

ICAS HANDBOOK

VOLUME I

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

ROMANIA

RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Prepared by ICAS International Credential Assessment Service of Canada Inc.
with Series Special Consultant R. O. Ormsby, B.A., M.Ed.

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Preface

ICAS was established in 1993 to provide professional services related to international education. Our goal is to provide complete, reliable information to help individuals achieve their personal and career goals and to help employers, educational institutions and others to appropriately interpret international education. The *ICAS Handbook* is the latest addition to the services we provide.

The Handbook will help employers, educational institutions and others to interpret international educational documents. This first volume includes information for China, Romania and Russia. Volume II (expected in early 2005) will address Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Later volumes are planned to include the Philippines, Korea, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The information in Volume 1 has been compiled from resources currently available to ICAS plus discussions with relevant officials in each of the three countries and with professional colleagues at educational institutions and other assessment agencies. It includes some general details for each country and tables that describe elementary, secondary, technical/vocational and higher education and suggest the level of education in Ontario to which each credential is comparable.

The comparisons provided are intended as guides for general purposes and should be considered in the context of other relevant factors when determining the suitability of a candidate holding an international qualification for employment or for admission to an educational program. Comparisons apply only if the qualification was issued by a *bona fide* authority (an appropriately recognized school, postsecondary institution and/or examining body).

Although comparisons are made to the current Ontario education system, most can be applied to the other provinces with adaptations required to reflect the difference in the structure of the system in Québec.

ICAS welcomes any comments about the Handbook and any suggestions for countries and information to be included in future volumes.

S Hibbitt
December 2004

RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Introduction

Historical Background

Since the 1920s, there have been many changes in Russia to the structure and duration of the primary and secondary levels of education, and, as a result, to the number of pre-university years of education. For example, the length of primary school was reduced from four to three years between 1966 and 1970, only to be increased to four years again as of 1984/85. The upper secondary years were gradually increased from ten to eleven between 1959 and 1964, only to be reduced to ten years by the end of the 1965/66 school year. More recently, during the late 1980s, complete secondary education was, in theory, extended to eleven years (this being the result of the addition of a year to the primary panel in the mid-1980s). However, there is evidence that some students may still be receiving only ten years of pre-university education. The structure of the postsecondary level remained relatively constant.

Since the early 1990s, the education system has been characterized by a series of reforms in response to the transition to a market economy. In contrast to the system of strict centralisation which characterised the Soviet education system, there is now an emphasis on de-centralisation throughout the system and curricula and methods of instruction are under review.

There has been an increase in the number of private institutions at the secondary and postsecondary levels. In addition, many former types of institutions have been converted to newer types (for example, some former vocational schools have been converted to professional lyceums, some former *tekhnikums* have been converted to *kolledges* and the former specialised institutes at the tertiary level such as polytechnic/pedagogical institutes have been converted to universities). A new multi-level university system has been established introducing three levels of first stage university credentials alongside the traditional five-year Diploma Specialist qualification. The previous second stage system of higher education has remained unchanged. This new type of higher education system confers qualifications based on a bachelor/master/doctor type of hierarchy.

Another important administrative change occurred in August 1996, when the Ministry of Education (responsible for pre-school, general and vocational education) and the State Committee for Higher Education (responsible for postsecondary education) were combined into a single Ministry called the Ministry for General and Professional Education of the Russian Federation. In 1999, it was renamed the Ministry of Education, responsible for all levels.

With the changes, have come new challenges, such as the problematic issues of accreditation for new types of institutions and the lack of funding required to implement new curricula and to establish new programs and institutions. And despite the announcement of numerous reforms and the passing of new legislation, there remains a certain resistance to change both from parents and from within the educational establishment itself.

Information for the Russian system prior to 1990 can generally also be applied to other now Independent States which were then part of the former USSR. However, in the Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia) secondary education consisted of Grades X, XI and XII.

Compulsory Period of Education

Compulsory education in Russia currently consists of nine years of education and comprises both primary general education and basic general education. It culminates with examinations for the Certificate of Basic General Education (*Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii*) and marks the end of lower secondary education. The certificate granted at this level prior to 1992 was called the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (*Svidetel'stvo o nepolnom srednem obrazovanii*).

The compulsory period of education has changed several times in Russia. Data concerning numbers of years of schooling and dates when changes were made vary in publications. However, some sources indicate that in 1949, compulsory education was seven years in duration. From 1959 to 1964 it was raised to eight years, then nine years and then reduced to eight years again.

School Year

At the primary and secondary levels, the school year lasts thirty-four weeks and can range from twenty-seven to thirty-eight hours per week. The academic year runs from the beginning of September to the beginning of June. Older publications indicate that most schools held classes six days per week. Examinations take place in June.

Newer types of schools, such as *gymnasia* and *lycei* may have more lengthy academic years and more total hours of study.

At the higher education level, the school year also runs from September to June. It is not unusual to see completion of 5,000 hours of study in a five-year program. It should be noted that, traditionally, programs at the higher education level in Russia have included many more contact hours but fewer hours of independent study when compared with Western education systems.

