

Professional Junior Bachelor Degree

In Ukraine the [Law on Professional Prehigher Education](#) was adopted in 2019, which approved the creation of **professional junior bachelor degree**. The first enrollment in the programs of professional junior bachelor took place in 2020.

Professional junior bachelor is obtained at the level of professional prehigher education and awarded by an educational institution after successful completion of an educational-professional program.

Professional prehigher education also includes specialized prehigher education in **arts, sport or military**, which provides for the acquisition of competencies in the relevant professional field.

Professional prehigher education is obtained on the basis of basic secondary education, field specific secondary education/complete general secondary education, vocational (vocational-technical) education, professional prehigher education and higher education. Persons who receive professional prehigher education on the basis of basic secondary education are obliged to simultaneously complete the educational program of field specific secondary education.

Program load:

The load of educational-professional program of professional junior bachelor on the basis of field specific secondary education is 120-180 ECTS credits, of which up to 60 ECTS credits can be transferred based on recognition of learning outcomes of persons who have obtained field specific secondary education of corresponding field of knowledge and/or specialty.

The load of the educational-professional program of professional junior bachelor on the basis of basic secondary education is up to 240 ECTS credits, including 120 ECTS credits for the integrated educational program of field specific secondary education of corresponding field of knowledge and/or specialty.

The load of the educational-professional program of a professional junior bachelor on the basis of vocational (vocational-technical) education, professional prehigher education or higher education is determined by the institution of professional prehigher education, taking into account the recognition of previously acquired learning outcomes. The program load should be at least 50 percent of the total program based on the field specific secondary education.

The training of professional junior bachelors is carried out according to educational and professional programs in accordance with the fields of knowledge and specialties of higher education.

Level according to the National Qualifications Framework

Professional junior bachelor's qualification refers to the 5th level of the [National Qualification Framework](#) and can be correlated with the 5th level of the European Qualifications Framework.

Academic rights (access to further education)

Professional junior bachelor's qualification gives access to continue education at the level of junior bachelor, bachelor and master of medical, pharmaceutical or veterinary specialization. The higher education institution may recognize and transfer the ECTS credits obtained at the professional junior bachelor's program, the maximum amount of which is determined by the relevant higher education standard.

Specialized professional prehigher education: arts, sport and military

Professional prehigher education programs also include specialized professional prehigher education in the **arts, sport or military**.

Professional prehigher **art** education involves the acquisition of professional (including performing) competencies and aimed at professional artistic and creative self-realization of the individual, obtaining qualifications in various arts, including training of teachers for primary art education. Professional prehigher art education is obtained on the basis of primary art and basic secondary education with the simultaneous acquisition of field specific secondary education or on the basis of field specific secondary education and provides for the acquisition by the applicant of professional competencies in a particular artistic specialty.

Professional prehigher **sport** education involves mastering the educational and professional program in the sport in order to acquire of professional competencies in the field of physical culture and sports, formation and development of individual abilities, in-depth mastery of specialization in the chosen sport. Professional prehigher sport education is obtained on the basis of primary sport and basic secondary education with simultaneous acquisition of field specific secondary education or on the basis of field specific secondary education. Educational and professional programs in the relevant sports are developed by all-Ukrainian sports federations and approved by the central executive body in the field of physical culture and sports.

Vocational **military** education involves mastering the educational and professional program of military training in order to acquire professional competencies, formation and development of individual abilities and in-depth mastery of military specialization and is obtained on the basis of specialized secondary education. Educational and professional programs on military training are developed by institutions of specialized military education (including military and sport) and approved by public authorities.

Educational and professional programs and curricula of professional prehigher education

Within the licensed specialty, an institution of professional prehigher education develops educational and professional programs and approves them in accordance with the relevant institutional regulations. The basis for the development of educational and professional program is the standard of professional prehigher education in the relevant specialty.

Standards of professional prehigher education are developed for each specialty in accordance with the National Qualifications Framework, and are used to determine the content and evaluate the education results of educational and professional programs of professional prehigher education.

The standard of professional prehigher education defines the following requirements for the educational-professional program:

- ✓ list of mandatory general and special competencies and learning outcomes
- ✓ program admission requirements
- ✓ the amount of ECTS credits required for the relevant specialty
- ✓ attestation forms
- ✓ requirements to the system of internal quality assurance
- ✓ requirements of professional standards (if applicable).

Standards of professional prehigher education of specialties required for access to professions with the additional state regulation may contain additional requirements to the rules of admission, the structure of the educational and professional program, the content of education, the organization of the educational process and attestation of graduates. The normative content of preparation of

applicants for professional prehigher education for the relevant educational programs is formed in terms of program learning outcomes.

The educational and professional program includes:

- ✓ admission requirements
- ✓ the program content formulated in terms of learning outcomes
- ✓ volume of ECTS
- ✓ list of educational components and logical sequence of their implementation
- ✓ requirements of professional standards (if available)
- ✓ attestation forms
- ✓ requirements to the system of internal quality assurance
- ✓ list of graduates` competencies.

On the basis of the relevant educational and professional program, the institution of professional prehigher education develops a curriculum that determines the list and load of educational components in ECTS credits, their logical sequence, forms of organization of educational process, types of classes and schedule, forms of current and final attestation, ensuring the achievement of the applicant's professional prehigher education program learning outcomes.

On the basis of the curriculum in the order determined by an institution of professional prehigher education the individual curriculum are developed and approved for each student for each academic year. The individual curriculum is formed based on the results of student`s choice within the limits established by legislation, taking into account the mandatory components and requirements of the educational-professional program. The individual curriculum is mandatory for completion by students.

Types of institutions of professional prehigher education:

- ✓ professional college
- ✓ military sergeants` college
- ✓ professional college with specific learning conditions

Educational documents on professional prehigher education

A document on professional prehigher education – professional junior bachelor diploma (with a diploma supplement) is issued to a person who has successfully completed the relevant educational and professional program. Documents on professional higher education are issued by institutions of professional prehigher education where the studies take place.

The diploma of a professional junior bachelor shall indicate: the name of the institution of professional prehigher education (or other educational institution) that issued this document (in case of obtaining professional prehigher education in the structural unit of a higher education institution, branch of an institution of professional prehigher education – name of such unit or branch); educational qualification, consisting of information about the obtained educational and professional degree, specialty, specialization, educational and professional program; professional qualification (if applicable).

An integral part of the professional junior bachelor diploma is a diploma supplement which contains structured information about the completed studies. The diploma supplement contains information on the learning outcomes with the information on subjects, grades and number of ECTS credits obtained, as well as information on the system of professional prehigher education in Ukraine.

The professional junior bachelor diploma shall indicate information about the body (bodies) of accreditation of the program, and in the diploma supplement – information about the relevant accreditation certificates and decisions issued by them.

Information on issued educational documents is added by institutions of professional prehigher education (except for institutions of professional prehigher military (and specialized military) education) into the [Unified State Electronic Database on Education](#).

Information on all recognized institutions of professional prehigher education (except for institutions of professional prehigher military (and specialized military) education) is added into the [Unified State Electronic Database on Education](#).