

Brazil and the UK: Outline educational equivalence chart

year	Brazil	Age	England, Northern Ireland and Wales	Age	Scotland	year
	Doctorate 4 Years	28		28		
		27		27		
		26		26		
		25		25		
	Masters 2 - 3 years	24		24	Doctorate usually 3 years	
		23	Doctorate usually 3 years	23		
	Especialização PG dips and certs 1- 3 years (optional)	22		22	Masters / MBA usually 1 year	
		21	Masters / MBA usually 1 year	21	PG Dip	
		20	PG Cert	20	PG Cert	
	Undergraduate 4 - 6 years	20		20	Undergraduate 4 - 6 years	
	Tecnologia Licenciatura 3 years	19		19		
	Cursos Superiores Sequenciais 2 years	18	Undergraduate 3 - 5 years	18		
		17		17		
3rd	Vestibular	17	GCE A/AS Level "IB" 2 years	17	SCE Scottish Certificate of Education (Higher)	Yr 12
2nd	Ensino Médio (Secondary Education) 3 years	16	Vocational A/AS Level 2 years	16		Yr 11
1st	Ensino Técnico (Vocational Education) 3 years	15		15	SCE Scottish Certificate of Education (Standard) 4 years	Yr 10
8th		14	GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education 5 years	14	SVQ - Scottish Vocational Qualification 5 years	Yr 9
7th		13		13		Yr 8
6th		12		12		Yr 7
5th	Ensino Fundamental (Primary Education) 8 years	11		11		Yr 6
4th		10		10		Yr 5
3rd		9		9		Yr 4
2nd		8		8		Yr 3
1st		7	Primary level 5 years	7		Yr 2
		6		6		Yr 1
		5		5		
	Pre-school up to 5/6 years (Optional)	4	Pre-preparatory (Nursery School) up to 3 years (Optional)	4	Preparatory up to 3 years (Optional)	
		3		3		
		2		2		

This is an indicative diagram, based on what is believed to be usual practice. It is not a definitive statement of the equivalence of British and Brazilian qualifications. The final decision on all applicants will be the responsibility of individual institutions.

All students must pass the *Vestibular* (the University Entry Exam) to secure a place in a Brazilian university. This is always taken at the end of the 3rd year of the *Ensino Médio* (Secondary Education).

With a good pass in the *Vestibular*, Brazilian students may be able to enter the first year of a U.K. undergraduate degree course otherwise a one year Foundation Course of a Further Education Diploma Course may be required. Other qualifications such as the International Baccalaureate (the IB) are now well regarded entry qualifications.

Brazilian graduates usually enter directly onto a British Master's Degree Course. *Cursos*

Superiores Sequenciais and *Tecnologia* require the students to be inside a degree course to follow this route.

After five years of secondary school British pupils take the GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) exams in some six to ten subjects. The International GCSE is offered at the British School in *Rio de Janeiro* and at St. Paul's in *São Paulo*.

After two further years of specialist study students are usually examined in the GCE A-level (General Certificate of Education) in two to four subjects. AS-level can be taken after the first year of study of an A-level course and is equivalent to half an A-level. The IB is of a similar level and is offered by international schools in Brazil. It is also possible to do vocational subjects at this level of study.

The Scottish System:

A) Primary level: attended by children from the age of 5 - 12.

B) Secondary level: It starts at the age of 12 and is completed after 5 - 6 years of study.

SCE (Scottish Certificate of Education)

SCE*1 Standard Level - taken between the ages of 15 and 16 (it is equivalent to the GCSE)

SCE*2 Higher level - taken between the ages of 16 and 17 by students who are in the 5th year, and between the ages of 17 and 18 by those who are in the 6th year.

SCE Advanced Highers - can be taken in 6th year

c) The Higher Scottish Certificate of Education (or in some institutions the SVQ - Scottish Vocational Qualification) are necessary in order to qualify for university entrance.