

GUIDE FOR
PARENTS

AND EDUCATORS

ON INTEGRATING
REFUGEE

CHILDREN AND
ADOLESCENTS

INTO SCHOOLS



REALIZAÇÃO



APOIO

MINISTÉRIO DA
JUSTIÇA E
SEGURANÇA PÚBLICA

MINISTÉRIO DA
EDUCAÇÃO



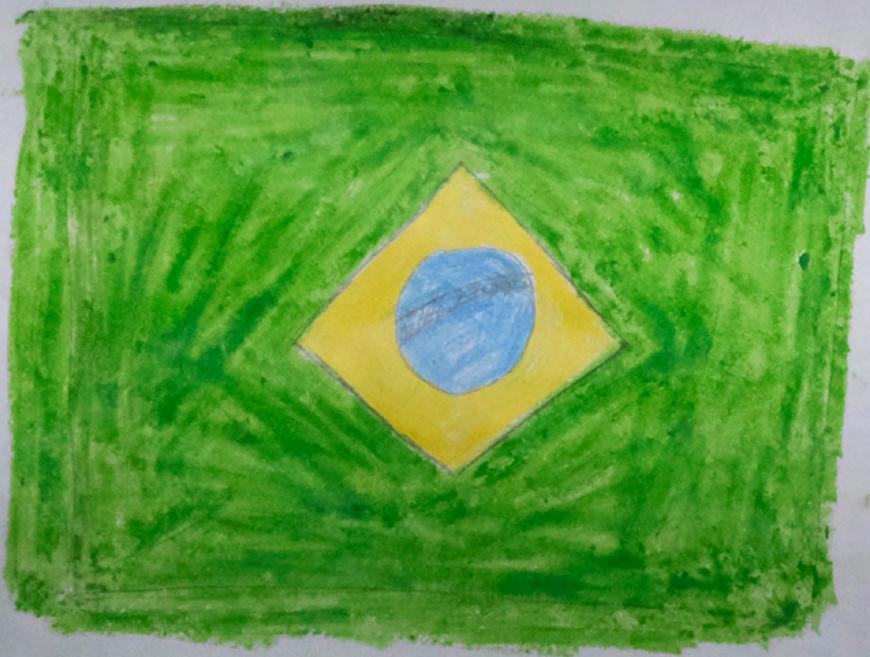


TE AMO

R y R



Wilfred 26.07.2019



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Dear reader,

This guide was created for you who, like us at the UN Agency for Refugees (UNHCR), seeks to find solutions for the integration of refugee children and youth in the school environment. Whether you are an educator, parent, or guardian, we know that only together can we build the bridges and solutions necessary for the classroom and school to be a safe space where they can feel welcomed and find the opportunities that they were denied when forced out of their countries.

Unfortunately, when the issue is education, this population is already at a disadvantage compared to people who are not in a refugee-like situation. The main challenge is entry into educational systems, not only in Brazil but in the world. According to the latest UNHCR Education Report (bit.ly/3vfseLA), the global average is 68% of youth and children enrolled in primary education*. The number is even lower at the secondary level**: 34%. What are the consequences of this? Only 5% of refugees have access to higher education.

These statistics contradicted the universal principle that Education is a basic human right, and unfortunately the numbers are repeated year after year – having worsened recently as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. To be sure, the unprecedented impacts on education affect all children. But for refugee youth and children, who already face significant obstacles in getting a place in the classroom, it can destroy all hopes of getting the education they need to move forward in a new country.

We know that the challenges are countless – from overcrowded classrooms, lack of resources and investments in education, language and cultural barriers to difficulties that go beyond the responsibilities of the school, such as poverty, hunger, and health issues in families. However, there are paths, and that's why we listen to educators from all over Brazil who work daily with these children and young people and we put together this material that aims to offer edifying and constructive solutions for those who welcome and those who are welcomed.

In truth, despite all the difficulties, refugee youth and children want to be treated in the same way as other children and youth everywhere – not as people to be feared or to be pitied, not as statistics, not as problems, not as people who are somehow inferior. They just want to be treated humanely.

I know that we often feel hopeless or unable to make a difference – after all, these are challenging times, without a doubt. But we have the ability to plant seeds today for a world that will be better for our future generations. And refugee youth and children are part of that future, if only they have the opportunity.

