

Online Guide to

Educational Systems



Around the World—Papua New Guinea



NAFSA

Association of
International Educators

Submitted by Kathleen Freeman

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For more information about NAFSA, visit www.nafsa.org.

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

Susan Whipple, Editor

May 2011

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: <http://www.nafsa.org/aceforums>. For information on how to subscribe to the network, please visit www.nafsa.org/networksubscribe.

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 - 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
 ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½ ½
 A B B

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.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

YEARS OF EDUCATION →

1→6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		A		B		C	E	E	G	G	M	N	R	Y	Y	Z		
						D	F		H	O	P	Q	Y		a			
									I			R			b			
									J			S						
									K			T						
									L			U						
												V						
												W						
												X						
												Y						

CREDENTIALS OR DOCUMENTATION

Secondary

- A *Certificate of Basic Education*: awarded after completion of 8 years of primary school
- B *Secondary School Certificate*: 2 years of study requiring credential **A** for admission
- C *Technical Training Certificate*: 2 years of vocational study requiring credential **B** for admission
- D *Higher School Certificate*: 2 years of study requiring credential **B** for admission

Postsecondary

- E *Certificate*: 1 - 2 semesters of post-secondary study requiring credential **D** for admission
- F *Diploma in Education from the University of Goroka*: 1 year of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- G *Diploma*: 2 - 3 years of university study requiring credential **D** for admission
- H *Diploma in Primary Teaching*: 3 years of teacher training requiring credential **D** for admission (at one time, credential **B** was required for admission)
- I *Diploma in Secondary Teaching*: 3 years of teacher training requiring credential **D** for admission (at one time, credential **B** was required for admission; last offered in the late 1990s; prior to 1989 it was a 2-year program)
- J *Diploma in Health Science*: 3 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- K *Diploma in Nursing*: 3 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- L *Bachelor of Technology*: 3 years of study at the University of Technology requiring credential **D** for admission (last awarded in the early 1980s)
- M *Bachelor of Education*: 4 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- N *Bachelor of Education (In-Service)*: 2 years of study requiring credentials **H** or **I** for admission
- O *Bachelor's degree*: 4 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission or 1 year of study requiring 3-year credential **G** for admission
- P *Bachelor of Nursing*: 1 year of study requiring credential **K** for admission
- Q *Bachelor's (Honours)*: 1 year of study requiring credential **O** for admission
- R *Bachelor of Education with Honours*: 1 year of study requiring credentials **M** or **N** for admission

- S *Bachelor's in architecture, building, forestry, law, or medicine*: 5 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- T *Diploma in Applied Physics from the University of Technology*: 5 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- U *Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)*: 5 years of study requiring credential **D** for admission
- V *Graduate Diploma*: 1 year of study requiring credential **O** for admission
- W *Postgraduate Diploma*: 1 year of study in a professional field requiring credential **O** for admission
- X *Postgraduate Diploma in Education*: 1 year of study requiring credential **O** for admission
- Y *Master's degree*: 1 – 3 years of study requiring credential **M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T** or **U** for admission
- Z *Higher Postgraduate Diploma*: 2 years of study in a medical specialty requiring credential **Y** for admission
- a *Doctor of Philosophy*: 3 years of research plus defense of a dissertation requiring credential **Y** for admission
- b *Doctor of Medicine*: 3 years of research plus defense of a dissertation requiring credential **Y** for admission

GRADING SCALES

Secondary

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Very Good
- 3 Good
- 4 Highly Satisfactory
- 5 Satisfactory
- 6 Sufficient
- 7 Fair
- 8 Fair
- 9 Fair

Postsecondary

- First Class Honours
- Second Class Honours, Upper Division
- Second Class Honours, Lower Division
- Third Class Honours
- Pass

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNITION BODY

Papua New Guinea Office of Higher Education: <http://www.ohe.gov.pg/>

Ministry of Education and Culture
 Free Mail Bag
 Boroko
 PAPUA NEW GUINEA
 Telephone: 675 27 2338

RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Print

Carpenter, Kenneth. *Pacific Islands: Niue, Tonga, Kiribati, Fiji, Papua New Guinea*. Washington, DC: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officer. 1996.

Feagles, Shelley (editor). *A Guide To Educational System Around the World*. Washington, DC: NAFSA: Association of International Educators, 1999.

On-line

“A National Plan for Education 2005 – 2014”:

http://www.pm.gov.pg/images/APPROVED_PNGNEP2005-2014.pdf

Australian Education International Country Education Profiles (subscription required):

<http://www.aei.gov.au/CEP/Asia-Pacific/Papua-New-Guinea/Pages/default.aspx>

List of institutes of higher education: <http://www.ohe.gov.pg/index.php/web-link/institues-of-higher-education.html>

Papua New Guinea Office of Higher Education: <http://www.ohe.gov.pg/>

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