



**NAFSA :**  
**Association of International Educators**  
**Region III Conference 2017**  
**San Antonio**

**Monday, Oct. 16: Block III: 3:15 PM to 4:30 PM:**

***Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India,  
Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam***

**Principal Presenter: Hany Arafat**  
**President and Senior Evaluator**

**Co-Presenter: Barbara B. Glave**  
**Researcher and Senior Evaluator**

**SDR Educational Consultants, Inc.**  
**Houston, Texas**  
**[www.sdreducational.org](http://www.sdreducational.org)**

**SDR** | EVALUATIONS  
TRANSLATIONS



INDIA

## YEARS OF EDUCATION

Based on the National Policy on Education of 1986, implemented by late 1980's.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					A			B		C		E	I	
										D		F	J	
												G		
												H		

A = Primary (lower primary) school, 5 years

B = Upper primary school (middle school), 3 years

**Note 1:** Credentials A + B comprise elementary school (Classes 1 to 8).

**Note 2:** According to the 2009 Right to Education Act, elementary school is free and compulsory for all children ages 6 to 14; as this act has not yet been fully implemented, some children still do not access to adequate education.

C = Secondary School, 2 years (Classes 9 and 10)

**Note 3:** Secondary School is sometimes called High School but refers to a total of ten, not twelve, years of schooling.

D = Students who pass Class 10 may “sit” for Secondary School Examinations through state boards and national (All-India) testing bodies which conduct “external” examinations, usually in 5 or 6 major subjects. Minor subjects (e.g., art and P.E.) are graded via “internal” school assessments. Up to 2 failed subjects may be retested. Success on Class 10 examinations leads to the Secondary School Certificate which, depending on the testing entity, may also be called a Secondary School Leaving Certificate, Anglo-Indian High School Examination Certificate, All-India Secondary School Certificate, Matriculation Examination (Certificate), Indian Certificate of Secondary Education and Delhi Secondary School Certificate.

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

**Note 4:** Completion of secondary education (Class 10) affords several options to students: They may seek employment or seek further study; the latter may be academic (upper-secondary) or vocational-technical.

E = Higher Secondary School, 2 years (Classes 11 and 12)

**Note 5:** Higher Secondary School is sometimes called Senior Secondary. Historically, some states have used other names, such as Intermediate, Pre-University, Pre-Degree or even Junior College.

**Note 6:** Based on the 2000 National Curriculum Framework, HSS devotes some 40% of instructional time to foundation courses and some 60% to elective courses. Foundation courses are compulsory: Language and Literature, Work Education, Health and P.E. Elective courses are selected from among modern and classical languages, pure and applied math, natural sciences, physical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, business, and visual and performing arts, among others.

F = Students who pass Class 12 may “sit” for Higher Secondary Examinations through state boards and national (All-India) testing bodies which conduct “external” examinations, which may vary according to the testing entity. Success on Class 12 exams leads to the Higher Secondary Certificate which, depending on the testing entity, may also be called an All-India Senior Secondary Certificate, Indian School Certificate, Senior Secondary Certificate, Intermediate Examination Certificate, Pre-Degree Examination Certificate, Pre-University Examination Certificate, and (All-India) Higher Secondary Examination Part II, among others.

G = Higher Secondary Stage Vocational Education (2 years or PT equivalent)

**Note 7:** Based on the 2000 National Curriculum Framework, HSSVE devotes some 30% of instruction to general foundation courses including languages, and some 70% to vocational streams such as agricultural, business / commerce, engineering and technology, health / paramedical services, home sciences, humanities, and informatics / communications.

H = Students who pass Higher Secondary Stage Vocational Education may “sit” for external testing through a state board or All-India board. The Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations offers examinations leading to the Certificate of Vocational Education – Year 12.

I = Technical education below the degree level (post Class 10)

**Note 8:** Education at this level is conducted mainly by polytechnics and comes under the auspices of the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Admissions criteria and program curricula are determined by the State Councils or Boards of Technical Education. Programs of study and

### Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam

training include applied arts, architecture, computer applications, electronics, engineering and technology, hotel management and catering technology, medical lab technology, and pharmacy technology, among others. Further information is available at [www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org).