In this guide and other materials available on the UNHCR Portal on Education for Refugees (educacaopararefugiados.com.br), prepared in partnership with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, we bring relevant information and content that can inspire you to incorporate small changes that are sure to bring long-term benefits in all spheres of life for these refugee youth and children – and certainly for the places that host them.



Have a nice reading,
Jose Egas

* Primary education corresponds to the 5th year of primary education.

** Secondary education corresponds to the 6th year of elementary school up to the 3rd year of high school.

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Guide for parents and educators on integrating refugee children and adolescents into schools

HOW DOES BASIC EDUCATION WORK IN BRAZIL?

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A young woman with dark hair tied in a bun with a large green flower accessory is looking at a map of South America. The map is mounted on a wall and shows various countries including Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina. The map also includes a table of statistics for Brazil, titled 'BRASIL NUMEROS E DADOS'. The text 'HOW DOES BASIC EDUCATION WORK IN BRAZIL?' is overlaid on the image in white text on colored rectangular backgrounds.

HOW DOES BASIC EDUCATION WORK IN BRAZIL?





BASIC EDUCATION

Basic Education is mandatory in Brazil for children and adolescents from four to seventeen years old, being offered free of charge in official public institutions.

CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

is from 0 to 5 years old. Parents or guardians should enroll children in basic education when they are 4 years old.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

comprises from 1st grade to the 9th grade, with compulsory entry at 6 years old in the 1st grade of Primary Education, with a completion forecast at 14 years old.

HIGH SCHOOL

corresponds to, at a minimum, three years of studies, from the 10th grade to the 12th grade, aimed at adolescents from 15 to 17 years old.

At what school level should the child or adolescent be enrolled?



CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

it is intended for children from 0 to 5 years old, who are enrolled obeying only the age criterion.

Daycare: for children from 0 to 3 years old; enrollment is not mandatory and depends on the vacancies offered by the public network.

Preschool: for all children from 4 to 5 years old, and enrollment is mandatory.



PRIMARY EDUCATION

In the 1st grade the enrollment will obey only the age criterion for the child, that is, 6 years old. From the 2nd Year of Primary Education, for students who do not have school documentation, (diploma, school transcript, certificate, declaration, among others, from the country of origin) an assessment will be applied to verify the student's degree level of development for enrollment in the appropriate grade. If the child does not speak Portuguese, this assessment should be carried out in their native language.



HIGH SCHOOL

Enrollment for adolescents from 15 to 17 years old. The student will have the right to a classificatory assessment, which acknowledges their skills for meeting the High School curriculum, including Technical Vocational Education at High School level. The assessment, which must also be done in the native language of the adolescent, will verify the development degree of the student for enrollment in the appropriate grade.

SUGGESTION:

for more information on enrollment in some states, also see the website: <https://matriculafacil2021.com.br/>

This website is not official but informative, and provides information about states and municipalities that have an online enrollment system.

For more enrollment information, visit the website of Secretaria Estadual de Educação (State Department of Education) of your state.

(EJA)

YOUNG AND ADULT

Basic Education modality that is intended for those who did not have access or continuity of studies in Primary Education and High School at proper age.

For more information about the EJA and enrollment, please contact the Secretaria Estadual de Educação or Secretaria Municipal de Educação (State or Municipal Department of Education), as well as the closest school in your region, or visit the website of the Secretaria Estadual de Educação (State Department of Education) of your state.



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Catalina
Betancur
Sánchez

SUGGESTION:

For more information on enrollment at EJA, also visit the website: <https://matriculafacil2021.com.br/matricula-eja-2021/>

This website is not official but informative and provides information about states and municipalities that have an online enrollment system.

ATTENTION: If the person is 15 years old and has not yet completed Primary Education, or 18 years old and has not completed High School, they can enroll in the EJA to complete their studies.



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Escobar-Jaramillo

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can enroll?

All children and adolescents who are refugees, stateless persons, applicants for refugee status and immigrants in Brazil can enroll free of charge in the public education system in Brazil.

The right to education is ensured under our Federal Constitution, by art. 205, as highlighted by item X of art. 4 of our Migration Law. The right to education is universal and independent of the migratory situation in the national territory.

