

Online Guide to

# Educational Systems



Around the World—Bangladesh



**NAFSA**

Association of  
International Educators

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# Instructions for Using the *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*

Susan Whipple, Editor

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These documents are updates to those in the 1999 publication *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* (which was an update to *The Handbook on the Placement of Foreign Graduate Students*, published in 1990 and colloquially known as the "Graduate Handbook.")

**It is important to note that these documents do not replace either of the earlier publications, which should be used for credentials issued prior to 1999, the period those publications cover.**

Readers familiar with the original version of *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* will note that these updates use the same format:

1. Each of these publications provides lists of credentials and other data that can be used both for undergraduate and graduate admissions.
2. "Advice for admissions officers" is intentionally not provided. We have attempted to avoid all types of subjective interpretation, relying instead on objective data. Users of these updates should use the information provided in conjunction with other resources to determine their own placement recommendations and possibility of transfer credit. Questions about credentials can be posted on the Admission and Credential Evaluation discussion forum on the Recruitment, Admissions, and Preparation Knowledge Community Web site:  
[http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge\\_community\\_network.sec/recruitment\\_admissions/admissions\\_and\\_credential/forums](http://www.nafsa.org/knowledge_community_network.sec/recruitment_admissions/admissions_and_credential/forums).

Please note that these updates should be supplemented by additional written materials that describe complete foreign educational systems, including data on specific institutions, and by professional training in the theory and practice of credential evaluation. Many of these resources are available from NAFSA, either as printed publications or on-line. The need for institution support for budgetary resources and training for undergraduate and graduate admissions personnel remains important, regardless of the increased availability of resources on the Web.

These publications were compiled by many authors using a standardized template and style. Although minor variations among entries do occur, the basic guidelines are explained as follows:

## Educational Ladder

1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2  
1 - 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |  
A B B

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The year or half-year at which a credential is awarded is the point at which the corresponding credential letter is placed. In the example above, credential A is awarded after the 9th year of education. Note that the corresponding letter is placed directly below the number 9.

All *normal* possibilities of the total number of years of education that a credential might require are indicated on the ladder. This occurs for credential B, in which the credential can be awarded after either 12 or 13 total years of education. An explanation is provided in the description of the credential whenever a letter appears on the ladder more than once. There are a few cases when this multiple-listing style was not used; in these cases, there are explanatory comments.

An arrow (→) is used after a credential letter in cases where no maximum length of study for a particular program is specified, or where the study time is open-ended. For example, a doctor of philosophy degree program may require a minimum of three years of enrollment. The corresponding credential letter with an arrow will appear under the minimum number of total years of education required to earn the Ph.D.

## Explanations About Documents

Credentials are divided into two categories: secondary and postsecondary. The decision to include the credential under one or the other category is not a subjective one—a credential is determined to be either secondary or postsecondary according to its designation by the country of origin, regardless of how individual institutions might perceive the level (and recommend transfer credit).

Numerical endnotes, placed directly after the complete list of credentials, are used when a lengthy explanation about a credential is necessary.

## Foreign Terms and Words

Foreign terms are used whenever possible, and are translated literally, in most cases. Literal translations are used to avoid subjectivity. We have attempted to be consistent with translations across languages, though readers may notice some differences between countries because of preferences indicated by the submitters. Credential evaluators and admissions personnel should always rely on official foreign language documents, using translations only as guides.

## Grading Information

Only the most common grading scales used in each country are listed. Evaluators understand that variations in grading are common and that one should always consult the grading information that may be provided on official transcripts. Rather than making grade equivalency statements, the submitter(s) of the update provided information regarding grading practices within the countries.

# BANGLADESH

## YEARS OF EDUCATION →

1→6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$		$\frac{1}{2}$
A	D	E		J	L	Q	X	b	g	h	j	k→	k→	m→	m→	m→				
B		F		K	M	R	Y	c		i	k→									
C		G			N	S	Z	d			l									
		H			O	T	a	e												
		I			P	U		f												
						V														
						W														

## CREDENTIALS OR DOCUMENTATION

### Secondary

- A *Secondary School Certificate* awarded by the Boards of Intermediate and Secondary Education
- B *Secondary School Certificate (Vocational)* awarded by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board
- C *Dhakhil Examination* awarded by the Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board
- D *Certificate... in Graphic Arts, Secretarial Science or Education*, requires credential A for admission
- E *Higher Secondary Certificate* awarded by the Boards of Intermediate and Secondary Education
- F *Higher Secondary Certificate (Vocational) and Higher Secondary Certificate (Business Management)* awarded by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board
- G *Certificate in Agriculture*, requires credential A for admission
- H *Diploma... in Commerce, Forestry, or Vocational Teacher Education*, requires credential A for admission
- I *Alim Examination* awarded by the Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board
- J *Diplomas* in the field of agriculture, architectural engineering, automobile engineering, ceramic technology, chemical engineering, civil engineering, computer science technology, electrical engineering, electronics engineering, food science, graphic design, mechanical engineering, power technology, surveying and telecommunications; four-year program based on credential A
- K *Bachelor of...Arts (Pass), Commerce (Pass), Science (Pass), Social Science (Pass)*: two-year programs requiring credential E or equivalent for admission
- L *Diploma in Nursing*: three-year program requiring credential E for admission
- M *Diploma in Technical Teacher Education*: one-year program, requiring credential J for admission
- N *Bachelor of...Arts (Honours), Business Studies (Honours), Commerce (Honours), Science (Honours), Social Science (Honours)*: three-year programs requiring credential E or equivalent for admission
- O *Bachelor of...Arts (Pass), Business Studies (Pass), Commerce (Pass), Science (Pass), Social Science (Pass)*: three-year programs requiring credential E or equivalent for admission