- J = Students who pass higher-secondary technical education may “sit” for tests through the State Councils or Boards of Technical Education which administer and confer diplomas. Such diplomas in engineering and technology are considered benchmark as they qualify bearers to seek higher education as well as employment. For example, many Indian universities admit diploma-holders to the second year of undergraduate degree programs or to special part-time degree programs. For further information, see the Universities Handbook of the Association of Indian Universities ([www.aiu.ac.in](http://www.aiu.ac.in)); individual institutional descriptions indicate degree programs available for diploma-holders.

#### Suggested resources

- AACRAO: *Electronic Database for Global Education / EDGE*; updated periodically (subscription required).
- AACRAO: *Foreign Educational Credentials Required for Consideration of Admission to Universities and Colleges in the United States*, Fourth Edition, 1994; Fifth Edition, 2003.
- Australian National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) *Country Education Profiles: India*, 1992 and 1996.
- ForeignCredits: Classbase Online Database; updated periodically free and subscription-based content.
- *International Handbook of Universities*, Macmillan and Palgrave; updated periodically.
- IQAS / International Qualifications Assessment Service of Alberta: *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Republic of India*, 2007, revised 2016.
- NAFSA: *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, 1999 (in print and CD).
- NAFSA: *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World: India*, 2010
- NUFFIC: *Country Module India*, 2009.
- NUFFIC: *Education System India*, 2015.
- PIER / AACRAO / NAFSA publications on India: 1966, 1971, 1973, 1986, 1998.
- *Universities Handbook*, India, Association of Indian Universities; updated periodically
- *World Data on Education: India*, UNESCO-IBE, VI edition, 2006-07; and VII edition, 2010-11.



# NIGERIA

## YEARS OF EDUCATION

Based on the National Policy on Education of 2004

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
						A			B			D		
									C			E		
												F		

- A = Primary (lower basic) education, 6 years, legislated as universal, free and compulsory, culminating in the Primary School Leaving Certificate.
- B = Junior secondary education, legislated as compulsory and free (though often associated with costs) and requiring 10 to 13 subjects.  
**Note 1:** Beginning with 2008, a 9-year basic education curriculum (BEC) is being implemented by NERDC, the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council. Starting with 2015, students will study 10 subjects.
- C = Students who pass junior secondary school take examinations to receive the Junior School Certificate of Certificate of Basic Education administered by the states. In addition, NECO, the National Examinations Council provides some testing.
- D = Senior secondary education, officially ages 15 to 17.  
**Note 2:** Under the reform system, students must study 6 core subjects [English, mathematics, major Nigerian language (Igbo, Hausa or Yoruba); natural science (physics, chemistry or biology); literature in English, geography or history; and agricultural science or a vocational subject].  
**Note 3:** As of 2011, NERDC, the Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council, is implementing a new senior secondary curriculum. Students study 4 compulsory subjects and 4 to 5 electives: Compulsory subjects are English, math, civic education, and trade/entrepreneurship; electives are humanities, science and further mathematics, technology and business studies. Detailed information is found at <http://nerdc.org.ng/>.

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

- E = Students who pass senior secondary school take examinations to receive the West African Senior School Certificate (WASSC) conducted by the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) or to receive Senior School Certificate (SSC) conducted by the National Examinations Council (NECO).  
**Note 4:** WAEC requires students to pass examinations in 6 core subjects (including English and math) and 2 to 3 electives to earn the WASSC; results can be verified online at [www.waecdirect.org](http://www.waecdirect.org) with a scratch card which students purchase.  
**Note 5:** NECO requires students to pass examinations in 6 core subjects (including English and math) and 2 to 3 electives to earn the SSC; results can be verified online at [www.mynecoexams.com/results/default.aspx](http://www.mynecoexams.com/results/default.aspx) with a result card which students purchase.
- F = Nigerian vocational-technical programs at the upper-secondary level focus on workforce skills and preparation to seek employment upon completion. Programs require 3 years of theoretical and practical training beyond the Junior School Certificate or equivalent (9<sup>th</sup> grade) and lead to the National Technical Certificate or National Business Certificate.  
**Note 6:** The NTC and NBC are not benchmark credentials which lead to university admissions in Nigeria. HEI's in the US are cautioned not to consider said certificates as equivalent to the West African Senior School Certificate from WAEC or Senior School Certificate from NECO.

