



WELCOME

TO THE LUXEMBURGISH SCHOOL



BIENVENUE



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale,
de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

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Information for newly arrived pupils and their parents



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DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale,
de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

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www.men.lu

WELCOME TO THE LUXEMBOURGISH SCHOOL

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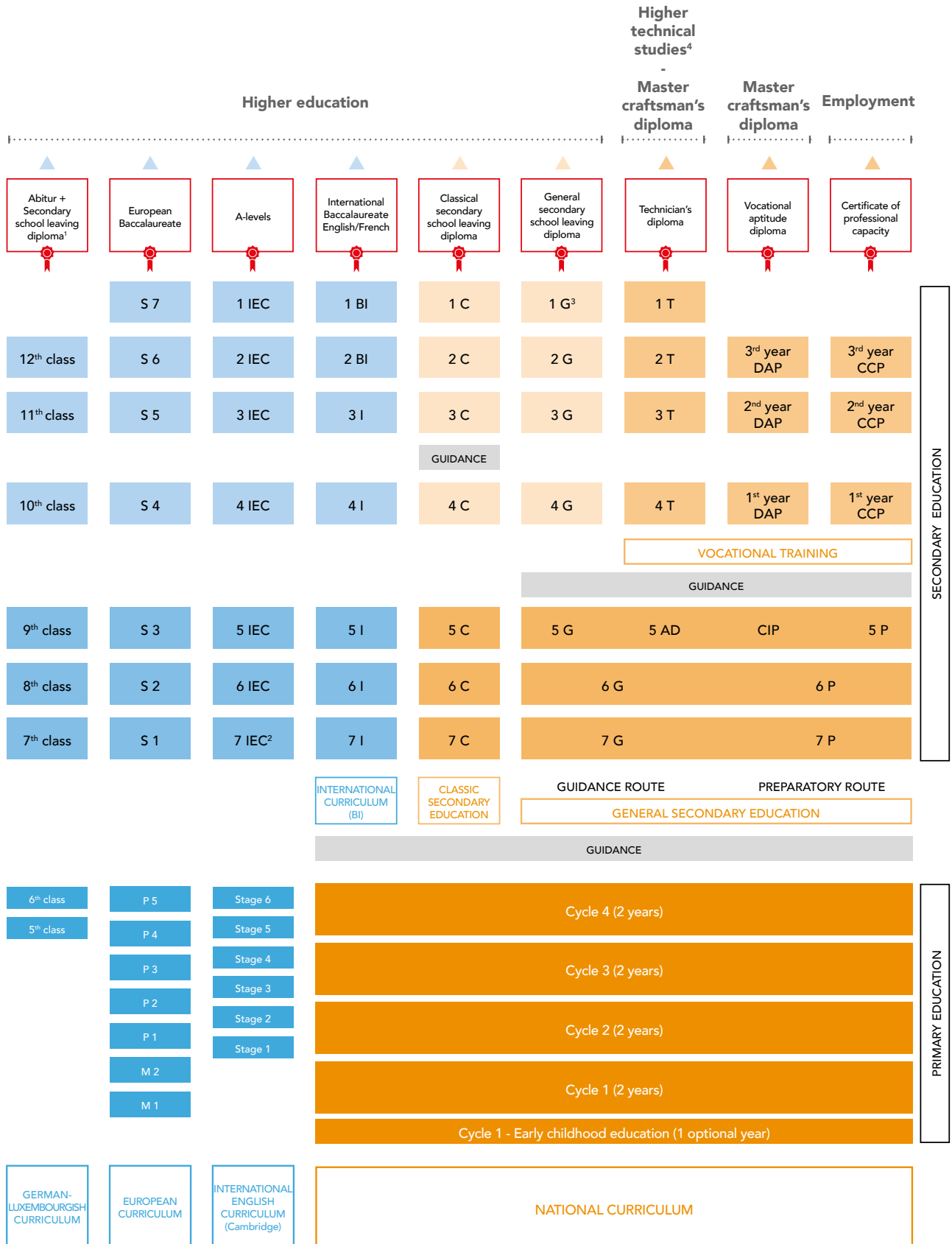
1. LUXEMBOURG'S PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



In Luxembourg, children can attend public school from the age of three. The first year is optional: it is called "early childhood education" (*éducation précoce*). School attendance is compulsory from the age of 4.

