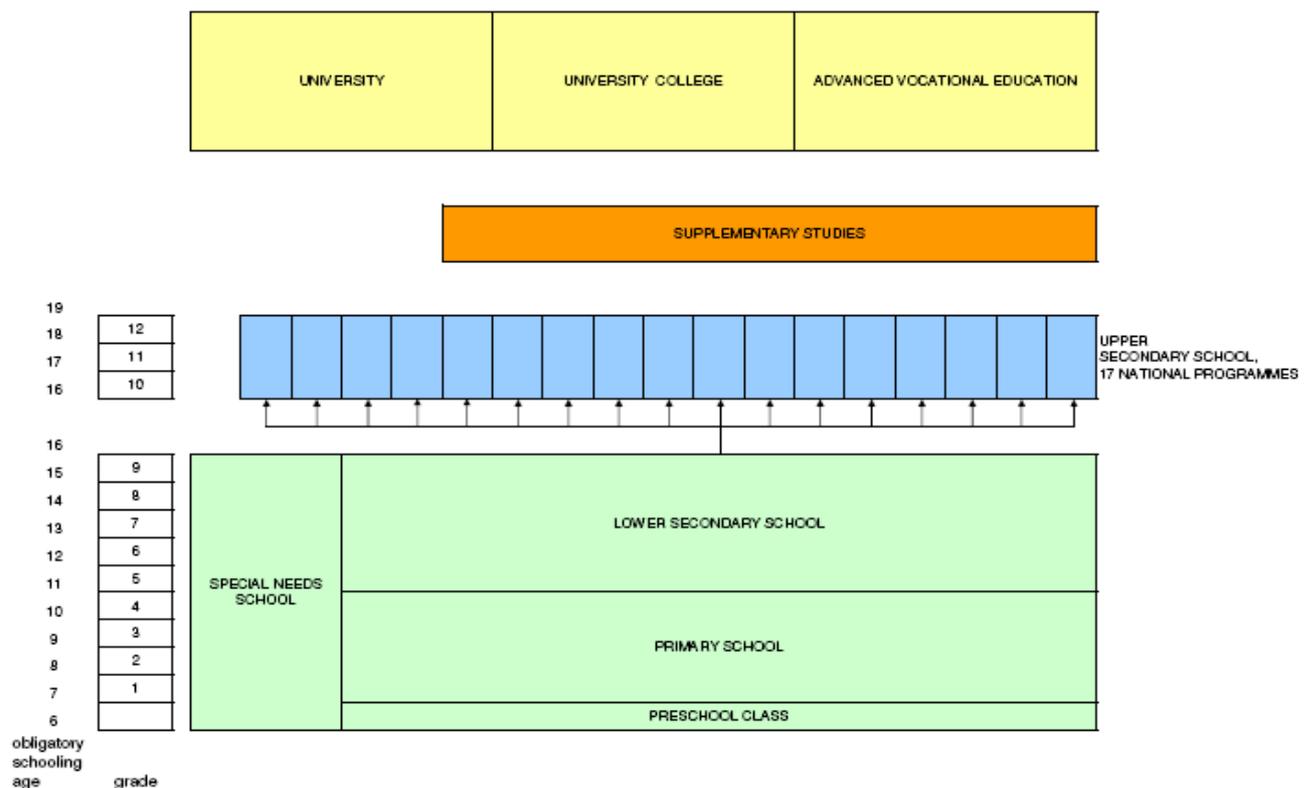


# EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING IN SWEDEN

Sweden is a technologically advanced country, characterized by its coastlines, large forests and numerous lakes. It has 9 million inhabitants, and its three largest cities are Stockholm, Goteborg and Malmo. Sweden, about the size of California, is the third largest country in Europe.

## Sweden's Education System

Children between 7 and 16 have a nine-year compulsory school program, although a child may begin at the age of 6. Grades are awarded for each term in year eight, year nine and when mandatory school attendance ends. The possible grades are: Pass (G), Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass with Special Distinction (MVG). If a student does not pass, no grade is given. The school year is divided into two terms. The autumn term begins around mid-August and runs until the end of December, with a one-week break. The spring term starts in the second week of January and runs until the second week of June, with one week off in February and one around Easter. A regular school week is five days long, Monday to Friday.



Most students continue on with their education for three years in upper-secondary schools, called gymnasiums. The upper-secondary education is divided into 17 national, three-year programs. The programs offer a general education and can result in being eligible to continue studies at the post-secondary level. All programs comprise eight core subjects: Swedish (alternatively Swedish as a second language), English, mathematics, natural science, social studies, religious studies, arts and crafts, physical education and health.

[http://www.sweden.se/templates/cs/FactSheet\\_\\_\\_15974.aspx](http://www.sweden.se/templates/cs/FactSheet___15974.aspx)

## **Engineering Education in Sweden**

Nowadays in Sweden engineering programmes are given at the universities and colleges at both bachelor level and master level. The bachelor level has three year programmes. Admission requires a three-year natural sciences programme (or equivalent background) from high school (upper secondary level). The engineering programmes are given in traditional areas such as computer engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, civil engineering and chemical engineering. Each programme has usually also a specialization in their fields. In addition to these five areas there also exist programmes in newer areas such as media technology, logistics engineering, maintenance engineering and many more.