

EDUCATION

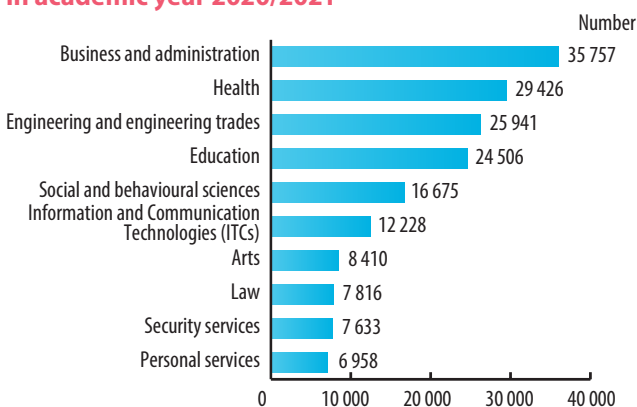
Higher education plays a crucial role for the development of intelligent and sustainable economy. Thanks to the efforts of the higher education institutions in the country, they continue to attract the most talented students. Bulgarian universities offer a wide range of specialties.

Higher schools by type

Academic year	Number
2020/21	
Total	54
Universities and equivalent higher schools	50
Colleges	21
- Independent colleges	4
- Colleges, at the universities and equivalent higher schools	17

The types of higher education institutions in Bulgaria are Universities and equivalent higher schools and Colleges. During the 2020/2021 academic year in the 54 educational institutions the total number of the students (in degrees 'Professional bachelor', 'Bachelor', 'Master' and 'PhD') is 219 791.

TOP 10 field of education by number of students in academic year 2020/2021



The most preferred fields of education (for all degrees) in Bulgaria are "Business and Administration" (16%), followed by "Health" (13%) and "Engineering and engineering trades" (12%).

Universities in Bulgaria attract many international students due to excellent quality education, diploma recognised in EU/EEA and beyond, good level of costs and different programs in English, German and French.

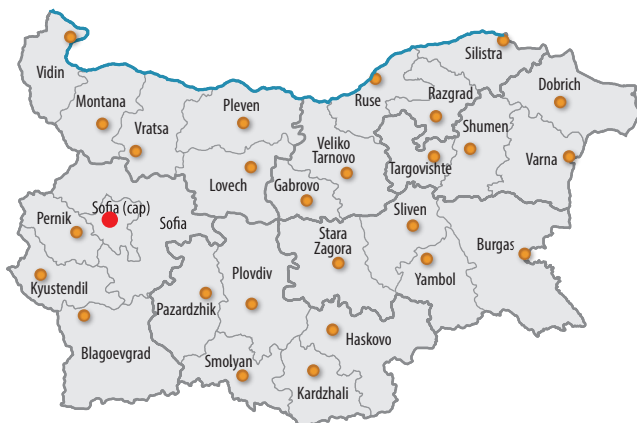


BULGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY – important facts and figures

- ▲ The BCCI is the leading employers' association in Bulgaria – comprising of over 56 000 members and representative offices, in which are employed with labor contract more than 690 thousand persons (32% of total employed in the country).
- ▲ The BCCI is based on the principles of voluntary membership, autonomy and self-financing and seeks to establish ethical and socially responsible relationships in business.
- ▲ The BCCI contributes to the creation of a more favourable business environment and dedicates many efforts to the promotion and support of entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives.
- ▲ The BCCI is a part of the Association of the Organizations of Bulgarian Employers (AOBE) – a free union of the four employers' organizations that are officially acknowledged as representative according to the operating legislation.
- ▲ The BCCI is a universal organization in which all members are companies from various sectors and of different sizes, which comply with the Code of Business Ethics.
- ▲ 28 Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry are united in the Unified System of Bulgarian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- ▲ The BCCI participates in over 200 public-private bodies.
- ▲ BCCI has 244 local bodies in 217 municipalities.
- ▲ The BCCI is a regular member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), World Chambers Federation (WCF), Association of European Chambers of Commerce (Eurochambres), World Trade Centers Association (WTCA), Association of the Balkan Chambers (ABC), Regional Cooperation Council, International Council on Cooperation, BSEC Business Council, Central European Initiative (CEI), GS1 International Association, Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), Silk Road Chamber of International Commerce (SRCIC), Three Seas Initiative, etc.
- ▲ A Club of Joint and Foreign Chambers in Bulgaria with over 50 organizations operates at BCCI.
- ▲ The 84 Sectorial Organizations are united in a Council of Sectorial Organizations at the BCCI.
- ▲ At BCCI operates an Arbitration Court with more than 120 years of activity.

BULGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

126 years reliable partner and source
of information for entrepreneurs



The 28 Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry

<http://www.bcci.bg/chambers-en.html>

Structures and services



**BCCI – CENTRE FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING,
TRANSLATIONS, CONSULTATIONS
AND COMPANY SERVICES EOOD**

i Additional information:

<http://www.center.bcci.bg>

Main activities:

1. Consultations on economic activity; legal issues; projects for financing; marketing research; tax issues.
2. Filling in/elaboration of commercial documents.
3. Translation / interpretation services.
4. Training.
5. Fairs and Exhibitions.


