



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2025/116

DECISION No. 116

March 1, 2025

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF BASIC COLLEGE AFFILIATED WITH MESROP MASHTOTS UNIVERSITY

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Basic College Affiliated with Mesrop Mashtots
University

Official Address: 2/1 Heratsu St., Yerevan, 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 Basic College Affiliated with Mesrop Mashtots University (hereinafter referred to as “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: December 25, 2023

Submission of self-evaluation: May 13, 2024

Site visit by the expert panel: September 19-21, 2024

Submission of the expert panel report: November 12, 2024

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan November 20, 2024

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

- **Yasaman Avagyan**, chief specialist of the Quality Assurance Division at the Armenian State University of Economics, chair of the expert panel.
- **Lilit Abelyan**, quality assurance manager at the Kotayk Regional State College.
- **Olya Avetisyan**, teacher at the Yerevan State College of Light Industry.
- **Amalya Stepanyan**, student at the Marketing and Management Department of the European University of Armenia.

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	Satisfactory
9. External Relations and Internationalization	Satisfactory
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 generally ensures the credible award of qualifications.

The institution continuously enhances its academic programmes (APs) to ensure their alignment with the labour market requirements. Since the academic year 2022–2023, a modular teaching system has been introduced, contributing to the modernisation of the teaching and learning process and the development of practical skills.

The institution has an appropriately qualified teaching staff and also engages HEI teachers and practitioners from relevant fields. Mechanisms for the evaluation of the teaching staff are in place. The institution has a stable teaching staff and a pool of specialists. There is a positive trend towards staff rejuvenation.

The institution is equipped with the necessary material and technical resources, which are continuously upgraded. The joint use of the resources available at the HEI and employers supports the effective AP implementation.

2. Governance and the QA system are still in the stage of formation. However, there are development trends and governance is aimed at quality enhancement and credible award of qualifications.

Since 2023, the institution has undertaken strategic management reforms and established new structural units. The enhancement process is intended to increase the effectiveness of the governance system, clarify functions and streamline workflows across different units. However, challenges remain, including insufficient cooperation among the units, gaps in strategic planning, and shortcomings in data-driven decision-making. To improve the overall institutional effectiveness and optimise its governance processes, greater autonomy from the HEI should be ensured.

The institution has taken steps to institutionalise the QA system through the development of a documentary framework and the introduction of initial mechanisms for monitoring and enhancement. However, continued efforts are required to ensure the full and sustainable operation of the QA system, including the strengthening of internal evaluation and monitoring mechanisms.

3. Internationalisation and research activities have development trends and support the credible award of qualifications.

The development of the research component in the teaching and learning process and the strengthening of external relations play an important role in the institution's activities. However, research remains insufficiently integrated into the APs. Mechanisms for promoting research activities are not yet in place, and the teachers' research results are not fully incorporated into the teaching and learning process.

The institution maintains cooperation with local employers, contributing to the enhancement and shared use of resources. Procedures and regulations have been developed to support the establishment and strengthening of external relations. However, steps towards the internationalisation of the institution's activities have not yet been undertaken. There are no examples of student or teacher participation in international mobility programmes, indicating the need for further development in this area.

5. The follow-up plan in the expert panel report is generally realistic and does not contain any risks. The implementation will lead to qualitative enhancements.

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

DECIDED

1. **To award institutional accreditation to the Basic College Affiliated with Mesrop Mashtots University for 4 /four/ years.**
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. To pay special attention to:

- a) the enhancement of the governance system and the ensurance of institutional autonomy through the establishment of a governance model independent of the HEI;
 - b) the alignment between strategic and short-term plans;
 - c) the strengthening of the internal quality assurance system, further developing mechanisms for quality control and continuous enhancement;
 - d) the introduction and expansion of project-based learning across all academic programmes;
 - e) the ensurance of the infrastructure required for the implementation of project-based learning.
4. 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.
5. 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