Where to enroll?

In all school units in Brazil that offer basic education.

And will the child of daycare age be able to be enrolled?

Yes, access to daycare in Brazil is the responsibility of the Federal District and the city.

It is necessary to look for the educational institution, or municipal education department, or daycare center to enroll. In the case of the Federal District, just call 156.

Once required, the enrollment will be immediately assured in compulsory basic education, including in the young and adult's education modality and, according to the availability of vacancies, in daycares (§ 1º do art. 1º da Resolução CNE nº 1, de 13 de novembro de 2020).

What should I do?

Directly seek out the daycare center or the State or Municipal Education Department.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What grade should I enroll my child in?

In the absence of school documentation proving previous schooling, refugees, stateless persons, and applicants for refugee status children and adolescents will be entitled to enroll in any grade, stage, or another organization form of Basic Education, according to their development and age group. You will be entitled to an evaluation and classification procedure, carried out at the time of enrollment, in your native language. At the end of the school year, an evaluation will be carried out for the definitive classification of the student in proper grade.

Who should you look for to enroll in school?

In Brazil, it is the parents or guardians of the child who are able to enroll them in an educational institution, whether public or private. Thus, parents or guardians of the child must look for the school, preferably accompanied by their children.

If the student is of legal age, he/she is able to enroll himself/herself, but this situation applies to Higher Education and, sometimes, to Technical and High School.

In the case of children starting the first cycle of basic education, it is also necessary to present a birth certificate. As for the teenagers who will enroll in High School, they must also hand in their school transcripts and the transcripts of completion of Primary Education.

It is important to know that the documents required may vary by educational institution, county or state. Therefore, if you have any questions, please, contact the school to verify which documents are required and if there is a need to present the originals, not just copies.

If necessary, present CNE Resolution No. 1, November 13, 2020, to the responsible for the school, to better explain the situation.

I don't have the documents! And now?

Even then, enrollment can be carried out. The enrollment in educational institutions of refugees, stateless persons, applicants for refugee status and immigrants' students should be facilitated by the school.

§ 3 of art. 1 of CNE Resolution No. 1, November 13, 2020, provides as follows:

§ 3 Under the terms of the caput of this article, it shall not constitute an obstacle to registration:

I - the absence of sworn translation of documentation proving previous education, personal documentation from the country of origin, National Migration Registry (RNM) or Provisional Document of National Migratory Registry (DP-RNM); and

II - irregular migration status or expiration of the validity periods of the documents presented.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

