



# LUXEMBOURG

## INFOPACK - RECOGNITION OF LEARNING PERIODS ABROAD IN GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION

### Contents

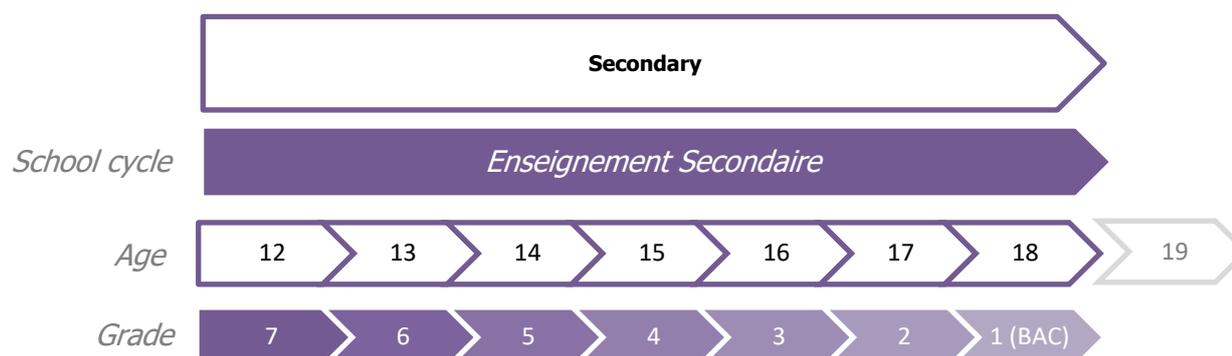
<b><u>GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM</u></b>	<b>1</b>
<b><u>INFORMATION FOR PUPILS GOING ABROAD</u></b>	<b>2</b>
<b><u>RECOGNITION OF LEARNING PERIODS ABROAD</u></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>INFORMATION FOR HOSTED PUPILS</u></b>	<b>3</b>

The information below gives an overview of procedures<sup>1</sup> for the recognition of learning periods abroad in general secondary school. It can be consulted by pupils, as well as their families and teachers, who are or plan to be involved in long-term individual pupil mobility programmes abroad. Please note that this general overview does not include details on different programme types (which may be run by governmental agencies, civil society organisations, private companies or schools themselves) and such information can be obtained directly with the provider of the respective mobility programme.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on data gathered in February 2021.

## GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEM



Education is compulsory until 16 years of age. General secondary school is divided into two options:

- Classic: *filière académique* (Enseignement Secondaire Classique – ESC)
  - classical school with a strong level of language teaching of German and French.
- General: *filière technique* (Enseignement Secondaire Général – ESG)
  - 1st Division, usual courses with teaching of German and French
  - 2nd Division: professional studies/VET (DT, DAP & CCP<sup>2</sup>)

In 5th grade, at the end of the school year, depending on their results, pupils are divided in three categories: advanced (*avancés*), satisfactory (*satisfaisants*), vocational (*professionnels*). Based on these categories, they are directed towards specific studies. The pupils falling in the advanced category are directed to studies focused on scientific subjects. The pupils meeting the satisfactory criteria are directed to studies focused more on humanities than scientific subjects. Pupils falling under the vocational category as directed to vocational training (DT, DAP, CCP). As from the 4th grade, pupils are every year assessed and can be redirected to another category of studies, although the choice of studies done at the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade is almost definitive.

### Graduation and Certification

All pupils who pass the 2nd grade of secondary school (second last grade), are automatically entitled to take the examination which leads to the awarding of a secondary school diploma.

The end-of-school examination is organised by the school and includes exams on six subjects. The final mark for each exam discipline is made up of one third of the average marks from the last grade (BAC) and two thirds of the final exam mark. Disciplines not presented for the exam are assessed with an annual average: they are still taken into account in the decision to award the final certificate and mentioned on the diploma.

The diploma provides access to university, although some faculties might require pupils to take entrance exams.

For more information on the structure and features of the different national education systems in Europe please see the Eurydice overview: National Education Systems | Eurydice (europa.eu).

<sup>2</sup> DT: Technician diploma, DAP: Professional Aptitude Diploma, CCP: Certificate of Professional Capacity.

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## INFORMATION FOR PUPILS GOING ABROAD FROM LUXEMBOURG

### Age and grade

There are currently no individual long-term pupil mobility programmes offered in Luxembourg. The 4th and 3rd grade would be the most recommended period for pupils to enroll in an individual pupil mobility. In fact, as at the end of 5th grade they are assessed to determine their further address of studies, in this specific school year is considered particularly important to perform well and a period abroad might not be indicated. While in the 2nd grade, pupils focus on paving their way for continuing their higher education and might be reluctant to spend a period abroad.

Potentially, pupils could enrol in individual exchange programmes in the 1st year/BAC to explore the country where they might go to university the following year. In addition, this year of school only has a few courses which have to be followed and is mainly aimed at preparing for the final exam. However, in several countries, (e.g. Germany, France) schools do not accept exchange pupils older than 17, as they would need to be placed in the last year of secondary school where most often pupils are preparing for the final school exams.

### RECOGNITION OF LEARNING PERIODS ABROAD

As there are no individual pupil mobility programmes, there is no recognition system in place.

*There is no information on whether a learning agreement between sending and host school has ever been used as a tool for recognition.*

## INFORMATION FOR PUPILS HOSTED IN LUXEMBOURG

### Registration in the host school

There are no programmes that foresee hosting of foreign pupils in Luxembourg within the framework of an individual pupil mobility, therefore there is no information available on what could be the practice for enrolment in the school and assessment of the hosted pupil.

### Possibility of graduating in the host country during the exchange

Although there is no practice of hosting exchange pupils, they could be hosted in the last grade 'BAC' and obtain a secondary school diploma: in order to be admitted to the exams they need to prove they passed the 2nd grade in secondary school in their home country. However, this is a rare practice.

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