

Online Guide to

Educational Systems



Around the World—Zambia



NAFSA

Association of
International Educators

Submitted by Martha Van Devender

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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 |
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.

ZAMBIA

YEARS OF EDUCATION →

1→6	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$				
	A	B				C	E	I	O	P	U	V	X	Z	Y	Z	b	d	e	e	e	e	f
						D	F	J	Q	R	W	Y	a	c									
							G	K	R				b										
							H	L	S														
								M	T														
								N															

CREDENTIALS OR DOCUMENTATION

Primary and Secondary

- A Primary School Leaving Certificate: signifies end of compulsory education
- B Junior Secondary School Leaving Certificate
- C General Certificate of Education¹
- D School Certificate

Postsecondary

- E Pre-School Teacher's Certificate: one-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- F Certificate in Adult Education: one-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- G Certificate² (Accounting Technician, Computer Studies, Computer Systems Engineering): one-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- H Diploma (Mine Survey Technology, Mining Metallurgy, Mining Technology): one-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- I Primary School Teacher's Certificate: two-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- J Diploma in Junior Secondary Education³: two-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- K Diploma in Adult Education: one-year program requiring credential **F** for admission
- L Zambia Enrolled Nurse Certificate⁴: two-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission

¹ To earn the General Certificate of Education (Credential **C**) or the School Certificate (Credential **D**), a student must earn a grade of eight or higher in at least six subjects.

² The technical education and vocational training sector in Zambia is very strong, but flexible. Institutions have variable program lengths and admission requirements for programs with the same name. When dealing with a specific program that leads to credentials **G**, **H**, **M**, **N**, **O**, **S**, **T**, or **U**, the program should be researched independently as they frequently change. This update includes programs from both universities and major training institutions, but it does not represent an exhaustive list of the technical and vocational qualifications in Zambia.

³ This program has alternated between two and three years in duration depending on need and teacher college capacity. The current duration is two years.

⁴ The Zambia Enrolled Nursing program has only recently started to require credential **C** or **D** for admission. Implementation of this policy has occurred at different rates at the various enrolled nursing schools.

- M** Craft Certificate (Automotive Mechanics, Bricklaying and Plastering, Carpentry and Joinery, Fashion and Design, Food Production, General Agriculture, Hotel and Catering Management, Human Resources Management, Mechanical Fitting, Metal Fabrication, Office Equipment Repair, Power Mechanics, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning): two-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- N** Diploma (Art, Business Administration, Community Development, Economics, Insurance Studies, Library Studies, Management Studies, Marketing, Printing Technology, Radiography, Secretarial Studies, Special Education): two-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- O** Advanced Certificate (Automotive Technician, Construction, Electrical Technician, Electronics, Food Production Technician, Heavy Equipment Repair Technician, Industrial Science, Industrial Technician, Metal Fabrication, Mine Surveying, Mining Technician, Mining Metallurgy, Small Scale Mining, Telecommunication, Ventilation Technology): two and one-half year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- P** Advanced Diploma in Junior Secondary Education: one-year program requiring credential **J** for admission
- Q** Zambia Registered Nurse Diploma: three-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- R** Zambia Enrolled Midwife Certificate: one-year program requiring credential **L** for admission
- S** Diploma (Accounting, Aeronautical Engineering, Aircraft Maintenance Technology, Animal Science, Architecture, Art, Business Administration, Civil Engineering Computer Studies, Crop Science, Electronics Technology, Environmental Health Forestry, General Agriculture, Hotel Management, Journalism, Land Surveying, Marketing, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory, Music, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Production Management, Social Work, Telecommunication): three-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- T** Higher Diploma (Electronics, Industrial Electronics, Industrial Science, Telecommunications Technology): three-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- U** Diploma (Electrical Technology, Mechanical Technology): three and one-half year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- V** Zambia Registered Midwife Certificate: one-year program requiring credential **Q** for admission
- W** Bachelor's Degree (Accounting/Accountancy, Agriculture, Arts, Arts with Education, Arts with Library and Information Studies, Business Administration, Commerce, Computer Studies, Economics, Education, Environmental Studies, Horticultural Science, Human Biology, Human Resource Management, Laws, Mass Communication, Public Administration, Science, Science in Nursing, Science with Education, Social Work): four-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- X** Bachelor's Degree (Agricultural Sciences, Architecture, Engineering, Information Technology, Mineral Sciences, Mining Science, Science): five-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission
- Y** Postgraduate Diploma (Computer Studies, Construction Management, Counselling, Human Rights Law, International Law, Public Health, Teaching): one-year program requiring credential **W** or **X** for admission
- Z** Master's Degree (Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Peace and Conflict Studies, Philosophy, Science): one and one-half year program requiring credential **W** or **X** for admission
- a** Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine: six-year program requiring credential **C** or **D** for admission

