DEA)

Magistère, Master's Degree

Diplôme de Spécialité

Diplôme d'Etudes spécialisées

Maîtrise

Medical Doctorat (MD)

Diplome de Doctorat, Doctorate (PhD)

STRUCTURE OF EDUCATION SYSTEM

Pre-higher education:

Duration of compulsory education:

Age of entry: 6

Age of exit: 11

Structure of school system:

Elementary Education:

Type of school providing this education:

Primary School (3 cycles of 3 years each)

Length of program in years: 9

Age level from: 6 to: 15

Age Level for Cycle 1: 6 to 9

Age Level for Cycle 2: 9 to 12

Age Level for Cycle 3: 12 to 15

Certificate/diploma awarded:

- In General Education: Brevet,

- In Technical Education: Brevet Professionnel (BP)

Secondary Education:

We have two parallel systems (General Education & Technical Education)

1- Type of school providing General education: Secondary School

Length of program in years: 3

Age level from: 15 to: 18

Certificate/diploma awarded: **Baccalauréat Libanais** modified as **Lebanese General Secondary Certificate**

2- Type of school providing Technical education: **Technical Secondary School**

Length of program in years: 3

Age level from: 15 to: 18

Certificate/diploma awarded: **Baccalauréat Technique**

School education:

Secondary education lasts for three years and is divided into General Education (Humanities, Economie, Life Sciences, Sciences) or Technical education (about 55 specialities) following six years of primary and three years of intermediate education. Selection of the track is decided by school principals on the basis of students' aptitude as shown by the Brevet examination results. Upon completion of the three-year cycle, students sit for the official Lebanese Baccalaureate exams in their respective tracks (four in all). Successful students receive the Lebanese Baccalaureate Certificate of Secondary Education (Shahaadat Al-Bakaalouriya al Lubnaaniya l'il-ta 'liim al-Thaanawi – Al-Thanawiyah Al-Aamah Al-lubnaniah) or the Technical Baccalaureate (Al-Bakaalouriya al-Fanniya).

Higher education:

Higher education in Lebanon is provided by Technical and Vocational Institutes, University Colleges, university Institutes and Universities. Only of them is Public Institution: the Lebanese University. Both the private and public sector are administrated by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Technical and Vocational Institutes depend of the Directorate General of Technical & Vocational Education. University colleges, university institutes and universities depend of the Directorate General of Higher Education. Admission to higher education Institutions is based on the Baccalauréat libanais.

Academic year:

Classes from: Oct **to:** Jun (annual system)

Fall, Spring and Summer semesters in credit system **Long vacation from:** 1 Jul **to:** 30 august

Languages of instruction: Arabic, English, French

Stages of studies:

University level studies:

University level first stage:

Some Institutions offer short courses (two to three years) leading to professional qualifications.

Where longer studies are involved, the first stage leads, after three to five years study, to the Licence, Bachelor's Degree or Diploma, depending on the Institution attended.

University level second stage:

The second stage involves more specialized work and leads, after one or two years' study beyond the first Degree, to the Maîtrise in Scientific subjects, the Master's Degree at the American University, the Magistère, the Diplôme d'Etudes supérieures, and the Diplôme d'Etudes approfondies.

In Medicine, the Medical Doctorat (MD) is awarded after seven years' study. It is a professional qualification. Other Health specialties are organized within the Lebanese Laws as Next:

- Dentistry: Minimum 5 years
- Physiotherapy: Minimum 4 years
- Pharmacy: Minimum 5 years

To be Engineer, the study in Lebanon is of 5 years to obtain Diplome d'Ingenieur or Master of Engineering.

University level third stage:

The third stage involves the writing of a thesis and leads to the award of a Doctorate. In French-speaking universities, a Doctorate is awarded after three years of study beyond the Diplôme d'Etudes approfondies which is equivalent to a PhD is awarded in the American system.

Teacher education: Training of pre-primary and primary/basic school teachers

Primary teachers are trained at the faculties of Education in public & private universities. The Baccalauréat is required for admission. After three years' study, students are awarded . Bachelor Degree in elementary & primary education

Training of secondary school teachers

The Faculty of Education of the Lebanese University offers five-year courses leading to the Certificat d'Aptitude pédagogique de l'Enseignement secondaire. Teaching Diploma (TD) in special matters (literature, physiques, mathématiques, etc.) is awarded by colleges and universities in Lebanon

Training of higher education teachers

. Special summer schools and workshops are organized by public and private universities for the training of higher education teachers. In Technical & Vocational Education, there is specialized center for the training of teachers In General Education, the National Center for Pedagogic development has the role of long life training of teachers in collaborations with the faculties of education.

