

Choosing a high school in the Czech Republic

Inscription and admission process

A meeting for parents

2024



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Prerequisites for high school admission

- Finished **9 years of compulsory school attendance** – legalized and translated copies of school reports (due to application forms preferably from last 2 years)
 - **recognition of foreign education (nostrifikace) is not required for transition between elementary (9 years) and high school** – (it's only needed when it's not possible to document completing 9 years in any other way or if elementary is finished in less than 9 years)
- **Residency permit** – has to be presented at latest on the 1st day of school (**2. 9. 2024**) – passport or residency ID
- **Fulfillment of school's admission criteria**
- For minors (**under 18**) all actions undertaken by a **legal representative**

High school types

Schools finished with:

- ❑ **vocational certificate (vocational schools – „SOU“)** – 3 years, preparation for particular professions; emphasis on practical education (code H)
 - possibility of follow-up study (+ 1-2 years, finished with graduation exams)

- ❑ **Graduation („maturita“)** – 4 years (series of exams from min. 4 subjects including Czech language)
 - General grammar school „gymnázium“ (code K)
 - Specialized high schools („SOŠ“ – business academy, industrial schools, medical schools)(codes M, L)
 - Art schools – conservatories (music, dance, drama)
 - some start earlier – after 5th grade of elementary schools

Warning: code E programs are designed for children with special needs and are not equal to code H programs; absolutely not suitable for foreigners whose only disadvantage is the language barrier

Choosing a high school

- www.infoabsolvent.cz
- www.atlasskolstvi.cz, www.seznamskol.eu
- www.prihlaskynastredni.cz info about school capacities
- websites of individual schools
- education counseling facilities
(pedagogicko-psychologické poradny/ PPP)
- education fairs (like [Schola Pragensis](#))
- „**Doors open days**“
<https://www.stredniskoly.cz/dny-otevrenych-dveri/>
- word of mouth, other reference



Free x paid education

- **Schools established by regional authority** – free education
- **Schools established by other subjects** – tuition fees – for exact amount see individual websites of each school
- Private schools
- Church schools (usually lower tuition)

- some private schools provide scholarships; also exceptionally some private schools can be free of charge (paid for by the practical part of the education - students work in businesses - apprenticeship)

Application forms

1st round

for the school year 2024/25

- Schools with talent examinations – until 30. 11. – up to 2 applications
- Other high schools – until **20. 2. 2024 – 3 applications** (new this year)
- 1st round results will be published 15. 5. 2024
- **2nd round - 3 applications**
- **3rd** and successive rounds - unlimited applicatioes – school directors put information about accepted applicants in the register

Documentation required for application

– school reports for last 2 years (typically 8th and 9th grade). Coming from:

- a) **Czech elementary** – scanned or photographed reports, schools can also confirm reports via QR code
- b) **Foreign school reports** – scans or copies of school reports and translation thereof*

- conversion of grades to Czech scale is within the authority of the school's director (but preferable to have it included in the school report's translation by court-approved translator)

- Medical report/approval by pediatricist (not always required - see school's Criteria) including chosen study program's code

- Proof of other skills, knowledge, interests, - extracurricular activities, accolades (competitions etc), Czech courses... consider writing a letter of intent

**in case of doubt the director can request a court approved translation of enclosed school documents*

Submitting your applications

3 ways to submit an application:

- **Online** - via www.dipsy.cz using banking e-identity or eGovernment login („Mobilní klíč“)
- **Simplified paper form** – as printout from the online systém
- **Paper form** including all attachments

Prioritization

Determining (the order of) priority for each school:

1 - most desired school (programme) first in your application

2 – study programme next in priority you will be automatically assigned here if you score high enough but fail to secure a place in the 1st school

3 – if you fail to secure a place in schools 1 and 2

(those who had applied in November for schools with talent exams need to determine up to 5 levels of priority – retroactively)

Attention: it will not be possible to change your school after the publication of the results

Applicant can forfeit their place in a school appointed by the algorithm according to the results but doing so they will lose this round of admissions altogether and have to apply anew in the next rounds.

Be aware of:

Watch the deadlines!

Don't leave these things for the last moment:

- legalization and translation of school reports
 - never send the originals (copies only)
- medical report – if required

Communication with the school

- Check your e-mails and the inscription system regularly, answer to the school's requests
- (in case you filed paper applications) check if your mailbox is marked properly; when you receive a notification, letters only stay in the post office for 2 weeks
- Decisions of both acceptance and non-acceptance will not be sent by mail

Invitations

- After receiving your application the school sends you an invitation to the exams with instructions and your personal code (used also publishing the results), terms for the interview etc.
- Unified exams will be held in some of the schools you will apply to (there are 2 terms and 3 schools; it is also possible to be invited for both exam terms to the same school – so **read your invitations carefully!**)



Admission process

- ❑ **admission process criteria – 31. 1. 2024** deadline for publication on the school's website (health requirements, **(specific) school admission exams**, other requirements, average score measurement criteria)
- **graduation programs** – unified entrance exams - JPZ (administered by Cermat) – min. 60% of the overall score
 - 1st round terms:**
 - 1st school - **12. 4. 2024**
 - 2nd school - **15. 4. 2024**
 - **written test from Czech language and literature** – if elementary education was finished abroad the test can be left out based on a **written request filled with the application** – **it will be substituted by an interview** to assess language proficiency
 - **written test from mathematics** – compulsory for all
- **vocational certificate programs** – no general admission tests, results published at the same time as the rest
- **other adjustments** – „adjustment of admission exams“ – recommendation form PPP required (grants extra time, possibility to use a dictionary) – **should be stated in the application!**

Preparation for unified entry exams (JPZ)

On the CERMAT website you can find practice test assignments as well as test assignments from previous years.

Mathematics:

<https://edu.ceskatelevize.cz/porad/nebojte-se-matematiky>

<https://tau.cermat.cz/>, preparatory courses, tutoring

Czech language admission interview:

<https://youtu.be/hBn9hhE0VSU?si=05xMb2bOnIT0EiU9>

don't underestimate preparation, motivation, interest in particular study programme and school...

Admission process results

1st round results will be published **15th May** by schools and in dipsy.cz registration system

Neither successful nor unsuccessful applicants will receive their result by mail!

Appealing against results will only function to remedy possible errors in the admission proces and examinations **not** - as in the past – to accomodate placement in vacated slots (this is now done automatically by the algorithm)

What if I wasn't accepted?

2nd round:

Schools which will be opening 2nd rounds will make this information public before **20th May**

Applicants can submit up to **3 applications** – same as in the 1st round

You can only apply for study programs requiring unified admission exams in case you applied for at least one such study program in the 1st round and took the exam(s) at least once

3rd round and successive rounds

Next rounds can not be initiated before 7th day since publishing of previous round's results

Applicants can submit unlimited number of applications

Paper application forms individually to each school (no need to inscribe other schools where the applicant is applying)

Accepted applicants will be registered in the online system by the school director

Important dates - summary

1st round – application submission **1.- 20.2.2024** (3 applications)

- **Unified admission exams JPZ:** 12.4. and 15.4.
- **School specific exams ŠPZ:** 15.3. - 23.4.
- Substitute dates: JPZ 29.4. and 30.4.; ŠPZ 24.5. - 5.5.
- **1st round results published on 15.5.2024**

2nd round of applications submission 20. – 24. 5. 2024

Selection of materials on admission proces available on [META](#) web

META, o.p.s – Podpora příležitostí ve vzdělávání

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www.meta-ops.cz

www.inkluzivniskola.cz



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