For Contacts: **Margarita Damyanova**

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 477, Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: M.Damyanova@bcci.bg



TRADE REGISTER AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORATE

 Additional information:

<https://www.bcci.bg/tradereg-general-en1.html>

Main activities:

1. Trade Register Services
 - ▲ Registration in the Unified voluntary trade register of the BCCI of companies, organizations and other legal subjects;
 - ▲ Obligatory registration of commercial representative offices of foreign persons in Bulgaria;
 - ▲ Maintenance and updating of the information on file subject to registration;
 - ▲ Issuing of certificates and references in Bulgarian and foreign languages for the status and financial condition of the registered legal subjects;
 - ▲ Providing oral and written references in Bulgarian and foreign languages with data about the registered legal subjects.
2. Membership with BCCI.
3. Issuance and validation of documents:
 - ▲ Certificates of origin of goods; BCCI is the only organization in Bulgaria accredited by ICC WCF to issue certificates of origin. BCCI has a permit from the Bulgarian Customs Agency to issue non-preferential certificates of origin;
 - ▲ Validation of signatures.
4. Issuance and validation of ATA Carnets.
5. Issuance of Force-Majeure Certificates.
6. Assistance for validation of invitation-declarations for business trips of foreigners to the Republic of Bulgaria.
7. Assistance in obtaining information about the existence and current status of foreign companies.
8. BCCI offers services for issuance of personal and professional qualified electronic signature.
9. Excellent SME certificate.
10. Carrying out coordination and keeping constant relations with the 28 Regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry (RCCI).
11. Carrying out coordination with the sectorial organizations members of the Council of Sectorial Organisations with the BCCI.

For Contacts: **Zdravka Georgieva, Director**

Tel.: (+359 2) 987 88 84, 8117 476

Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: z.georgieva@bcci.bg



EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND EUROPEAN PROJECTS DIRECTORATE

i Additional information:

<http://www.bcci.bg/projectsBCCI.htm>

<http://www.bcci.bg/seminars-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/en-een.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/economic-analyses-en.html>

Main activities:

1. Participation in EU funded projects.
2. Enhancing the BCCI's capacity to manage activities under EU programmes.
3. Supporting the development and strengthening of the SMEs.
4. Enterprise Europe Network is the largest information and consulting network in the world that helps SMEs to take advantage of business opportunities in the EU single market, to increase their competitiveness in Europe and find reliable technology, business and project partners.
5. Business research inquiries at a request of the customers.
6. Economic analyses by sectors.
7. Database references about the financial results of a company or a group of companies.
8. Annual classification TOP 100 – The leading companies in the Bulgarian economy.
9. Provision of information based on the annual financial statements of the companies.
10. Publication of annual financial statements.

For Contacts: **Mariana Tancheva, Director**

Tel.: (+359 2) 988 34 82; 8117 508; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: mtancheva@bcci.bg



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORATE

i Additional information:

<http://www.bcci.bg/business-delegations-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/seminars-en.html>

<http://www.bcci.bg/company-presentation.html>

Main activities:

1. Assistance for establishing business contacts with partners from all over the world.
2. Organizing workshops and seminars with Bulgarian and foreign lecturers for entrepreneurs.
3. Organizing business missions.
4. Cooperation with partnering national and international business organizations.

For Contacts: **Gabriela Dimitrova, Director**

Tel.: (+359 2) 987 25 38; 8117 489; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: interdpt@bcci.bg, G.Dimitrova@bcci.bg



ARBITRATION COURT AT BCCI



Additional information:

<https://www.bcci.bg/bcci-arbitration-court-en.html>

Main activities:

1. Out-of-court tribunal institution for fast and efficient settlement of private law property disputes.
2. Four times lower taxes for big claims in comparison with the taxes, applied by public court.
3. Possibility to include foreign arbitrators, if the company has more than 50% foreign capital.
4. 98% of the cases are solved within 12 months period.
5. Possibility to involve private law enforcement agents.
6. AC at BCCI provided to the participants in the arbitration proceedings access to the case files through bilingual electronic internet-based platform.
7. Regional lists of arbitrators are created.

Arbitration Clause, recommended by the BCCI: "Any disputes arising from this contract or concerning it, including disputes arising from or concerning its interpretation, invalidity, non-performance of termination, as well as disputes about filling gaps in a contract or its adaption to newly arisen circumstances, shall be settled by the Arbitration Court at the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in accordance with its Rules for cases based on Arbitration Agreements."

For Contacts: **Blagovest Punev, President**

Natalia Stefanova, Secretary of the Arbitration Court

Nina Nikolova, Secretary of the Arbitration Court

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 434, 8117 546, 8117 561; Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09

E-mail: acourt@bcci.bg



GS1 BULGARIA



Additional information:

<http://www.gs1bg.org>

Main activities:

Member of GS1 AISBL, non-profit organization that develops and maintains global standards for unique identification, capture and share of key information about products, locations, assets and more. GS1 is best known for the barcode, named by the BBC as one of "the 50 things that made the world economy". The standards bring efficiency and transparency to the supply chain across physical and digital channels in 25 sectors.