### Suggested resources

- AACRAO: *Electronic Database for Global Education / EDGE*; updated periodically (subscription required).
- AACRAO: *Foreign Educational Credentials Required for Consideration of Admission to Universities and Colleges in the United States*, Fourth Edition, 1994; Fifth Edition, 2003.
- AACRAO: Margolis, Alan M., Nigeria. *Study of the Educational System of Nigeria and Guide to the Academic Placement of Students in Educational Institutions in the United States*, 1977.
- Australian National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) *Country Education Profiles: Nigeria*, 1993.
- ForeignCredits: Classbase Online Database; updated periodically (free and subscription-based content).
- International Association of Universities: *Guide to Education in Africa*, 2010.
- *International Handbook of Universities*, Macmillan and Palgrave; updated periodically.
- IQAS / International Qualifications Assessment Service of Alberta: *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Federal Republic of Nigeria*, 2010, revised 2016.
- NAFSA: *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, 1999 (in print and CD).
- NAFSA: *Admissions wRAP-UP Newsletter*, March, 2009: *Featured Country: Nigeria*.
- NAFSA: *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World: Nigeria*, 2009.
- NUFFIC: *Country Module Nigeria*, 2009; NUFFIC: *Education System Nigeria*, 2015.
- Teferra and Altbach, editors: *African Higher Education: An International Reference Handbook*. Indiana University Press, 2003.
- *World Data on Education: Nigeria*, UNESCO-IBE, VI edition, 2006-07; and VII edition, 2010-11.
- World Education News and Reviews: *Education in Nigeria*, July, 2013.



## PAKISTAN

### YEARS OF EDUCATION

Based on the National Education Policies of 1998-2010 and of 2009

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					A			B		D		F	H	
								C		E		G	I	

A = Primary (lower primary) school, 5 years, ages 5 to 9

Note 1: The Pakistani government intended to achieve free compulsory education by 2015; successful implementation is not known at this time.

B = Middle School Education, 3 years, ages 10 to 12, Grades 6 to 8. Urdu is the language of instruction and constitutes one of the main subjects; the rest are English, a regional language (such as Arabic or Farsi), math, science, Pakistani or social studies, and Islamiyat (for Muslims) or ethics (for non-Muslims)

Note 2: The Pakistani government intends to integrate Credentials A + B (Grades 1 to 8) into one stage called elementary education.

C = Middle Standard Certificate Examinations conducted at the district level.

D = Secondary School, 2 years, ages 13 and 14, Grades 9 and 10. Urdu is the the language of instruction and constitutes one of the compulsory subjects; the rest are English, Pakistani studies and Islamiyat. Students choose two additional subjects, depending on whether they study in the science group or general group (which includes several streams such as commercial, agricultural, and industrial).

E = Students who pass Grade 10 may sit for the Secondary School Certificate through the Federal Board or State Boards of Intermediate and Secondary Education or Boards of Technical Education to earn the Secondary School

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

Certificate or Matriculation Certificate. Up to 2 failed subjects may be retested. Grace marks (a few extra points) may be awarded as a condoned pass.

**Note 3:** Completion of secondary education (Grade 10) affords several options to students: They may seek employment or may seek further study; the latter may be academic (upper-secondary) or vocational-technical.

F = Higher Secondary School, 2 years, ages 15 and 16, Grades 11 and 12. Urdu, the language of instruction, constitutes one of the compulsory subjects (replaced by Pakistan culture if the student is foreign); the rest are English, Pakistani studies and Islamic Education (or civics for non-Muslims). Students choose three additional subjects, depending on their chosen track [humanities or science (general, pre-engineering or pre-medical)] and the corresponding Scheme of Studies (e.g., 2007),

**Note 4:** Higher Secondary School is sometimes called Intermediate.

G = Successful higher secondary students are tested through the various examining boards for the Higher Secondary Certificate, also called the Intermediate Examination Certificate. Testing may be “composite” (which refers to one exam after Grade 12) or “partwise” (which refers to a two-step process, with HSC Part I taken after Grade 11 and HSC Part II taken after Grade 12). Up to 2 failed subjects may be retested; failure in 3 or more subjects (called “papers”) requires the student to repeat all subjects the following year. Grace marks (a few extra points) may be awarded as a condoned pass.

