



Office of Career Counseling and Educational Services

**Ministry of Education and
Culture**



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Inspector of Guidance

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We are presenting

- Education in Cyprus
- Adult Education in Cyprus
- Guidance in Cyprus





Education in Cyprus

- Primary Education
- Secondary Education
 - Lower Secondary Education
 - Upper Secondary Education – (Including Secondary Vocational Education)
- Higher Education

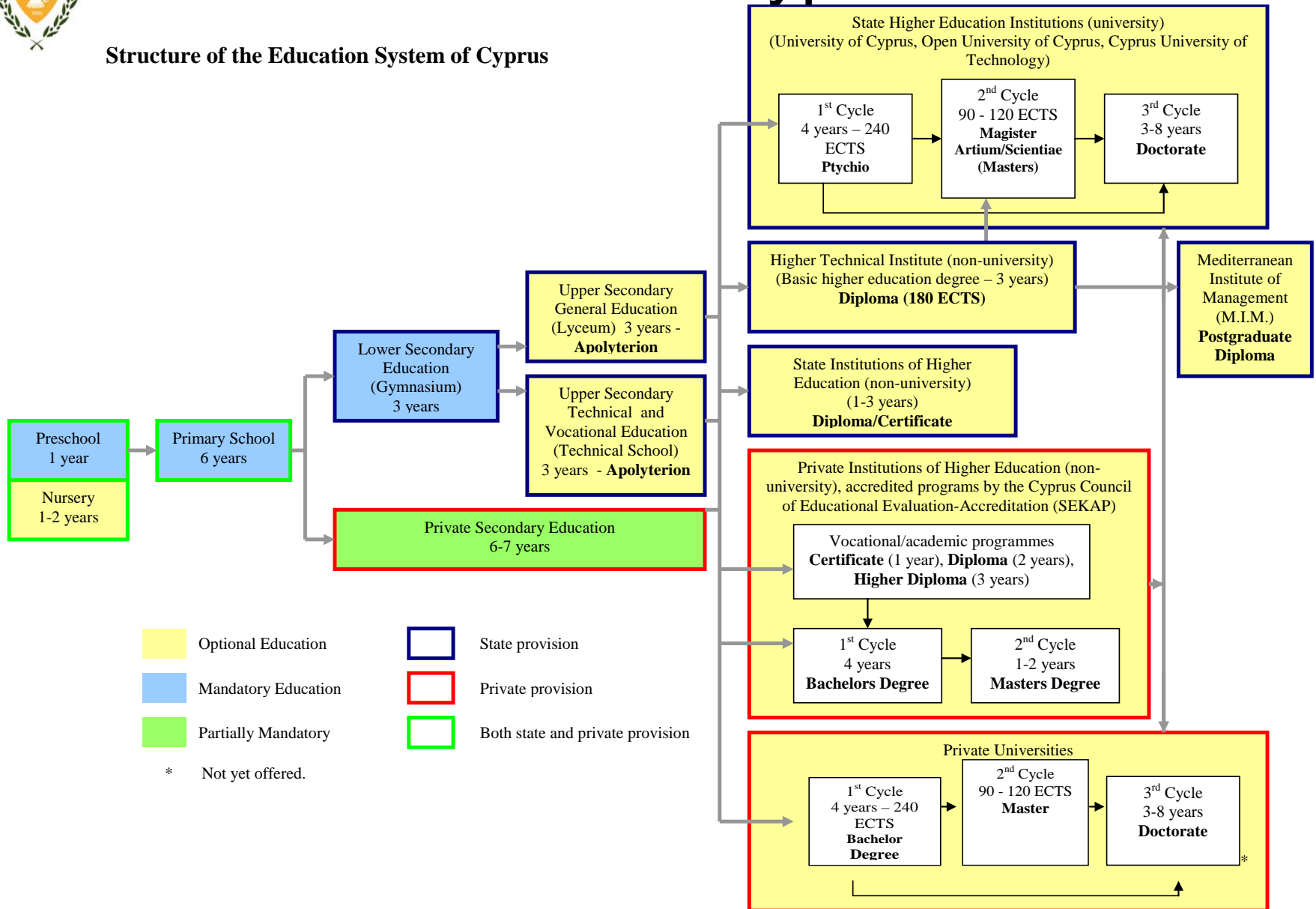
**Education in Cyprus is: 86% Public
14% Private**





Education in Cyprus

Structure of the Education System of Cyprus





Adult Education Centres



Adult Education Centers - run by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Aims:

- To provide opportunities of “Life Long Learning” to all individuals.
- To assist in the personality development of each individual as well as the social, economic and cultural progress of society in general.



Adult Education Centres

- Every year more than 70 different subjects are offered by the centres (e.g. Greek language for foreigners, Computers, Dancing, Byzantine music, and Literature, Painting, Arts and crafts etc).
- More than 20,000 participate in the programs, each year.





Guidance in Cyprus



Career Counseling
and Educational
Service



Department of Labor



Various Stakeholders
– Youth organization,
Universities etc



Private Sector – Universities,
agents etc



Career Counseling and Education Service: What we do

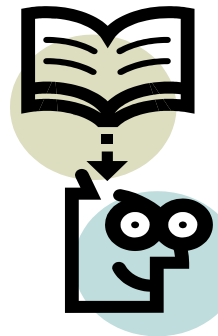
- The Counseling and Career Educational Service (C.C.E.S.) legally belongs to the Directorate of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education and Culture. The key objective is personal, social, educational and vocational development of students and others.





What we do

- The C.C.E.S. has offices where Vocational Education Counseling takes place, in all schools of the General Public Secondary and Technical Education.
- There is also a Head Office situated within the Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture.