GS1 Bulgaria brings together over 4000 Bulgarian companies - from international household names to small, local businesses. GS1 Bulgaria offers different services to its members including global synchronization of product data that helps companies to leverage their business.

For Contacts: **Tzveta Bratanova, CEO**

Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 604

E-mail: gs1bulgaria@gs1bg.org

INDUSTRIAL ZONES of "National Company Industrial Zones"<http://www.nciz.bg/>

SOFIA-BOZHURISHTA ECONOMIC ZONE, Sofia
INDUSTRIAL AND LOGISTIC PARK – BURGAS, Burgas
FREE ZONE-RUSE, Ruse
INDUSTRIAL ZONE VIDIN, Vidin
INDUSTRIAL ZONE SVILENGRAD, Svilengrad
TRANSIT TRADE ZONE VARNA, Varna
INDUSTRIAL ZONE ZAGORA, Stara Zagora
INDUSTRIAL ZONE KARDZHALI, Kardzhali
INDUSTRIAL ZONE TELISH, Telish
VARNA WEST INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Suvorovo
INDUSTRIAL ZONE KARLOVO, Karlovo

OTHER INDUSTRIAL ZONES<http://www.bcci.bg/zones/>

INDUSTRIAL PARK – STRIMON, Simitli
INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK AITOS, Aitos
BURGAS INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "MEDEN RUDNIK", Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "POBEDA", Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "NORTH", Burgas
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "SOUTH", Burgas
BALGAROVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Balgarovo
DOBRICH BUSINESS ZONE, Dobrich
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "NORTH", Dobrich
INDUSTRIAL ZONE "WEST", Dobrich
GENERAL TOSHEVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, General Toshevo
GABROVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Gabrovo
DIMITROVGRAD INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Dimitrograd
FREE ZONE - SVILENGRAD, Svilengrad
INDUSTRIAL ZONE KARDZHALI - SOUTH, Kardzhali
LETNITSA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Letnitsa
TROYAN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Troyan
TECHNOLOGY PARK, Montana
INDUSTRIAL PARK - PAZARDZHIK, Septemvri
INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL PARK PERNIK - EAST, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL ZONE PERNIK, Pernik
INDUSTRIAL ZONE DOLNA MITROPOLIA, Dolna Mitropolia
INDUSTRIAL ZONE - PLEVEN, Pleven
TRAKIA ECONOMIC ZONE, Plovdiv
INDUSTRIAL PARK RHODOPES, Plovdiv
KRUMOVO LOGISTICS ZONE, Plovdiv
ASSENOVGRAD INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Asenovgrad
NORTH INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Plovdiv
PLOVDIV FREE ZONE, Plovdiv
INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ZONE KARADZHALOVO, Karadzhalovo
BUSINESS ZONE "PERISTAR" - RAZGRAD, Razgrad
RUSE EAST INDUSTRIAL PARK, Ruse
INDUSTRIAL PARK RUSE, Ruse
IVANOVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Shtraklevo
KASPICHAN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Kaspichan
SHUMEN INDUSTRIAL PARK, Shumen
DANUBE INDUSTRIAL PARK, Silistra
TCHAVDAR PARK BOTEVGRAD, Botevgrad
INDUSTRIAL PARK SOFIA, Sofia
INDUSTRIAL PARK SOFIA EAST, Elin Pelin
SAMOKOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Samokov
INDUSTRIAL PARK PROMOEST BULGARIA, Sofia
INDUSTRIAL PARK WEST, Sofia
ELIN PELIN INDUSTRIAL PARK, Elin Pelin
GORNA MALINA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Gorna Malina
INDUSTRIAL PARK - PETARCH, Petarch
STARA ZAGORA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Elenino
INDUSTRIAL ZONE ZSK, Stara Zagora
TARGOVISHTA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Targovishte
INDUSTRIAL ZONE VARNA - WEST, Devnya
FIRST INDUSTRIAL ZONE - AVREN, Avren
INDUSTRIAL ZONE VETRINO, Vetrino
SUVOROVO INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Suvorovo
INDUSTRIAL ZONE - SOUTH, STRAZHITSA, Strazhitsa
SVISHTOV INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Svishtov
VRATZA INDUSTRIAL ZONE, Vratza



The building of Sofia
Commercial and Industrial Chamber
2 Slavianska Str., Sofia
built in 1914

The building of the BCCI
42 Parchevich Str., Sofia
Opened 1995



New building of the BCCI
9 Iskar Str., Sofia

Bulgarian Chamber
of Commerce and Industry
9 Iskar Str., 1058 Sofia, Bulgaria
Tel.: (+359 2) 8117 400
Fax: (+359 2) 987 32 09
Web site: www.bcci.bg
E-mail: bcci@bcci.bg