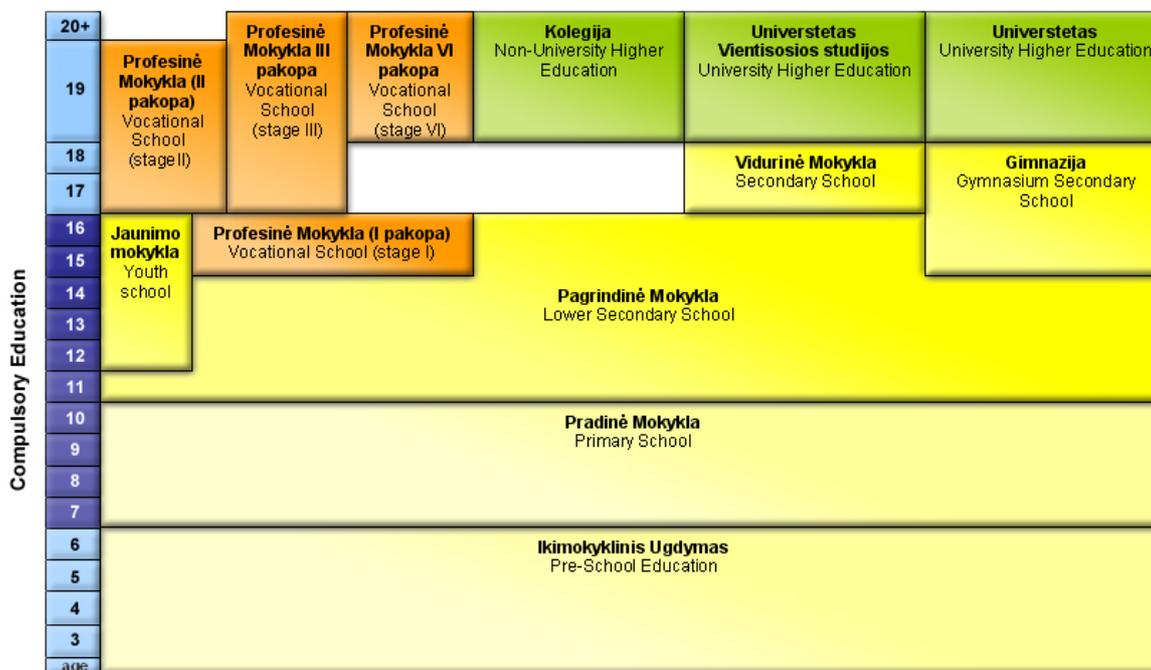


The educational system in Lithuania



From: http://www.fit-for-europe.info/webcom/show_page_ffee.php?wc_c=16127&wc_id=1

Explanation of the Lithuanian educational system

1. Pre-school	The pre-school programme is on offer for children aged from 5 to 6 at nursery schools, school nursery schools and primary school, is conducted by qualified teaching staff and is voluntary.
2. Primary and lower secondary school	School begins at the age of 6 - 7, ten class system for primary and lower secondary education. The 4-year primary school is followed by 6 years of basic education. If a pupil is successful in the final examination, this concludes with a basic education certificate (the equivalent of the intermediate school leaving certificate in Germany).
3. Upper secondary education	After completion of basic education, a two-year course of upper secondary education may be embarked upon. It is also possible to transfer to an upper secondary school upon completion of class 8, this school then continuing until class 12. In classes 11 and 12, pupils are permitted to select subjects in a targeted way in accordance with their personal interests and strengths.

<p>4. Vocational education and training</p>	<p>Vocational education and training can be completed in vocational schools by young people from the age of 14. The training comprises the imparting of both theoretical and practical knowledge. Four types of training programme are differentiated.</p> <p>Type 1 For young people from the age of 14 who have not gained a basic education leaving certificate which forms the basis of vocational education and training. This framework also affords the opportunity of gaining the lower secondary school leaving certificate.</p> <p>Type 2 3-year vocational education and training for those who have gained the basic education leaving certificate. They acquire a VET qualification (skilled worker status).</p> <p>Type 3 For those who have passed the upper secondary school leaving certificate, 1 to 2 years of vocational training</p> <p>Type 4 For those who have passed the upper secondary school leaving certificate, 3 to 4 year course of training comprising higher education and occupational qualification. Some modules correspond to Bachelor level, and credit for these may be transferred to a later course of higher education study.</p> <p>Vocational education and training, however, is not very popular with young Lithuanians, since it provides only limited knowledge which is no longer sufficient on the current labour market in the form is imparted. Many young people wish to obtain more knowledge about work within the private sector or about self-employment.</p>
<p>5. Higher education</p>	<p>Lithuania has academic (universities) and non-academic institutes of higher education (colleges). Students gain entry via selection procedures which mostly involve consideration being accorded to marks obtained in the upper secondary school leaving certificate. Higher education is based on the European credit system. The duration of the course of study leading to the acquisition of a Bachelor degree (basic higher education study) is 4 years. This can be followed by a one or two year vocational qualification diploma, such as a teaching qualification or a Masters degree which in turn can be followed by a doctorate.</p>