

Access to Education in Greece

October 2022

Introduction

Free & Compulsory Education for all children in Greece between 4-15 yo:

- Kindergarten (Nipiagogeio) **4-6 yo**
- Primary school (Dimotiko) **6-12 yo**
- Lower secondary education: Junior high school (Gymnasio) **12-15 yo**

Upper secondary education (optional): High school (Lykeio) 15-18 yo or

- Vocational High Schools (EPAL)
- Vocational Apprenticeship schools (EPAS)
- Vocational Training Schools (acronym in Greek: ESK)
- Evening High Schools for working students

How to enrol your children at school?

Documents required:

- **Asylum seeker's card or valid residence permit, or any other valid identification document.**
- **Proof of residence**
- **Health or vaccination booklet of the child**

Relevant support:

ESTIA accommodation: social worker and RECs (Refugee Education Coordinators – Ministry of Education)

RIC and OAS: RECs

Self-accommodated: NGOs and RECs

Who can help you enrol your children at school?

ARSIS: KUN, 21B Tenedou, 112 57 Kypseli - Opening hours: 10:00-18:00 -
Contact Tel: 2108611132 and 2108611134

HELIX: 20-22 Patision, 106 77 Athens - Hours of Operation: 09:00-19:00 -
Contact Tel: 2103809990 and 2103810445

Solidarity Now: 11 Epirou, 104 33 Athens - Opening hours: 09:00-19:00 -
Contact Tel: 2108233651 & 6932245628

METAdrasi: 3rd floor, 75 Patriarchou Grigoriou V, 176 76 Kallithea -
Opening hours: 12:00-20:00 - Contact Tel: 2141008700 (ext. 250)

METAdrasi: 2nd floor, 15 Mitsaki, 111 41 Ano Patisia -
Opening hours: 14:00-18:00 - Contact Tel: 2141008700 (ext. 250)

How to get your children vaccinated?

- **Primary Medical Care (P.E.D.Y.) & Local Health Units (T.O.M.Y.) - 14900***
- **Red Cross Education Health Facility (Panormou Str.)**
<https://educational-health-station-hellenic-red.business.site/>
- **Médecins du Monde (MDM) - contact n. 210 32 13 150**
- **The Smile of the Child - contact n. 210 76 47 760**

Nursery Education

- Children of **6 months** to **3 yo** (optional)

Online application - Municipal Nursery of Athens:

<https://www.dbda.gr/index.php/component/content/article/81-d-v-a/1661-odigies-eggrafon-2022-2023>

Submitting period: **April - May**

Primary Education – Kindergarten

- Kindergarten (**Nipiagogeio**) at **4-5 yo**

Online application

<https://proti-eggrafi.services.gov.gr/>

Submitting period: **second half of May**

Primary Education – Elementary school

- Public elementary school (**Dimotiko**) at **6 yo**

To enrol your children, you may visit your nearest public school early in advance of the next school year

Schools start **mid of September**

Secondary Education

- Lower Secondary Education (**Gymnasium**) at **12 yo**

- Upper Secondary Education
 - i. **Lyceum (GEL)** after **15 yo** (optional)

 - ii. **Vocational high school (EPAL)** after **15 yo**

 - iii. **DYPA (Public Employment Service) Apprenticeship School (EPAS)** after **15 yo** (*dypa.gov.gr*)

 - iv. **Vocational Training Schools** (acronym in Greek: ESK) after **15 yo** (2yrs)

Enrolment to Gymnasium and GEL is automatic if graduated from public school

18+ Education

- Post Secondary Vocational Training (**Vocational Training Institutes, IEK**)
- **Apprenticeship Class** for EPAL graduates
- **Evening Vocational Schools (EPAL)** for adults or adolescents who work
- **Second chance schools: 18+** (not completed low secondary education)
- **Lifelong Learning Centers (KDVM)** offering non-formal adult education

Information and contacts:

<https://www.inedivim.gr/en/programmes-actions/second-chance-schools>

Higher Education - Greek University

Number of foreign students to be accepted is announced in **June-July**.

Requirements:

- **Graduation certificate** (completion of Greek school)
- or
- **B2 level Greek language certificate** (for specific slots available to non-Greek citizens) for those who finished secondary education in another country

No tuition for undergraduate students in Public Universities

Master's degree/Phd - tuition varies between **€1,500 - €4,500/yr**

"Study in Greece" search tool <https://studyingreece.edu.gr/>

Who can help with higher education?