H = Technical education below the degree level (post Class 10)

**Note 5:** Education at this level is conducted by polytechnics, colleges of technology, and commercial institutes to produce training for middle-level employment. Programs of study for the Diploma of Associate Engineer (DAE) run 3 years full-time or 4 years part-time; a few specialized DAE programs may run 4 years FT. Programs of study for the Diploma in Commerce (DCom) and Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) run 2 years FT. Other post-SSC programs exist, such as those for the 2-year Diploma in Computer Graphic Design or 4-year Diploma in Fine Art.



### Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam

- I = Students who pass higher-secondary level technical or commercial education may sit for tests through the Provincial Boards of Technical Education which administer and confer diplomas which are considered benchmark as they qualify bearers to seek higher education as well as employment.

**Note 6:** Holders of the 3-year Diploma of Associate Engineer may seek admission to university Bachelor of Technology programs or, rarely, Bachelor of Engineering programs. Holders of the 2-year Diploma in Business Administration or Diploma in Commerce may seek admission to university Bachelor of Commerce or Bachelor of Business Administration programs. Tertiary transfer credit is not granted.

**Note 7:** The Diploma in General Nursing requires 3 years beyond the Higher Secondary Certificate and thus provides a benchmark post-secondary credential beyond the scope of the presentation herein.

#### Suggested resources

- AACRAO: *Electronic Database for Global Education / EDGE*; updated periodically (subscription required).
- AACRAO: *Foreign Educational Credentials Required for Consideration of Admission to Universities and Colleges in the United States*, Fourth Edition, 1994; Fifth Edition, 2003.
- Australian National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) *Country Education Profiles: Pakistan*, 1992.
- *Estudio sobre el Reconocimiento de Titulaciones de Educación Superior de Países de América y Asia como Títulos de Grado / Study of the Recognition of Higher Education Degrees in Countries in the Americas and Asia as Degree Qualifications*, Ministerio de Educación / Ministry of Education, Spain, 2012; *Pakistan*, pages 833-843.
- ForeignCredits: Classbase Online Database; updated periodically (free and subscription-based content).
- International Association of Universities: *Guide to Education in Africa*, 2010.
- *International Handbook of Universities*, Macmillan and Palgrave; updated periodically.
- IQAS / International Qualifications Assessment Service of Alberta: *International Education Guide for the Assessment of Education from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*, 2008, revised 2016.
- NAFSA: *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, 1999 (in print and CD).
- NAFSA: *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World: Pakistan*, 2008.
- NUFFIC: *Country Module Pakistan*, 2009.
- NUFFIC: *Education System Pakistan*, 2015.
- PIER / AACRAO / NAFSA publications on Pakistan: 1977, 1986.
- *World Data on Education: Pakistan*, UNESCO-IBE, VI edition, 2006-07; and VII edition, 2010-11.



# SAUDI ARABIA

## YEARS OF EDUCATION

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
						A			B			D		
									C			E		
												F		

### Preliminary information:

Arabic is the medium of instruction at all levels of public education; bi-national private education may be taught in two or more languages. English is studied beginning with the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Education is not co-educational. Private institutions are supervised to assure quality matches instruction at government schools.

- A = Elementary education, 6 years, ages 6 to 12, grades 1 to 6, is compulsory; instructional areas include Islamic education, Arabic language, science, social sciences (history and geography), and general culture, plus home science for girls and PE for boys. Yearly testing at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades assures promotion to the next year; success on the 6<sup>th</sup> year exam culminates in the Elementary Education Certificate / *Shahadat Al Madaaris Al Ibtidaa'iyyah* (شهادة المدرسة الابتدائية).
- B = Intermediate education, 3 years, ages 12 to 15, grades 7 to 9: Instructional areas include Islamic education, Arabic language, science, social sciences (geography and history), and general culture, plus home science for girls and PE for boys. Intermediate Education culminates in the Intermediate Education Certificate / *Shahadt Al-Kafa'at AlMutawassita* (شهادة الكفائات المتوسطة).
- C = Vocational intermediate education, 3 years, ages 12 to 15, grades 7 to 9, is offered through the Vocational Training Institute under the aegis of TVET, the Technical and Vocational Training Corporation, previously GOTEVOT (General Organization for Technical Education and Vocational Training), sometimes written *GOTEVT*. Admission requires completion of elementary school.

