



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2025/121

DECISION No. 121

March 20, 2025

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF GAVAR STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AFTER ACADEMICIAN A. TAMAMSHEV

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Gavar State Agricultural College after Academician A. Tamamshev (SNCO)

Official Address: 38 Azatutyan St., Gavar, Gegharkunik region, RA

Previous Accreditation decision and date: **Conditional institutional accreditation for a period of two years, Decision No. 48 of May 17, 2021**

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 Gavar State Agricultural College after Academician A. Tamamshev (hereinafter referred to as “GSAC”, “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 1, 2024

Submission of self-evaluation: May 3, 2024

Site visit by the expert panel: September 16-18, 2024

Submission of the expert panel report: December 3, 2024

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan January 7, 2025

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

- **Armen Harutyunyan**, vice rector for development at the Yerevan State Theatre and Film Institute, chair of the expert panel.
- **Elena Martirosyan**, deputy director for educational activities at the French-Armenian Vocational Education Center.
- **Narine Hovhannisyan**, teacher at the Chair of Plant Origin Product and Processing Technologies of the Armenian National Agrarian University.
- **Inga Harutyunyan**, 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	Satisfactory
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 ensures the credible award of qualifications.

The GSAC's academic programmes (APs) generally ensure the preparation of specialists in line with the regional needs. The institution takes steps to develop graduates' practical skills, drawing on employer resources. The teaching staff includes qualified specialists and employers. However, it would be advisable to expand the involvement of professionals with practical experience and to further develop policies for the attraction of young specialists, thereby helping to reduce the number of modules assigned to each teacher.

The organisation of internships requires a more systematic approach to ensure the full achievement of all defined practical learning outcomes across all APs. Certain best practices, e.g. the organisation of the state final examinations for the AP "Veterinary Medicine" in a real-world work environment, may serve as an example for institutional-level application and dissemination. It is also advisable to organise final examinations upon completion of internships across all APs to evaluate the development of practical competences. The GSAC provides the basic infrastructure and material resources for the AP implementation. Meanwhile, further enhancement is needed for the upgrading of laboratories, renovation of classrooms and provision of appropriate furnishings. It is recommended that these enhancements be undertaken irrespective of whether the new building becomes operational.

2. Strategic management and the QA system are in the stage of formation. The governance process prioritises the fulfilment of the institution's mission and the achievement of sustainable development.

The GSAC's strategic development is guided by its defined mission and strategic plan. Meanwhile, the Accreditation Committee attaches importance to the development of sustainable mechanisms for data collection and monitoring, as well as the introduction and regular monitoring of the KPIs to strengthen a results-based governance culture.

The GSAC is recommended to review its organisational structure to ensure that all structural units are fully represented and vacant positions are filled. To enhance the effectiveness of the QA system, it is necessary to promote data-informed decision-making and ensure active stakeholder engagement in QA processes.

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

The GSAC takes steps to develop students' creative and research capacities. When selecting topics for student research, greater emphasis should be placed on the development of professionally relevant skills that respond to employer needs. It is important to expand the participation of both academic staff and students in research projects and ensure the systematic assessment of analytical and research capacities in student assignments, in line with international practice. Efforts to strengthen foreign language proficiency, particularly English, should be supported through planned initiatives to expand international mobility opportunities for students and staff.

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

DECIDED

- 1. To award institutional accreditation to the Gavar State Agricultural College after Academician A. Tamamshev 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. 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

Yerevan