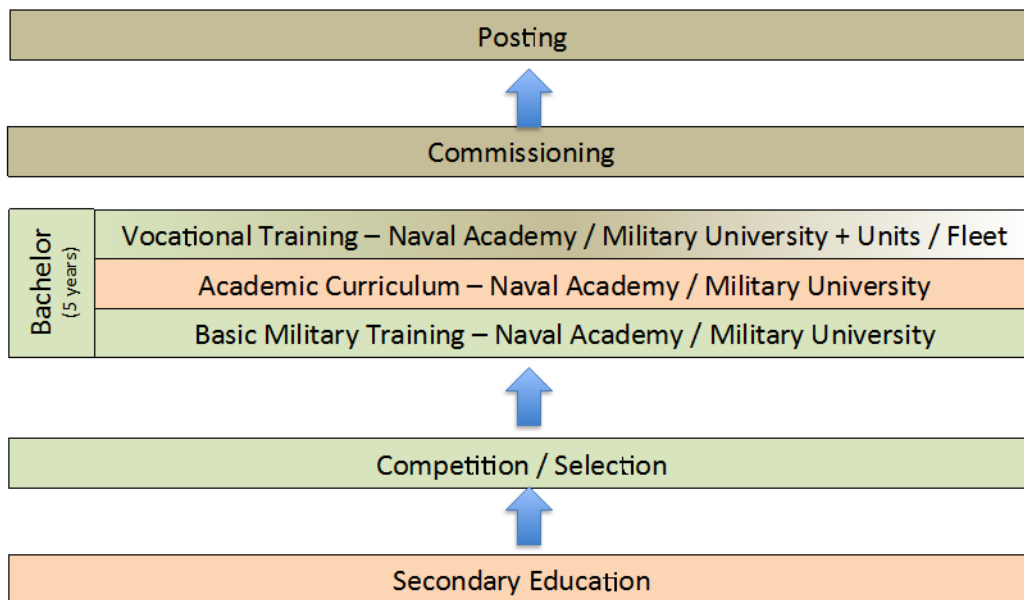




# BULGARIA

## How to Become a Military Officer in the Bulgarian Armed Forces:



The structure of the basic education of the Bulgarian officers rests on two main institutions, the Vassil Levski National Military University – for Army and Air Force students, and the Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy – for Navy students. The Army and Air Force students, beside, both study within the Land Forces Faculty during their first year at the Military University. These two institutions are recognized as higher education institutions and provide opportunities for academic curricula up to doctoral studies. Nevertheless, the compulsory basic education of the military officers is bachelor level.

In this system, the military specialisations are considered as a part of the academic curriculum. Upon graduation, indeed, cadets receive two bachelor degrees: one in their academic specialisation and one in their military specialisation. At the Military University, for example, cadets can acquire one of the following “vocational bachelor” degrees:

- Organisation and Management of Army Tactical Units
- Organisation and Management of Air Force Tactical Units
- Organisation and Management of Logistics Tactical Units
- Organisation and Management of Communication and Information Systems in the Tactical Units

The two institutions, in addition, hosts civilian students and propose them different programmes adapted to their needs, at all study levels.

NAVY

## Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy

<http://www.naval-acad.bg/En/index-en.html>

### Academic curricula

### Military specialisations

<b>Bachelor</b> <small>(basic education)</small>	<p><b>- Bachelor in Military Science - Command and Control of Naval Tactical Units</b> (for cadets), specialisations in: <i>Navigation; Marine engineering; Naval communication and radiotechnical systems.</i></p> <p><b>- Bachelor in Transportation Shipping and Aviation</b> (civilian students), specialisations in: <i>Navigation (Inland water navigation); Information and communication technologies in marine industry (Fleet and port management or Water transport management or Shipping); Marine engineering (Ship electrical engineering or Technology of ship repair or Ocean engineering)</i></p>
<b>Master</b> <small>(civilian curricula)</small>	<p><b>Master in Transportation, Shipping and Aviation</b>, specialisations in: <i>Navigation; Information and communication technologies in marine industry; Port management; Marine engineering; Ship electrical engineering; Ship repair; Marine safety and security; Logistics</i></p>

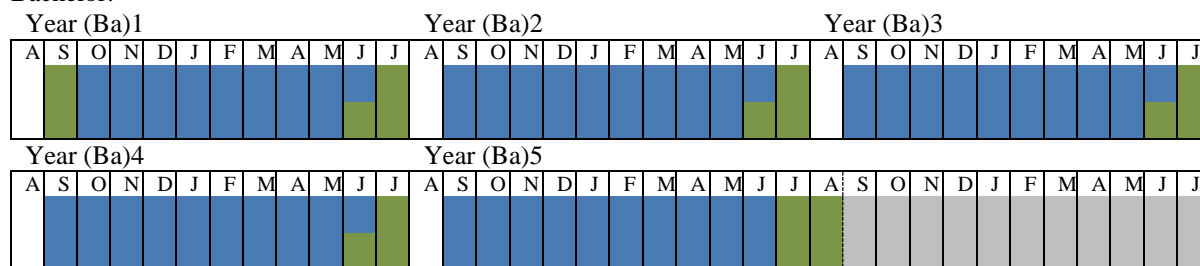
All specialties	<b>Naval Academy</b>
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Number of cadets first year: 17

Total number of cadets: 99

### Organisation of the basic officers' education

Bachelor:



### Integration in the European Higher Education Area

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
ECTS	240	N/A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
N			Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
Doctoral studies are offered at the Naval Academy in the following topics: <i>Ship Operation and Navigation; Operation of Water Transport, Seaports and River ports; Radiolocation and Radionavigation; Communications Systems and Networks; Ship Power Plants and Machinery; Technology and Organization of Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing; Ship Power Supply and Electrical Systems; Organization and Management of the Armed Forces; Military Psychology; Automated systems for information processing and management; Dynamics, strength and reliability of machines; Organization and management; Military and political aspects of security</i>	The Naval Academy is active in scientific research, with view to establish a centre of fundamental and applied science research in the area of naval science and marine technologies providing education and scientific support to the Navy and maritime industry, notably in the following fields: <i>Marine technologies, Naval science, weaponry and equipment, Maritime safety and security, Navigation, Maritime education and qualifications activities, Green energy</i>

**An exchange culture**

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 16

*Bulgaria and the Naval Academy have acquired experience of mobility in both academic and vocational fields notably through hosting European cadets and instructors. In taking part to the Initiative for the exchange of young officers and the Conference of Superintendents, they promote the inward and outward mobility of European military students.*

**Context:**

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
Y	Conference of Superintendents	N	N

**Practice:**

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	

**Learning of, learning in foreign languages**

*All future officers at the Naval Academy study English as a specialized subject throughout their education. Some subjects, like Interne technologies, are taught in English.*

Command of the English at the end of basic education and training (CEFRL/STANAG 6001):

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Bachelor curriculum	SLP 1	SLP 1	SLP 1	SLP 1

**Before and beyond basic education**

*The future naval officers are recruited among the young nationals of less than 23-years old who are graduated from secondary education. Candidates must comply with psychological, physical and medical standards and successfully pass an entrance test, including a test on the knowledge of the English language.*

*In the course of their career, the Bulgarian officers will receive additional education and training at an advanced level: Postgraduate Training Department at the Nikola Vaptsarov Naval Academy for tactics, weapons, language, computers (Ensign, LJG, Lieutenant); the Rakovski Defense and Staff College for masters in military affairs, operations (Lt, LCdr, CDR, Captain); the US Naval War College (Lt, LCdr, CDR, Captain).*