The diagram on the next page gives a general overview of the public luxembourgish school system. The range of offers available is very varied, depending on the pupil's profile: age, spoken languages, level in mathematics and personal aims.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM IN LUXEMBOURG 2024/2025



¹ Classical secondary school leaving diploma and general secondary school leaving diploma.

² International English Classes.

³ Also a "1SGED" class added to the subject area educator.

⁴ Via preparatory modules.

Luxembourg schools also offer adults the possibility to take the *Diplôme d'accès aux études supérieures* (DAES), which is equivalent to the Luxembourgish secondary school leaving diploma (*Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires*) and gives access to higher education.



2. NEWLY ARRIVED PUPILS AND STUDENTS – WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION?

You have just arrived or you are planning to relocate to Luxembourg? The Ministry of Education is here to support you when it comes to the schooling of your child.

The *Service de l'intégration et de l'accueil scolaires* (SIA, School Integration and Welcoming Service):

- welcomes all children and young people who are between 4 and 22 years old and have recently arrived in Luxembourg;
- offers information and counseling for the pupils and their parents on all questions related to the Luxembourgish school offer.

CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4 AND 17

Depending on their age, talents, needs and aspirations, children newly arrived in the Grand Duchy attend a public school at either the primary level (*enseignement fondamentale*), the secondary level, either classical or general (*enseignement secondaire classique* and *enseignement secondaire général*) or an international school. If the parents or guardian so wish, however, children may be enrolled at a private school.

YOUNG ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 22 INCLUDED

In addition to regular classes, there are adapted training courses available, either to learn at least two of the languages used in the Grand Duchy (German, French and Luxembourgish) or to prepare for vocational training or to access the employment market.



3. WHAT KIND OF HELP IS AVAILABLE TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION AT SCHOOL?

INTERCULTURAL MEDIATION

As a parent or pupil, you may request free help from an intercultural mediator (*médiateur interculturel*) by submitting an online request to SIA. In addition to the common languages of the Grand Duchy, intercultural mediators also speak one or more of the following languages: Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Bengali, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese Cantonese, Creole (Cap Verde or Guinea-Bissau), Croatian, Czech, Dari, Filipino, Greek, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Kurdish-Kurmanji and Kurdish-Sorani, Mandarin, Mankanya, Montenegrin, Nepalese, Persian/Farsi, Polonais, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Spanish, Thai, Tigrinya, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese and Wolof.

The intercultural mediator is a resource person, facilitating communication and understanding between education professionals, pupils/students and their parents who do not understand the Grand Duchy's official languages. It is important to note that intercultural mediators only operate in the context of school.

THEIR INTERVENTION INCLUDES:

- help with school registration ;
- help with first reception in class ;
- assistance at individual meetings between teachers, pupils/students and their parents ;
- assistance at the meeting to discuss the pupil's/student's school report ;
- translations of school-related documents ;
- assistance in class ;
- transmission of phone or e-mail messages ;
- information meetings for parents ;
- class councils and disciplinary councils.



4. PRIMARY EDUCATION

Primary (or elementary) public education applying the national curriculum welcomes children between the ages of 3 and 11. It comprises nine years of schooling, spread over four learning cycles. Every child living in Luxembourg, who is 4 years old before 1 September must attend primary school. Cycle 1 includes one optional year of early childhood education (éducation précoce) for 3- and 4-year-olds and two years of pre-school education (éducation préscolaire) for 4- and 5-year-olds. Cycles 2 to 4 (for 6- to 11-year-olds) correspond to primary education.

CYCLE 1

Cycle 1 comprises one optional year of early childhood education and two years of compulsory pre-school education. Children learn to understand and express themselves in spoken Luxembourgish. Luxembourgish is the main language of communication in the classroom. Emphasis is also placed on the languages spoken in the family and children are introduced to spoken French.