Language of Instruction

In the former USSR, most education at the primary and secondary levels was delivered in Russian. In the late 1980s, national languages of individual republics were given more opportunity for use. In the past, an extra year of education was included in some republics where Russian was not the native language; the purpose of this additional year was for the teaching of Russian. At present, minority language instruction is available at the basic general education level (Grade I - IX).

The language of instruction at the postsecondary level is generally Russian. A preparatory year (including language instruction) for non-Russian speaking students may be required for admission in the case of international students.

Postsecondary Institutions

Traditionally, all educational institutions in the Soviet Union were state run and were, therefore, recognised. Since the early 1990s, there have been two categories of institutions at the higher education level - state/municipal higher education institutions and private higher education institutions.

Currently, institutions that have received accreditation will have been granted a certificate of accreditation by the Ministry of Education. These institutions will also have the right to use the state seal of the Russian Federation on their documents and will be eligible for state funding. State accreditation of university-level higher education institutions is carried out by the Ministry of Education.

All state and municipal education institutions are considered state-accredited. A small number of non-state institutions at the higher education level have received state accreditation; other such institutions have licences to operate, but no state accreditation. Most of these establishments offer programs in business, management, law and foreign languages.

Credit System

At present, there is no credit system used on Russian transcripts to quantify contact hours of study in education programs. The term *zachet* is translated as credit under the column of grades listed on Russian transcripts. However, it must not be interpreted as a measurement of hours/amount of work completed.

It may not be unreasonable to expect that, in the near future, Russian higher education institutions may adopt the European Transfer Credit System.

Grading Practices

There is one system of grading in Russia, which exists at all levels. Promotion to the next level requires passing grades in each subject/course of the curriculum.

The lowest passing grade is 3 for general education and satisfactory for higher education. Grades are: 5 - excellent (*otlichno*); 4 - good (*khorosho*); 3 - satisfactory (*udovletvoritelno*); 2 - unsatisfactory (*neudovletvoritelno*). The word *zachet* is translated as credit but does not correspond to the North American term; it merely indicates that a course or seminar of study was successfully completed.

