

## School

There is a federal school system in Germany. This means that each federal state (e.g. Bavaria) regulates its school system independently. As a result, the school systems in the 16 federal states in Germany are sometimes very different. In Bavaria and thus in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau, the school system is divided as follows:

All schools in Bavaria offer several possibilities to achieve graduation certificates. The following generally apply: With each certificate achieved, the path to the next higher school is open. According to the principle of transmittance, every secondary school awards intermediate school graduation. The first choice of school after Grundschule therefore does not mean a final decision on the child's school career. In general, parents and pupils should take into account in their decisions that it is still possible to change school types at a later date. The Bavarian school system is roughly divided into three parts: the Primary Level, the Secondary Level I and the Secondary Level II. An overview of the Bavarian school system can also be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#). There is also compulsory schooling in Germany. This means that children and adolescents must attend school for at least 9 years.

The Primary Level is the **Grundschule**: it comprises grades 1 to 4 and is the common school for six to ten year olds. After Grundschule, you can attend Mittelschule, Realschule or Gymnasium according to the [transfer regulations](#). The **school-district principle** applies in principle to Grundschulen. This means that children must attend the Grundschule of the municipality or area (district) where they live. All Grundschulen in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau can be found under this [link](#). Detailed information about the Grundschule can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

Secondary Level I is generally divided into three parts:

1, The **Mittelschule**: Mittelschulen guarantee pupils a wide range of pedagogical elements in their educational offerings, either individually or in groups. The Mittelschule comprises of grades 5 to 9 or 5 to 10. The lessons are strongly oriented towards job-related content. Possible degrees are: the successful completion of Mittelschule, the qualifying completion of Mittelschule, the intermediate completion of Mittelschule. The **school-district principle** applies in principle to Mittelschulen. This means that children must attend the Mittelschule of the municipality or area (district) where they live. All Mittelschulen in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau can be found under this [link](#). Detailed information can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

2, The **Realschule**: it comprises of grades 5 to 10. Its educational offer is aimed at young people who are interested in theoretical questions and at the same time have practical skills and inclinations. It provides general education and vocational preparation. Realschule ends with a final examination and awards the Realschule certificate, an intermediate school certificate. At Realschule, there are three training directions, the so-called compulsory elective subject groups. From grade 7 onwards, they set different focal points in the range of courses on offer. All Realschulen in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau can be found under this [link](#). Detailed information can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

3, The **Gymnasium**: Gymnasium comprises of grades 5 to 13 and provides in-depth general education, which is a prerequisite for university studies. Gymnasium ends with the general qualification for university entrance degree (Abitur). All Gymnasien in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau can be found under this [link](#). Detailed information about the Gymnasium can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

One of the special features of the Bavarian school system is a type of school that has been training junior commercial staff for generations: the **Wirtschaftsschule**. It is a vocational preparation school that provides general education and basic vocational training in the fields of business and administration. Depending on the type, the Wirtschaftsschule comprises of grades 7 to 10, 8 to 10 or 10 to 11. Graduation: Intermediate school graduation. There is a Wirtschaftsschule in [Donauwörth](#). Detailed information about the Wirtschaftsschulen can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

#### Secondary Level II:

Secondary Level II includes the upper level Gymnasium (grades 11 to 13 of Gymnasium), attendance at the **Berufsschule** or Berufsfachschule (cf. [training](#)) and the Berufsoberschule (BOS) and Fachoberschule (FOS):

The **Fachoberschule** is based on an intermediate school graduation and provides general, theoretical and practical education. It comprises grades 11 and 12; in grade 11, instruction also includes practical training. Before entering the Fachoberschule, preparatory courses (part-time) are offered for Mittelschule and Wirtschaftsschule students. Until the end of the probationary period in grade 11, intensive remedial teaching in individual subjects is offered across all classes. The Fachoberschule awards the Fachhochschule entrance qualification after passing the Fachabitur examination. For above-average qualified graduates of the Fachabitur examination, a grade 13 can be taken. After passing the Abitur examination, this confers the subject-specific Hochschule entrance qualification as well as the general Hochschule entrance qualification upon proof of the necessary knowledge in a second foreign language. There are two [Fachoberschulen](#) in the district of Dillingen a.d. Donau. Detailed information about the Fachoberschulen can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).

The **Berufsoberschule** is based on an intermediate school graduation and a completed vocational training corresponding to the respective field of education or corresponding several years of professional experience. The Berufsoberschule provides general and specialist theoretical education. It comprises grades 12 and 13 and can also be done part-time. Before entering the Berufsoberschule, preliminary courses (part-time) and preliminary classes (full-time, also to make up for the intermediate school graduation) are offered. The Berufsoberschule generally concludes with the Abitur examination and awards the subject-specific Hochschule entrance qualification as well as the general Hochschule entrance qualification upon proof of the necessary knowledge in a second foreign language. There is a BOS in the region in [Donauwörth](#). Detailed information about the Berufsoberschulen can be found on the [website of the Bavarian Ministry of Education](#).