CYCLES 2 TO 4 (FOR CHILDREN 6 TO 11 YEAR OLD)

Each cycle (2, 3 and 4) normally lasts two years.

In cycle 2, literacy is taught in German, which is the language of instruction for all subjects in school apart from the French-language courses. The learning of spoken French continues.

During cycles 3 and 4, children continue to learn German (written and spoken), which is the language of instruction for all the branches except the French-language courses. Children also start the systematic learning of written French.

When your child arrives in Luxembourg, he/she will attend a regular class (called a *classe d'attache*). Intensive language classes (called *cours d'accueil* or reception courses) or support courses (*cours d'appui*) are organised from the second year of cycle 2 onwards, where children are taught German and/or French and are introduced to Luxembourgish. The number of hours of intensive language classes varies according to your child's age and language knowledge. The aim is for children to be capable of spending as much time as possible in their *classe d'attache* without needing intensive language classes.



5. SECONDARY EDUCATION

In the Grand Duchy, secondary education is provided by public and private schools applying the Ministry's official curriculum and by private schools applying a different programme.

Public secondary schools (lycées) applying the national curriculum are for young people from the age of 12.

School attendance is compulsory up to the age of 16. A full secondary education, without repeating any classes, theoretically lasts seven years.

While applying the ministry's official curriculum, secondary schools may, as part of their autonomy, introduce an educational approach, different classes or specific measures tailored to their pupils' needs and expectations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION APPLYING THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM INCLUDES:

1. CLASSICAL SECONDARY EDUCATION (ENSEIGNEMENT SECONDAIRE CLASSIQUE, ESC);
2. GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION (ENSEIGNEMENT SECONDAIRE GÉNÉRAL, ESG);
3. VOCATIONAL TRAINING (FORMATION PROFESSIONNELLE).

1. CLASSICAL SECONDARY EDUCATION

Classic secondary education aims to impart general knowledge in humanities and literature, mathematics and natural sciences. It prepares pupils for higher education studies. On successful completion of their secondary studies, they are awarded the corresponding secondary school leaving diploma (*diplôme de fin d'études secondaires classiques*).

The 7C class is intended for pupils who have a good foundation in most subjects. The language of instruction for all subjects is German, except for mathematics and French, which are taught in French.

Language remedial classes in classical secondary education

Classical secondary education offers other 7C classes, each differing in terms of the languages used. These remedial classes have the same curriculum as the 7C class, with extra lessons in either German or French.

Classes with French as the language of instruction

Classes with French as the language of instruction at the ESC are for pupils who prefer learning in French.

2. GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION

The first three years of general secondary education are organised in two routes:

- The guidance route (*voie d'orientation*) is for pupils who have acquired the skills required by primary education. On successfully completing general secondary education, pupils are awarded the corresponding secondary school leaving diploma (*diplôme de fin d'études secondaires générales*). This diploma grants the same rights as the classical secondary school leaving diploma : the holder can either step into working life or enrol in higher education. At the end of the third year of general education, pupils can continue their education by choosing either vocational training or one of the five streams of general secondary education.
- The preparatory route (*voie de préparation*) of general secondary education is for pupils who, by the end of their primary education, have not acquired the requisite skills bases (*socles de compétences*). Pupils are taught in modules which enable them to progress at their own pace. The aim is to prepare them for joining a more demanding class or vocational training. This preparatory route may be followed in either German or French.

A number of secondary schools offer classes with a remedial of the languages and the language of instruction. These classes are intended for pupils who:

- are more at ease in a language other than German;
- have not yet acquired sufficient command of one of the languages used in teaching (French, German);
- have a language profile different from what is expected at the end of their primary education;
- had the benefit of a reception course;
- arrived in Luxembourg during the school year in cycle 4 of primary education;
- are newly arrived in the Grand Duchy.

These various classes offer intensive language courses in French or German, thus allowing pupils to join the regular system and receive the same education as all the other pupils.

a. **CLASSES FOR NEWLY ARRIVED PUPILS (CLASSES D'ACCUEIL) IN ESG**

Reception classes are intended for pupils newly arrived in Luxembourg who have little or no knowledge of German or French. In addition to other subjects, they are mainly taught intensive French and Luxembourgish. In most of these classes, German is not taught.