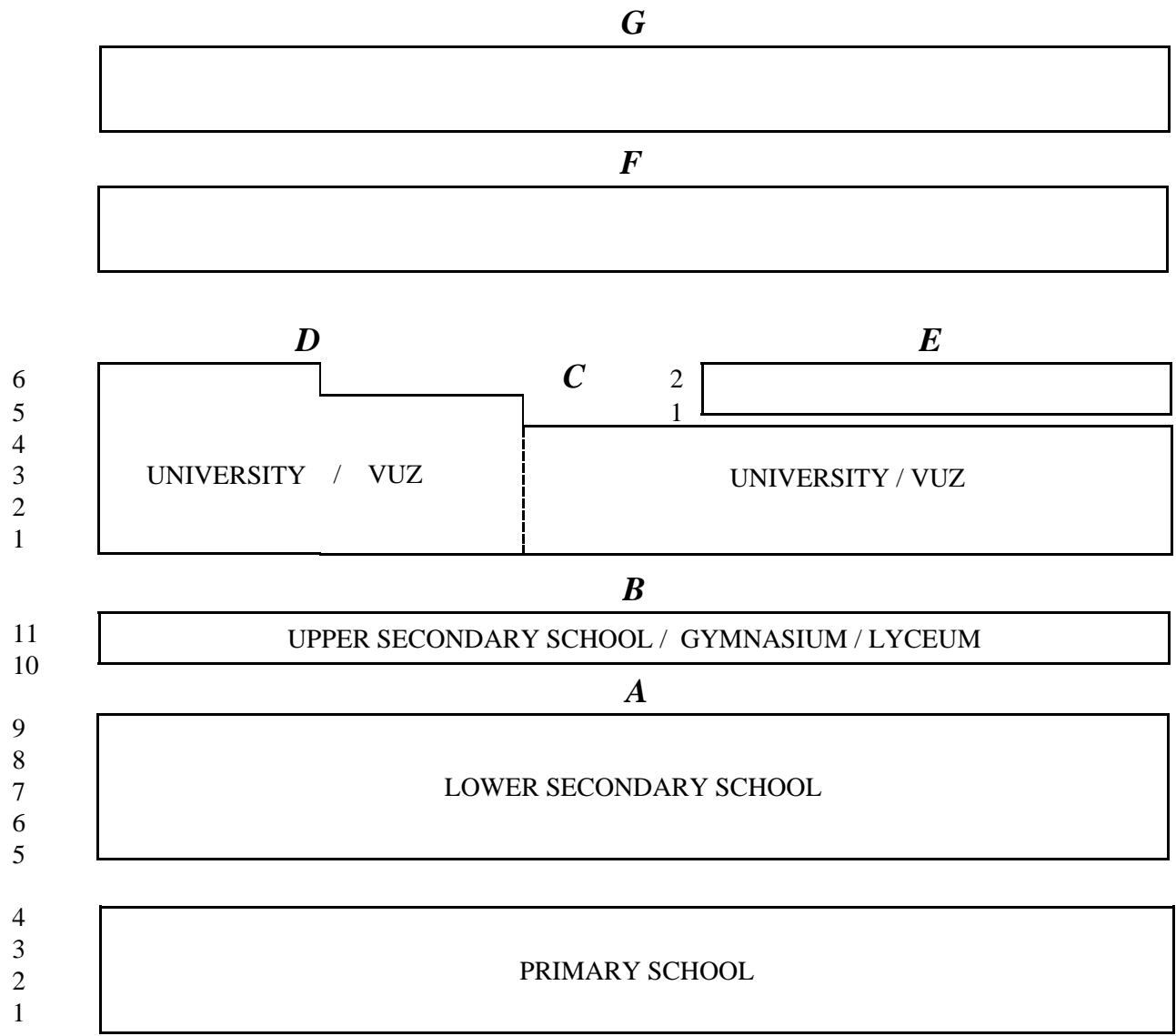
Documentation

It is always best to work from original documents in Russian. Notarised reproductions, bearing the stamp of a notary, are not acceptable for evaluation purposes. Since translations can be creative and often translate the same Russian term in different ways, it is essential to become familiar with Russian names identifying specific documents and, in particular, specific types of institutions. For example, an institution's name may include the word *uchilishche*, which can refer to institutions at different levels within the Russian education system. This term is often translated as "College," suggesting that it is a university level institution, which it may not always be. It is also important to be familiar with different types of format in which the various *Diplom* documents have been issued at the higher education level as well as the particular commission (e.g., state qualifying vs state examining) that normally issues (or issued) that document at a given point in time.

At the secondary level, a supplement, known as a *Tabel*, is issued in addition to the newer types of certificate. This supplement lists the grades obtained by students in all subjects taught during the whole period of secondary schooling. The older certificates were not issued with a supplement, and grades were listed on the certificate itself.

The newer *Bakalavr*, *Magistr* and Diploma Specialist documents are issued by the State Attestation Commission. However, it is not uncommon to encounter the former Soviet-style *Diplom* documents with the hammer and sickle being issued for several years after the early 1990s.

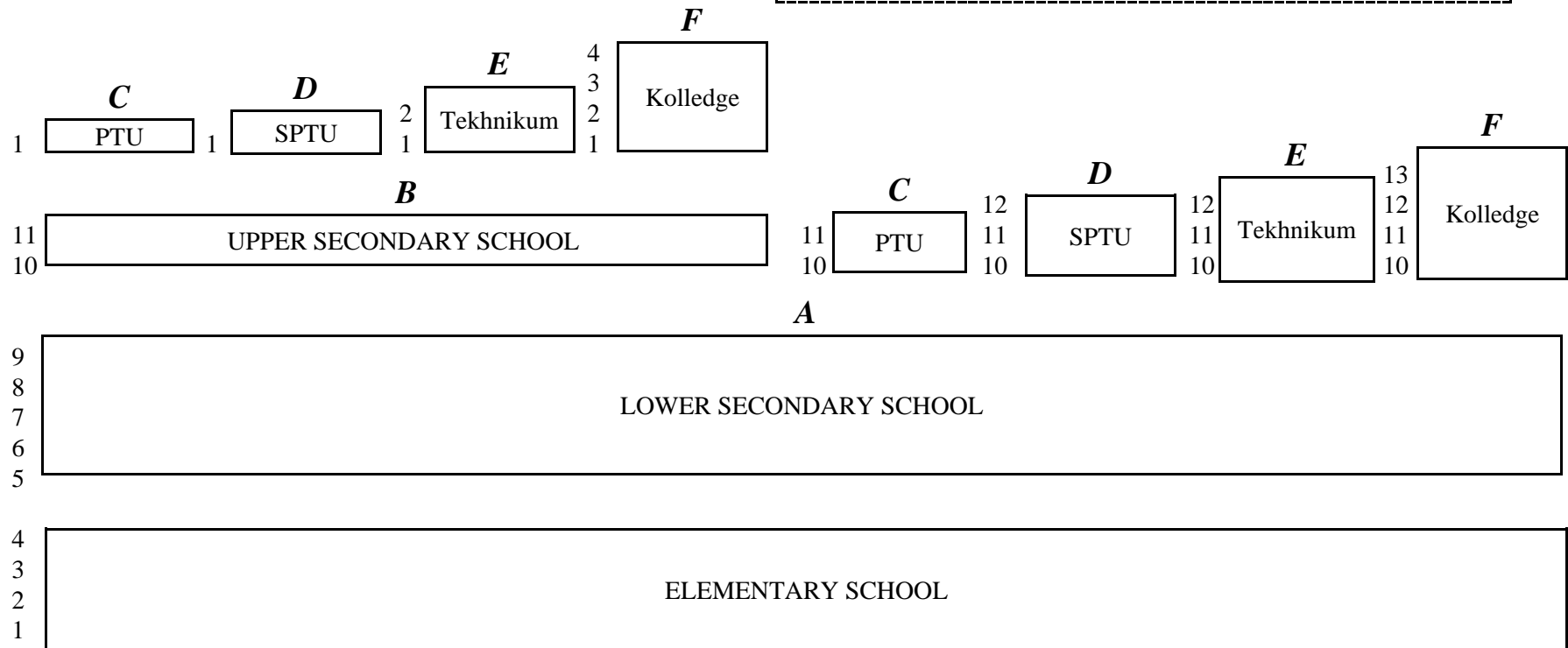
At the higher education level, individuals can obtain an *academicheskaya spravka* or *archivnaya spravka* along with the *Diplom* document. Recent formats of these documents list hours per course; earlier formats tended not to include hours.



