

Swedish  
school for  
new arrivals

Engelska



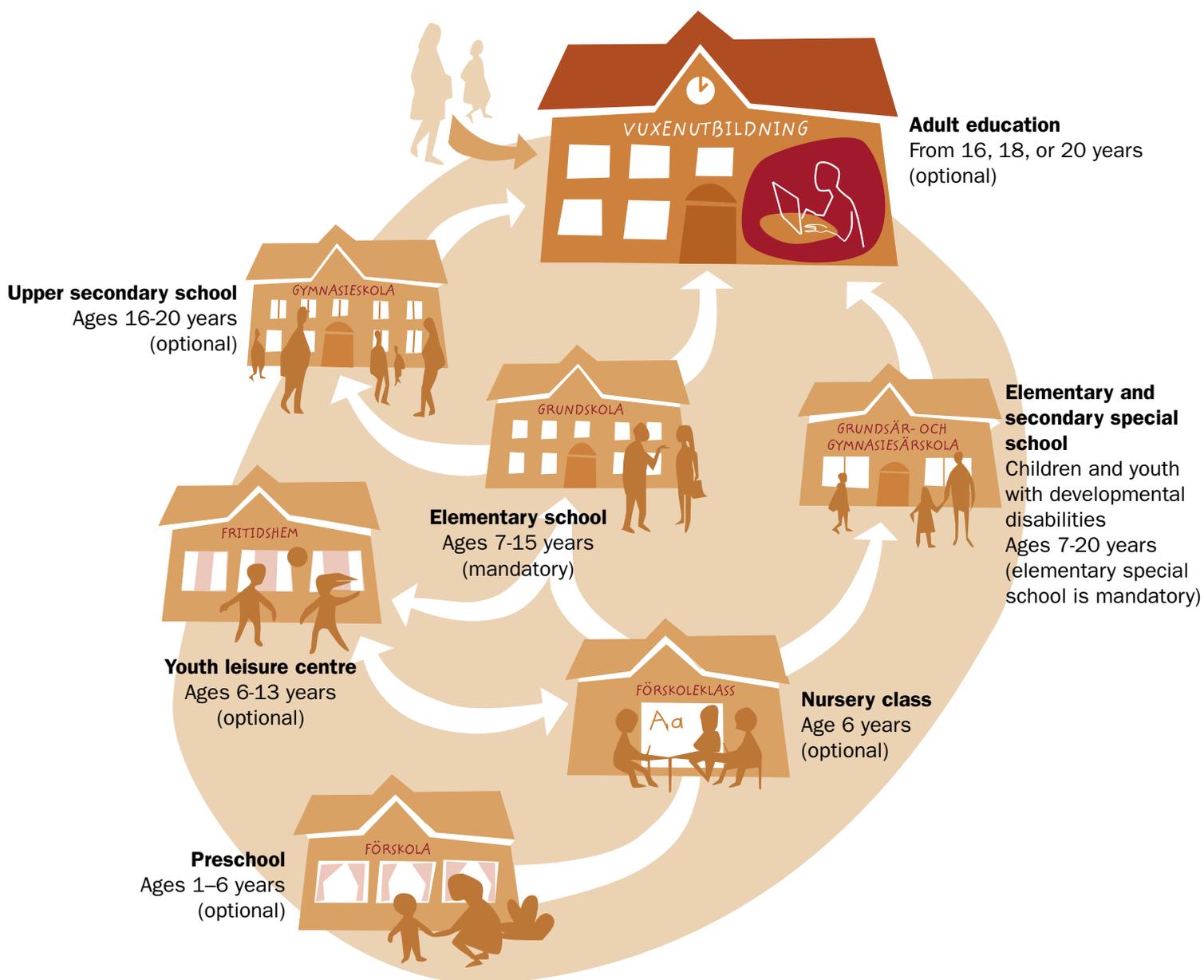
For young adults

# Adult education



Skolverket

# This is the Swedish school



# Many study paths for young adults

**As a newly-arrived immigrant to Sweden**, you have access to the many possibilities of the Swedish school system. Children up to age 15 are required to attend school, and go to Swedish elementary schools. Those of you who are 16 or older often need a more individual solution, depending on what you already know and what you want to study or work as in the future.

