

CHAPTER III

Education

Article 20

The language of education

1. Catalan, as Catalonia's own language, is also that of education, at all levels and types of schooling.
2. Educational establishments at all levels shall make Catalan the vehicle of normal expression in their educational and administrative activities, both internally and externally.

Article 21

Non-university education

1. Catalan shall normally be used as the vehicle of teaching and learning in non-university education.
2. Children are entitled to receive their initial education in their usual language, whether this be Catalan or Castilian. The authorities shall guarantee this right and shall provide the appropriate resources to make it effective. Parents or guardians may exercise this right on behalf of their children, on request.
3. The teaching of Catalan and Castilian shall be guaranteed in the curricula, so that all children, whatever their usual language may be when starting their education, can normally and correctly use both official languages by the end of their compulsory education.
4. In post-compulsory education, the educational authorities shall promote policies of syllabus development instruction and so as to ensure that proficiency in, and the use of, both languages are perfected so that all young people acquire the instrumental and cultural knowledge to be expected from such education.
5. Students shall not be separated either in centres or in group classes according to their usual language.
6. No graduation certificate of secondary education can be granted to any student who does not accredit that he or she has an oral and written knowledge of Catalan and Castilian at the appropriate level.
7. Certification of Catalan proficiency may not be required from any student who has been excused from learning it during their education or a part thereof, or who has carried out his or her compulsory education outside Catalonia, in the circumstances that the government of the Generalitat shall lay down by regulations.
8. Students who enter the educational system of Catalonia at a later time than usual shall receive special and additional support for the teaching of Catalan.

Article 22

University education

1. In higher education colleges and universities, teaching staff and students are entitled to express themselves, orally and in writing, in the official language of their choice.
2. The government of the Generalitat, universities and higher education colleges, within the field of their respective responsibilities, shall take appropriate measures to guarantee and promote the use of Catalan in all teaching, non-teaching and research fields, including the reading of doctorate theses and the taking of official professional examinations.
3. Universities shall provide courses and other suitable resources so that students and teaching staff may improve their comprehension and knowledge of Catalan.
4. Universities may, if necessary, set specific criteria for linguistic use in activities related to international commitments.

Article 23

Permanent training and special treatment

1. Curricula of adult permanent training courses shall include Catalan and Castilian classes.
2. Educational colleges specialised in languages shall provide for the teaching of both official languages.
3. In specially-classified educational establishments for which the Generalitat is responsible, where the language is not taught, courses of Catalan shall be provided for students not having sufficient knowledge thereof.

Article 24

Teaching staff

1. The teaching staff in the educational establishments of Catalonia, at any level of non-university education, shall know both official languages and shall be in a position to be able to use them in their teaching tasks.
2. Curricula for teachers' training colleges and courses shall be drawn up in such a manner that the students shall achieve full proficiency in both official languages, in accordance with the requirements of each teaching speciality.
3. The teaching staff of university colleges in Catalonia shall know both official languages sufficiently, in accordance with the requirements of their teaching tasks. This rule is not applicable to visiting teachers and other similar cases. The universities shall be responsible for setting up the mechanisms and the pertinent time scales for fulfilling this regulation.