- A* - Certificate of Basic General Education
- B* - Certificate of Complete Secondary Education
- C* - Bakalavar
- D* - Diploma Specialist
- E* - Magistr
- F* - Kandidat Nauk
- G* - Doctor Nauk

STRUCTURE OF THE RUSSIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

- A** - Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education / Certificate of Basic General Educaiton
- B** - Certificate of Secondary Education / Certificate of Complete Secondary General Education
- C** - *S'videtel'stvo* from a *PTU*
- D** - Diploma from an *SPTU* or a *Professionalnye Listei*
- E** - Diploma from a *Tekhnikum* or a *Uchilishche*
- F** - Diploma from a *Kolledge*



STRUCTURE OF THE RUSSIAN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

RUSSIA - Primary

Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
None	Age 6 (see below)	4 years (post 1984/85)	4 years	Lower secondary education	See below	Grade IV

Primary education in Russian is called *nachalnoe obrazovanie*, which is literally translated as beginning education.

Pre-school education is provided (for a fee) in nurseries, for children between six months and three years of age, and in kindergartens for children between ages three and six. At one time, more than half of Russian children attended pre-school programs; there are suggestions in recent publications that this percentage is now falling.

According to published resources, prior to 1984, children entered grade one at age seven. Since 1984 (some sources indicate 1985 or 1987), children have been admitted to Grade I at age six and as a result primary education was extended from three to four years. This change is significant in that the total number of years of primary/ secondary schooling was thereby officially extended from ten to eleven years. It should be noted, however, that this change in the education system was met with considerable resistance from parents, teachers and even doctors. Consequently, the reform was not implemented simultaneously or universally. By the end of the 1990s, a two-track system of primary education had developed. Children could either start school at age six and complete four years of primary education or they could start school at age seven and complete an intensive program to cover the material in three years. The latter group would then skip grade IV and proceed to Grade V.

RUSSIA - Lower Secondary

Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (<i>Svidetel'stvo o konchanii nepol'nego obshchego srednego obrazovaniia</i>)	Completion of primary school	5 years is standard	9 years (previously 8 years)	Upper secondary education	This certificate was issued prior to 1992. Those who completed this level of education could, depending on examination results, continue their education.	Grade IX
Certificate of Basic General Education (<i>Attestat ob osnovnom obshchem obrazovaniia</i>)	As above	As above	9 years	As above	Name of certificate as of 1992 Final examinations are required. Those who complete this level of education may, depending on examination results, continue their education.	As above

This level of education is mainly offered at general schools, some of which offer eight/nine years of education and others which offer ten/eleven years of education.

Graduates from Basic General Education (or Incomplete Secondary Education) may continue studies at upper (complete) secondary school, at a vocational school or at non-university-level higher education institutions.

RUSSIA - Upper Secondary						
Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Certificate of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o srednem obrazovanii</i>)	Completion of lower secondary school	2 years	10 or 11 years	Professional education, vocational education, higher education (both university and non-university)	This is the name of the certificate which represented completion of secondary school prior to 1992. Final examinations were required.	Secondary school graduation
Certificate of Complete Secondary General Education (<i>Attestat o srednem polnom obshchem obrazovanii/ Attestat ob okonchanii polnoj srednej shkoly</i>)	As above	As above	As above	As above	Name of certificate as of 1992 Final examinations are required.	As above

Upper secondary schools in Russia may be called **M**iddle education school/general secondary school, **G**ymnasium or *lyceum*. Although the curriculum at all upper secondary schools is essentially academic and includes many science and humanities subjects, *gymnasia* and *lyceums* specialize in the teaching of specific subjects and entrance to such schools is competitive.

The colloquial name for the secondary school leaving certificate is *Attestat Zrelost*, which is translated as **M**aturity Certificate **C**

