



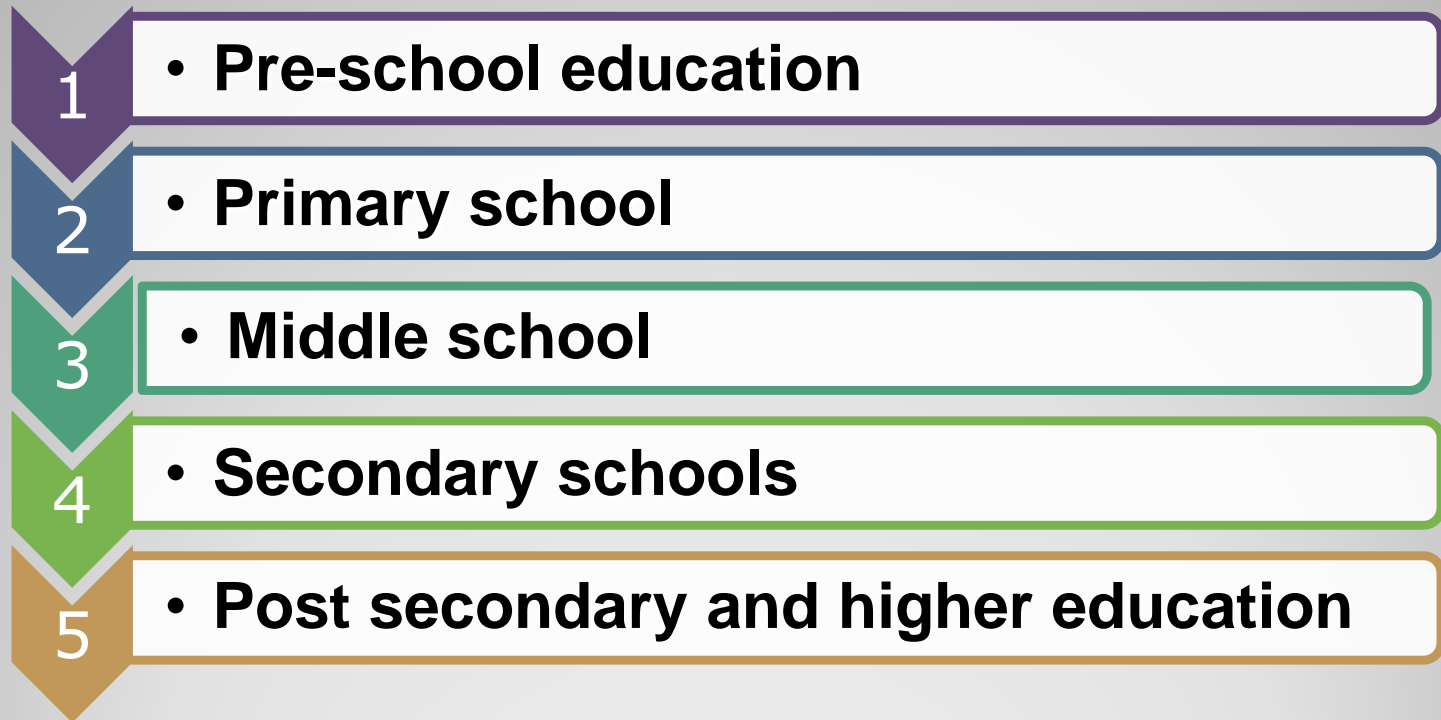
# **Educational system in Poland**

## **COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN POLAND LASTS FOR 12 YEARS; FROM 6 TO 18**

**The Polish education system is based on  
three-tiered principle: primary, secondary  
and higher education**



# Structure of educational system



# Pre-higher education

# Pre-primary education

*This educational level is regarded as the first level of the school system.*

*It concerns children from 3 to 6 years of age. Six-year-old children are obliged to complete a year of preparation for primary education (under municipal responsibility) called “0 grade”.*

*The classes are attached either to kindergartens or primary-schools.*

*Both private and public schools can be fee-paying, however in the latter case the conditions specified in the legislation apply.*





# Primary School

Length of program in years: 6

Age level from: 6 to: 13

Certificate/diploma awarded:  
Świadectwo ukończenia szkoły  
podstawowej - Certificate of  
Completion of Primary School  
Education

Primary School ends one exam  
checking basic skills in polsih,  
maths and science.