C.C.E.S. helps students and young adults:

- To know and accept themselves and to develop healthy attitudes.
- Develop a positive image for themselves and acquire the right skills to deal effectively with personal, family or social problems in life.
- To adapt to the school environment and to the educational and social progress and development.
- Develop the necessary skills to enable them to take rational decisions, both for educational / professional or personal matters.
- To recognize their individual capabilities, interests, skills and inclinations, to know the nature and requirements of various professions, and contemporary socio-economic and cultural developments, which can lead to good educational options.





Establishment and Operation of C.C.E.S.

- The Vocational Guidance as previously called, was founded in 1964. It was renamed in 1997, to Counseling and Career Educational Service.
- The staffing of C.C.E.S. with permanent qualified staff started in 1986, until 1990. The renaming of the Office to C.C.E.S. seemed appropriate to respond to new international practices. It also explains better, the main role of the Office – both at the Headquarters of the Ministry of Education and Culture and at the General Secondary Schools and Technical Education.



Headquarters C.C.E.S. Ministry of Education and Culture

- The Head Office of C.C.E.S. is housed at the Ministry of Education and Culture, Nicosia. The mission of the Central Office is to carry out supervisory, administrative and coordinating duties.
- The Head Office of C.C.E.S. is open to the public and has a library that is enriched with informative material on Counseling and Vocational Education.
- The C.C.E.S. also publishes books, sends informative material on educational matters and information for counselors, students, parents, and generally to all stakeholders.





District Offices C.C.E.S.

- In the last two years, we have started operating Offices of the C.C.E.S in three provinces. The offices are open to the public every Tuesday and Wednesday, in Larnaca, Limassol and Paphos.





Objectives of C.C.E.S.

- Self-knowledge (knowledge of self detection- understanding of personal abilities, inclinations, interests, values, aspirations, etc.)
- Confidence
- Self-realization (use of personal abilities, inclinations, interests)
- Adapting to the school and social environment
- Making rational, personal, educational and occupational decisions



The Role of the C.C.E.S. Schools



The C.C.E.S. in Secondary Schools:

- Each school today, has an office where the Counselor accepts students, parents and stakeholders so they can deal with the personal, educational and / or vocational choices/ difficulties etc.



- The Counselor helps students to address personal, family and educational problems. In addition to that it offers a lesson of **Vocational and Social Education** during the first semester. The **Target** of the course on Occupational Education is to help students acquire the necessary skills and to obtain appropriate educational decisions.

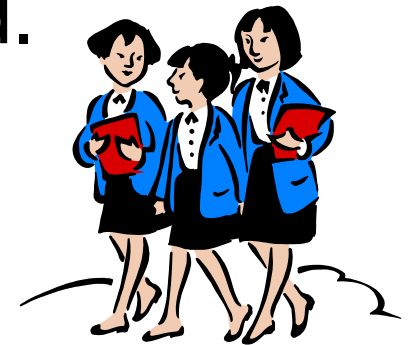


- **The Purpose** of Social Education is to equip students with the right skills to meet the difficulties and problems in life and to help them, among other things, to develop mechanisms of resistance against substance abuse and dependence.



The C.C.E.S. in Lyceums / Technical Schools

- The mission of Teachers in Lyceums / Technical schools is the same as in High schools. Each of these Schools also offers specialized assistance for the educational / career choices of students and their introduction to Higher Education Institutions in Cyprus and abroad.





The Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance

Since 2006: Public Employment Services offer individualized counselling at their District and Local Labour Offices.

Aim:

- To facilitate the early placement of those job seekers who are not ready to enter the labour market.





Individualized counselling



- **Individualized counselling:**
- Originally used for «the hard to place job seekers» & vulnerable groups (e.g. disabled, single parents, and long term unemployed).
- Now: available to all job seekers who wish to benefit from the service. In particular, depending on the assessment of the first line PES officer, as regards prospects of accessing employment as well as on the job seekers consent, the
- Individualized counselling can start either from the very first day of registration as unemployed or at any time later.



The main phases of the individualized counselling

- *Profiling*
 - *Action Plan*
 - *Follow Up*
- During the initial assessment the counsellor through a structured interview (usually lasts up to 40 minutes) and with the use of a specific form collects all necessary information relevant to the personal characteristics /situation, that will allow him to profile the needs and potentials of the job seeker and on the basis of which the counsellor will prepare together with the job seeker the *Individual Action Plan*.





Individual Action Plan



- The information collected allows the counsellor to diagnose the level of intervention that the job seeker needs and constitutes the initial stage for the creation of an effective *Individual Action Plan*. Above all, an individual action plan is drawn up jointly with the job seeker. The advantage of this approach is that it ensures the active involvement of the job seeker in creating his own Individual Action Plan and in some respects his commitment to follow it. Another advantage is that their active involvement forces them to identify and establish clear targets and steps that they must follow in order to find employment.



Individual Action Plan

- IAPs include all actions that could take place in order to facilitate access and integration in employment for the job seeker. In particular it contains:
- Counselling
- forming a cv,
- preparing for a job interview,
- improving self-esteem,
- empowerment,
- informing the job seeker of her/ his choices for training or job openings etc
- Vocational guidance
- obtaining work experience (assisting the job seeker in deciding the nature of the job),
- obtaining skills training (informing and assisting the job seeker in deciding on the specific training program), referring the job seeker to a job opening or to self employment schemes (informing and assisting the job seeker in deciding the job opening she/ he will apply for, informing and assisting the job seeker in deciding on self employment, accordingly assistance in filling out the necessary documents) and,
- Follow up - Following up the clients' progress at various intervals up to two years after the action plan has been implemented.





Thank you for your
attention

