



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2025/123

DECISION No. 123

March 20, 2025

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF ALAVERDI STATE COLLEGE

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Alaverdi State College (SNCO)
Official Address: 3/6a Sanahin Sarahart, Alaverdi, Lori region, RA

Previous Accreditation **Not available**
decision and date:

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 Alaverdi State College (hereinafter referred to as “ASC”, “TLI”) in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on March 20, 2025.

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

Submission of application: February 2, 2024
Submission of the revised self-evaluation: July 23, 2024
Site visit by the expert panel: September 30 – October 2, 2024

Submission of the expert panel report: December 27, 2024

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan February 13, 2025

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

- **Hermine Grigoryan**, dean at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Vanadzor State University after H. Tumanyan, Candidate of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Associate Professor, chair of the expert panel.
- **Amalya Navasardyan**, teacher at the Sevan Multifunctional State College.
- **Amalya Grigoryan**, Candidate of Philological Sciences, Associate Professor, independent expert.
- **Artak Khachatryan**, student 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	Satisfactory
4. Students	Satisfactory
5. Faculty and Staff	Satisfactory
6. Research and Development	Unsatisfactory
7. Infrastructure and Resources	Satisfactory
8. Societal Responsibility	Unsatisfactory
9. External Relations and Internationalization	Satisfactory
10. Internal Quality Assurance System	Unsatisfactory

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 ASC generally ensures the development of practical skills and the credible award of qualifications through its academic programmes (APs), teaching staff and material- technical resources. However, the solution of a number of issues in this area requires consistent efforts and systematic enhancement.

The ASC should conduct periodic self-audits of all APs, with an emphasis on the effectiveness of internships and employer engagement across all fields of study, with a view to enhancing the learning process. It is also important to contextualise the requirements of national and international occupational standards and use them as a practical reference for AP enhancement. To support continuous development, the ASC should introduce mechanisms for AP monitoring and benchmarking. In addition, it is necessary to address issues related to teaching staff stability and imbalances in staff capacity by promoting the recruitment and retention of qualified specialists to ensure the provision of vocational education aligned with current requirements.

2. Strategic management and the QA system are in the stage of formation. There are enhancement directions to ensure results-based governance.

The ASC needs to enhance the strategic management process, particularly data collection and the use of objective evidence in decision-making. To this end, it is necessary to develop and introduce clear data collection tools and relevant procedures. Meanwhile, the accountability mechanism should be enhanced to ensure a regular flow of information to the Governing Council and strengthen governance transparency.

The ASC should define and apply KPIs as a basis for strategic planning, monitoring and accountability. In addition, an effective QA environment should be established to foster a culture of objective and continuous enhancement. The ASC also needs to address vacancies in key strategic positions and take steps to develop mechanisms for generating extra-budgetary funding.

3. Internationalisation and research activities do not yet support the credible award of qualifications.

Research and creative activities, as well as internationalisation, are regarded as priority areas for institutional development. However, further systematic enhancement is required. In particular, the research component should be more extensively integrated into the APs, including through the use of teachers' research findings. The ASC should also conduct a needs assessment to expand cooperation with international partners. Meanwhile, steps should be taken to improve foreign language proficiency, supported by appropriate budget allocations for this purpose.

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

DECIDED

- 1. To award institutional accreditation to the Alaverdi State College for 4 /four/ years with conditions.**
2. 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.
3. The follow-up plan should include urgent solution of the issues identified in Points **1, 2 and 3**, ensuring relevant mechanisms for the prevention and management of potential risks.
4. Particular emphasis should be placed on the credible award of qualifications across the APs, conducting a self-audit of all APs prior to the next accreditation.
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 20, 2025

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