For 12- to 15-year-olds: ACCU classes for newly arrived pupils;
integration classes (CLI1, CLI2).

For 16- to 17-year-olds: CLIJA classes for newly arrived young adults;
integration class. (CL3)

For 18- to 22-year-olds (included): CLIJAA classes for newly arrived young adults over the age of 18.

b. LOWER CLASSES IN ESG

Integration classes (classes d'insertion)

An integration class in general secondary education is offered in tandem with the regular classes of the guidance and preparatory routes. These classes are for pupils who have little or no knowledge of the languages used for teaching in the Grand Duchy. Pupils in those classes follow the regular school curriculum and attend intensive language classes in either French or German.

Remedial classes of the guidance route

General secondary education offers other 7G classes, each differing in terms of the languages used. These adaptation classes offer the same curriculum as the 7G classes with additional lessons in either German or French.

Classes with French as the language of instruction

Classes with French as the language of instruction at the ESG are for pupils who prefer learning in French.

c. HIGHER CLASSES WITH A SPECIFIC LANGUAGE SYSTEM (CLASSES À RÉGIME LINGUISTIQUE SPÉCIFIQUE, RLS)

Classes with a specific language system are a real chance of success for pupils for whom either the German or French language constitutes a challenge.

An RLS class is a class where all courses, except language courses, are given either in French (for French-speaking classes) or in English (for English-speaking classes). The course programme is identical to the one of regular classes. RLS classes are available both at general education level (leading to the *diplôme de fin d'études secondaires générales* which gives access to higher studies) and in vocational training (see next page).

If your child is over the age of 15, he or she may join an RLS class.

For more information on these classes, consult the online leaflet at





6. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OFFER

Since 2016, the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth has been implementing a large-scale policy for the diversification of the school offer at both primary and secondary levels.

1. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OFFER AT PRIMARY LEVEL

a. PUBLIC EUROPEAN SCHOOLS

The purpose of these schools is to provide an education for pupils of widely varying origins. They are public and do not charge fees.

These schools offer French-, English- and German-speaking sections at primary level, following the curriculum of the European School system.

Your child chooses:

- a first language from among French, English and German (and Portuguese at the *École internationale Differdange et Esch-sur-Alzette* and at the *École internationale Mondorf-les-Bains*)
- and a second language from among French, English and German.

Learning Luxembourgish is compulsory since it is the language of integration.

The following classes are offered	French-language section	English-language section	German-language section
École internationale Differdange et Esch-sur-Alzette www.eide.lu	✓	✓	✓
Lycée Edward Steichen in Clervaux www.lesc.lu	✓	✓	✓
École internationale Gaston Thorn in Luxembourg www.eigt.lu	✓	✓	✓
Lënster Lycée International School www.llis.lu	✓	✓	✓
École internationale Mersch Anne Beffort www.eimab.lu	✓	✓	
École internationale Mondorf-les-Bains www.eimlb.lu	✓	✓	

b. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MICHEL LUCIUS

To meet the demand of a growing international population, the International School Michel Lucius, which is a non-fee-paying public school, offers primary education in English. Core subjects are taught according to the Cambridge curriculum.

More information is available at [sur www.lml.lu](http://www.lml.lu)

2. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OFFER AT SECONDARY LEVEL

At secondary level, there are four different types of schooling that offer an alternative to the regular system: the international baccalaureate, the European baccalaureate, the international English curriculum, and German/Luxembourgish curriculum.

The schools listed below are public schools, open to all and there are no enrolment fees.

a. THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (BI)

This baccalaureate is offered around 5,800 schools in over 160 countries worldwide. It is recognised by Luxembourg law as being equivalent to the diploma awarded on successful completion of classical secondary education. It is aimed at young people opting for secondary studies in French or in English, who are capable of completing secondary education at a high level.

Pupils must pass admission tests before enrolment.