RUSSIA - Technical/Vocational Education						
Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
<i>S'videtel'stvo</i> issued by vocational - technical school <i>Professionalnoe Tekhnicheskoe Uchilishche (PTU)</i>	Basic General Education or Complete Secondary General Education	1 - 2½ years after basic education or 1 - 1½ years after complete secondary education	Varies according to admission and program	Employment; non-university-level higher education May not apply to university-level	These programs represent the initial stage of vocational education and are aimed at training skilled workers. Some sources indicate that a diploma rather than a certificate is issued for these programs.	Varies
Diploma issued by a secondary vocational - technical school <i>Srednoe Professionalnoe Tekhnicheskoe Uchilishche (SPTU)</i>	As above	3 years after basic education or 1½ years after complete secondary education	As above	Employment May apply to university-level higher education institutions	These programs include a general education component for those who enter with basic education. Many of the <i>SPTUs</i> have been converted to <i>Professionalnye Litsei</i> or <i>Kolledzhy</i> .	Varies, but includes some college level study
Diploma from technical lyceum <i>Professionalnye Litsei</i>	As above	3 years after basic education or 1 - 1½ years after complete secondary education	Varies according to admission and program	Employment in area of qualification awarded May apply to university-level higher education institutions	Often referred to as vocational <i>lyceum</i> This type of vocational education also includes a general education component for those with basic education. Some publications indicate that this program is open only to students who have finished complete secondary education (10 or 11 years).	Varies but includes some college-level study

Vocational education is called *uchalnoe professionalnoe obrazovanie*. It is referred to as professional education (the word *professional* included on the Diploma awarded). Most recent publications refer only to programs offered at the *PTU* and the professional *lyceum*. However, older publications indicate that as of the late 1970s, the type of institution, referred to as the *SPTU* (secondary professional technical *uchilische*), developed from the *PTU*. This type of school added general upper secondary education courses to the vocational curriculum so that those who graduated could complete full upper secondary education. Because of the variety of programs available at this level it is important to identify the specific type of vocational/technical school attended before assessing any qualification.

RUSSIA -Technical/Vocational Education (continued)

Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Diploma from <i>Tekhnikum</i> or <i>Uchilishche</i>	Basic General Education or Complete Secondary General Education Entrance exams are required	2 - 3 years after complete secondary education or at least 3 years after basic general education	Varies according to previous years of education and program completed	Employment in area of qualification awarded Admission to university-level higher education	The document issued is a <i>Diplom o srednem professionalnom Obrazovanii</i> or <i>Diplom ob okonchanii srednego spetsial'nogo uchebnogo zavedeniia</i> .	Secondary school graduation plus college diploma
Diploma from College; some programs may lead to title of Junior Engineer (<i>mladshii inzhiner</i>)	As above	3½ - 4 years after complete secondary education or 4 - 4½ years after basic general education	Varies	Higher education Employment in area of qualification	Admission to colleges is competitive. The number of programs offered after Basic General Education may be dwindling. College programs offer a more in-depth type of theoretical and professional training with greater practical training.	As above

This type of education has traditionally been offered at a *tekhnikum* or *uchilishche*. *Tekhnikum* programs are for highly skilled technical and industrial fields, while *uchilishche* programs are offered in nursing, pre-school teaching etc. The older style diplomas under the Soviet system were issued by the State Qualifying Commission; the newer type diplomas are issued by the State Attestation Commission. These institutions are referred to as specialized secondary education institutions (*SSUZ*), because part of the curriculum is at the secondary level. They are more frequently classified as postsecondary since part of the curriculum is also postsecondary. This level of education is referred to as professional education.

Since 1989, a new kind of institution offering programs at this level has been formed - *Kolledzh* (College). These institutions offer non-university-level higher education as well as two-year programs leading to the Intermediate Diploma. Many of these institutions were formerly *tekhnikums* and were upgraded to colleges. The programs offered at colleges are longer than those at the *tekhnikum* or *uchilishche* and involve more hours of study.

It is important to distinguish the *uchilishche* at this level from the higher *uchilishche*, which is at the higher education level (*VUZ*). The type of diploma issued at each level is different. In addition, the diploma from the higher *uchilishche* was issued under the Soviet system by the State Examining Commission.

RUSSIA - Higher Education - University - First Stage

Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education	Complete Secondary General Education or other professional postsecondary diplomas Entrance exams are required	2 years minimum	13 years	Employment in area of study	This is sometimes called the Intermediate Diploma. This qualification is not a degree. It is offered at <i>VUZ</i> type institutions - universities, academies, conservatories etc. It can be awarded after 2 years of study for the <i>Bakalavr</i> or Diploma Specialist.	University-level study
<i>Bakalavr</i>	As above	4 years minimum	15 years	Employment according to qualification indicated on the Diploma Can also apply to 2-year <i>Magistr</i> program or 1-year program to obtain Diploma Specialist	The <i>Bakalavr</i> provides academic rather than professional education. It can be offered in all fields except medicine.	Bachelor's degree
Diploma Specialist	As above Holders of the <i>Bakalavr</i> can complete 1 - 1½ years to obtain the Diploma Specialist	5 - 6 years depending on type of program	15 - 17 years	Further studies in higher education Employment in area of qualification awarded	This Diploma has traditionally provided training for professional qualifications for teaching, chemistry, engineering etc. In the past, some 4-year programs (primarily in the field of teacher education) existed.	Bachelor's degree with credit towards master's
<i>Magistr</i>	<i>Bakalavr</i> Entrance exams are required	2 years after <i>Bakalavr</i> or 1 year after Diploma	17 years	Doctoral study programs Employment in area of qualification awarded	The <i>Magistr</i> is more research oriented than the Diploma Specialist.	Master's degree

