THE TUSCAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

The novelty of the reform

In the last few years, significant changes have been introduced in the educational system. The National Law 296/2006 has made the compulsory education mandatory for at least 10 years. Particularly in Tuscany the compulsory education is accomplished exclusively within the school system by attending 10 years of school.

After the junior high school it is therefore mandatory for all to continue with the secondary school.

The goal is to achieve the knowledge and skills of the two years before deciding to:

- continue school and achieve at least a diploma or the professional qualification of the third year if enrolled in a vocational school
- attend a two-year training course, at the end of which a qualification of II European Level is achieved
- end school and seek a job with an apprenticeship contract for the fulfilment of the right-duty to education and training



The reform of lycées and the reorganization of technical and vocational schools

The 2010 -11 school year saw the launch of the reform of the secondary level of education. Distinctive elements of the reform were

- the reorganization and reduction of fields of study
- reduced time frames (less lesson hours per week, hours of 60 minutes and subsequent restructuring of hours per subject)

LYCEES

The reform provides for six lycées

- Art School Lycée (divided into 6 kinds: visual arts architecture and environment design audiovisual and multimedia graphics set-designing)
- Classical Lycée (the reform introduced the teaching of a foreign language for the entire five years)
- Scientific Lycée (with the option scientific-technological)
- Language Lycée (study 3 foreign languages)
- Music and Dance Lycée (divided into the two sections music and dance)
- Life Science Lycée (it replaces the socio-psycho-pedagogical lycée. Schools will be able to activate the option socio-economic section)

NEW TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

The reorganization of technical education provides for 2 sectors and 11 kinds.

In the economic sector, at the time of publishing of this booklet, 2 kinds have been included:

- Administrative, finance and marketing
- Tourism.

In the technological sector 9 addresses have been defined

- Mechanical, mechatronics and energy
- Transports and logistics
- Electronics and electrical engineering
- IT ("Information Technology") and telecommunications
- Graphic and communication
- Chemistry, materials and biotechnology
- Fashion system
- Agriculture and agro-industry
- Construction, environment and territory.

THE NEW VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

With the reorganization of the vocational schools there will be 2 sectors.

Vocational schools of services with the kinds:

- Services for agriculture and rural development
- Services for maintenance and technical assistance

- Socio-health services
- Services for the food, wine and hotel hospitality
- Commercial services.

Vocational schools - crafts industry:

• Craft and industrial productions.

The course of vocational schools will be divided into two two-year periods and the fifth year (the last two-year-period is organized in individual annuities to facilitate the transition between different education and training systems). At the end of the 5th year, the student takes the school leaving examination and he/she graduates taking the vocational school diploma, also useful for the continuation of studies in any university faculty.

The regional system of supplementary subsidiary offer

Since the 2011-2012 school year, the students enrolled in the first year of the five-year courses of vocational schools and the students enrolled in the second year of the courses in subrogation, at the end of the third year can acquire also a vocational qualification.

The training courses last three years, for a total of 1800 hours. Qualifications that can be achieved are included in the Regional Index of Professional Figures related to national figures of reference. Each school asks for the activation of IeFP courses consistent with the provision of training already existing for graduation. For information on training it is advisable to inquire directly with the contact person or the students' secretariat.

Provincial educational interventions for drop-outs

For young people, who have completed their compulsory education and left the school system, it is possible to attend a two-year course that allows to achieve a regional qualification of second level.

To register for courses it is necessary to be 16, to have attended the junior high school, and to have attended at least ten years of school. It is necessary to go to the Employment Centre of one's city and to contact the Tutor of the Compulsory Training, who will provide information about the funded courses to support the identification of what responds to the interests and characteristics of the person.

For the year 2012-2013 in the Circondario Empolese Valdelsa courses will be activated to achieve the following qualifications:

Well-being operator (unisex hairdresser and beautician) Sales services operator Operator for repairing motor vehicles Operator of thermohydraulic systems Electricity operator Carpenter operator