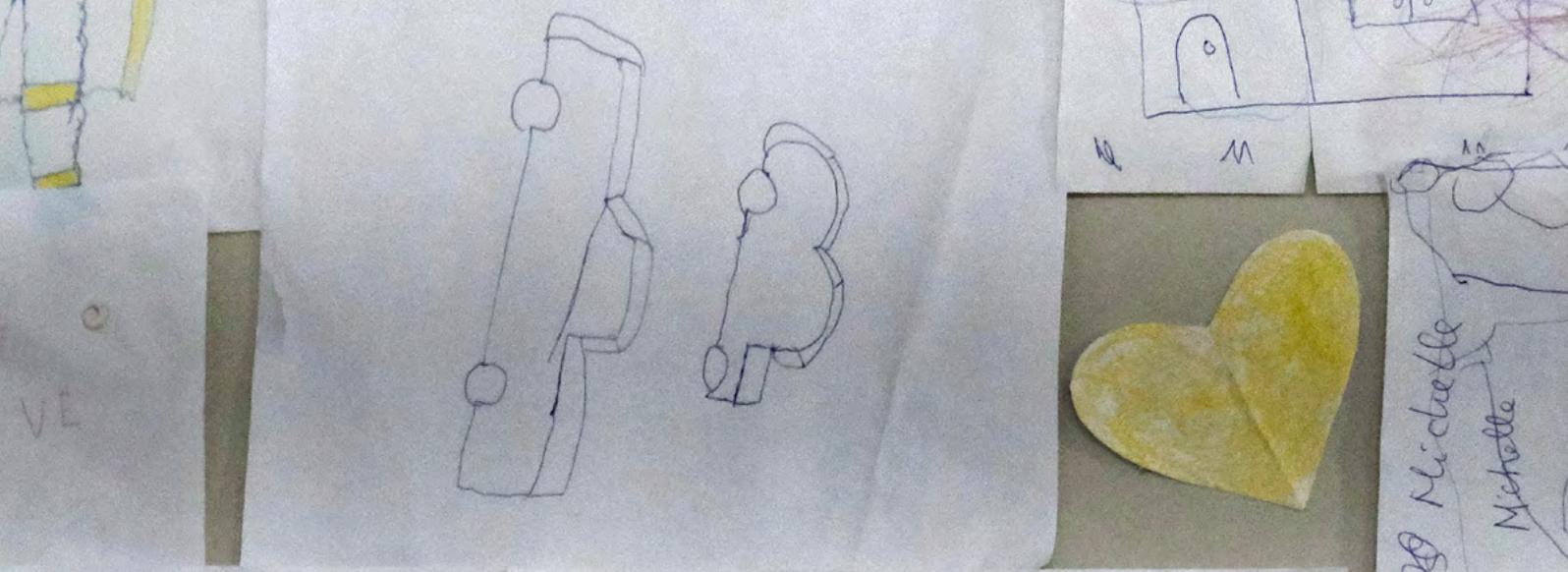
To have access to social programs such as Bolsa Família, it is necessary to keep children enrolled in school. The minimum school attendance should be 85% of the monthly credit hour for students from 06 to 15 years old, and 75% for students 16 and 17 years old. Also, be aware of the Plano Nacional de Imunizações (National Immunization Plan). It is a requirement of the Bolsa Família program to be up to date with the vaccines of children and young people.



MILUSY
NABEREM
5 ANOS
2-07-2019

MILUSY

THE RIGHT
TO EDUCATION
IN BRAZIL



Mi nombre es Michelle
Meu nome e Michella



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1

The right to education in Brazil, what do you need to know?

Basic Education in Brazil is covered by the National Educational Bases and Guidelines Law (LDBEN. Law No. 9.394, December 20, 1996), includes Childhood Education (Preschool), Primary Education, comprising nine years, and High School, comprising three years. Basic Education **is free, mandatory, and universal.**

What does it mean? It means that the state has a duty to ensure free access to Basic Education for children and adolescents from 4 to 17 years old. Therefore, we will present to you now a list of the main laws and the rights on education that any person has when residing in Brazil.

In Brazil, education is a guaranteed right to children and adolescents living in the country, regardless of their nationality or origin. Therefore, it is important to have accessible information on how to access and enter the Brazilian educational system.



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REMEMBER that the right to education for all in Brazil is guaranteed by the Constitution of 1988, the maximum law of the country, which states in its Article No. 6, Chapter II, that the **education, health, food, work, housing, leisure, security, social security, protection of motherhood and childhood, and assistance to the destitute are social rights.** Art. 205 of the Federal Constitution emphasizes that education is “a social right and a duty of the State and the family, it will be promoted and encouraged with the collaboration of society, aiming at the full development of the person, its preparation for the exercise of citizenship and its qualification for the work”.

2

What does Brazilian law say about the right of refugees, applicants for recognition of refugee status, stateless persons and migrants to Education?

National Educational Bases and Guidelines Law (LDBEN No. 9,394, 1996)

Is the most important document to understand the Brazilian educational system since it ensures free education in official educational establishments.

Basic Education is compulsory and free from 4 (four) to 17 (seventeen) years old.

These rights are reinforced by the Statute of the Child and Adolescent (ECA) (Law No. 8.069, July 13, 1990)

Which states in its chapter IV, Article 53 that “children and adolescents have a right to education, aiming at their full development for the exercise of citizenship and qualification for the labor market”. For this, it ensures equal conditions for access to and permanence at school.

The right to education is also reinforced by the Migration Law, Law No. 13.445 May 24, 2017

which establishes principles and guidelines for national migration policy. According to the Migration Law, equal and free access to refugees and immigrants should be guaranteed, including social programs and benefits, public assets, education, comprehensive public legal assistance, work, housing, banking, and social security, without distinction of any kind, as well as without distinction of the migratory situation in Brazil.