The following classes are offered	French-language	English-language	Remarks
Lycée technique du Centre www.ltc.lu	✓		From the 6 th class (8 th year) onwards 2 nd language = English, 3 rd language = German
Athénée de Luxembourg www.al.lu		✓	From the 7 ^e class (7 th year) onwards 2 nd language = French, 3 rd language = German
Lycée Mathias Adam www.lyma.lu	✓		From the 4 ^e class (10 th year) onwards 2 nd language = English, 3 rd language = German
Lycée technique Ettelbruck www.ltett.lu	✓		From the 7 ^e class (7 th year) onwards 2 nd language = English, 3 rd language = German

b. THE EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE

Schools offering classes leading to the European baccalaureate follow the European curriculum. This baccalaureate is recognised throughout Europe and in a number of other countries. The schools offer secondary education in French-, English- and German sections. French, English and German (and Portuguese at EIDE and EIMLB) are taught at different levels.

Learning Luxembourgish is compulsory as the language of integration, until the third year of secondary school. The pupil's second language (English, German or French) is the teaching language used for subjects, such as humanities, history, geography or economics.

The following classes are offered:	French-language section	English-language section	German-language section
École internationale Differdange et Esch-sur-Alzette www.eide.lu	✓	✓	✓
Lycée Edward Steichen in Clervaux www.lesc.lu	✓	✓	✓
École internationale Gaston Thorn in Luxembourg www.eigt.lu	✓	✓	✓
Lënster Lycée International School www.llis.lu	✓	✓	✓
École internationale Mersch Anne Beffort www.eimab.lu	✓	✓	✓
École internationale Mondorf-les-Bains www.eimlb.lu	✓	✓	✓

c. THE INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH CURRICULUM (CAMBRIDGE)

All classes are taught in English; pupils learn French and German as their second and third languages. The classes prepare pupils for the following levels of certification:

- **at age 16:** International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)
- **at age 17:** Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS-Levels)
- **at age 18:** Advanced Level (A-Levels)

The International GCSE is based on the British GCSE, and is recognised internationally. It enables pupils to continue their secondary education and prepares them for AS-Levels and A-levels. The A-Levels qualification is offered in more than 125 countries. It certifies that the pupil has completed secondary school or pre-university education.

These classes are offered at the *Lycée Michel Lucius*.

More information is available at www.lml.lu



7. TRAINING OFFER FOR ADULTS

Did you recently arrive in Luxembourg and are over 18?

Do you want to be able to communicate in everyday situations, gain access to a diploma or a recognised qualification, or find a job?

Do you want to be able to talk to your child's teachers or other parents?

Adult training courses are at your disposal!

Many and varied courses are offered by the Ministry, the municipalities, and approved associations. Some are free of charge; others are available at a reduced rate or at reasonable prices.

You can consult the catalogue of offers online at www.unipop.lu.

You can also consult offers online at www.lifelong-learning.lu.



Knowing one or more of the country's official languages will be particularly useful. You can sign up for classes organised by the *Institut national des langues Luxembourg* (National Institute for Languages; www.inll.lu), secondary schools, associations or the classes organised by your municipality.

For people who have not had an opportunity to learn the Latin alphabet or who have difficulties with writing, reading or arithmetic, basic instruction courses can be taken.

More information is available at www.edulink.lu/stkk or you can phone (+352) 80 02 99 99.





8. FURTHER USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Service de l'intégration et de l'accueil scolaires (SIA)

29, rue Aldringen, L-1118 Luxembourg

Phone: (+352) 247-75274; E-mail: secretariat.sia@men.lu

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 11:45 and from 13:00 to 16:45
(by appointment only)

Reception in Luxembourgish, French, German, English and Portuguese (other languages on request)



www.edulink.lu/vnf5

Information on attestations of levels of study and recognition of diplomas in the following areas: baccalaureate, DAP, master craftsman's qualification (*brevet de maîtrise*), social and education professions, health professions

Service de la reconnaissance des diplômes

29, rue Aldringen, L-1118 Luxembourg

Phone: (+352) 247-85910; E-mail: reconnaissance@men.lu



www.edulink.lu/ar74

MINISTRY OF RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION

18-20, montée de la Pétrusse, L-2327 Luxembourg
Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 7:45 to 16:30



www.mengstudien.lu

Information on higher and university education Service information études supérieures

