

ABOUT COLLEGE

College for Preschool Teachers in Aleksinac continues the tradition started with the *First Teachers School* founded in 1871 (which was transferred from Belgrade to Aleksinac in 1896), *Royal Serbian Teachers School* (1896 – 1903), and *Male Teachers School* (1919 – 1935), when studies lasted for four or five years. Apart from the teachers department, a one-year course for the education of nursery teachers was introduced in 1940, which lasted until 15 June 1941. In 1972 the College became *Teachers Academy*, and in 1993 it changed its name to *Preschool Teachers School*, introducing a teaching programme based on a reformed syllabus.

In 2007, the College changed its name to *College for Preschool Teachers*, developing a new syllabus based on the Bologna Declaration. In the same year, the College obtained accreditation and license from the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia. The license was verified in 2012, and the three-year college programme *Education of Preschool Teachers* was accredited, including two one-year specialist programmes:

1. Preschool Teacher – Specialist for Drama Education
2. Preschool Teacher – Specialist for Introductory Preschool Programme.

Theoretical and practical courses are taught by professors who hold the titles of Emeritus, PhD, MA and Specialist, using contemporary teaching methods. The College is equipped with modern facilities and comfortable classrooms. It also has a reading room, internet access, an interactive website and a library holding more than 36,000 titles. The College building also hosts a kindergarten, as a special place for practical education of students and preschool education of children.

In order to continuously improve teaching programmes and the quality of studies, the College traditionally organizes seminars and professional meetings. It also publishes student textbooks, proceedings and other sorts of professional publications. Of particular importance is cooperation with other institutions of similar kind, both in Serbia and abroad, which improves the quality of studying and provides a better working atmosphere for both students and professors.

The College is governed by Director, College Council, Academic Council and Student Assembly, all of whom have equal participation in decision making processes.