

“Education guarantees freedom” - József Eötvös

BUDAPEST V. KERÜLETI EÖTVÖS JÓZSEF GIMNÁZIUM

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SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Eötvös József Gimnázium (EJG or Eötvös) is located in the Fifth district of Hungary’s capital, Budapest. Found in the city center, it shares a neighbourhood with the most renowned schools in the country. Eötvös is a highly selective public secondary school offering four-, five- and six- year programs enrolling around 900 students. Admission is based on a national written entry test and school interviews, with an acceptance rate consistently under 10%. EJG has been a prestigious school since its founding. The school was ranked as Hungary’s best secondary school in 2021, 2022, and 2025, and placed 2nd in both 2023 and 2024, maintaining a position in the top 3 for the past several years. The school was founded in 1854, originally as a “Realschule” offering education in German and Hungarian. The current teaching model has been in place since 1992.

Eötvös prides itself on being a school that is enjoyable and welcoming to attend for students of all interests, while providing the highest quality of education. Along with the strong academic requirements, constant focus is placed on student life and school spirit. The school boasts a number of multi-day-long event series, dedicated to arts, sports, professional lectures and diplomacy.

CURRICULUM

The school’s academic program is based on the Hungarian National Curriculum, which operates on the basis of academic years (September to June) with two graded semesters. Each year students are assigned a schedule based on their year group and group specialization. They have six or seven 45-minute lessons per day covering a range of 13 subjects over a weekly period.

Students have to study all the compulsory subjects for the assigned amount of time, and have the choice of taking up several advanced-level classes on top of their regular schedule throughout their Freshman and Sophomore years. In the Junior and Senior years there are multiple periods assigned to up to 3 advanced subjects of choice. The chosen advanced level classes often depend on further studies and college admission requirements. Students study two foreign languages throughout their high school years.

Languages offered: English, German, French, Italian, Russian, Latin

Advanced level classes offered: Mathematics, Hungarian, History, Biology, Chemistry, Civics, Physics, Geography, IT, Social Sciences, Art History and all languages available.

Subject	Standard yearly contact hours (6 year program)			
	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
Mathematics	108	108	108	144
Hungarian Literature and Grammar	144	144	144	180
1st Foreign Language	144	144	144	108
2nd Foreign Language	108	108	144	108
History	72	108	108	108
Ethics	-	-	36	-
Biology	36	72	72	72
Physics	108	108	72	-
Chemistry	72	72	-	-
Geography	108	72	-	-
Music	36	36	-	-
Visual arts	36	36	36	-
Drama, media, mixed arts	36	-	36	72
Information Technology (IT)	36	36	-	-
Physical Education	108	108	108	108

Yearly contact hours

GRADING

The school does not use a ranking system and grades are given on a 5-level scale. GPA is not calculated and students need to pass (2.0 required) all classes at the end of the school year in order to advance to the next grade. Transcripts are issued in February (end of First semester) and June (end of academic year).

Hungarian Grading system	Percentage used for classwork and end-of-year grades	Percentage at Standard Level Érettségi Exam	Percentage at Higher Level Érettségi Exam
5 (jeles) — Excellent	90-100	80-100	60-100
4 (jó) — Good	80-89	60-79	47-59
3 (közepes) — Average	70-79	40-59	33-46
2 (elégséges) — Below average	60-69	25-39	25-32
1 (elégtelen) — Failure	0-59	0-24	0-24

Grading system

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At the end of year 12 (Senior year) students need to pass all their subjects and their Érettségi (Matura) exams in a minimum of 5 subjects to graduate. Compulsory exams for all students are: Mathematics, History, Hungarian Literature and Grammar, and a foreign language. The Fifth and any subsequent subjects are chosen by the student. Érettségi exams are in a two-tier system: Standard and Higher Level. Standard level exams are the requirement for graduation; Higher levels are used for competitive university entry. It is common practice for students to take the Higher Level exam in the subjects they studied in advanced classes. In addition, each student must complete a 50-hour community service graduation requirement.

STUDENT LIFE

Eötvös has a vibrant student life with various clubs and activities offered for students. Some of the clubs, student circles and communities working in the school are the following:

- MUN-Club (also organising a national MUN conference, ENMUN),
- BIMUN Organisers (organising the largest MUN conference in Hungary, BIMUN),
- EPAS Club (Eötvös has been an Ambassador School of the European Parliament since 2024)
- Walk the Wish (charity fund for assisting severely ill children),
- Kéktúra (trekking club),
- Sulirádió (School radio team)
- Eötvös Média (media team),

- KórházSuli, (volunteering organization),
- Eötvös Diák (school's own newspaper),

- Debate Club,
 - Drama Club,
 - Programming,
 - Geopolitics,
 - Choir,
 - Basketball,
 - Cultural History camp,
 - Summer/Study camps,
- and many more.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024/25

MATRICULATION RESULTS

- 186 students took the Matura exams in 2024
- 1101 successful exams taken
- 23 subjects
- 489 Higher Level, 612 Regular Level

TOP UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2021/22

179 out of 183 students matriculated to university programs, over 95% to their first choice.

TOP HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITIES 2024/25

(faculties not listed)

- Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
- Budapesti Corvinus University (BCE)
- Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME)
- Semmelweis University (SE)
- University of Szeged (SZTE)

TOP FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES 2024/25

- Leiden University
- University of Amsterdam (UvA)
- Bocconi University
- Erasmus University Rotterdam
- University College Utrecht
- University of Groningen
- King's College London
- Central European University (CEU)
- Eindhoven University of Technology
- Trinity College Dublin
- IE University
- TU Delft University

