

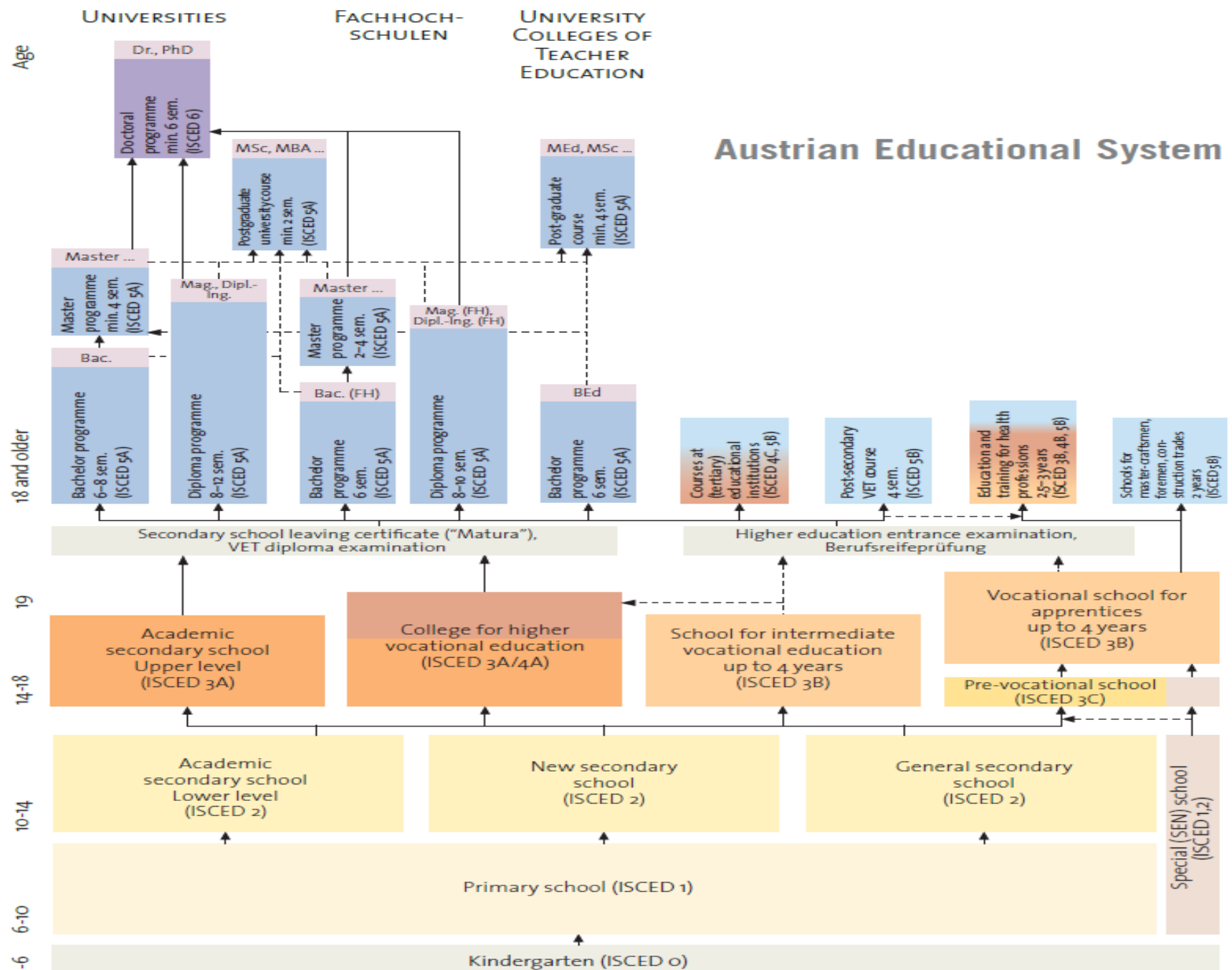


Austria



A U S T R I A

- Federal government – 9 provinces
- 8,3 million inhabitants
- ~ 800.000 children in compulsory education
(grades 1 – 9 until age 15)
- 3 % of school population labeled as
“DISABLED” (~ 24.000 children)
- 2/3 = slow learners/learning difficulties
- 1/3 = sensory, physical or mental disabilities
- (Province of STYRIA: ~ 1,3 million inhabitants)



Education System in Austria

Basic Information

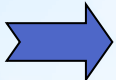
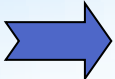
- **Compulsory schooling** starts on the first of September following the **child's sixth birthday**.
- **Children**, who celebrate their sixth birthday between September 1 (start of the academic year) and December 31, ***may start primary school prematurely***, provided they are mentally and physically mature enough to follow lessons.



Education System in Austria

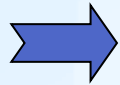
Basic Information

Compulsory education

- START  either with a pre-school year
or four years of elementary
school
- Years 5 to 8:  a lower secondary school or
the lower level of a secondary
academic school or
a senior special needs school.

Education System in Austria

The 9th year



pre-vocational year
a secondary academic
school
a technical and vocational
school or college.

Pupils may choose among a variety of secondary academic, technical and vocational schools and colleges.

Education System in Austria

Basic Information

- School attendance **compulsory for all children**, who permanently live in Austria.
- Compulsory education lasts for **nine years**.
- Pupils are free to choose whether to attend a state school (free of charge) or a private school.

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Education System in Austria

General Education

- Pupils are grouped together in classes according to their age.
- Lessons held by form masters supported by special teachers if necessary.
- Integrated/inclusive education - children with and without special needs learning together with or without adapted curricula.
- Special needs schools as a further educational facility
- All - day - schools = education and leisure activities from 08.00 till 16.00

Education System in Austria

Lower Secondary School gives a

- a basic general education within a four-year period to prepare pupils for working life and for transfer to upper-secondary schools.
- Special attention is given to the interests, skills and abilities of the individual pupils.
- In the 3rd and 4th year much attention is given to prepare pupils for their further educational and vocational career.
- The subject "careers guidance" , practical training sessions in companies, as well as educational visits to companies have an important place in the education.

Education System in Austria

Lower Secondary School

School autonomy:

- schools can introduce their own modified curricula.
- specialize in certain areas such as modern foreign languages, sports, fine arts, science and technology, ecology, computer science etc.
- orientation towards sports or musical education.

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Compulsory Electives

From the sixth year onwards students may set their own priorities by choosing compulsory electives which meet their individual interests and skills. Depending on the chosen school type students have to choose a certain number of compulsory electives (8 to 12 hours).

Compulsory electives are either offered in the form of additional subjects (e.g. a further foreign language or computer science) or are designed to deepen and broaden knowledge and skills already acquired in compulsory subjects. Compulsory electives are assessed on the same basis as compulsory subjects.

Education System in Austria

"Reifeprüfung"-Certificate

- The "Reifeprüfung"-Certificate is a school-leaving certificate which provides access to studies at institutes of higher education.
- Emphasis on reality-oriented studying, independent working, interdisciplinarity and on foreign languages.
- The subjects in which the students have to sit an exam differ according to the school type.
- Each student, however, has to do a written exam in the core subjects of German, mathematics and foreign language. Students who opt for a fourth written exam only have to do three oral exams, all others have to do four.

Education System in Austria

Models of Integrated Education

Integration classes

Children with SEN are taught in regular classes by a team of teachers (primary, lower secondary and special needs teachers).

Special tutor classes

According to their respective special needs children are given additional lessons by a special needs teacher within the framework of conventional school classes.

Education System in Austria

Models of Integrated Education

Special Needs School

Special needs schools designed to educate children with special needs education,

and

to prepare them for integration into the world of work.