RUSSIA - Higher Education - University - First Stage (continued)						
Name of Credential	Admission	Length of study	Total years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Diploma <i>Vracha</i>	Complete Secondary General Education Entrance exams are required	6 years	17 years	Profession	This program is in medicine and is offered at specialized institutes.	First professional degree

Higher education institutions are often referred to as '*vysshee uchebnoe zavedenie*' or *VUZ*, a term, originating from the system of education of the former Soviet Union, which means 'higher educational establishment'. The former typology of establishments at the higher education level consisted of universities, polytechnic institutes and specialized institutes. The programs were delivered under central control and the curriculum in a particular discipline was more or less identical regardless of where offered. Currently, there are universities, polytechnic institutes/universities, specialized institutes and academies, conservatories and pedagogical institutes/universities. This categorization of types of institutions is not hierarchal in nature and the level of education is considered to be comparable from all of these types of institutions. Universities offer more limited fields of study when compared with Western systems of higher education. Engineering and applied sciences as well as technological disciplines are offered by polytechnic institutes/universities and medicine is taught at specialized academies. Private institutions are growing in number in Russia.

It should be noted that the term *uchilishcha* can refer to higher education institutions (*vysshee uchilishcha*). It is necessary when evaluating documents from an *uchilishche* to determine the precise level of education followed, as the term *uchilishche* can refer to institutions at different levels within the education system. (See information for vocational/technical education and teacher education.)

In the early 1990s, the *Bakalavr* and *Magistr* programs were introduced. *Magistr* programs are based on *Bakalavr* programs whereas Diploma Specialist programs are not. The Diploma Specialist can be obtained as a complete, discrete program of study of five or six years duration or as a one or one and a half-year program following the *Bakalavr* degree. The new *Magistr* should not be confused with the Master's degree awarded to foreign students who have completed a Diploma program.

Under the current education system, all diplomas conferred at this level are issued by the State Attestation Commission. This level of education is referred to as Professional education

RUSSIA - Higher Education - University - Second Stage						
Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
<i>Kandidat Nauk</i>	Diploma Specialist or <i>Magistr</i> and entrance examinations	3 years minimum	Varies	Holders of the <i>Kandidat</i> obtain salary increases and increased opportunities for gaining a teaching position at a higher education institution .	Often referred to as <i>aspirantura</i> study. Age limit of 35 years for full-time and 45 years for part-time study A dissertation must be completed and defended.	Doctoral degree
<i>Doctor Nauk</i>	<i>Kandidat Nauk</i> and proven scientific achievement in a speciality	No standard prescribed	Varies	This degree is required for an appointment as a professor in a higher education institution.	Highest academic degree; often referred to as <i>Doctorantura</i> Age limit of 40 years for admission.	Post-doctoral study

Traditionally, two types of degrees have existed at the second stage of university-level higher education in Russia. The Candidate of Sciences (*Kandidat Nauk*) normally requires a minimum of three years of study beyond the Diploma Specialist or *Magistr* degree. The Doctor Nauk requires additional study beyond the Candidate of Sciences. This period of study is not fixed and can be between five and fifteen years.

The *Kandidat* can be obtained in two ways:

1. *Aspirantura* study which involves course work and completion of examinations in philosophy, the area of specialization and in a foreign language followed by supervised research. Although course work is optional for this degree, in practice most students attend lectures and seminars in the specialized discipline during the first year of study to prepare for examinations.
2. Independent study is available for those with a minimum of two years of work experience who are then tutored by a supervisor at a higher education establishment or research institution. The requirements for the dissertation are the same for both.

The older Soviet-style *Kandidat* documents showed the state emblem of the USSR and indicated that the degree was awarded by the Highest (Supreme) Attestation Commission on the recommendation of the Council of the institution where the research for the degree was completed. Graduates can obtain a copy of the degree along with the examination results from the *aspirantura* study as well as a synopsis of the thesis. The newer style documents indicate that the degree was awarded by the Dissertation Council and indicate the date of the approval of the Council's decision by the Supreme Certifying (Attestation) Committee.

Universities and research institutions have the right to offer *Doctor Nauk* programs. These programs consist of research only, which is conducted under the advice of a scientific consultant. This research leads to a dissertation, which must be more complex than the dissertation required for the *Kandidat* degree. The *Doctor Nauk* may also be obtained by holders of a *Kandidat* employed in a higher education institution who transfer from teaching to research positions. They prepare their dissertation for a period of up to two years. An additional route for earning the *Doctor Nauk* requires the preparation of a dissertation individually without the benefit of having a scientific consultant or advice concerning the dissertation. The *Doctor Nauk* is awarded by the Highest (Supreme) Attestation Commission.

