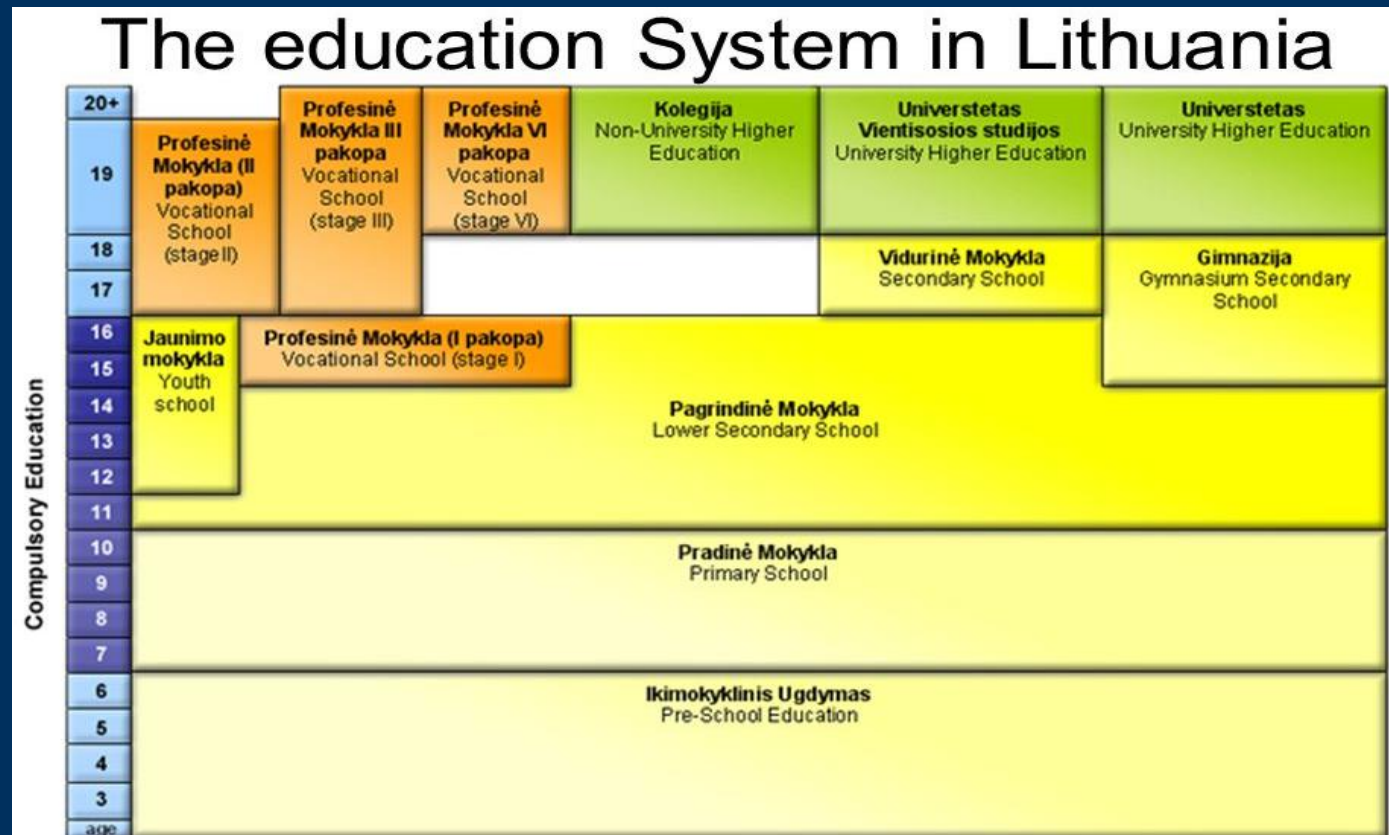