❖ Study in Greece

Contact:

- [Facebook](#)
- Email: info@studyinggreece.edu.gr
- [Contact form](#)

❖ Pyxida (GCR)

Contact:

- Phone: 2103814710
- Email: gcr1@gcr.gr
- [Facebook](#)
- 4th floor, Solomou 20, Exarcheia 106 82

Scholarships

- Scholarships at the American College of Greece

<https://www.acg.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/admission-process/greek-students/financial-assistance/scholarships-for-entering-students/>

- UNHCR, limited number of scholarships to unaccompanied children who transition to adulthood and youth

Diploma or Degree recognition in Greece

Institutions that facilitate the recognition procedure:

- The Interdisciplinary Organization for the Recognition of Academic Titles and of Information

https://www.doatap.gr/home_english/organization_english/

- The National Organization for the Accreditation of Qualifications and Professional Orientation (E.O.P.P.E.P.)

<https://www.eoppep.gr/index.php/en/home-en>

Education activities by urban actors

- Solidarity Now
- GCR Pyxida
- Elix
- Arsis
- METAdrasi
- DRC
- Melissa
- Jesuit Refugee Service
- Action for Women
- We Need Books
- Odyssea
- Hellenic Red Cross
- ANKAA
- FAROS Horizon Centre
- Hestia Hellas
- Bab el-Shams
- Migrants and Refugees Integration Centre (KEM)

SOLIDARITY NOW

Homework and Creative Activities Center: non-formal education service to facilitate the integration in formal education (supported by interpreters).

- Support of language skills (Greek and English)
- Support at home for the daily school tasks
- Support to children in need/with disabilities by social scientists and psychologists
- Expanded vocational training courses, employability workshops and support for accessing higher education opportunities
- Emphasis on the school readiness of students aged 4-6 years

Address: 11 Ipeirou, Athens 104 33

Email: athens@solidaritynow.org

Tel: 210823365, 6932245628

Supported languages: Arabic, French, Farsi, Kurdish, Pasto, Urdu

GCR Pyxida

- Greek language and educational classes for all levels (Beginners, Intermediate & Advanced)
- Guidance with all school enrolments and school support programs
- Psychosocial and recreational activities
- Employment preparation counselling and vocational courses
- Advocacy and community awareness
- Anti-racism & cultural training courses for school students, teachers & parents

Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 19:00

Address: 20 Solomou, Athens 106 83

Email: pyxidaesp@gcr.gr

Tel: 2103814710

Supported languages: Greek, English, French, African languages, Farsi, Arabic, Urdu, Pashto, Bangla, Sorani, Kurmanji, Turkish

ELIX

- Non-formal education and homework support to children & their parents
- Coverage of the educational needs of children aged **3-17**
- Daily homework support for children aged **6-15**

Address: 20-22 Patission, Athens 106 82

Email: learning.center@elix.org.gr

Tel: 2103810445

Supported languages: Greek, English, Arabic, Farsi, Kurdish, Sorani, Urdu

METAdrasi

- Non-formal education and homework support to children aged 4-18
- Strong presence in urban Athens and Thessaloniki, Lesbos and Chios
- Use of **Akelius Language Learning Course**, a Digital Platform with which METAdrasi provides educational and technological support to the education staff of Formal Education
- Main provider of **interpretation services** in Greece, facilitating communication among school principals, teachers, children, their parents and the MoE's Refugee Education Coordinators (RECs)

Address: 7, 25 Martiou, 17778 Tavros

Email: info@metadrasi.org

Tel: 214 100 8700

Supported languages: over 20 different languages

ARSIS

- Provision of non-formal education and homework support to children aged 4-18.
- Presence in Athens, Thessaloniki, Fylakio, Samos, Kos and Leros, as well as with a mobile team in Crete.

Address: 21B, Tenedou, Kypseli, 112 57

Email: arsisathina@gmail.com

Tel: 210 8611132

Supported languages: Greek, English, French, Farsi, Arabic, Kurdish et al.

Jesuit Refugee Service

Magistories: Informal educational program for kids from **6 yo & adults**
Partners with **Libraries Without Borders** (Bibliothèques Sans Frontières)

- Greek lessons for children and adults
- English courses for children and adults
- Computer classes for adults

Address: 4 Agiou Isidorou, Athens 114 71

Email: greece@jrs.net

Tel: 2108237835

Supported languages: English, French, Greek

Action for women

Women-only day centre for women **over 18 yo**:

- **Trauma-informed** non-formal education classes (Greek & IT)
- PSS services (1:1 counselling with a Psychologist, weekly activities) at the Pomegranate Project
- Team trained and specialised in **gender-based violence**

Girls of **15-18 yo** will require signed parental/guardian consent

Languages spoken: Greek, English, French, Farsi/Dari, Lingala, German, Portuguese, Mandarin

Email: athens@actionforwomen.ch

Tel_WhatsApp: 6970398914

Facebook_messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/actionforwomenCH>