RUSSIA - Teacher Education

Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Diploma for pre-school teaching - pedagogical school (<i>pedagogicheskie uchilishche</i>)	Basic General Education or Complete Secondary General Education	2 years after complete secondary education or 3½ years after basic general education	Varies according to program followed	Employment in pre-school	These programs are for teaching children ages 3 - 6 at the kindergarten level. This type of institution is classified as technical/vocational rather than higher education.	Varies but includes some college-level
Diploma for pre-school teaching - pedagogical institutes (<i>pedagogicheskie instituty</i>)	Complete Secondary General Education Entrance exam is required	4 years	14 or 15 years	Employment in Kindergarten	These programs are for teaching at the Kindergarten level.	Bachelor's degree
Diploma for primary school teaching - pedagogical school (<i>pedagogicheskie uchilishche</i>)	Basic General Education or Complete Secondary General Education	2 years after complete secondary education or 4 years after basic general education	12 or 13 years	Employment in primary school	Qualifies holder as a teacher of first 4 grades of primary education. Prior to 1991, the Diploma was issued by the State Qualifying Commission.	College diploma
Diploma for primary school teaching - pedagogical institute (<i>pedagogicheskie instituty</i>)	Complete Secondary General Education Entrance exam is required	4 years	14 or 15 years	Employment in primary school	Program can be completed by correspondence, in which case the length of program is increased by 2 years	Bachelor's degree

RUSSIA - Teacher Education (continued)						
Name of Credential	Admission	Length of Study	Total Years	Access to:	Notes	Comparable Level
Diploma Specialist for teaching at lower secondary-level - pedagogical institute	Complete Secondary General Education Entrance exam is required	4 or 5 years (prior to late 1980s, 4 years was more or less standard)	14 to 16 years	Employment at secondary school-level	Those who complete 4-year programs specialize in only one subject. Those who complete 5-year programs specialize in two subjects.	Bachelor's degree
Diploma Specialist for teaching at upper secondary-level - pedagogical institute or state university	As above	5 years	15 or 16 years	Second stage higher education system and employment at secondary school-level	These programs can be taken at either a pedagogical institute or a university. Programs conducted at universities are less pedagogically oriented than those at the pedagogical institutes (see notes below).	Bachelor's degree with credit towards master's
<i>Kandidat Nauk</i> in pedagogy	Undergraduate degree in pedagogy	3 years full-time / 4 years part-time	Varies	Profession and further study	In the past, these programs were offered by pedagogical institutes.	Doctoral degree in education

There are several terms in the Russian language that correspond to the word **Teacher** *pedagog, uchitel, vospitatel* and *prepodavatel*. The system of initial teacher education in Russia comprises both non-university-level and university-level institutions and programs have been offered at pedagogical *uchilishcha*, pedagogical *tekhnikums*, pedagogical institutes and universities. The majority of pre-school and primary-level teachers are trained at pedagogical schools (*uchilishcha*) whereas the majority of secondary-level teachers are trained at pedagogical institutes or at universities. Teachers of technological subjects complete programs at pedagogical *tekhnikums*; the admission requirements and duration of these programs are similar to those at the pedagogical *uchilishcha* for training pre-school and primary-level teachers. Teacher education programs conducted at state universities have tended to be academic in nature with very sparse pedagogical training. By contrast, programs conducted at pedagogical institutes/universities contain plenty of pedagogically oriented content.

Teacher education programs were uniform and standardized throughout the former Soviet Union. Currently, reforms aim towards greater autonomy and more diversity among individual teacher education institutions. The former pedagogical institutes have been converted into pedagogical universities. In-service training continues to be available at continuing education centres and at curriculum centres.

In the former USSR, diplomas from the pedagogical *uchilishcha* and pedagogical *tekhnikums* were issued by the State Qualifying Commission whereas diplomas from pedagogical institutes and universities were issued by the State Examining Commission.

GLOSSARY OF USEFUL ENGLISH-RUSSIAN TERMS

DOCUMENTS

Transliteration	Cyrillic	English
<i>Attestat</i>	! HPHH	Certificate
<i>Attestat ob osnovnom obshchem obrazovanii</i>	! HPHH@F>@>@ @V, < @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Basic General Education
<i>Attestat o srednem obrazovanii</i>	! HPHH@FD>, < @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Secondary Education
<i>Attestat zrelosti</i>	! HPHH2D: @H	Maturity Certificate awarded following completed secondary education
<i>Attestat o srednem polnom obshchem obrazovanii</i>	! HPHH@FD>, < B@ >@ @V, < @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Complete Secondary General Education
<i>Attestat ob okonchanii polnom srednem shkoly</i>	! HPHH@ @R'>4B@ >@ FD*>, < T 8@ 6	Certificate of Complete Secondary General Education
<i>Svidetel'stvo o okonchanii nepol'nego obshchego srednego obrazovanii</i>	E&F, H: 'FH@ @R'>44 >, B@ '>, (@@V, (@FD)*>, (@ @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education
<i>Svidetel'stvo o nepolnom srednem obrazovanii</i>	E&F, H: 'FH@>, B@ >@ FD*>, < @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education
<i>Svidetel'stvo o nepolnam srednam obrazovanii</i>	E&F 4H: \FH@>, B@ >@ FD*>, < @D'2&'>44	Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education
<i>Tabel</i>	G\$: \	Supplement to secondary school diploma (lists course taken and grades obtained)
<i>Diplom o srednem professionalnom obrazovanii</i>) 4B @ @FD>, < ED, FF4@': \>@ @D'2&'>44	Diploma of Non-University Level Higher Education
<i>Diplom s otlichiem</i>) 4B @ F@H4R <	Diploma with honors