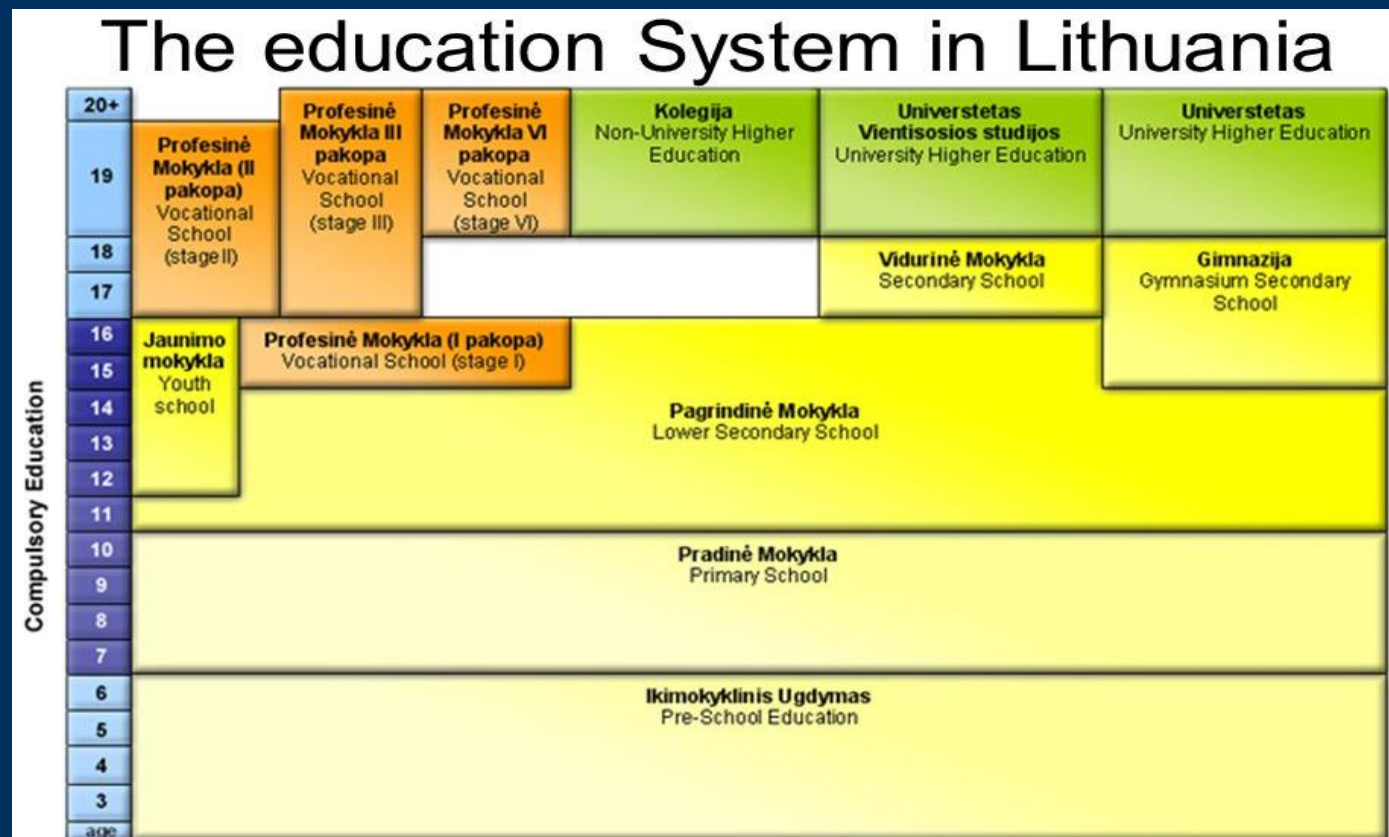# Education System of Lithuania

