



National Center For Professional  
Education Quality Assurance  
Foundation

**ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

**ANQA-2024/102**

**DECREE N 102**

March 26, 2024

**ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF  
YEREVAN REGIONAL STATE COLLEGE №1**

**General Information about the Institution**

Full name of the Institution: Yerevan Regional State College №1 SNCO  
Official Address: 3/1 Tbilisyan Hwy., Yerevan, RA  
Previous Accreditation **Not available**  
decision and date:

Guided by the Statute on the State Accreditation of RA Education Institutions and their Academic Programs 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 Yerevan Regional State College (hereinafter referred to as “YRSC”, “TLI”) in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on February 15, 2024.

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

Submission of application: January 12, 2023  
Submission of the revised self-evaluation: June 6, 2023  
Site visit by the expert panel: October 3–6, 2023  
Submission of the expert panel report: December 7, 2023

The external review of the YRSC's institutional capacities was carried out by an independent expert panel formed in compliance with the requirements set by the Regulation on the Formation of the Expert Panel. The evaluation was carried out according to the 10 criteria of institutional accreditation approved by the RA Government Decree N 959 as of June 30, 2011.

Among 10 criteria of the institutional accreditation, "**Internal Quality Assurance**" was evaluated as unsatisfactory.

Having examined the YRSC'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 three 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 YRSC's representatives; as well the comments and suggestions made by the Accreditation Committee members, the Committee stated the following:

***1. The YRSC generally ensures the credible award of qualifications.***

The YRSC implements vocational academic programmes (APs) aligned with its mission and labour market requirements. The expected outcomes comply with the National Qualifications Frameworks (NQF). The YRSC has examples of the AP enhancement. To support the development of students' practical skills, the TLI continuously involves employer teachers. The teachers' methods are student-centered. The majority of both theoretical and practical classes are delivered by practical specialists. The internship databases are classified by profession.

In addition to providing learning materials during class, all module materials and assignments are made available on the Moodle platform, allowing students to access them at any time.

The YRSC has a stable teaching and supporting staff with relevant qualifications, as well as a large number of practical specialists to ensure the implementation of the APs. The teacher selection is carried out on a competitive basis. The TLI has a number of mechanisms, including class observations and surveys, to evaluate the teaching staff and identify their needs.

The YRSC has a well-equipped material-technical base to support the implementation of all APs. The TLI offers an attractive and conducive learning environment. The YRSC ensures a safe and secure environment, including for students with special needs.

***2. Governance and quality assurance systems are at the stage of formation. However, there are development trends and the governance is aimed at quality enhancement.***

The YRSC has a well-defined mission, realistic goals and objectives, which mainly address the stakeholder needs and align with the Armenian National Qualifications Frameworks (ANQF). The governance system is mainly based on collegiality, ensuring stakeholder participation in the decision-making process. The TLI has adequate human-material resources for the implementation of the strategic goals.

The YRSC has a separate quality assurance division and staff. The TLI does not have a defined quality assurance policy. The quality assurance division's main evaluation mechanism is survey. However, its methodology remains insufficient and the results do not have much impact on the decisions. The internal quality assurance infrastructure is not yet able to collect and analyse the necessary and reliable data for the informed decision-making process.

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

The YRSC has clear mechanisms for attracting students. The TLI is focused on identifying and quickly responding to students' educational needs. The students have the opportunity to receive recommendations and participate in master classes. The administrative staff actively collaborates with students to identify their needs and find solutions.

The YRSC has a discount system and mechanisms for the assessment of student progress and engagement, which helps boost student motivation. The TLI also offers the opportunity to transition to tuition-free education. The YRSC's environment is student-centered.

However, as part of different APs, teachers of various modules and subjects attach importance to students' individual works, research and creative activities, which are diverse, contain a research component, and ultimately ensure the development of the required skills and competencies. The teaching staff publishes professional manuals, prepares original recipes, creates designer jewelry, and etc.

The YRSC has an internal and external accountability system, with rapid response mechanisms for the ensurance of feedback. The reports summarise the TLI's activities throughout the year, which,

however, do not arise from the provisions of the strategic plan. They are mostly descriptive and generally do not contain an analytical component.

The TLI imparts values to society through "Other" student theatre and short-term APs, which are jointly implemented with the Career Centre. Since 2017, the YRSC has cooperated with the UN Sustainable School Feeding Programme, as part of which the TLI has become an educational centre where master chef-teachers provide training for their colleagues from the RA provinces and the city of Yerevan.

The YRSC's Strategic Plan lacks provisions or goals for external relations and internationalisation. The internationalisation is not a strategic priority.

4. There are shortcomings that do not have crucial impact in terms of the credible award of qualifications. Grounds are laid for enhancement.

5. The follow-up plan in the expert panel report is realistic and its 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 Yerevan Regional State College №1 SNCO 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, taking into account the need to give urgent solution to the problems existing in the field of **“Internal Quality Assurance”**.
3. To pay special attention to:
  - a) the clarification of the Strategic Development Plan’s structure, the need to prepare a plan-schedule for its implementation;
  - b) the need for clear and measurable qualitative and quantitative KPIs to evaluate the effectiveness of the processes;

- c) the improvement of the tools for the evaluation and enhancement cycle;
  - d) the organisation of professional training for teachers based on educational needs,
  - e) the clarification and adaptation of research directions in long- and short-term plans;
  - f) the introduction of an analytical component into reports, ensuring the identification of issues and planning of enhancements;
  - g) the development and introduction of clear rubrics for formative and summative assessment in accordance with the APs.
4. In accordance with the requirements set by point 12 of the Statute on the State Accreditation of RA Education Institutions and their Academic Programs, 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 effectiveness of the TLI's activities in accordance with the KPIs.

**Chair of the Accreditation Committee:**

**A. Saghyan**

**March 26, 2024**

**Yerevan**