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

- D = General (academic) secondary education, 3 years, ages 15 to 18, grades 9-12, offers general instruction in the 1<sup>st</sup> year (10<sup>th</sup> grade): Arabic, English, math, natural science, Islamic studies, and social studies, plus home science for girls and PE for boys. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year (11<sup>th</sup> grade) and 3<sup>rd</sup> year (12<sup>th</sup> grade) offer two tracks, literary (liberal arts) and scientific (math and science), but entry to the latter is not automatic. Students who score 60% in their 10<sup>th</sup>-grade studies may choose either track; students who score less than 60% are placed in the literary track. Some Saudi institutions of higher education may also require the placement test created by the National Centre for Assessment in Higher Education (NCAHE).
- Note 1:** Previously, Saudi student completing general secondary took the General Secondary Examination / *Tawjihi* (توجيهي), with successful students earning the General Secondary Education Certificate / *Shahadat Al-Marhalat Al-Thanawiyyah* (شهادة المرحلة الثانوية) and eligibility to seek admission to higher education. Based on the 10 Year Reform of Education in Primary, Intermediate and Secondary Education, the General Secondary Education Certificate / *Shahadat Al-Marhalat Al-Thanawiyyah* was abolished circa 2007-2008 as a national leaving examination, yielding instead to school-level tests and assessments throughout the three-year secondary school period. The GSEC was replaced by the Saudi General School Transcript / *Kashf Darajat Al-Thanawiyyah Al-Amma* (كشف درجات الثانوية العامة) which is the last document awarded after passing the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Note 2:** Virtually all recent sources continue to state that Saudi students sit for the *Tawjihi* (توجيهي) to earn the General Secondary Education Certificate / *Shahadat Al-Marhalat Al-Thanawiyyah* (شهادة المرحلة الثانوية); however, this test and resultant credential were abolished some ten years ago.
- E = Religious secondary education, 3 years, ages 15 to 18, grades 9-12, follows a similar pattern to that of general secondary education, but with the 1<sup>st</sup>-year curriculum placing greater emphasis on religious studies. 2<sup>nd</sup>- and 3<sup>rd</sup>-year students are tracked based on first-year grades. Qualifying students earn the Religious Institute Secondary Education Certificate / *Shahadat Al-Thanawiyyah Al-'aama lil Ma'aahid Al-Ilmiyya* (شهادة الثانوية العامة للمعاهد العلمية) with which they are eligible to seek undergraduate admissions in humanities and social sciences.

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

F = Vocational-technical secondary education, 3 years, ages 15 to 18, grades 9-12, is offered through the Vocational Training Institute under the aegis of TVET, previously GOTEVOT. Students may enter from academic or vocational-technical intermediate education. Coursework incorporates Arabic, English, math, science and religious studies. There are 3 tracks: **Agricultural** (e.g., animal husbandry, applied math and sciences, farm management, and horticulture) culminates in the Secondary Agricultural School Diploma / *Diplom Al-Madaaris Az-Ziraa'iyyah* (دبلوم المدارس الزراعية). **Commercial** (e.g., bookkeeping, finance, economics, management, and secretarial instruction) culminates in the Secondary Commercial School Diploma / *Diplom Al-Madaaris Al Tijaariyyah* (دبلوم المدارس التجارية). **Vocational / technical** (e.g., electricity, metal mechanics, architectural drawing, and media production) culminates in the Secondary Vocational School Diploma / *Diplom Al Madaaris Al-Thanawiyyah Al-Mihaniyya* (المهنية دبلوم المدارس الثانوية). Students who pass university admissions testing are eligible for non-university higher education and university higher education.

### Suggested resources

- AACRAO: *Electronic Database for Global Education / EDGE*; updated periodically (subscription required).
- AACRAO: *Foreign Educational Credentials Required for Consideration of Admission to Universities and Colleges in the United States*, Fourth Edition, 1994; Fifth Edition, 2003.
- AACRAO: *Update on the Education System of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia*, circa 2012.
- Australian National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) *Country Education Profiles: Saudi Arabia*, 1992.
- ForeignCredits: *Classbase Online Database*; updated periodically (free and subscription-based content).
- *International Handbook of Universities*, Macmillan and Palgrave; updated periodically.
- NAFSA: *Admissions wRAP-UP Newsletter*, February, 2007: *Featured Country: Saudia Arabia*.
- NAFSA: *Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, 1999 (in print and CD).
- NAFSA: *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World: Saudi Arabia*, 2008.
- UNESCO-UNEVOC *World TVET Database: Saudi Arabia*, 2012.
- *World Data on Education: Saudi Arabia*, UNESCO-IBE, VI edition, 2006-07; and VII edition, 2010-11.



