

4. EDUCATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Education in our country includes these stages: pre-school, primary, secondary school, colleges and universities. If both parents are too busy and want to work, they can send their children to creche for children up to 3 years of age.

Pre-school education is provided mainly by kindergartens for children aged 3-6.

When the children are six years old, they start primary school, where they will spend the next 9 years.

At the age of 15 the pupils transfer from primary to secondary school. They and their parents have to make the first important choice and choose the secondary school.

School attendance in the CR is compulsory from the age of 6 to 15. Most children attend state school, but there are also private and church schools. Education at state school up to 18 is free of charge but students at secondary schools must pay for their textbooks, exercise books and so on.

Private and church schools charge school fees, children in our school system do not wear uniforms.

At the age of 15 pupils choose among loss of secondary schools:

- a) **grammar schools** with general education which prepare students for university study
- b) **special schools** specialized in building, chemistry, engineering for example business academies, agricultural schools, nursing schools,
- c) **vocational schools training** would-be workers for practical jobs.

Secondary education usually lasts for 4 years and at grammar and specialized schools it is finished with a school-leaving exam which is required by all universities and colleges.

This exam is taken in four subjects at grammar schools – Czech and foreign language and two optional subjects and in four or more subjects at specialized schools. This examination is usually held in May and is mostly oral except Czech in which an essay is written about a month before.

Universities and colleges provide tertiary education which lasts from 4 to 6 years. Each student must be pass and examination in the subjects in which the university specializes. The examination usually consists of a written test and an interview.

Every large regional town in our country is a seat of a university or college now, but the oldest ones are the most renowned. Our oldest university is Charles University in Prague, founded by Charles IV in 1348. Other famous universities are Masaryk University in Brno, Palacky University in Olomouc and Purkyne University in Usti nad Labem.

Prague has also one of the two technical universities in our country (CVUT), the other one is in Brno.

Undergraduates can study a variety of subjects such as economics, foreign trade, architecture, law, journalism, medicine, science, music and more.

The university or college students can enroll at years courses for a bachelor's degree or four- and five-years courses for a master's degree. Medicine usually takes 6 years. The university or college is finished with a state examination and every undergraduate also must write a thesis.

Vzdělávání zdravotníků v ČR.

1. Name all nursing positions (staff) in the hospital – their duties, education.

- *Nursing officer* (university)
- *Midwife* (high school and a bachelor's degree)
- *Anesthetic* (he needs college of medicine)
- *Scrub nurse* (extension or university)
- *Surgeon* (needs education as a doctor)
- *Paramedic* (high school and bachelor's degree)
- *Triage nurse*.

2. Special courses a tour school.

Our school offers a massage course, a sanitary course and a worker in social services.

3. What do you know about education in Great Britain?

Children in Great Britain start school at the age of five.

Final years of secondary school or English 6th form and in order to participate students must have passed GCSEs.

4. Describe a typical Czech classroom.

A classroom in the Czech Republic consists of basic things such as - a blackboard, a desk with chairs, bulletin board for pictures and windows.

5. What special and general subjects are taught a tour school?

Czech language, civics, history, basics of social sciences, mathematics, natural history, physics, chemistry, etc.

6. Work as a volunteer in the hospital – why?

Students can explore new things, improve their skills in communication and start to understand why is hospital staff important.