



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2025/119

DECISION No. 119

March 1, 2025

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF ABOVYAN STATE ENERGY COLLEGE

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution:	Abovyan State Energy College (SNPO)
Official Address:	4 Usanoghakan District, Abovyan, Kotayk region, RA
Previous Accreditation decision and date:	Conditional institutional accreditation for a period of two years, Decision No. 69 of July 21, 2022

Guided by the Statute on State Accreditation of Tertiary Level Institutions and their Academic Programmes approved by the RA Government Decree N 978-N as of June 30, 2011, the RA Government Decree N 959-N as of June 30, 2011 on the Approval of Accreditation Criteria for Tertiary Education of RA, the Procedure on the Formation and Operation of the Accreditation Committee of the “National Center for Professional Education Quality Assurance” foundation (hereinafter referred to as “ANQA”) as well as by the Regulation on the Formation of ANQA’s Expert Panel, ANQA’s Accreditation Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) discussed the issue on accreditation of institutional capacities of the Abovyan State Energy College (hereinafter referred to as “ASEC”, “TLI”) in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on March 1, 2025.

The main phases of the accreditation process were carried out within the following periods:

Submission of application:	November 21, 2023
Submission of self-evaluation:	April 26, 2024

Site visit by the expert panel: June 10-12, 2024

Submission of the expert panel report: September 19, 2024

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan: October 11, 2024

The external review of the TLI's institutional capacities was carried out by the following expert panel:

- **Armenuhi Sargsyan**, teacher at the M. Nalbandyan State University of Shirak, chair of the expert panel.
- **Gayane Hambardzumyan**, deputy director for educational activities of Echmiadzin State College named after Vardges Hamazaspyan.
- **Oleg Gevorgyan**, deputy director for science, scientific-technological cooperation and external relations at the Institute of Information and Telecommunication Technologies and Electronics of the National Polytechnic University of Armenia.
- **Lilit Nazaryan**, second-year student of the AP "Accounting" at the Ararat Regional State College.

The evaluation was conducted according to the 10 criteria of institutional accreditation approved by the RA Government Decree N 959 as of June 30, 2011. Evaluation according to accreditation criteria:

Evaluation	Conclusion
1. Mission and Purpose	Satisfactory
2. Governance and Administration	Unsatisfactory
3. Academic Programmes	Unsatisfactory
4. Students	Satisfactory
5. Faculty and Staff	Satisfactory
6. Research and Development	Unsatisfactory
7. Infrastructure and Resources	Satisfactory
8. Societal Responsibility	Satisfactory
9. External Relations and Internationalization	Unsatisfactory
10. Internal Quality Assurance System	Satisfactory

Having examined the institution's self-evaluation of institutional capacities, the expert panel report, the follow-up plan; having heard the conclusions on the expert panel evaluation, which were made by the two members selected by the Chair of the Accreditation Committee and were formed as a result of the meetings with the expert panel members and the institution's representatives; as well the comments and suggestions made by the Accreditation Committee members, the Committee stated the following:

1. The institution has enhancement areas related to the credible award of qualifications.

The ASEC delivers seven secondary vocational academic programmes (APs) and one craftsmanship programme. The revision of the APs is neither periodic nor systematically planned. The main revisions are largely limited to regulatory changes, while AP evaluations have not been conducted. The stakeholder participation in the enhancement of the APs has not been ensured. No benchmarking has been carried out. The currently implemented APs and the teaching staff mainly support the preparation of graduates with theoretical knowledge.

There are shortcomings in the delivery of practical classes and internships in relevant organisations. These shortcomings should be one of the institution's key priorities.

The ASEC'S material-technical resources are considerably outdated.

2. Strategic management and the QA system are in the stage of formation.

The ASEC is guided by its strategic plan. However, its goals and objectives are not fully achieved due to limited human and material resources. The absence of systematic planning of financial resources and revenues creates risks to institutional sustainability, highlighting the need for the diversification of funding sources to ensure effective resource management. Though mechanisms for data collection are in place, the collected data are not used for comprehensive analysis and informed decision-making. The ASEC has not developed tools for risk identification and the analysis of internal and external factors, limiting the effectiveness of strategic management.

3. Internationalisation and research activities are not yet aimed at the credible award of qualifications.

The research and creative activities are not regarded as institutional priorities. Short- or mid-term planning in the areas of research and internationalisation is not carried out. The APs include only a limited number of assignments for the development of research skills. The ASEC's engagement in international processes remains limited. The institution cooperates with local companies solely for the organisation of internships. Memoranda of cooperation have also been signed with several HEIs in Armenia.

5. Some actions proposed by the follow-up plan in the expert panel report are realistic and do not contain any risks. The implementation of all recommendations will lead to qualitative changes.

Taking into consideration the above mentioned, as a result of an open voting, the Accreditation Committee:

DECIDED

1. **To award institutional accreditation to the Abovyan State Energy College for 4 /four/ years with conditions.**
2. Discuss with the Governing Councils possible ways to urgently address the issues identified by the expert panel, including the possibility of the merger with the National Polytechnic University of Armenia and the need to prioritise the resolution of the existing problems.
3. To pay special attention to:
 - a) the alignment of the strategic goals and objectives with the institution's mission and labour market needs, the development of mechanisms for the achievement of the strategic goals, and the enhancement of the effectiveness of the governance system;
 - b) the enhancement of APs and course content, as well as the development of competencies and skills in line with the labour market needs and international requirements;
 - c) the enhancement of data collection and analysis process and the identification of external factors influencing the institutional activities;
 - d) the introduction of effective mechanisms for the professional development and advancement of the teaching staff, based on the strategic goals and educational needs;

- e) the establishment of achievable strategic goals in the areas of research and external relations to ensure the achievement of the intended AP outcomes, address identified needs, diversify funding sources and promote institutional development;
 - f) the integration of research and teaching processes and the development of practical skills;
 - g) the organisation of teaching and learning processes to foster students' analytical, creative and critical thinking skills.
4. After the publication of the decision on accreditation award, to submit a revised follow-up plan based on the expert panel report and respective time schedule to ANQA within two months. The plan should be approved by the institution's Governing Council and consider the need to give urgent solution to the existing problems.
 5. In accordance with the requirements set by point 12 of the Statute on State Accreditation of Tertiary Level Institutions and their Academic Programmes, every 2 /two/ years to submit a written report to the ANQA on the results of carried out activities by ensuring the evaluation of enhancement of the TLI's activity, innovations and achievements.
 6. To assign the ANQA to carry out mandatory monitoring of the effectiveness of the TLI's activities in accordance with the KPIs.

Chair of the Accreditation Committee:

V. Gabrielyan

March 1, 2025

Yerevan