

BULGARIAN NATIONAL LEGISLATION ACTS IN THE SUPPORT OF GIFTED CHILDREN

In Bulgaria there is no specific law regulating the matter related to the detection and support of gifted children.

Limited legislation considers the support to gifted children in direct relation to their successful transition to a higher grade, and their adoption in specialized schools.

Only individual provisions of acts and regulations (Rules for implementation of the Education Act) foresee the transition to a higher grade in shortened terms:

Art. 36. (1) (amend. - SG. 53 of 2001, effective 09.15.2001) The children attend first grade of state and municipal schools at the request of their parents or guardians. In art schools and classes in the arts and sport in primary and secondary schools students can enroll in first grade after examination of their abilities, if provided by a statutory instrument.

(2) (amend. - SG. 33 of 2003) The school is chosen by the parents or guardians.

Art. 42. (1) Students who have completed the initial stage of primary education, continue their education in fifth grade. In state and municipal art schools and classes in the arts and sport in state and municipal primary and secondary schools students can enroll in fifth grade after verification of their abilities if provided by law or with the school curriculum.

(4) (amend. - SG. 33 of 2003, the previous paragraph. 3 - SG. 99 of 2003) students may enter VI, VII or VIII grade in the state and municipal sports schools after their capabilities are checked, if provided by a statutory instrument.

Art. 43. (amend. And suppl. - SG. 33 of 2003) in classes in arts and sports in the state and municipal primary and secondary schools students can enroll in classes of elementary and lower secondary education after inspection of their abilities, if provided by a statutory instrument.

Art. 84. (1) (amend. - SG. 53 of 2001, effective 09.15.2001) Private education is unattended form where students prepare individually and take exams in subjects according to the school curriculum.

(2) (suppl. - SG. 53 of 2001, effective 09.15.2001) The individual form of training is organized for:

1. (suppl. - SG. 33 of 2003, amended. - SG. 43 of 2014, effective 05.23.2014) The students in compulsory school age who for health reasons attested a medical certificate issued by the Medical Commission, can not be trained in a daily form of education, **and for talented children of compulsory school age, after the decision of the teachers' council;**

2. persons of age over 16 years.

(3) The terms and procedure for organizing and conducting the examinations are determined by the principal of the school.

Art. 88. (1) The school education is organized in successive classes.

(2) (suppl. - SG. 53 of 2001, effective 09.15.2001) The duration of the training in one class is one year for all forms except art. 83, para. 2 pt. 2.

PROMOTING THE EXPRESSION AND MANIFESTATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF GIFTED CHILDREN

Common practice of provision of scholarships and single-fold grants to gifted children under the Program of measures for protection of children with high abilities from state sports schools and arts schools with the Ministry of Culture.

(National Children's Strategy 2008-2018 r., National Program for Child Protection - 2014)

According to provisions of art. 3, par. 1 of the Child Protection Act and in relation to the application of the National Strategy the Council of Ministers adopts annually a Program for Child Protection.

State policy:

- Organization of state contests in the field of sports and culture (National Sports Calendar).
- Support of students in preparation for and participation in international academic competitions and contests. Scholarships for excellent academic achievements.
- Issuance of National Diploma (Ministry of Education and Science)

Resolution N 40 of March 4, 2015 for adoption of Program of Measures for Protection of Children with Manifested Abilities from State and Municipal Schools enacted on March 10, 2015. Main emphasis in the program:

- Granting single-fold financial aid to children with high abilities;
- Support for training in artistic classes, master classes, summer academies etc.;
- Support for children with high abilities for participation in plain-airs;
- Provision of scholarships.

(the program includes list of national competitions etc.)

A text is foreseen in the new Secondary Education Act (not enacted yet):

Assuring support to students with high abilities in the field of science, sports and arts.