There are opportunities to supplement the subjects and courses you are missing in order to get a diploma from elementary and upper secondary school. This provides opportunities for jobs or vocational training, and also for further study at a university or college.

Everyone's needs are different, and you can combine different programmes and courses within Swedish adult education. At schools and in municipalities, there is access to study and career guidance that can provide information about both programmes and the job market. The study and career guidance counselor will also help you make an individual study plan. The first step is usually learning Swedish through the upper secondary school's introduction to the Swedish language, or through Swedish for Immigrants (SFI). After that, you have many study opportunities to choose from. In principle, they are all free of charge.



# Introductory programme, for students up to age 20



**Introductory programmes** in upper secondary school are for those of you between the ages of 16 and 20 who need to supplement your knowledge for further study at the upper secondary level. The municipality where you live is responsible for offering you an introductory programme.

## **Introduction to the Swedish language**

Those of you who have recently come to Sweden often start with an introduction to the Swedish language. Besides Swedish, the instruction may contain other subjects and courses you need for continued study. The introduction to the Swedish language is individually designed, but several students with the same needs can take the programme together.

## **Preparatory instruction**

Preparatory instruction is for those of you who lack one or more marks from elementary school. You will

study the subjects in which you do not have passing marks and that you need to get into a national programme in upper secondary school.

## **Programme-focused individual choice**

Do you know that you want to take a vocational programme, but are lacking one or more marks? You can study precisely those elementary school subjects you need to apply to an upper secondary school vocational programme.

## **Other introductory programmes**

You can also choose an introduction to an occupation. The goal then is for you to be able to get a job or to be authorised to study further in a vocational programme.

*Want to know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor in adult education. There is contact information on your municipality's website.

# Swedish for immigrants (SFI)

**Instruction in Swedish** for immigrants (SFI) provides you with basic knowledge of Swedish. You will learn Swedish in order to be able to communicate orally and in writing in everyday life, in society and at work. Those who cannot study or write in their native language can have the opportunity to learn how.

SFI is open to all ages, starting the year you turn 16. SFI is usually organised by the municipality, but also at certain colleges.

## How studies are organized

The programme is planned, designed, and adapted according to the individual student's conditions, needs, and goals. You will be given at least 15 hours of instruction per week. SFI can be combined, for example, with work, an internship or other programme within municipal adult education.

SFI has three study paths. Study path 1 is for those who cannot read and write or have had a brief education, while study path 3 is for those who are more used to studying. You will receive a mark of A–F after every completed course. A is the highest grade, and F is a failing grade.



*Want to  
know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor in adult education. There is contact information on your municipality's website.

# Municipal adult education (Komvux)

**Those of you who need to study** at the elementary or upper secondary level but are too old to study there can instead go to municipal adult education, or komvux. In komvux, those age 20 or older can study one or more courses to then, for example, continue

their studies at a college or a vocational school, or can start working. Your prior knowledge will be assessed so that you can study at the right level according to an individual study plan.

**In komvux, there are opportunities to**

- Study SFI and courses from elementary and upper secondary school
- Study for an upper secondary diploma, corresponding to upper secondary school
- Supplement courses to obtain the desired entry requirements
- Receive vocational training



## How studies are organized

You can study full-time or part-time. It is also possible to combine studies at different levels, and within different types of school. Contact a study and career guidance counselor in your home municipality for help in planning your studies.

You will receive a mark of A–F after every completed course. A is the highest grade, and F is a failing grade. Those studying at the elementary level who do not have sufficient knowledge of Swedish may have the opportunity to study certain courses in their own native language.

*Want to know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor in adult education. There is contact information on your municipality's website.