3

What are the refugee identification documents, applicants for recognition of refugee status and migrants in Brazil?

In Brazil there are national documents that identify the refugee, applicants for recognition of refugee status and migrant. They are issued by the Federal Police and indicate name, affiliation, date of birth and nationality. There are three types of document, the main one being the National Migration Registry Card (CRNM).

The other two documents are specific to applicants for recognition of refugee status and are valid throughout the national territory. They are the Refuge Protocol and the Provisional Document of National Migration Registry (DPRNM). It is the identification document of the applicant for refugee status in Brazil, it facilitates their access to public services, especially those related to education, health, social security, and assistance.

4

Regulation that provides for enrollment in education services in Brazil

In all these laws and decrees, it is important to highlight Resolution CNE No. 1, November 2020 of the National Council of Education (CNE) and the Council of Basic Education (CEB), which provides for the right to enroll refugee children and adolescents, stateless persons, and applicants for refugee and immigrants status in public networks of basic education, without the requirement of documentary evidence of previous schooling.

According to this resolution, once required, the enrollment will be immediately ensured in compulsory basic education, including the Young and Adult Education (EJA) modality and, in the daycares, depending on the availability of vacancies. It is also highlighted that in the absence of previous school documentation, refugee, stateless persons, applicants for refugee status and immigrants' students will be entitled to evaluation/classification process in their native language, allowing enrollment in any grade, stage, or another organization form of Basic Education, according to their development and age group.

The lack of documents should not prevent or hinder access to the Brazilian education system. The education systems will be responsible for ensuring enrollment, welcoming, evaluating, and grading the student in the appropriate grade.



Other important points of
Resolution CNE No. 1, 2020.

- I. Enrollment in Childhood Education and the first grade of Primary Education should only comply with the criterion of age of the child;
- II. For enrollment from the second grade of Primary Education and in High School, education systems must apply evaluation procedures to verify the development degree of the student and their insertion in the appropriate level and school year;
- III. **The evaluation/classification process should be done in the student's native language, and it is up to the education systems to comply with it;**
- IV. The education systems should apply evaluation procedures to verify the development degree of the student and its adequate insertion in the school stage;
- V. Classification for insertion at the appropriate school level and grade will consider the age and the development degree of the student;
- VI. Equivalence and classification assessments should consider the student's trajectory, language, and culture, and favor their reception.

IMPORTANT: If the school refuses or complicates the enrollment procedure, seek the Guardianship Council or Public Prosecutor's Office of your region.

Learn more about the Brazilian Constitution, Decrees, and Laws on access to education. Access online through the links below:

- Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil, 1988 bit.ly/3gSmJfx
- Statute of the Child and Adolescent, 1990 – Law No. 8,069, July 13, 1990 bit.ly/3DQktj9
- National Educational Bases and Guidelines Law, 1996 – Law No. 9,394, December 20, 1996 bit.ly/3thmNL6
- Statute of Refugees in Brazil – Law No. 9,474, July 22, 1997 bit.ly/3mZUvlq
- High School Reform – Law No. 13,415, February 16, 2017 bit.ly/3yFmbzG
- Migration Law – Law No. 13.445, May 24, 2017 bit.ly/3zADEuy
- Regulation of the Migration Law – Decree No. 9,199, November 20, 2017 bit.ly/3AJNLgr
- Provides for the enrollment right of refugee children and adolescents – Resolution No. 1, November 13, 2020 bit.ly/2Y1fzAy
- Provisional Document of National Migration Registry – Decree No. 9,277, February 5, 2018 bit.ly/3yClCHa
- Provides for the enrollment right of refugee children and adolescents – Resolution No. 1, November 13, 2020. bit.ly/2Y1fzAy



aprender
a convivir

Y ESPERO QUE
NUESTRA FAMILIA
ESTEMOS JUNTOS
DE NUEVO



Y que mi papa
consiga un empleo
brasil es un buen
pais...

gracias por brindarnos
toda brasil...

Naomi ♡
Samantha y...

Me gusta
estar en
Brasil



que mama con siga
un trabajo



A young boy with dark hair is sitting at a blue desk, reading a book. He is looking down at the pages. In the foreground, there are several other books and papers on the desk. One book has a pink cover with a girl's face. Another book is open, showing a page with a drawing of a person's face. The background is slightly blurred, showing a classroom environment with bookshelves and colorful decorations.

