VIETNAM

Educational Diagram of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Years of education →

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY EDUCATION</th>
<th>SECONDARY EDUCATION</th>
<th>HIGHER EDUCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lower Secondary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Upper Secondary</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Secondary Education

A  Bằng Trung học Cơ sở (Diploma of Lower Secondary Education): represents completion of 9 years of primary and lower secondary education (awarded 1996-2003)
B  Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Cơ sở (Graduation Diploma of Lower Secondary Education): represents completion of 9 years of primary and lower secondary education (awarded since 2003)
C  Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trường Phổ thông (Graduation Diploma for General School): represents completion of 3 years of upper secondary education; gives access to postsecondary education (awarded 1977-1979)
D  Bằng Tốt nghiệp Phổ thông Trung học (Graduation Diploma for General Upper Secondary Education): represents completion of 3 years of upper secondary education; gives access to postsecondary education (awarded 1980-1995)
E  Bằng Tú tài, Phổ thông Trung học (Diploma for High School, General Upper Secondary Education): represents completion of 3 years of upper secondary education; gives access to postsecondary education (awarded 1996-1999)
F  Bằng Trung học Phổ thông (Diploma for General Upper Secondary Education): represents completion of 3 years of upper secondary education; gives access to postsecondary education (awarded 2000-2003)
G Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ thông (Graduation Diploma for General Upper Secondary Education): represents completion of 3 years of upper secondary education; gives access to postsecondary education (awarded since 2003)

H Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Chuyên nghiệp (Graduation Diploma of Vocational Education): represents completion of 3 or 4 years of upper secondary education when preceded by credential A or B; leads to employment and gives access to post-secondary education [see also credential I]

Postsecondary Education

I Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Chuyên nghiệp (Graduation Diploma of Vocational Education): 1 to 2.5-year program when preceded by credential C to G; leads to employment or credential K or Q in the same discipline [see also credential H]

J Bằng Tốt nghiệp Cao đẳng¹ (Graduation Diploma from College): 2 to 3-year programs; leads to employment or credential Q in the same discipline; admission based on credential C to H

K Bằng Tốt nghiệp Cao đẳng¹ (Graduation Diploma from College), Chuyên tu (Short-term): 1.5 to 2-year programs; leads to employment or credential Q in the same discipline; admission based on credential I

L Bằng Tốt nghiệp Cao đẳng Sư phạm¹ (Graduation Diploma from Teacher Training College): 2 to 3-year programs; leads to employment or credential Q; admission based on credential C to H

M Bằng Cao đẳng (Diploma of Associate Bachelor): 2-year general education program; gives access to Phase II of bachelor degree programs (see credentials N and O); admission based on credential C to H

N Cử nhân (Bachelor’s Degree), Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 4 to 5-year programs offered by đại học (universities); often divided into two phases with Phase I representing 1.5 years of general education and Phase II representing 2.5 to 3.5 years of specialized education; gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H

O Cử nhân (Bachelor’s Degree), Mở rộng (Full-time, open admission) system, Tự học (Guided Self-learning) system, and Tự xa (Distance Study) system: 4 to 5-year programs offered by đại học (universities); often divided into two phases with Phase I representing 1.5 years of general education and Phase II representing 2.5 to 3.5 years of specialized education; admission based on credential C to H

P Cử nhân (Bachelor’s Degree), Tài chức (In-service) system: 4.5 to 6-year part-time programs offered by đại học (universities); usually includes less course work than credential N or O programs, but includes work experience as part of the curriculum; gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H and approximately 2 years of work experience

Q Cử nhân (Bachelor’s Degree), Chuyên tu (Short-term) system: 2.5 to 4-year programs offered by đại học (universities); admission based on credential I, J, or K

R Kỹ sư (Engineer) Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 4 to 5-year programs offered by đại học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H

¹ Cao đẳng may also be translated as “junior college.” This term refers to postsecondary institutions that offer sub-degree programs, credentials J to M. While degree-awarding universities (đại học) may offer college (cao đẳng) programs, colleges may not offer đại học (university) programs, credentials N to Y.

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S  Bác sĩ Thú y (Veterinarian)  Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 5-year program offered by đai học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H
T  Dược sĩ (Pharmacist)  Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 5-year program offered by đai học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H
U  Kiến trúc sư (Architect)  Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 5-year program offered by đai học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H
V  Bác sĩ Răng Hàm Mặt (Dentist)  Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 6-year program offered by đai học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H
W  Bác sĩ Y Khoa (Medical Doctor)  Chính quy (Full-time, regular admission) system: 6-year program offered by đai học (universities); gives access to credential X; admission based on credential C to H
X  Thạc sĩ (Master’s Degree): 2-year program offered by đai học (universities) or research institutes; gives access to credential Y; admission based on credentials N, P, R, S, T, U, V, or W
Y  Tiến sĩ (Doctorate Degree): minimum 2-year program following credential X, or 4-year program for superior students holding credentials N, P, R, S, T, U, V, or W; offered by đai học (universities) or research institutes

Grading Scales

All Levels of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade in Vietnamese</th>
<th>English translation</th>
<th>Numerical grade or abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ưu, xuất sắc</td>
<td>Excellent, outstanding</td>
<td>9.0-10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khá</td>
<td>Good, rather good</td>
<td>7.0-8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trung bình</td>
<td>Fair, pass, average</td>
<td>5.0-6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kém, không</td>
<td>Poor, failing</td>
<td>0.0-4.0 or 0.0-4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Đạt</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miễn thi</td>
<td>Exempt</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vắng thi</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Used by some higher educational institutions where grades of 4.0 to 4.9 are considered passing, with some restrictions, such as in certain non-major subjects, or if the overall average is 5.0 or more, or if there are no grades of 0.0.
Sample Credentials

Credential G: Bảo Tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ thông (Graduation Diploma for General Upper Secondary Education)

(1) 2003-2010 standard format

(2) New format phased in since 2009
Postsecondary Institution Recognition

Bộ Giáo dục và Đào tạo (Ministry of Education and Training):
http://www.moet.gov.vn/?page=8.8&loai_bphan=261
Resources for Additional Information


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Compiler
Shelley M. Feagles
Senior Evaluator
Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
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