



College of Karlovy Vary, o.p.s. Vysoká škola Karlovy Vary, o.p.s.

Abbreviation in Czech: VŠKV

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History ■ The College of Karlovy Vary is one of the biggest and also oldest private higher education institutions established after the fall of communist rule. It was founded in 1999 as a kind of public beneficial company. At present it has over 1200 students and has already had several generations of graduates with bachelor degrees in legal studies. To satisfy the large number of applicants, the school decided to expand its local activities by setting up a branch in Prague in 2006.

VŠKV was established with the aim of providing a complete bachelor education with a continuous link to the university system of education, taking practical applications into account. The College of Karlovy Vary is located in the regional town of Karlovy Vary, where it tries to meet educational needs of the town and region, and also to contribute through its educational activities to the development of local institutions, particularly the Municipal and Regional Authorities, the Regional Court and other important regional partners. The school is also a significant partner of many institutions within the Czech Republic, and through the personalities of its academic staff it participates in the work of specialist groups attached to various Departments (Education, Justice, Interior), the Parliament of the Czech Republic, higher education in general (The Czech Conference of Rectors, The Board of Higher Schools) and specialist legal organizations. For some years, VSKV has been publishing a professional quarterly magazine, which is appreciated for its up-to-date and professional level. The school also takes advantage of opportunities for international cooperation among higher schools.

The Bachelor Study Programme aims to educate specialists for specific administrative-legal professions in which a good understanding of the legal system is required, together with the ability to apply some aspects of public or private law. Another aim is to fill the existing gaps in the work qualification structure of legally-educated people.

There is a lack of legally-educated professionals in the state administration and also in the private sector of the Czech Republic, as demonstrated by good job opportunities available for VSKV graduates.

Structure of the Institution

- VSKV is headed by a rector, who is assisted in achieving the targets by a vice-rector for study and pedagogical affairs, a vice-rector for constitution and research, and the vice-rector for management and external relations. VSKV is assisted in its work by the Institute of Criminalistics and Forensic Disciplines, the Institute for Prevention of Negative Social Impacts, and the Institute for Lifelong Education. There are the following departments :
 - Department of Private Law
 - Department of Administrative Law and Public Administration
 - Department of Criminal Law, Criminalistics and Forensic Disciplines
 - Department of Legal Theory and History of Law
 - Department of Constitutional Law and International Law
 - Department of Economy
 - Department of Languages

Organisation of Studies

- The VSKV Study Programme is accredited as 68 – 04 – B Law Specialization. It is divided into 4 study branches:

A – Law in Business

This branch focuses on preparing specialists qualified in elementary legal activities in business and well oriented in basic business law.

B – Social Legal Work

This branch focuses on preparing specialists in the area of social legal activities and functions, who are well oriented in the work of organisations and institutions dealing with social problems.

C – Public Administration

This branch focuses on preparing specialists in the area of public administration, including control activities, who are able to function well in the upgraded public administration in the Czech Republic.

D – Court and Notarial Administration Work

This branch focuses on preparing specialists to co-operate with notaries, advocates and judges. They should be able to carry out administrative legal activities and perform some basic legal work.

Certificate programmes are also offered in Business and Administration Work in the Field of Gambling and Gaming, and in Supervisory Work in Public Administration, which form part of the Bachelor Study programme. These are voluntary courses, and are not offered separately from the agreed study programme.

The programmes at VSKV can be studied on a full-time or part-time basis. The full-time form of studies lasts 3 years (6 semesters), and includes compulsory work placements in the 3rd and 5th semesters. The studies are organized in the form of lectures, seminars and practical exercises. After graduation, the students will be able to find jobs particularly inside the region.

The part-time form of studies are governed by the study programme for part-time students, and takes 4 years (8 semesters). The studies are organized in the form of consultations, in which the study materials used by full-time studies are supplemented by study materials specially prepared for part-time students.

The examinations are the same for part-time and full-time students. The part-time students are people already working in the field who want to have a relevant and useful qualification. The studies are divided into academic years and semesters. The academic year begins on September 1st and finishes on August 31st in the following year.

After each semesters there is an examination period. The Bachelor Study Programme includes compulsory courses, prescribed optional courses, voluntary courses and specialisation courses. The studies culminate in the State Final Examination, which consists of the presentation and defence of the Bachelor project, a general oral examination (constitutional law, theory of law, civil law), oral examinations on specialist subjects, with the emphasis on the chosen branch, and an oral examination in a foreign language concerning legal problems.

After graduating the School awards the degree „bakalář“ (i.e. Bachelor), abbreviated as „Bc.“

The graduates receive a diploma with the awarded title , and a state final examination certificate.

Basic Statistical Data in Academic Year 2007/2008

■ Total number of students:	1379
Number of full-time students:	419
Number of part-time students:	960