# Special education for adults

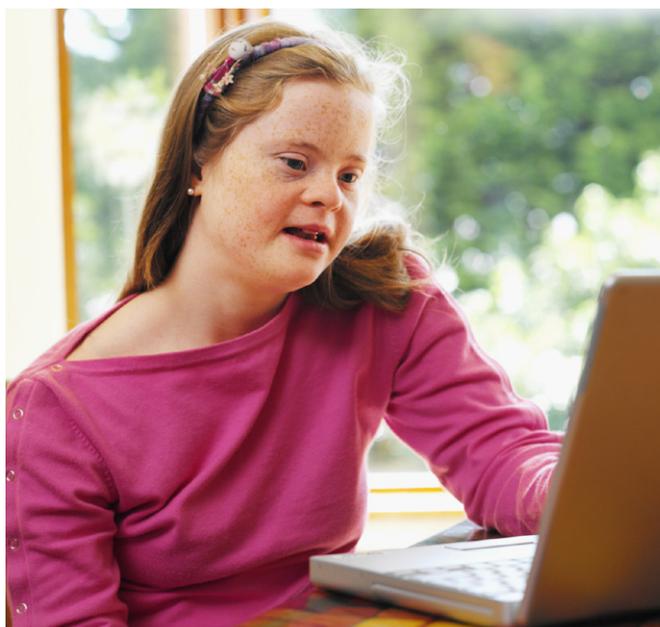
If you are developmentally disabled or have some type of brain damage, you have the right to special education for adults from the year you turn 20. Your studies will be adapted to your knowledge and abilities in accordance with an individual study plan.

## How studies are organized

The students are given marks after every completed course at the elementary or upper secondary level. A is the highest mark, and E is the lowest.

## Special education for adults makes it possible to

- Study at the elementary or upper secondary level
- Choose between various courses
- Study in Swedish for immigrants in parallel
- Study in a vocational programme



Contact a study and career guidance counselor in adult education. There is contact information on your municipality's website.

# Folk high school

**The folk high school is an alternative** to upper secondary school and municipal adult education (komvux) for those who have turned 18. Here, you can study courses corresponding to elementary and upper secondary school in order to meet the entry requirements for university, college, or vocational school. Those who need it can get extra support in Swedish.

At certain folk high schools, there are also courses directed especially at those of you who have recently come to Sweden. Establishment courses for newly arrived immigrants are one such programme, as are programmes in Swedish for immigrants (SFI). The folk high school also has certain vocational programmes.



*Want to  
know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor in adult education. There is contact information on your municipality's website.

# Vocational college

**At a vocational college**, you can train for an occupation. There are hundreds of occupations to choose from. The courses are post-secondary and are most often between one and three years long, weaving theory and school with internships out at workplaces. A number of schools provide extra support in vocational Swedish.

There is no age limit to apply to a vocational school.

**You can apply to vocational college if you have:**

- An upper secondary school diploma from upper secondary school or municipal adult education (Komvux)
- Swedish or foreign education equivalent to an upper secondary school degree
- The conditions for managing the programme, for example through Swedish or foreign education, or practical experience.
- Sufficient knowledge of Swedish to manage the programme



## Another way of becoming qualified

Schools sometimes make exceptions for those who don't meet the formal requirements, if they feel that the student can still manage the programme. Contact the school you are interested in and ask what applies there.

*Want to know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor at the vocational school you are interested in.

# University and college

**At a university or college,** you can study programmes or freestanding courses after upper secondary school. In order to get into a course or programme, an upper secondary school diploma that gives you the qualifications is required.

There are general entry requirements and specific entry requirements. For a number of programmes general entry requirements are enough, but many programmes also call for specific entry requirements. A foundation year is a one-year programme for those

lacking particular entry requirements for a given programme at the university level.