DOCUMENTS (continued)

Transliteration	Cyrillic	English
<i>Vypiska</i>	°ZB/F3'	Extract
<i>Prilozhenie k Diplomu</i>	AD4 @, >4 8* 4B @J	Attachment to the Diploma
<i>Sviditel'stvo o nepolnam vysshem obrazovanii</i>	E&4 4J: \FH@>, E@ >@ &ZT, < @D'Z@'>44	Certificate of Incomplete Higher Education
<i>Sviditel'stvo</i>	E&4 4J: \FH@	Certificate
<i>Spravka</i>	EBD'88'	Certificate / Transcript
<i>Academicheskaya spravka</i>	! 8* , <4R F3'bFED'88'	Academic Record
<i>Archivnaya spravka</i>	! DMB' 'bFED'88'	Archival Certificate /Record

POSTSECONDARY QUALIFICATIONS

Transliteration	Cyrillic	English
<i>Mladshii inzhiner</i>	; :!"T 464O, >, D	Junior engineer
<i>Inzhiner</i>	3>O, >, D	Engineer
<i>Bakalavr</i>	#'8: "8D'	Bachelor
<i>Magistr</i>	; "(4FD	Master
<i>Aspirant</i>	! FBD>H	Candidate for the Kandidat Nauk degree
<i>Kandidat Nauk</i>	7"> 4'H>'J8	Candidate of Sciences
<i>Doctor Nauk</i>) @8D'>'J8	Doctor of Sciences

INSTITUTION TYPES

Transliteration

Gymnasium (pl. gymnasia)

Lyceum (pl. lycei)

*Srednoe Professionalnoe Tekhnicheskoe
Uchilishche (SPTU)*

Tekhnikum

Uchilishche

*Professionalnoe Tekhnicheskoe Uchilishche
(PTU)*

Professionalnye Litsei

Kolledges / Kolledzh

Institut

Universitet

Vysshee uchebnoe zavedenie

Pedagogiicheskii institut

Pedagogiicheskie uchilishche

Konservatoria

Cyrillic

' Z<>' F4J<

94P, 6

ED* >@ ED@, FF4@'!: >@
H N 4R, F8@ R4 4V,

G N 4B<

I R4 4V,

AD@, FF4@'!: >@ H N 4R, F8@
R4 4V,

AD@, FF4@'!: >, : 4P, 6

7@: *O

3>F H H H

I >4, DFJ4 H

%ZFT,, JR, \$@ 2&* , >4

A, *"(@44R, F844 >F H H H

A, *"(@44R, F844JR4 4V,

7@F, D&H D4'

English

Secondary school

Secondary school

Secondary vocational/technical school

Specialized secondary school for technical
training

Specialized secondary school

Vocational/technical school

Technical lyceum

College

Institute

University

Institution of higher education

Tertiary-level pedagogical institute (teacher's
college)

Pedagogical school for nursery and primary
school teachers

Conservatory

GRADING

Transliteration

Otsenka

Otlichno

Khorosho

Udovletvoritelno

Neudovletvoritelno

Zachet

Cyrillic

??P, >8'

??H4R>@

MDT @

I * @ , HDH: \>@

=, J * @ , HDH: \>@

1'R,H

English

Grade, mark

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Credit

OTHER

Transliteration

Nachalnoe obrazovanie

Nachalnoe professionalnoe obrazovanie

Obrazovanie

Vysshee uchilishcha

Pedagog

Prepodavatel

Uchitel

Vospitatel

Vracha

Okonchil

Gosudarstvennyy

Cyrillic

= 'R': >@ @D'2R' >44

= 'R': >@ ED, FF4@ '': >@
@D'2R' >44

? \$D'2R' >44

%ZFT ,, JR4 4V''

A, *''(Q

ADBE@''&H: \

I R4H:

%@B4HH:

%DR'

?8@R4

' @J*'TH& >>Z6

English

Initial education

Initial Vocational education

Education / Schooling

Higher education *uchilishche*

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher (at primary level)

Medical doctor

Graduated / Completed

State

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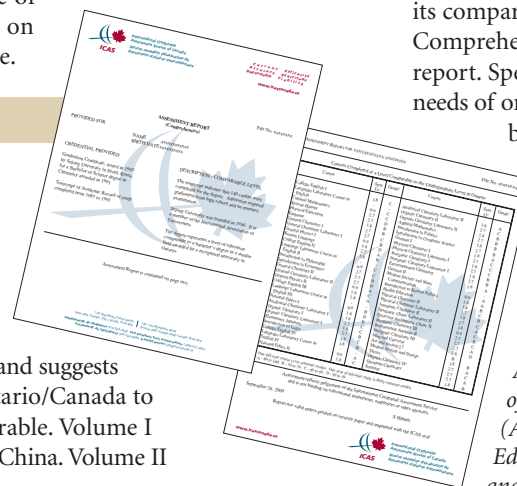
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