

Circular 99541/02/23-07-2026 “Filling of operational vacancies in Model Ecclesiastical Schools for the 2026–2027 school year”

RE: 1. Call for applications No. 60307/02/15-05-2026 (ADA: Ψ94P46NKΠΔ-8ΞΔ) issued by the General Secretary for Religious Affairs

2. Decision No. 98249/02/21-07-2026 (ADA: 6Δ1A46NKΠΔ-OE5) issued by the Deputy Head of the Directorate for Religious Education and Interfaith Relations.

Further to the above, we would like to inform you of the following:

A) Our Service proceeded, by decision No. 98249/02/21-07-2026 (ADA: 6Δ1A46NKΠΔ-OE5), to the “Placement of Teachers in Model Ecclesiastical Schools pursuant to Law 4823/2021 (GG, Vol. A', Iss. 136)”, in accordance with the vacancies reported by the Principals of the Model Ecclesiastical Schools. However, it was not possible to fill all the reported vacancies, either because there were no candidate teachers under the aforementioned call for applications or because the vacancies were for fewer than 12 hours, in which case they were not included.

B) Paragraph 17 of article 127 of Law 4823/2021 (GG, Vol. A', Iss. 136) provides as follows: “17. Operational vacancies arising, for any reason, at the beginning of or during the school year in Ecclesiastical Schools may be filled by assignment of teachers by the Directorate of Secondary Education or the Regional Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education, in the following order of priority: (a) teachers included in the lists referred to in the fourth sentence of paragraph 11 who have not been placed in Ecclesiastical Schools and who do not complete their compulsory teaching hours, (b) permanent teachers with advanced academic qualifications who do not complete their compulsory teaching hours, and (c) permanent teachers who do not complete their compulsory teaching hours. If it is not possible to fill the operational vacancies through this process, the vacancies are filled by substitute or hourly-paid teachers hired in accordance with the provisions for Public Secondary Education.”

However, please note that, when calculating operational vacancies, the following must be taken into consideration:

1) The operational vacancy for the subject ‘Iconography’ is determined in accordance with Ministerial Decision No. 71346/02/10-06-2020 (GG, Vol. B', Iss. 2466), as currently in force.

2) The subject of ‘Byzantine Music’ is exclusively assigned to teachers in the PE79.01/TE16 teaching categories, with an additional qualification required for both categories being a Diploma in Byzantine Music from recognized institutions.

3) In addition to teaching hours, in accordance with the current timetable for Model Ecclesiastical Schools and the relevant provisions regarding the assignment of subjects in Junior High and High Schools, account shall also be taken of the mandatory operation of Byzantine Music, Iconography and Sports Clubs, in conjunction with the restrictions laid down in decision No. 102939/ΓΔ4/24-08-2022 concerning the operation of educational clubs, as well as the organization of a school choir, namely:

A) For PE79.01/TE16 categories, the hours provided for organizing a school choir in accordance with the provisions in force, as well as the hours provided for the organization of a mandatory Byzantine Music Club pursuant to paragraph 2 of article 125 of Law 4823/2021 (GG, Vol. A', Iss. 136).

B) For the subject of 'Iconography', the hours provided for organizing a mandatory Iconography Club pursuant to paragraph 2 of article 125 of Law 4823/2021 (GG, Vol. A', Iss. 136).

C) For the PE11 category, the hours provided for organizing a mandatory Sports Club pursuant to paragraph 2 of article 125 of Law 4823/2021 (GG, Vol. A', Iss. 136).

In view of the above, you are kindly requested to:

- 1) Take the necessary action to fill the operational vacancies at the Model Ecclesiastical School under your jurisdiction, in cooperation with its Principal.
- 2) Notify our Service, as soon as possible, of the details of the teachers (full name, teaching category, hours) who will be assigned, either full-time or part-time, to the Model Ecclesiastical School for the 2026–2027 school year, to cover these vacancies.
- 3) Inform us of the remaining operational vacancies, so that our Office may subsequently fill them with substitute teachers.