NATIONAL BODIES

Administration & co-ordination:

Responsible authorities:

Ministère de l'Education et de l'Enseignement supérieur (Ministry of Education and Higher Education) Head: Khalid Kabbani, Minister

Directorate General of Higher Education

General Director: Ahmad Jammal,
Abi Shahla Round, UNESCO Palace

Tel: +961(1) 789611 or 789908

Fax: +961(1) 789606 or 789610

EMail: info@higher-edu.gov.lb **WWW:** <http://www.higher-edu.gov.lb>

Directorate General of Education:

General Director: Fadi Yarak
Abi Shahla Round, UNESCO Palace
Lebanon **WWW:** <http://www.schoolnet.edu.lb>

Directorate General of Technical & Vocational Education:

Youssef Dia Dekwaneh – Beirut

National center for Pedagogic research & Development: Leila

Fayyad Dekwaneh – Beirut WWW: <http://www.crdp.org>

ADMISSIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Admission to non university higher education studies

Name of secondary school credential required: Baccalauréat libanais
Alternatives to credentials:

Baccalauréat technique.

Admission to university-level studies

Name of secondary school credential required: Baccalauréat libanais
Entrance exams required: For access to some universities there is an Entrance examination.

Foreign students admission

Admission requirements: Foreign students are admitted to Universities under the same conditions as Lebanese students, provided that they hold a qualification equivalent to the Lebanese Baccalauréat. They are not subject to any special quota system. Scholarships are granted within the framework of bilateral agreements concluded with other countries. In certain universities, students must sit for an entrance examination.

Entry regulations: A visa and resident permit are required.

Language requirements: Some Universities organize language tests. Foreign students must have a good command of Arabic, English or French, depending on the field of specialization. Language courses are organized by some universities.

Recognition of studies & qualifications:

Studies pursued in foreign countries (bodies dealing with recognition of foreign credentials):

Equivalences Commission of Higher Education (Commission nationale des Equivalences de l'Enseignement supérieur)

Head: Ahmad Jammal, General Director of Higher Education

Administrative officer: Nadime Khalife', Secretary, Chairperson
Equivalences Commission of Higher Learning

Ministry of Education & Higher Education

Chiyah - El-Aris Street - Beirut Lebanon

Tel: +961(1) 371-069 **Fax:** +961(1) 373-225

References to further information on foreign student admissions and recognition of studies

Title: Le Guide de l'Enseignement supérieur au Liban (Dalil al-Taalim Al Aly fi lubnan)

Publisher: Ministère de l'Education et de l'Enseignement supérieur

Year of publication: 2002

Title: Page web de la Direction générale d'Enseignement supérieur

<http://www.higher-edu.gov.lb>

STUDENT LIFE

Student expenses and financial aid

Student costs: Home students tuition fees: Minimum: 650 (US Dollar)

Maximum: 13000 (US Dollar)

Publications on student services and financial aid:

Title: Study Abroad 2004-2005, 32nd Edition

Author: UNESCO P

ublisher: UNESCO Publishing

Year of publication: 2003

GRADING SYSTEM

Usual grading system in secondary school

Full Description: 0-20 points grading scale. 18-20 excellent; 15-17 very good; 12-14 good; 10-11 pass; 0-9 fail. **Highest on scale:** 20

Pass/fail level: 10 **Lowest on scale:** 0

Main grading system used by higher education institutions

Full Description: American University of Beirut and Beirut Arab University: 90-100 A excellent; 80-89 B good; 70-79 C fair; 60-69 D weak; 0-59 F fail. **Highest on scale:** 100 **Pass/fail level:** 60 **Lowest on scale:** 0

Other main grading systems

The Lebanese American University uses the grade-point average (1-4);

Institutions following the French system use the 1-20 scale.

NOTES ON HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Data for academic year: 2004-2005

Source: Ministère de l'Education nationale et de l'Enseignement supérieur, Beirut, 2003

(except for governing bodies, updated 2005)