# Two cycles of primary education

grades  
1-3

- the first cycle at which beginning learning is offered,
- In the lower grades one teacher teaches all subjects

grades  
4-6

- the second cycle at which systematic learning is provided.
- In the higher grades each subject has a different teacher



The school year  
(ten months  
beginning of September  
to the end of June)  
is divided into two semesters.

One lesson lasts 45 minutes

**In the early 1990 the system was extended by adding new marks, 1 and 6. Now we have marks from 1 to 6.**



- 1 (is *insufficient*)
- 2 (is *poor*)
- 3 (is *sufficient*)
- 4 (is *good*)
- 5 (is *very good*)
- 6 (is *excellent*)

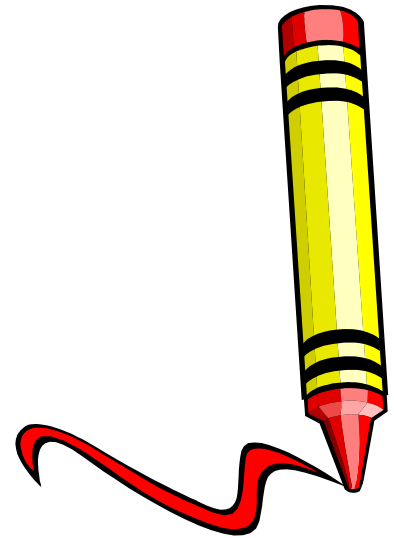


In the new system, 1 is the failing grade, and 6 means that the student exceeded the expectations. In the first stages of primary school (I – III classes) there are no marks. The teachers write descriptions of their pupils' abilities.

Primary schools operate on the basis of general educational plan which determines the minimum weekly number of lesson periods of particular subjects.

The main components taught at the lower level of the primary school are:

- Polish language,
- foreign language,
- social and natural environment,
- mathematics,
- crafts and technology,
- art and music,
- physical education.
- history
- Religion
- IT



# Curricula and teaching content

- Teachers are obliged to follow educational activities (teaching content) according to Core Curriculum for a particular stage of education, which is included in Regulation by the Ministry of National Education.
- Teachers can choose textbooks from the list approved by the Ministry of Education and they can individually decide on the methods of teaching and evaluation, introducing innovative methods of teaching and curricula based on Core Curriculum.

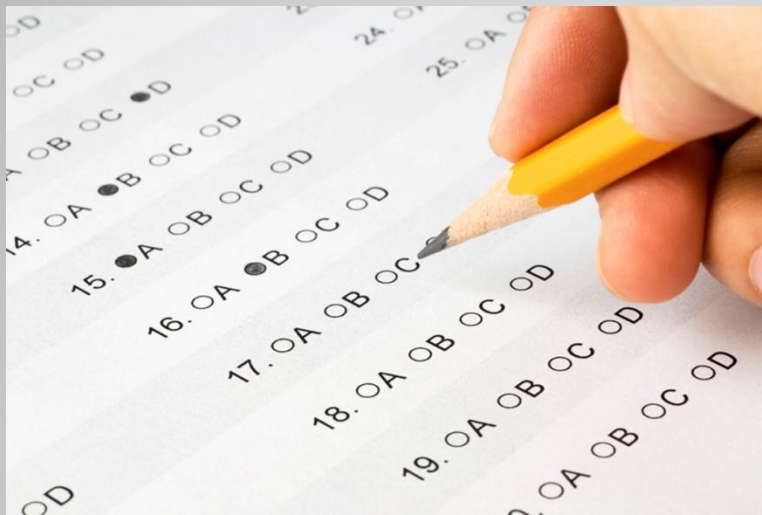
# Middle school

Length of program in years: 3

Age level from: 13 to: 16

Certificate/diploma awarded:  
Świadectwo ukończenia gimnazjum  
(Certificate of Completion of  
Education in the Gymnasium)

They must write in third class two  
examinations from objects of science  
and arts.



# After middle school



After completing elementary school pupils can choose different secondary education, which is free of charge.

General secondary schools provide graduation certificate of general education. Those who have passed the final examination called „matura” (maturity exam) may apply to universities.

