

Different Education Boards in India





About

This topic outlines the various boards and curriculum available in India. It covers the national, international and open school boards. The topic brings out the features, medium of instruction, grading pattern and delivery of the curriculums.

It also brings out the key highlights of each board and their value additions to a child's educational career path.



Objectives

- Know the national and international education boards in India
- Compare the pedagogy and assessment models
- Learning outcomes of each curriculum leading to different pathways for higher education



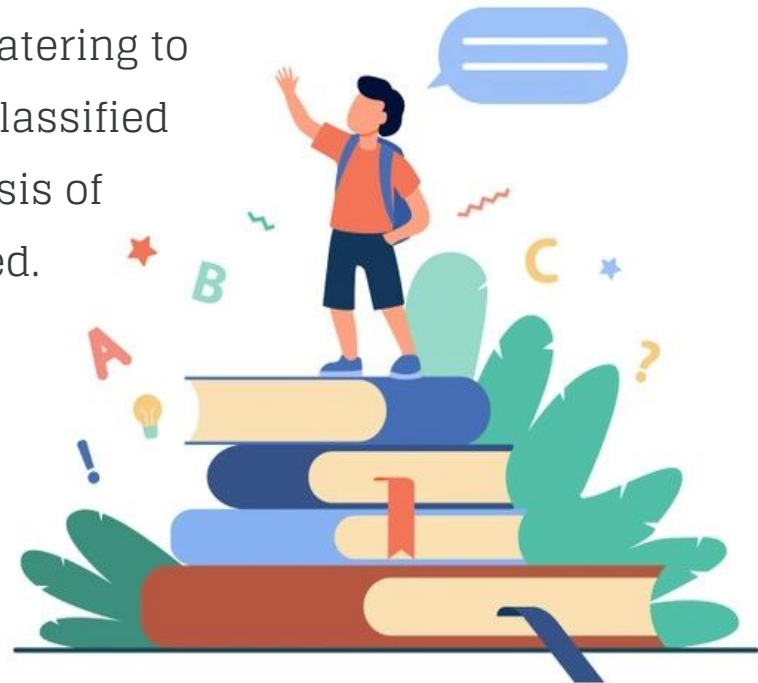
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Education Boards: Classification

India is a multicultural nation with 29 states, 7 union territories and 22 official languages. The Indian Education system comprises of many education boards catering to various needs of students. The boards can be classified as National and International boards on the basis of approach, assessments and the subjects offered.

Total number of sanctioned boards in India: 52

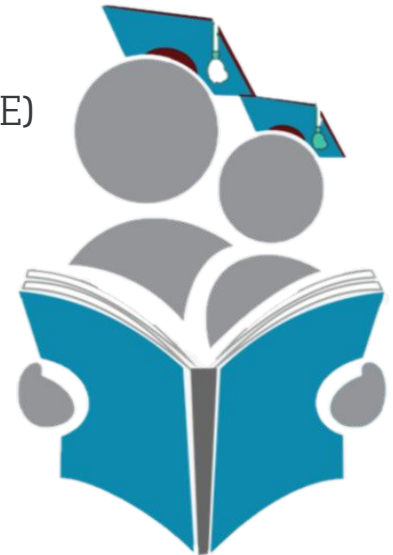


National Education Boards in India

- State Boards
- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)
- Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE)
- Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE)
- National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

International Boards offered in India

- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE)





National Boards: CBSE



CBSE is the most prominent and widely acknowledged education board in India. As a national level board it is followed by several private as well as public schools across the country.

Affiliations

- The CBSE has over 24,000 schools in India and 240 schools in 28 foreign countries affiliated to it.
- There are 1,138 **Kendriya Vidyalayas** (KVs), 3,011 Government/Aided schools, 16,741 Independent schools, 595 **Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas** and 14 Central Tibetan school.



Highlights of CBSE Board

- **Medium of Instruction:** English and Hindi
- **Examinations:** Conducts two main exams
 - The Grade 10 All India Secondary School Examination - Optional
 - The Grade 12 All India Senior School Certificate Examination - Mandatory
- **Curriculum:** Standardised curriculum across the country established by the NCERT



Highlights of CBSE Board

- **Subject Choices:** CBSE is a student friendly board. It provides flexibility in choice of subjects and combination of courses with its vast offering of 72 subjects at the secondary level and 142 subjects at senior secondary level.



Parameters of assessment

- **Scholastic performance:** Both marks and grades will be awarded for individual subjects.
- **Co-scholastic performance:** Grades will be awarded for non-scholastic performance in three categories - Work Education (or prevocational education), Art Education, and Health and Physical Education.
- **Discipline:** Grades will be awarded to students after evaluating their commitment to discipline, which includes attendance, sincerity, behavior, and values.



Assessment Format

- A class year has been divided into two terms.
- Each term has formative (unit tests) and summative exams (half yearly and final exams).



Advantages of CBSE Boards

- Recognition by all colleges in India.
- Most of the competitive entrance exams are based on NCERT syllabus, such as NEET/JEE. It is also relevant for scholarship exams such as SSTSE, NSEB, NSEC, etc.
- For parents of students whose jobs need them to be across India and abroad, especially Middle East; it is a convenient option as they can ensure that their children have standardized syllabus and faster admissions on relocation.



Advantages of CBSE Boards

- CBSE is well recognized by international universities, enabling students in their study abroad plans.
- Parents who wish to have a common ground in terms of expenses between state boards and IB/ICSE.
- Easy to find tutors, books, and activities for all the classes.
- Introduction to application-based activities in science, mathematics as well as other subjects, makes it a preferred choice.



Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations

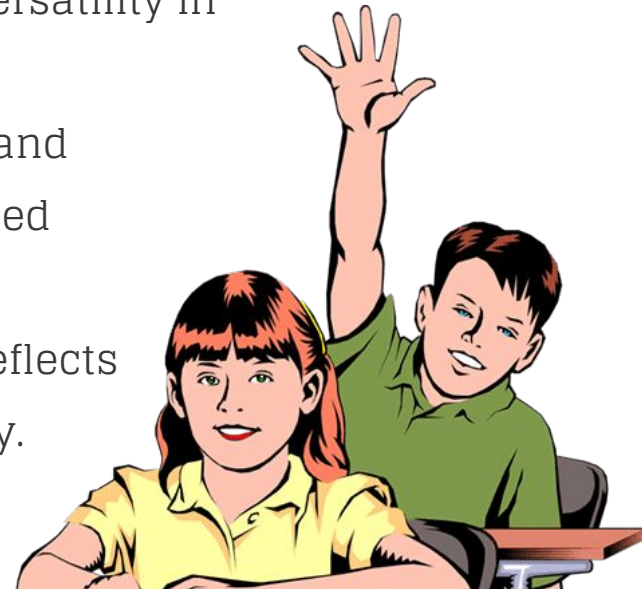
The Council for Indian School Certificate Examination is a private school board in India.

Affiliations: Over 2,300 schools in India and abroad are affiliated to the CISCE.



Features of ICSE

- Curriculum
 - Equal emphasis on all subjects, provides versatility in the selection of particular subjects.
 - Provides fair weightage for languages, arts and humanities providing an integrated, balanced and comprehensive learning.
 - Its use of English as a means of teaching reflects on the development of language proficiency.
- Medium of Instruction: English



Examinations conducted by CISCE Board

- ICSE – Indian Certificate of Secondary Education for Grade 10
- ISC – Indian School Certificate for Grade 12

Teaching methodology

- Based on the application of theoretical concepts and is more inclined towards real-life ideas by an adequate understanding of the subject matter.
- Encourages the development of study management skills, analytical abilities, an in-depth understanding owing to the extensive and complex syllabus.



Benefits

- The course curriculum is in-depth covering a range of topics to provide better understanding.
- More practical knowledge and focus on analytical skills.
- Offers a wide variety of subject selection options
- Equal focus on science - art languages, and encourages students to choose their subject or topics.



Limitations

- Students may find the syllabus intense and workload heavy.
- ICSE board student will have to give thirteen subjects/examinations during the sixth grade whereas there are six subjects in CBSE for the same grade student.





Features

- The NIOS is a national board that provides opportunities to interested learners by making available the following courses/programmes of study through open and distance learning (ODL) mode.
- Third largest board in India, carries equal weightage to CBSE and ICSE.

Statistics

- NIOS Enrollment: 2.71 million students annually.

Percentage of enrollment in different courses:

- Secondary School - 46%
- Senior Secondary School - 49%
- Vocational - 5%



Statistics



- There are no upper age restrictions for any of the learning programs.
- There is no timeframe for taking an examination – a course can be completed in a time frame that suits the student – for example, what may be covered in 1 year of traditional schooling can be done in 4 or 5 years or even more, if the student so desires.
- Examinations are conducted by NIOS and can be given at any time, depending on when the student feels he or she is ready.

NIOS Study Centres

They are places where classes and practical exams are conducted, along with submission of assignments and practical books.

- **Academic study centre:** 3530 including 26 AI in U.A.E, Nepal, Kuwait, Qatar, Muscat and Kingdom of Bahrain
- **Vocational (AVIs):** 1379
- **Open Basic Education:** 1313

The Study Centres are known as Accredited Institutions (AIs) for Academic Courses, Accredited Vocational Institutions (AVIs) for Vocational Education Courses and Accredited Agencies (AAs) for Open Basic Education (OBE) courses.



தமிழ் ગુજરાતી
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ಕನ್ನಡ
বাংলা हिन्दी मराठी
नेपाली ਪੰਜਾਬੀ
తెలుగు اردو

Medium of Instruction

- Hindi, English, Urdu, Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati and Malayalam mediums at Secondary stage.
- Hindi, English, Urdu mediums at Sr. Secondary stage.

Courses Offered

- Open Basic Education (OBE) (A level, B level, C level equivalent to Class III, V, VIII respectively of formal Education) courses are offered through Accredited Agencies (AAs).
- Secondary - leading to Secondary School Certificate.
- Sr. Secondary - leading to Senior Secondary School Certificate.
- Open Vocational Education.
- Life Enrichment Programmes.



Highlights and Flexibilities

- Freedom to choose subjects; continuous assessment through Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA).
- Facility of Online Registration for Admission and Examination Credit accumulation facility.
- 9 chances in 5 years to complete a course.
- Provision of re-admission after 5 years.
- Learning support through Personal Contact Programme (PCP).
- Transfer of credits (up to 2 subject) from some other Boards.
- Media Programmes are telecast and broadcast.

**NIOS**

Potential Target Group

- Students who want to pursue sports.
- School dropouts.
- Neo literates of National Literacy Mission Continuing Education Scheme.
- Girls and women.
- Children and adults who are going through some kind of disability or crisis or have home commitments and are unable to pursue full time education.
- Students who have failed one/more subjects can reappear within three months and save an academic session.

