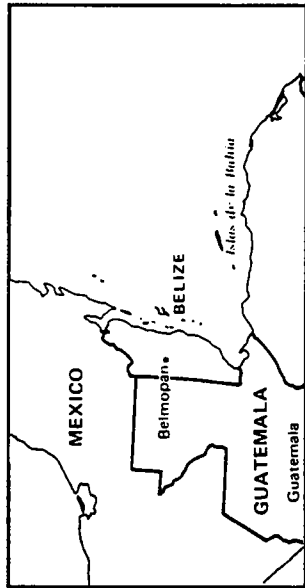


Mexico

Since the Mexican Revolution of 1911, the law has decreed that all education must be secular, free and available to all. In 1992, the Constitution was revised to give legal recognition to religious institutions and allow parochial education. Education is offered by the Federal Government, states, municipalities, and private institutions. With the exception of autonomous universities, education is under the control of the *Secretaría de Educación Pública/SEP*, the Ministry of Public Education, which is divided into delegations for each of the 31 states. Each state is responsible for planning and budgeting in its schools, following a national curriculum, administrative procedures and teaching practices set by the Education Ministry. In 1991, 11 percent of the federal budget

was spent on education. Education is compulsory from ages 6-14. About 26 million are enrolled in the education system, including about 98 percent of the age cohort at primary level. About 92 percent of the population of over 88 million is literate. However,



great inequities exist between urban and rural areas in the quality of schools, number of teachers and funding. While slightly less than 50 percent of students in urban areas complete primary school, a full 80 percent of students in rural areas fail to do so. Less than 10 percent of the population between ages 18-25 attends institutions of higher education, and only 30 percent of those who attend earn a degree. Higher education is offered at *universidades, institutos* (of technology, industry, farming and animal husbandry, forestry, and oceanographic studies) and at *escuelas, colegios, and centros*. Of the approximately 375 institutions offering higher education, the largest is the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México/UNAM*.

Credential Name	Entrance Requirement	Length of Program	Type of Program	Gives Access to
Level: <i>Media Superior</i> (Upper Secondary Education) Following 6 years of primary and 3 years of lower secondary education.				
<i>Bachillerato</i> or <i>Bachillerato Técnico</i>	<i>Certificado de Educación Secundaria</i>	2-3 years	academic/technical	employ./further study
<i>Título de Profesor/Maestro</i>	<i>Certificado de Educación Secundaria</i>	3-4 years	teacher training	employ. at primary level/ further study
<i>Técnico</i>	<i>Certificado de Educación Secundaria</i>	2-3 years	vocational	employment
Level: <i>Educación Superior</i> (Higher Education)				
Non-University				
<i>Técnico en</i> (specialization)	<i>Bachillerato</i> with specialized courses	3 years	technical/professional	employment/further study
University				
<i>Licenciatura/Título Profesional*</i>	<i>Bachillerato/Técnico en</i> (specialization)	2.5-7 years	professional	further study
<i>Profesor/Maestro</i>	<i>Bachillerato</i>	4 years	teacher training	further study
<i>Abogado</i>	<i>Bachillerato</i>	5 years	professional	further study
<i>Ingeniero</i>	<i>Bachillerato</i>	5 years	professional	further study
<i>Médico Cirujano</i>	<i>Bachillerato</i>	7 years	professional	further study
<i>Especialización</i>	<i>Licenciatura/Título Profesional</i>	6 months-4 years	academic	further study
<i>Maestría</i>	<i>Licenciatura/Título Profesional</i>	1-2 years + thesis	academic	further study
<i>Doctorado</i>	<i>Licenciatura/Título Profesional</i>	2+ years + thesis	academic	further study

*The classification of *egresado pasante* is given to students who have completed all the courses in a *licenciatura* program, but who have not completed a thesis and/or social service requirements in order to receive the *licenciatura* or *título profesional*. A document known as a *carta de pasante* is issued to *egresado pasantes*.