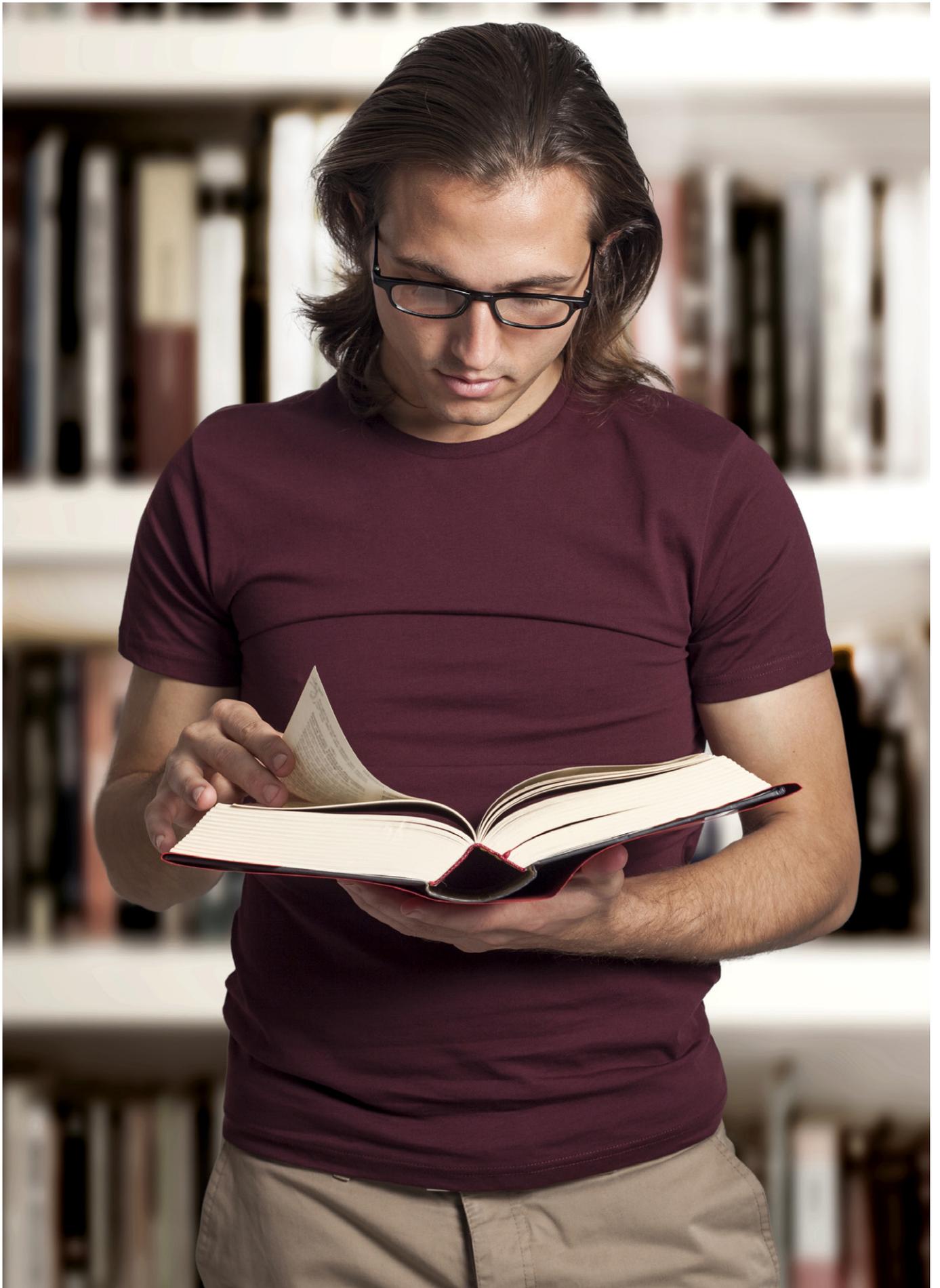
## **Another way of becoming qualified**

Even those who did not attend upper secondary school can apply to universities and colleges. The actual skills you have acquired, for example from courses, work life, business life or long stays abroad are then assessed.



*Want to  
know more?*

Contact a study and career guidance counselor at a university or college.





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[www.skolverket.se/publikationer](http://www.skolverket.se/publikationer)

**Beställningsnr:** 15:1502

**ISBN:** 978-91-7559-213-8

**Bilder:** Folio, Michael McClain,  
Matton, Johnér, iStock

**Illustratör:** Helena Halvarsson

**Grafisk form:** Jupiter Reklam

**Grafisk produktion:** Space360

**Översättning:** Space360

**Tryck:** Elanders Sverige AB

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[skolverket.se/nyanlanda](http://skolverket.se/nyanlanda)