Phone: (+352) 247-88650; E-mail: etudes@mesr.etat.lu
Reachable by phone: Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 12:00 and from 13:00 to 16:30



www.m-o.lu

Office of the Service information études supérieures at the Maison de l'orientation

29, rue Aldringen, L-1118 Luxembourg
Phone: (+352) 247-56417; E-mail: etudes@mesr.etat.lu
Opening times: Monday to Friday from 13:00 to 17:00



www.mengstudien.lu

Service aides financières

Phone: (+352) 247-88650; E-mail: aide-fi@mesr.etat.lu
Reachable by phone: Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 12:00 and from 13:00 to 16:30



www.edulink.lu/vrew

Recognition of foreign higher education qualifications and accreditation of qualifications in the legal professions Service reconnaissance professionnelle

E-mail: rqp@mesr.etat.lu

Homologation de diplômes de droit (accès aux CCDL)

E-mail: homologation@mesr.etat.lu

Service registre des titres (reconnaissance académique)

E-mail: registre@mesr.etat.lu

MAISON DE L'ORIENTATION



www.m-o.lu

29, rue Aldringen, L-1118 Luxembourg
Phone: (+352) 80 02 81 81; E-mail: info@m-o.lu

The *Maison de l'orientation* (House of Orientation) is intended for anyone of any age seeking guidance on educational and professional matters. Staff at the centre will help them identify their abilities, skills and interests so they can make enlightened decisions when choosing studies and training courses, considering their professional plans.

It serves as a one-stop shop and joint platform for guidance, and is open to the public all year round (including during school holidays) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 13:00 to 17:00 without appointment and Thursday from 8:00 to 17:00 with appointment.

It brings together the following services under one roof:



www.edulink.lu/96hi

Service d'orientation professionnelle de l'Agence pour le développement de l'emploi (ADEM-OP)

Phone: (+352) 247-85480, E-mail: info.op@adem.etat.lu

The guidance counsellors at the ADEM's career guidance service offer guidance and vocational retraining interviews for young people and adults, taking account of their abilities, interests and academic qualifications and helping them to make independent decisions in their choice of training or profession.



www.hey.snj.lu

Support for the transition to working life Local antennae of the Service national de la jeunesse (SNJ)

Tel. (+352) 247-86465; E-mail: secretariat@snj.lu

The mission of the local antennae of the *Service national de la jeunesse* (SNJ, National Youth Service) is to support young people in their transition from school to work. They can be found on eleven sites throughout the country so as to be close to young people and their daily life. The staff are specialised in supporting young people and implementing programmes to help them return to school or work.

Their actions are aimed at young people who:

- are about to leave school without having a concrete solution;
- have left the school system without a diploma.

The SNJ's local agents offer young people:

- advice and information on training opportunities and working life;
- individual support to help them integrate into their studies or working life;
- alternatives to inactivity.



www.cepas.lu

Centre psychosocial et d'accompagnement scolaires (CePAS)

Phone: (+352) 247-75910, E-mail: info@cepas.public.lu

The general mission of the CePAS (Psycho-Social Counseling and School Support Centre) is to promote the well-being, mental health, non-formal education and participation of young people.

In order to achieve this:

- CePAS develops the structures, professions, practices and expertise of psychosocio-educational professionals in secondary schools and ensures the quality of their services.
- CePAS offers psychological and therapeutic care at personal, family, relational and school levels, as well as educational and social support.
- CePAS provides a documentation centre for educational and psychosocial staff in secondary schools.
- CePAS processes subsidy applications for pupils at national level to help them stay in school.

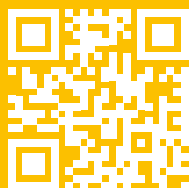


**MAISON DE
L'ORIENTATION**

Deng Schoul. Däi Beruff. Deng Zukunft.

www.mengschoul.lu
t'aide à trouver le lycée
qui t'accompagnera
le mieux vers ton avenir.

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OTHER LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF THIS BROCHURE
ARE AVAILABLE:



www.edulink.lu/25a3



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