HOW DOES EDUCATION WORKS IN BRAZIL?



1

Is children's school attendance mandatory?

Yes, if they are between 04 and 17 years old, given that, according to the National Educational Bases and Guidelines Law, the attendance of students in this age group at school is mandatory.

In Childhood Education, the minimum required attendance is 60% of the total hours (800 hours distributed over 200 school days). School attendance in Childhood Education is not an element for retention, because there is no "failure" in this education stage (BRASIL, 1996). For Primary Education and High School, the minimum attendance required for approval is 75% of the minimum 800-hour annual credit hour (LDB). The responsibility to ensure school attendance lies with the public authorities together with parents and guardians (BRASIL, 1996, art 4 § 1º; BRASIL, 1990, Art 54. § 3º).

IMPORTANT: If children from 4 years old are not enrolled in public or private school, parents can be legally charged with the act of intellectual abandonment of a child in school age, according to Article 246 of the Brazilian Criminal Code!

Schools are responsible for controlling student attendance. Therefore, schools have the responsibility to inform the father and mother, living with their children or not, and, if applicable, the legal guardians, about the attendance of students (LDBEN, 1996). And also, communicate the Guardianship Council in the case of unjustified absences repetition of students who present more than 30% of the percentage allowed by law and of school evasion, having exhausted the school resources (BRASIL, 1990).

2

How does the school calendar work in Brazil?



The school year in Brazil has at least 200 classes days and is divided into two semesters - 1st semester, from February to July, and 2nd semester, from August to December.

The school year starts in February and ends in December. In July there is a small school recess and school holidays take place in January. Also, it is important to observe the national holidays which impact the school calendar.

3

What is Special Education in Brazil and how does it work?

Special Education is a transversal modality at all levels and modalities of education in Brazil. It is based in the fact that education is a human right and should be offered, and the schools are responsible for organizing themselves to attend to the students with special needs, ensuring the necessary conditions for quality education for everyone.

To Special Education students (disabilities, global developmental disorders, and high skills or giftedness), school education will preferably be offered in the regular teaching network; these schools offer specialized services. If, due to specific conditions of the student, and their integration in the regular classes is deemed impossible, the educational service will be held by means of other classes, schools, or specialized public services.



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Georgina Goodwin

IMPORTANT: If the school refuses or complicates the enrollment procedure, seek the Guardianship Council or Public Prosecutor's Office of your region.

4

What is Childhood Education?

In Brazil, Early Childhood Education is the first stage of Basic Education and aims at the integral development of children from 0 to 5 years of age in their physical, affective, intellectual, linguistic and social aspects, complementing the action of the family and the community.

Childhood Education has an attending varied training, being able to work in a minimum part-time of 4 hours or a minimum full-time of 7 hours, always in the daytime period.

REMEMBER:

Remember: Childhood Education is divided into two phases: **daycare**, for children from 0 to 3 years old, and **preschool**, for all children from 4 to 5 years old. The enrollment is mandatory from 4 years old.

HOW TO ENROLL IN CHILDHOOD EDUCATION?

Enrollment in Childhood Education will be based on the child's age. Therefore, there are no evaluations or tests for the insertion of children in the educational establishments of Childhood Education.

Daycare: Enrollment will be subject to the vacancy availability; those interested in this school phase should contact the Municipal or State Department of Education.

Preschool: Parents/guardians can request enrollment directly at the school office closest to their residence or work. The enrollment will be immediately guaranteed, even in the absence of documentation.

The request for enrollment in Childhood Education can be made at any time, including for Special Education students. In Childhood Education there is no retention, that is, children do not "fail".

5

What is Primary Education?

In Brazil, Primary Education is the second stage of Basic Education and aims at the basic training of students between 06 and 14 years old, through:

[...] the development of the learning ability, through the mastery of reading, writing and calculation; the understanding of the natural and social environment, the political system, the technology, the arts, and the values on which the society is founded; as well as the development of the learning capacity and the knowledge and skills acquisition, and the attitudes and values formation; the strengthening of the family ties, the human solidarity bonds, and tolerance in a reciprocal into the social life is grounded (BRASIL, 1996, p. 32).