- P *Bachelor of Agricultural Education*: three-year program requiring credential E or equivalent for admission
- Q *Bachelor of Science in...Technical Education or Engineering*: two-year program requiring credential J for
- R *Bachelor of Education*: one- or two-year program requiring credentials K, N or O for admission
- S *Fazil Examination* awarded by the Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board, requiring credential I for admission
- T Bachelor's degree in the fields of business administration, engineering disciplines, education, pharmacy, agriculture, law, science, social sciences, commerce, arts, fine arts, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, health technology, home economics, urban and regional planning, library and information science, public health and public administration: four-year (Honours) degrees requiring credential E or equivalent for admission
- U *Bachelor of Physical Education*: one-year program requiring credentials N or O for admission
- V *Bachelor of Science in Nursing or Public Health Nursing*: two-year program requiring credential L for admission
- W *Doctor of Veterinary Medicine*: four-year program requiring credential E or equivalent for admission
- X Master's degrees in the fields of business administration, commerce, science, social science, arts, fine arts, development studies, bank management, public health, urban and regional planning, public administration, human rights, library and information science, pharmacy, law, and English language teaching: one-year program requiring credential T or two-year program requiring credential N or O
- Y Master's degree in an engineering disciplines or water resources development: one-year degree requiring credential T in an engineering discipline for admission
- Z Bachelor's degree in the fields of architecture, dental surgery (Bachelor of Dental Surgery), or medicine (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery/M.B.B.S.), Unani medicine, or Ayurvedic medicine: five-year programs requiring credentials E or J for admission
- a *Master of Education*: one-year program requiring credential R, T or U for admission
- b Master's degree in the fields of agricultural economics, agricultural engineering, agricultural extension education, animal husbandry, fisheries: two-year programs requiring credential T in an agricultural discipline for admission
- c *Kamil Examination* awarded by the Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board, requiring credential S for admission
- d Diploma in medical specialties: one-year programs requiring credential Z (M.B.B.S.) for admission
- e *Master of Fine Arts*: two-year program requiring credential X for admission
- f *Master of Architecture*: one-year program requiring credential Z for admission
- g Master's degree in veterinary sciences: one and one-half years requiring credential W for admission
- h *Master of Medical Education*: two-year program requiring credential Z for admission
- i *Master of Philosophy*: two-year program requiring credential X or Z for admission
- j *Master of Surgery and Doctor of Medicine*: three-year program requiring credential Z for admission

- k Doctor of Philosophy: three or four-year program requiring credential X, Y, Z, b and i for admission
- l Doctor of Laws: three-year program requiring credential X for admission
- m *Doctor of Literature and Doctor of Science*: three-year programs requiring credential k for admission

## GRADING SCALE

### Secondary:

Letter Grade	The Class Interval of Marks	Grade Point
A+	80 - 100	5.00
A	70 - 79	4.00
A-	60 - 69	3.50
B	50 - 59	3.00
C	40 - 49	2.00
D	33 - 39	1.00
F	0 - 32	0.00

### Postsecondary Education:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Grade Point
A+	80 - 100	4.0
A	75 - 79	3.75
A-	70 - 74	3.5
B+	65 - 69	3.25
B	60 - 64	3.0
B-	55 - 59	2.75
C+	50 - 54	2.5
C	45 - 49	2.0
D	40 - 44	1.0
F	0 - 39	0.0

## **SECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNITION BODY:**

Ministry of Education  
Intermediate and Secondary Education Boards, Bangladesh  
Web site: <http://site.educationboard.gov.bd/index.php>

## **POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNITION BODY:**

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh  
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207 Bangladesh  
Web site: <http://www.ugc.gov.bd/>

## **RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Ministry of Education, Bangladesh  
Govt. of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh - Ministry of Education.  
Building # 6, Floor # 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>,  
Bangladesh Secretariat,  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh  
Web site: <http://www.moedu.gov.bd/index.php>

UNESCO – World Academic Database:  
Website: <http://www.unesco.org/iau/onlinedatabases/index.html>

National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition. 2007. *Country Education Profiles: Bangladesh*. Canberra: Australian Government Publishing Service.

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