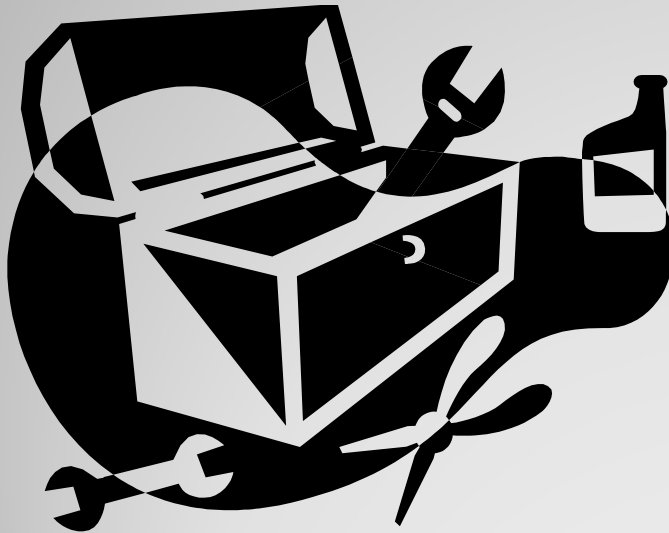
Those who do not want to study at university and those who have not taken the „matura” examination may continue their education in post-secondary vocational schools.



## Matura exam.



# Basic Vocational School



Length of program in years: 2

Age level from: 16 to: 18

Certificate/diploma awarded:  
Świadectwo ukończenia szkoły  
zasadniczej (Certificate of  
Completion of Education in the Basic  
Vocational School)

*Lower Secondary*



# Technical Secondary School

Length of program in years: 4

Age level from: 16 to: 20

Certificate/diploma awarded:  
Świadectwo dojrzałości  
technikum (Maturity  
Certificate of the Technical  
Secondary School) or  
świadectwo ukończenia  
technikum (Certificate of  
Completion of Education in  
the Technical Secondary  
School)



# General Lyceum



Length of program in years: 3

Age level from: 16 to: 19

Certificate/diploma awarded: Świadectwo dojrzałości liceum ogólnokształcącego (Maturity Certificate of the General Lyceum) or świadectwo ukończenia liceum ogólnokształcącego (Certificate of Completion of Education in the General Lyceum)

# Specialized Lyceum



Length of program in years: 3

Age level from: 16 to: 19

Certificate/diploma awarded: Świadectwo dojrzałości liceum profilowanego (Maturity Certificate of the Specialized Lyceum) or świadectwo ukończenia liceum profilowanego (Certificate of Completion of Education in the Specialized Lyceum)

# Post-secondary schools

Post-secondary schools (szkoly policealne) predominantly cater for students progressing from general upper secondary schools, and programmes are typically one or 2.5 years in duration.

Students can choose post-secondary education. They are trained as nurses, accountants, administrative personnel for enterprises and hotels, computer specialists, librarians.

Higher  
education:

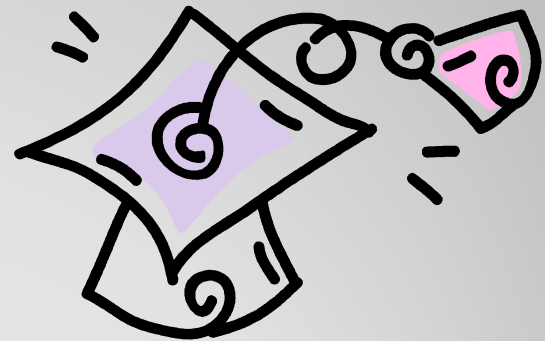
# Higher education

After secondary school students can take higher education.

There are various types of higher education institutions in Poland:

- universities,
- polytechnics,
- economic academies,
- agricultural academies,
- others.

Day studies in state higher schools are free of charge.



# The structure of studies

Since 2007/2008 academic year Polish higher education system has been divided to three stages:



This system applies to all fields of education except Law, Pharmacy, Psychology, Veterinary Medicine, Medicine and Dentistry, which are still based on two-stage system (Master and Doctor).



# Jagiellonian University

The oldest university in Poland.