- b Master's Degree (Arts, Education, Engineering, Laws, Mass Communication, Mineral Sciences, Public Administration, Public Health, Science): two-year program requiring credential **W** or **X** for admission
- c Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS): three-year program requiring credential **W** (Human Biology) for admission
- d Master of Veterinary Medicine: two-year program requiring credential **a** for admission
- e Doctor of Philosophy: three-year program requiring credential **Z** or **b** for admission
- f Master of Medicine: four-year program requiring credential **c** for admission

GRADING SCALES

Secondary

<u>Numerical</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	A	Distinction
2	A-	Distinction
3	B+	Merit
4	B-	Merit
5	C+	Credit
6	C-	Credit
7	D+	Satisfactory
8	D-	Satisfactory
9	F	Unsatisfactory / Fail

Postsecondary

University of Zambia:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	Distinction
A	Distinction
B+	Meritorious
B	Very Satisfactory
S	Satisfactory
C+	Definite Pass
P	Pass
C	Bare Pass
CP	Compensatory Pass
D+	Bare Fail
D	Clear Fail
E	Worthless

POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION RECOGNITION BODY

Ministry of Education
PO Box 50093
Lusaka
Zambia
Phone: +260 211 250 855
Fax: +260 211 250 760
Email: moeinformation@moe.gov.zm
<http://www.moe.gov.zm/>

- responsible for university education

Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training
PO Box 50464
Lusaka
Zambia
Phone: +260 211 252 053 / 252 099
Fax: +260 211 252 951 / 252 954
<http://www.mstvt.gov.zm/>

- responsible for some technical training institutions

Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (TEVETA)
Plot 4751 Birdcage Walk, Longacres
Private Bag RW16X
Lusaka
Zambia
Phone: +260 211 251 040 / 253 331-4 / 253 211
Fax: +260 211 253 382
E-Mail: teveta@teveta.org.zm
<http://www.teveta.org.zm/>

- responsible for most technical training institutions

RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Print

Association of Commonwealth Universities. *Commonwealth Universities Handbook*. 82nd edition. London: Association of Commonwealth Universities, 2008.

British Council. *Education Profile: Zambia*. London: British Council, 1980.

International Association of Universities. *Guide to Higher Education in Africa*. Vol. 5, New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

International Nursing Foundation of Japan. *Nursing in the World: The Facts, Needs and Prospects*. Tokyo: International Nursing Foundation of Japan, 2008.

O'Neill, Holly A. *Zambia*. Washington, DC: American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, 1995.

On-line

Examinations Council of Zambia: <http://www.exams.co.zm/>

University of Zambia: <http://www.unza.zm/>

Copperbelt University: <http://www.cbu.edu.zm/>

Southern African Regional Universities Association:
<http://www.sarua.org/?q=Zambia>

Australia Education International Country Education Profiles – Zambia
(current profile available by subscription):
<http://www.aei.gov.au/CEP/Africa/Zambia/Pages/default.aspx>

Submitted by

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