

# The System of Education in the USA

Education is not mentioned in the Constitution, nor is there any federal department of education, so the matter is left to individual states.

Education is free and compulsory in all states, however, from the age of 6 till 16 (or 18).



At 6 years of age children go to elementary school, or first grade (the second year is "grade 2" etc.). At elementary school the emphasis is placed on the basic skills (speaking, reading, writing, and arithmetic), though the general principle throughout the American school system is that children should be helped to develop their own interests.



Children move on to high school in the ninth grade, where they continue until the twelfth grade. There are two basic types of high school: one with a more academic curriculum, preparing students for admission to college, and the other offering primarily vocational education (training in a skill or trade).





# Education in Great Britain

Educational system in Britain has strict quality standards. It is compulsory for all children aged 5 to 16 to study. British education is divided into two segments: state schools, which are free of charge, and private schools, which are paid for. Over 90% of children attend state public schools.



In Britain, as in many other countries, there is a pre-school education, i.e. there are nursery schools for children from 2 to 7. After the nursery school, kids attend Junior Schools till they are 13. During these years children have to pass an obligatory exam, called SAT (Standard Assessment Tests) twice. In case, they pass it successfully, they can easily transfer to the next step, which is called Senior School.





This school is for children aged 13 to 18, and it prepares its pupils for the special exam called GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education). It is also the time for future profession choice.



# Education in Kazakhstan

The educational system in Kazakhstan is conducted in two languages - Kazakh and Russian and consists of several levels of state and private educational establishments: infant schools, elementary (or primary) schools, comprehensive schools, colleges and academies.





The constitution prohibits any discrimination on the basis of language or ethnicity and guarantees equal rights in education regardless of nationality. Children start school at the age of 7 and finish at 17. As a rule a child attends the school, located in the neighborhood.



The first stage of education in Kazakhstan is elementary (or primary) school for grades one through four. The second is secondary school for middle grades from five through nine. Upon graduation from secondary school students are given the choice of either continuing to attend the same school (high school -senior grades 10-11) or entering a vocational or technical school.



To be admitted to the institute one has to pass a series of oral or written tests. Students may get free-of-charge higher education in the higher educational institution and the limited number of the state grants is given each academic year on a competitive basis.

