



THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique operates on a 5-4-3-5 system:

Primary School	--	5 years
Junior Secondary School	--	4 years
Senior Secondary School	--	3 years
University Bachelor's degree	--	5 years

Mozambique has been restructuring its system of education since 1992. The old system was a state run, socialist-oriented system, while the new system includes both government and private educational institutions.

Language: Portuguese is the sole language of instruction throughout the country. English is taught at the secondary school level and is compulsory from sixth grade onwards.

Structure and Educational system: The first twelve years of government schooling in Mozambique are free. Primary school education is five years, followed by four years of secondary and 3 years of pre-university instruction. All final exams are standardized and produced by the government for both government and private schools.

Below is a comparison of the grading scales respectively in Mozambique and the U.S.

MOZAMBIQUE

UNITED STATES

18-20 Excellent	A-95-100%
17-18 very good	A-85-90%
16 very good	B+80%
14-15 Good	B70-75%
12-13 Good	C+60-65%
10-11 Pass	C 50-55%
9,5 Pass	C-47.5%
Below 9 – fail	below 45%

University Education: Mozambique has fourteen university-level institutions. Seven are public and seven private. Students who pass a university admission exam are eligible for admission to a five-year bachelor's degree program offered by the respective Mozambican university where they have taken the entry exam. *The university academic year begins in August and runs through June.*

Public Universities

Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)
 Pedagogic University (UP)
 Higher Institute of International Relations (ISRI)
 Universidade Lurio
 Escola Superior de Ciências Náuticas
 Marechal Samora Machel Military Academy
 Academy of Police Sciences

Private Universities

Higher Polytechnic Institute/University
 Catholic University
 Mozambique Institute of Science & Tech
 University Mussa Bin Bique
 University of Mozambique (UDM)
 University São Tomas de Mocambique
 Jean Piaget University

The cost of higher education is high at private universities and relatively low at public universities. A large number of students work to help pay the expenses. Some receive scholarship grants from government institutions, and these can cover almost all expenses for attending a public university.

Admissions to universities: An entrance exam is the basis for admission to a university. Entrance exams are administered through different colleges and programs offered by each particular institution.

There are two pre-entry university exams offered. The first exam selects students with the highest grades. The second exam gives a chance for students who do not pass the first one to fill-in remaining vacancies.

The criteria used for admission is a minimum passing grade in the basic disciplines specified by the college and program areas. In some cases, the number of candidates meeting this requirement surpasses the number of vacancies. In these cases, a cumulative passing grade is established. For example, the entrance exam for law requires a minimum cumulative of 10.5 passing marks. The entrance priority is given to students with the highest grade performance average.

Grading system used for higher education: The University grading system is almost the same as that of secondary school, but in some institutions the 0-5 scale below is used:

0-9	=1	= Fail (below 49%)
10-11	=2	= Low Pass = 50-55%
12-14	=3	= Better Pass = 60-65%
15-17	=4	= Good Pass = 70-85%
18-20	=5	= Excellent Pass = 90-100%

Degrees: Universities offer a Bachelors degree, called a “Licenciatura” and most universities offer masters programs.

Humanities/Social Science : 5 years
Science degree: 5 years

The Bachelors degree is obtained after completion of eight semesters or four years of university courses. For a science degree students need to complete the four-year Bachelors degree plus one more, that is, 2 additional semesters of course work. Most universities are now changing their curriculum and are providing 4 year bachelor degree programs.

Mozambicans in the United States: 80 Mozambican students are enrolled in U.S. institutions. (2007 open doors)

Testing: Internet based TOEFL and GRE are offered at the Public Affairs Office. The SAT is offered at the American International School of Mozambique (AISM). The GMAT, and LSAT, are not offered in Mozambique, students who wish to take the GMAT and LSAT have to travel to neighboring South Africa.

Educational Advising: The Educational Advising Center in Mozambique located in the Public Affairs Section of the United States Embassy helps students from all over Mozambique clarify their options and purpose of a U.S. education; we provide accurate information about U.S. educational, requirements, policies and procedures and with the help of a wide range of programs help strengthen students’ applications and their readiness for U.S. higher education. We are eager to work with you to make it possible for more Mozambican students to enroll and thrive in your institution. Please contact the Educational Advisor, in Mozambique.

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We would appreciate two copies each of your catalogue, view book, video and CD-ROM, mailed to:

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We welcome visits, recruiting or otherwise, and can readily assemble an audience for your presentations. Come and visit, and let us treat you to Mozambican hospitality!