# VIETNAM

## YEARS OF EDUCATION

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					A				B			C	E	
												D		
												E		

- A = Primary education (*tiểu học*), 5 years, ages 6 to 10 or 11, grades 1 to 5, is divided into two cycles (3+2), is free and compulsory, and leads to both lower-secondary and vocational training.
- B = Lower-secondary education (*trung học cơ sở*), 4 years, ages 11 to 15, grades 6 to 9, is also called intermediate, basic secondary and junior secondary, and is not compulsory. Students complete general academic studies (e.g., math, Vietnamese language and literature, social studies, physical and life sciences, PE, arts, and technology), leading to the *Bằng Tốt Nghiệp Phổ Thông Cơ Sở*, variously translated as junior-high certificate, lower-secondary graduation diploma, etc. Lower-secondary leads to both upper-secondary education (with placement determined by an entrance exam) and vocational training.
- C = Upper-secondary education (*trung học phổ thông*), 3 years, ages 15 to 18, grades 10 to 12. Students complete general academic coursework [e.g., Vietnamese language and literature, foreign language, social studies (geography, history and civics), mathematics, natural sciences (biology, physics and chemistry), PE, arts, and technology]. After completion the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, students take school-leaving examinations, conducted by MOET, the Ministry of Education and Training, in six subject areas: Vietnamese literature, a foreign language, mathematics, and 3 additional subjects; success leads to what is currently called the *Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ thông*, which has been awarded since 2003.

**Block III: Benchmark Secondary Credentials from India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Vietnam**

**Note 1:** previous names for upper-secondary school-leaving diplomas include *Bằng tốt nghiệp Phổ thông Trung học* (1980-1995), *Bằng Tú tài, Phổ thông Trung học* (1996-1999), and *Bằng Trung học Phổ thông* (2000-2003).

- D = Students who earn the Graduation Diploma for General Upper-Secondary Education / *Bằng tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ thông* and seek admission to a Vietnamese university must take the National University Entrance Examination. Institutions of higher education determine their respective entrance scores.
- E = Upper-secondary includes secondary technical and vocational education which runs 3 to 4 years beyond 9<sup>th</sup> grade and leads to the Graduation Diploma of Vocational Education / *Bằng tốt nghiệp Trung học chuyên nghiệp*. Graduates may seek employment or post-secondary admissions. Students who enter with the Graduation Diploma for General Upper-Secondary Education / *Bằng tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ thông* may finish upper-secondary technical-vocational education in 1 to 2 years.

### Suggested resources

- AACRAO: *Electronic Database for Global Education / EDGE*; updated periodically (subscription required).
- AACRAO: *Foreign Educational Credentials Required for Consideration of Admission to Universities and Colleges in the United States*, Fourth Edition, 1994; Fifth Edition, 2003.
- Australian National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) *Country Education Profiles: Vietnam*, 1996.
- *International Handbook of Universities*, Macmillan and Palgrave; updated periodically.
- *Estudio sobre el Reconocimiento de Titulaciones de Educación Superior de Países de América y Asia como Títulos de Grado / Study of the Recognition of Higher Education Degrees in Countries in the Americas and Asia as Degree Qualifications*, Ministerio de Educación / Ministry of Education, Spain, 2012: *Vietnam*, pages 862-875.
- ECE Insights, *Tools for Evaluating Educational Documents from Vietnam*, 2008.
- ForeignCredits: *Classbase Online Database*; updated periodically (free and subscription-based content).
- NAFSA: *Guide to Educational Systems Around the World*, 1999 (in print and CD).
- NAFSA: *Admissions wRAP-UP Newsletter*, September, 2006: *Featured Country: Vietnam*.
- NAFSA: *Online Guide to Educational Systems Around the World: Vietnam*, 2008.
- NUFFIC: *Country Module Vietnam*, 2009, and *Education System Vietnam*, 2015.
- PIER / AACRAO / NAFSA publications on Vietnam, 1970 and 2000.
- UNESCO-IBE *World Data on Education: Vietnam*, VI edition, 2006-07, and VII edition, 2010-11.
- WES: World Education News Reports; *Secondary Education in Vietnam*, 2012; *Higher Education in Vietnam*, 2014.