Website: <https://afw.ngo/>

WE Need Books

Multilingual lending library and multicultural center

Address: 7 Evias, Athens 113 62

Email: info@weneedbooks.org

Tel: 2111824043

Facebook_messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/weneedbooks>

Odyssea

The Academy of vocational training: <https://odyssea.com/odyssea-courses/>

Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 18:00

Address: 17 Nikiforou Mandilara, Agios Ioannis Rentis 182 33

Email: info@odyssea.com

Tel: 2108839877

Supported languages: Greek, English

Hellenic Red Cross

Cultural Mediation and Interpreting Services

Training interpreters in Cultural Mediation

Monday – Friday, 08:00 - 15:00

Address: 1 Athanasaki, Athens 115 26

Email: accrefhrc@redcross.gr

Tel: 6909172980, 6909173104

Supported languages: Arabic & Farsi / Dari

ANKAA

7 education and vocational departments:

- Language school
- IT & Media
- Barber
- Tailor
- Culinary Arts
- Workshops (electricity, metal, carpentry, screen-printing, jewellery, bike repair, soap making),
- Employability support

Monday – Friday, 10.00 - 19.00

Address: 29 Ithakis, Athens 112 57

Email: info@ankaaproject.org

Tel: 6951192126

Supported languages: English & Greek

FAROS Horizon Centre

Educational and training center for young refugees

- 6-9 month program of classes and workshops
- Classes on design and ideation, computer and electronics, 3D printing and video, workshops of carpentry, tailoring
- Psychosocial support and language classes (Greek and English)

Monday – Friday, 13:00 - 17:00

Address: 10 Metsovou, Athens 106 82

Email: horizon@faros.org.gr

Tel: 2108833836

Supported languages: Farsi

Hestia Hellas

Vocational training for adults and adolescents:

- Job coaching: CV writing, job searching and applications, interviewing skills, workplace expectations
- Computer classes
- Greek and English language classes
- Graphic design classes
- Sewing classes
- SEED (sustainable entrepreneurship for empowerment and development) Business Course: a 12-week business course to support you in starting your own business in Greece

Child care is available for children (ages 2-12 yo) while parents are visiting Hestia Hellas.

Monday – Friday, 10:00 - 17:00

Address: 5 Charilaou Trikoupi, Athens 106 78

Email: livelihoods@hestiahellas.org

Tel: 2130907859

Website: <https://hestiahellas.org>

Facebook messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/Hestia-Hellas-805437309614036/>

Bab el-Shams

Vocational training and educational activities for women:

- Sewing, knitting, and embroidery trainings
- Hairdressing training
- English, Greek, and German classes
- Youth activities: Folkloric Palestinian Dance "Dabke"
- English, German, and Greek classes
- Photography
- Football team
- Cultural space

Monday – Friday, 10:00 - 17:00

Address: 49 Kallidromiou, Athens 106 81

Email: jafragreece@gmail.com

Facebook messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/JafraFoundationinGreece/>

Migrants and Refugees Integration Centre (KEM)

Social inclusion activities for adults:

- Greek language courses
- English language courses
- Computer courses

Intercultural activities: theatrical and other cultural activities

For Vocational Counselling, you may call at 2105249704 (Monday and Thursday, 8am-2pm).

Email: kem@athens.gr

Address: 45 Mezonos, Athens 104 38

Tel: 2105246722

Supported languages: Farsi, Urdu on specific hours

Additional Learning opportunities

Centres for Lifelong Learning operate in municipalities

<https://www.inedivim.gr/en/node/8272>

Greek language courses for migrants and refugees are organised by Universities, NGOs, and Centres for Vocational Training. You may ask NGOs supporting refugees and migrants for details or for assistance in finding out about program implementation and availability.

<https://refugees.studyinggreece.edu.gr/education/>

HRC Language courses

Jesuit Refugee Service

Online Resources

- Coursera: online learning platform with different mostly free – payment for certificate of completion. Financial aid or Scholarship to obtain the certificate of completion for some courses for refugees at <https://refugees.coursera.org/>
- Kiron: begin or continue studying at university level for free - intermediate-level English and regular access to the internet is required. Learn more at <https://kiron.ngo/en/about-us/>

Other online learning platforms include:

- EdX
- Future learn
- Alison
- Academic Earth
- Lynda, (education videos)
- Khan Academy, (math and coding)
- MOOC LIST

Online Resources

Free language learning apps

- [Duolingo](#): basic grammar and vocabulary for different languages
- [Akelius](#): Language Learning Course <https://languages.akelius.com/>
- [Memrise](#): language-learning website and app for vocabulary especially.
- [Antura and the Letters](#): games and quizzes for kids ages 5 to 10 to learn standard Arabic alphabet.