NATIONAL CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2025/134

DECISION No. 134

June 11, 2025

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF STATE MUSICAL COLLEGE NAMED AFTER ROMANOS MELIKYAN

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution:	State Musical College named after Romanos Melikyan (SNPO)
Official Address:	11 Mashtotsi Ave., Yerevan, RA
Previous Accreditation decision and date:	**Not available**

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 State Musical College named after Romanos Melikyan (hereinafter referred to as "TLI") in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on June 11, 2025.

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

Submission of application: February 1, 2024

Submission of the revised self-evaluation: June 13, 2024

Site visit by the expert panel:	October 28-30, 2024
Submission of the expert panel report:	February 21, 2025
Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan	April 4, 2025

The external review of the TLI'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.
- **Gayane Avetisyan,** head of the Quality Assurance Department of the M. Nalbandyan State University of Shirak.
- **Mariam Hovhannisyan,** head of the Chair of Music at the Yerevan State College of Culture and Art named after Charles Aznavour.
- **Vova Arzumanyan,** student at the Yerevan State Theatre and Film Institute.

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	Satisfactory
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 ensures the credible award of qualifications.

The institution's academic programmes (APs) are based on the state academic standards. The institution has initiated the mapping learning outcomes, which should be further developed through the clarification of the methodology applied, ensuring that it serves as an effective tool for the AP enhancement.

It is recommended to establish the AP benchmarking as a regular practice. It should be conducted against well-defined criteria, supported by proper documentation, analysis of the findings and implementation of enhancements based on the results. For long-term enhancement, a comprehensive QA system for APs should be developed, including the monitoring of learning outcomes and final examinations, assessment of labour market requirements and enhancement planning informed by the benchmarking results. Continuous AP enhancement also requires attention to the institution's material-technical resources. Their review and modernisation should particularly support the development of practical skills and keep pace with technological advancements in the relevant professional fields.

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

The institution should strengthen the foundations of strategic management and QA frameworks through the introduction of practical and measurable mechanisms. Strategic planning should be grounded in clearly defined objectives, actions and responsible persons, with a focus on measurable outcomes. Relevant KPIs should be established to track the implementation of the strategic plan. The data collection tools should be transformed into a systematic mechanism, with the findings used for the analysis, decision-making and planning of further enhancements. To support the effective development of the QA system, it is important to outline clear stages, including planning activities, data analysis, and decision-making informed by feedback.

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

Research activity, as an integral part of music education, is primarily developed through creative and performance-based practices. Teachers support students, guiding their individual work in line with performance principles, thus contributing to the development of professional thinking. For further development, it is necessary to establish a coherent strategy for research activities, defining well-defined objectives, intended outcomes and principles for the management of relevant processes. It is also important to define clear criteria and methodological approaches for the assessment of students' research and creative activities, ensuring consistent application across all APs.

The institution should develop a clear strategy for internationalisation and external cooperation, setting out specific objectives, actions, and measurable outcomes. Priority development areas should include the improvement of foreign language proficiency, the expansion of partnerships with international educational and cultural institutions and creation of opportunities for students and teachers to engage in international programmes, joint projects and educational initiatives. The practice of participation in international competitions and festivals could also be leveraged as a basis for long-term cooperation.

4. The follow-up plan should include urgent solution of the above-mentioned issues, ensuring relevant mechanisms for the prevention and management of potential risks.

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

DECIDED

1. **To award institutional accreditation to the State Musical College named after Romanos Melikyan 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 of the issues identified in Points ***1, 2*** and ***3***, ensuring relevant mechanisms for the prevention and management of potential risks.

3. Organise a self-audit of all APs prior to the next accreditation.
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. The evaluation results should be discussed at the institution's Governing Council.
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**

June 11, 2025

Yerevan