Primary Education lasts nine grades, from the 1st to the 9th grade; it is mandatory, free of charge in public educational establishments, and begins at **6 years old in the 1st grade compulsorily**.



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HOW TO ENROLL IN PRIMARY EDUCATION?

Enrollment in Primary Education takes place directly at the school and at any time. For this, it is enough for the person or the concerned parents/guardians to request enrollment directly at the closest school secretary to their residence or work. Enrollment should be immediately guaranteed, even in the absence of documentation. See more information in the section “The right to education in Brazil CNE Resolution No. 1, 2020”.

The enrollment into the **1st grade of Primary Education is mandatory**, obeying the age criterion of having 6 years old completed until March 31 of the year of enrollment.

From the 2nd Year of Primary Education:

- **Students with records of previous schooling:** they must be automatically enrolled in the year equivalent to the documentation submitted.
- **Students without records of previous schooling:** an initial assessment in the student’s native language will be carried out at the time of enrollment, to verify the proper initial classification for insertion in the Basic Education grade compatible with the student’s age and development at the moment. During the school year, other evaluations will take place for insertion adjustments of the student in the grade that best suits their learning stage, which may include periodic evaluations or at the end of the school year.

ATTENTION: The application for enrollment for Primary Education can be made at any time in the school itself, including for Special Education students!

Students over 15 years old who have not completed Primary Education at the proper age have the possibility of completing it through courses or supplementary examinations. See the item **Young and Adult Education (EJA)**.

6

What is High School?

The final stage of Basic Education with a minimum duration of 03 years, which aims to deepen the knowledge of Primary Education, basic preparation for work, and the exercise of citizenship. It aims to improve the individual as a human person, developing their intellectual autonomy and critical thinking, as well as understanding the scientific-technological foundations and the relation between theory and practice in the teaching of each subject (BRASIL, 1996).

With the approval of High School Reform with Law No. 13.415, February 16, 2017, this teaching stage begins to have a structure from two stages that are linked: Basic General Training (FGB) of up to 1,800 hours, and the Training Itineraries (IF) of at least 1,200 hours. The IFs can be offered according to the conditions of each municipality from five areas:

- a) Languages and their technologies;
- b) Mathematics and its technologies;
- c) Natural Sciences and its technologies;
- d) Applied Social Humanities and;
- e) Technical and Professional Education.

During High School, students can take evaluative tests for entry into Higher Education. The tests, at Universidade de Brasília, take place through the Serial Assessment Program - (PAS) annually, or at the end of High School by the Brazilian High School National Examination (ENEM).

HOW TO ENROLL IN HIGH SCHOOL?

High School enrollment must be made at the school offering this education level, upon request.

7

What is EJA (Young and Adult Education)?

For young and adults who have not completed their education at the proper age. They are entitled to Young and Adult Education (EJA) free of charge in public educational establishments.

The LDBEN, Law No. 9,394, 1996, in Article No. 37, § 1, says:

Free of charge, education systems will provide to young people and adults who have not been able to study at regular age, the appropriate educational opportunities, taking into account the students' characteristics, interests, living and working conditions, through courses and examinations.

Many States and Municipalities offer the EJA; the number of vacancies is subject to the infrastructure of the school participating in this modality. **The classes only take place in the nighttime shift.**

The courses and supplementary exams offered at the EJA enable the student to pursue studies on a regular basis. Thus, EJA has a minimum age limit for each segment of the modality:

- Students over 15 years old may complete the Primary Education;
- Students over 18 years old may complete High School.

HOW TO ENROLL IN EJA?

Enrollment is made directly at the school. This modality is an opportunity for education to be universal and to meet everyone's needs.

What do I need to enroll in school?

Once requested, enrollment is guaranteed immediately, even for those who do not have personal documents (identification documents of the country of origin, Brazilian documents, or previous schooling documents).

ATTENTION: There is no maximum age limit for EJA.

REMEMBER:

Resolution 001/2020 states that no document is required for enrollment.



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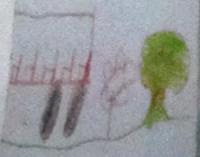
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