## **MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION**

(elaborating educational policies at the national level, coordination other governing bodies, controlling higher education institutionssupervised by this Ministry)

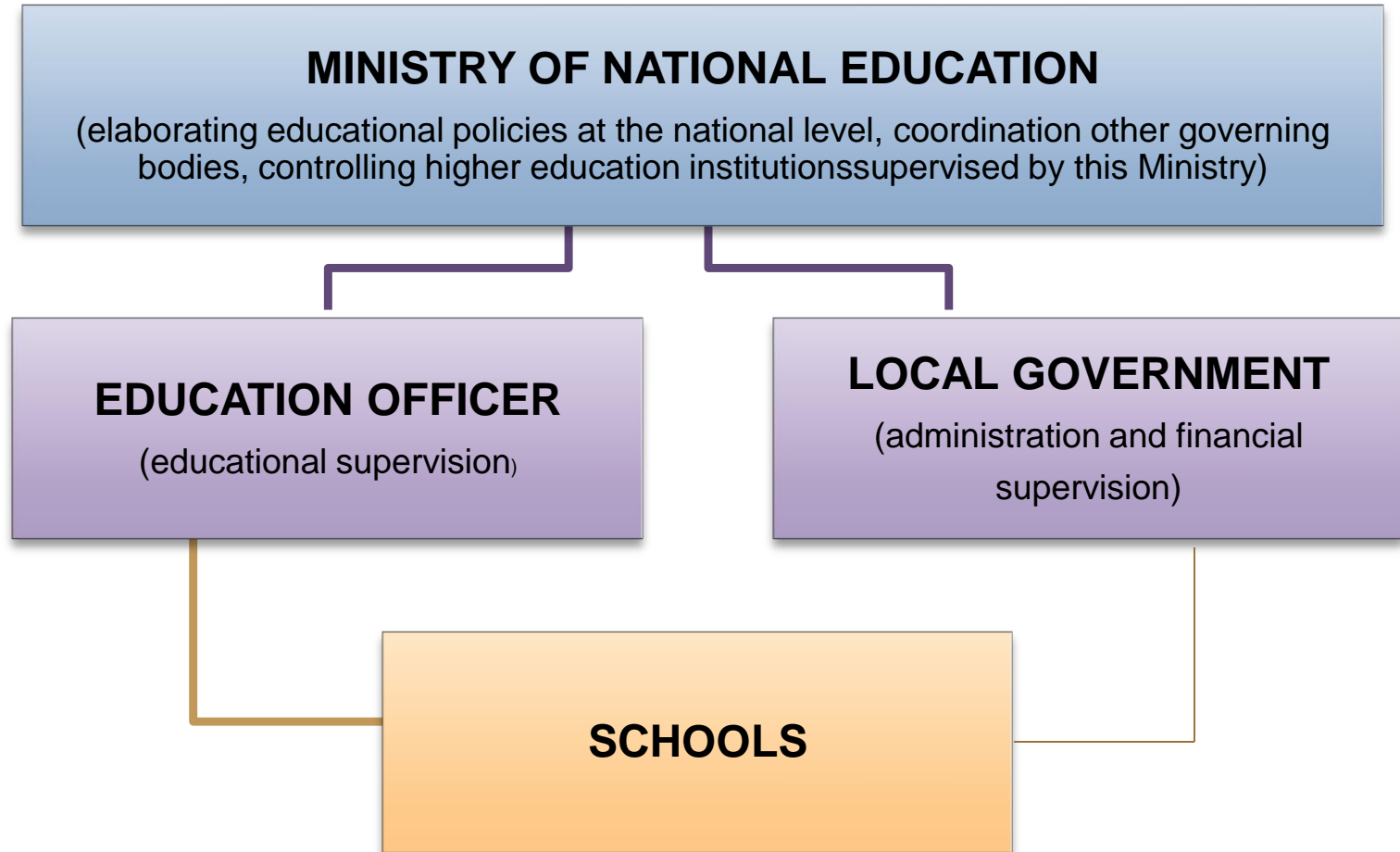
### **EDUCATION OFFICER**

(educational supervision)

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

(administration and financial supervision)

### **SCHOOLS**



# Financing of public schools

**National government**  
*(Ministry of Finances)*



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graph TD; A["National government  
(Ministry of Finances)"] --> B["Local government  
(Municipalities, Poviats, Voivodships)"]; B --> C["Schools"]
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**Local government**  
*(Municipalities, Poviats, Voivodships)*

**Schools**

**Thank you for watching  
this presentation**