The education system of Lithuania is defined by the law on education. As per the law, the education system of Lithuania comprises of formal and non-formal education.

The education System in Lithuania

Formal education encompasses primary, basic/lower secondary and upper secondary education, formal vocational education and training, and tertiary education.

The education System in Lithuania

According to the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, each and every child has the right to primary, basic/lower and upper secondary education in Lithuania. Education in Lithuania is free of costs.
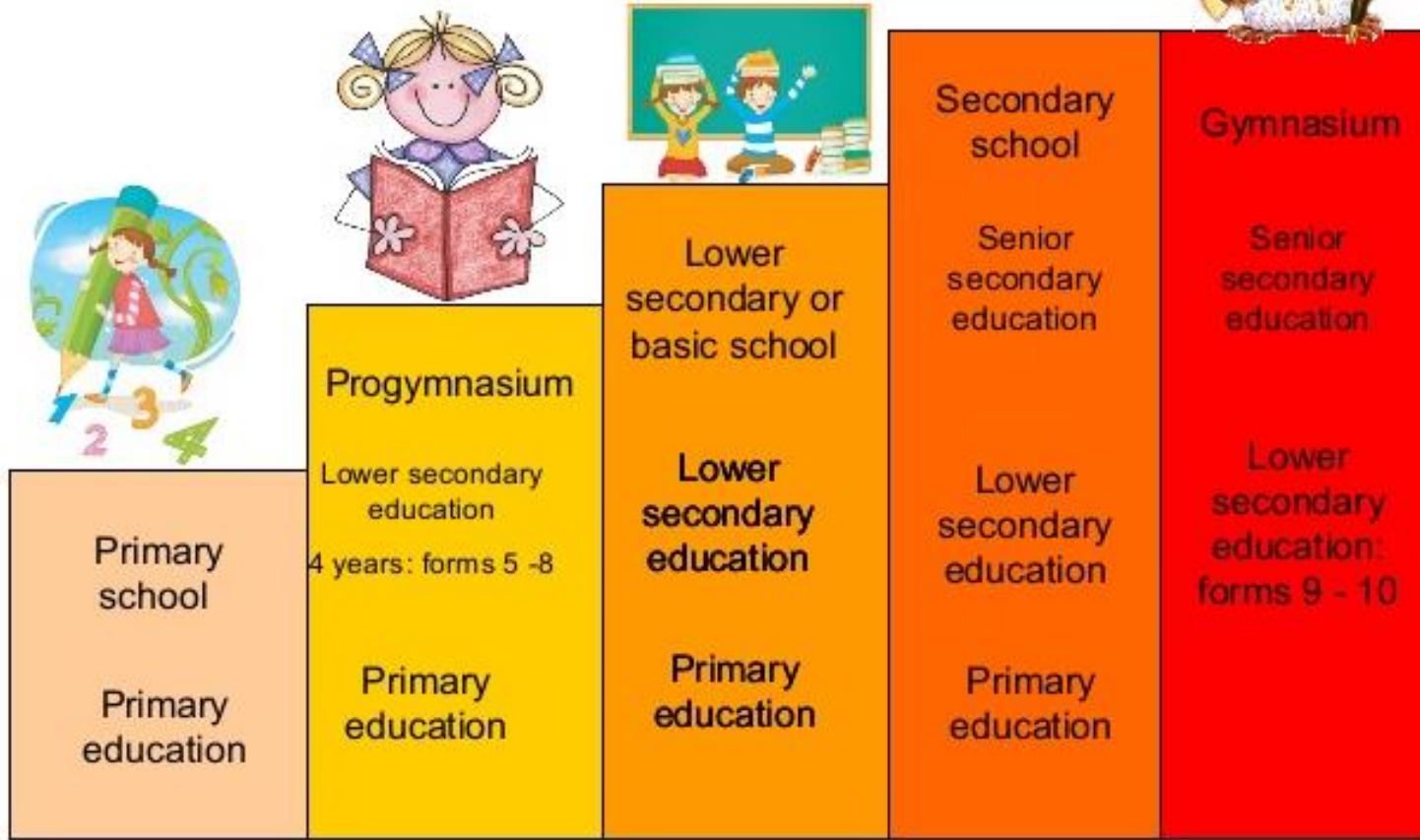
Lithuanian Educational Background

The education system of Lithuania was developed in the 16th century. In the 16th century there was a growth in primary and catholic schools in Lithuania. Earlier there were no higher education institutions so children use to study in Western Europe universities. In 1579 was established the first local university- Vilnius university. This is the oldest university in Eastern Europe.

Pre-school education

Pre-primary education

Primary education

Secondary education- Basic/lower and upper secondary education

Pre-school Education

This educational level is for children aged 5 or 6. The pre-school education in Lithuania is not mandatory to attend, and is provided by the public and private kindergartens and nursery schools.

Pre-primary Education

This educational level is for children aged 5 to7. This educational level lasts for 1 year and is provided to children aged 6, while in some cases, to children aged 5. This educational level prepares children for school level.

Compulsory Education
In Lithuania, education is compulsory for all children aged 6/7 to 16.

Secondary Education
Secondary education in Lithuania encompasses basic/lower secondary and upper secondary education. This educational level is not mandatory to attend.

Lower Secondary Education/Basic Education
This educational level lasts for 6 years and is for children aged 10 to 17.

This educational level is compulsory and comprises of 2 parts:
Part 1: Consists of a 4-year programme carried out in the 5th to 8th forms
Part 2: Consists of a 2-year programme executed in the 9th-10th forms or 1st-2nd forms of the gymnasium.

Upper Secondary Education

This educational level is for children aged 16 to 19 and lasts for 2 years. This level prepares students for higher education. The upper secondary education in Lithuania is not mandatory. It covers 11th-12th forms of the secondary education or forms 3 and 4 of the gymnasium. This educational level is offered in secondary schools, gymnasiums, and vocational education and training schools.

Higher Education

The higher education in Lithuania is imparted by the universities and colleges. Lithuania has adopted the Bologna system in 2006. Tertiary education in Lithuania is based on the European credit system (ECTS)

Higher Education Institutions:
Universities: These higher education institutions provide academic studies that lead to a bachelor, master and PhD degrees.

Colleges: These higher education institutions are non-academic and provide vocational education and offer professional bachelor degrees.

Higher Education Qualifications

Following are the degrees offered by the higher education institutions in Lithuania:

Bachelor's degree: This degree lasts for 3-4 years

Master's degree: This qualification lasts for 1-2 years

Doctorate degree: The duration of this qualification varies depending upon the study area.

Vocational Education and Training
The vocational education and training in Lithuania comprises of:

Initial vocational education and training
or
Continuing vocational education and training

Adult Education

Adults can go for primary, lower secondary or upper secondary education in adult schools or education centres. In Lithuania, general education schools have been set up for adults. These schools provide non-formal adult education programmes. WE have few 3rd ages universities in biggest towns.

Welcome to Lithuanian school