



National Center For Professional
Education Quality Assurance
Foundation

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2024/109

DECREE N 109

April 27, 2024

**ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF
YEREVAN STATE MUSICAL-PEDAGOGICAL COLLEGE NAMED AFTER A. BABAJANYAN**

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Yerevan State Musical-pedagogical College named
after A. Babajanyan SNPO
Official Address: 18 Azatutyan Ave., 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 State Musical-pedagogical College named after A. Babajanyan (hereinafter referred to as “YSMPC”, “TLI”) in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on April 27, 2024.

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

Submission of application: January 13, 2023
Submission of the revised self-evaluation: June 6, 2023
Site visit by the expert panel: October 16–19, 2023

Submission of the expert panel report: January 23, 2024

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan February 22, 2024

The external review of the YSMPC'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, "**Governance and Administration**" and "**Internal Quality Assurance**" were evaluated as unsatisfactory.

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

1. The YSMPC generally ensures the credible award of qualifications.

Aligned with its mission, the YSMPC implements four music-related academic programmes (APs) that adhere to the state academic standards in terms of structure and module sequence. The TLI's representatives participated in the development of state academic standards and modular programmes of three professions, which have been piloted at the institution. Accordingly, the YSMPC offers short-term courses related to these modular programmes. The TLI places great emphasis on the formation and development of students' creative and performing skills. The teaching process includes various methods that promote student-centered learning. There are best practices in teaching and learning. The students are provided with assignments containing a creative component. Some assessment tools have been introduced. Given that students also receive a teaching qualification and have the opportunity to work in music and art schools, they also undergo pedagogical internships. The AP implementation supports the formation of students' professional skills and outcomes. The learning process contributes to the development of professional thinking.

The YSMPC has a relevant teaching staff for the achievement of the AP goals. The selection and recruitment mechanisms are in place. The TLI ensures the involvement of teachers with practical experience and the stability of the teaching staff. There are also rejuvenation trends. The YSMPC

has some mechanisms for the evaluation of the teaching staff's performance and offers promotion opportunities. The TLI has the necessary administrative and supporting staff for the achievement of the institution's strategic goals.

The YSMPC's learning environment contributes to the implementation of academic programmes. The funds are sufficient to cover ongoing expenses. The TLI strives to attract some alternative financial sources and draws on funds from partner organisations and benefactors. The YSMPC takes measures to ensure a safe environment. An emphasis is given to the peculiarities of organising education for the students with special needs. Some mechanisms for the evaluation of resource satisfaction have been introduced.

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

The YSMPC's mission, strategic goals, and objectives are clear and well-received by stakeholders, highlighting the institution's role in the preparation of music specialists and the staffing of music schools with appropriately qualified specialists. The strategic Plan (SP) has an implementation plan and schedule. The strategic management is not conducted effectively. The tools for internal and external risk management are not implemented. The stakeholder needs are not summarised and incorporated into the decision-making process. In the context of change management, the YSMPC applies the situational management model. The financial resources are not sufficient for the balanced development of the TLI's priority areas. The data identified by the quality assurance system are not generally used as the basis for the governance decision-making process. The principle of quality management is at the stage of planning and implementation, with the evaluation and enhancement stages yet to be summarised.

In various strategic cycles, attaching importance to the creation and enhancement of the internal quality assurance system, the YSMPC has developed documents coordinating and regulating internal quality assurance processes. This has enabled the formation of certain foundations for the embedment of a quality assurance system. However, feasible mechanisms and tools for the quality assurance have not yet been introduced.

The internal quality assurance processes are not regulated at the institutional level. The tools for the identification of the stakeholder needs are not effective. The identified needs are not considered and

used as a basis for further enhancement of the processes. The internal stakeholders are somewhat involved in the quality assurance processes, while the external stakeholders' engagement is not yet evident. The internal quality assurance system's operation still does not contribute to the continuous enhancement of the YSMPC's all processes, nor does it ensure the transparency of information on the institution's activities.

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

The YSMPC has regulated mechanisms for the selection and admission of students. There is a steady influx of applicants. The APs require an individual approach to each student, offering the opportunity to select teachers for individual courses.

The students' educational needs are the YSMPC's primary focus. The students are provided with relevant support and guidance. The TLI has a body responsible for the protection of student rights. The career support services are in place. There are some mechanisms for the evaluation of student services.

The YSMPC has developed a policy for the implementation of research, creative and analytical activities. The TLI has also made efforts to define the principles for conducting research in music. The student assignments include a creative-analytical component. There are mechanisms for cultivating and disseminating a creative environment. The YSMPC's teachers have authored articles and reports. Their academic manuals are used in professional modules, while their methodological guides are applied in the learning process. The link between research and learning processes is reflected in the student assignments.

The YSMPC has an accountability system. The TLI ensures accountability to the state and society, trying to enhance the mechanisms that guarantee the transparency of the implemented processes. There are mechanisms to ensure feedback to the society. The YSMPC attaches importance to societal responsibility. The TLI offers short-term paid courses to impart knowledge and values to society.

The YSMPC views the development of external relations and internationalisation a strategic priority. In collaboration with national and international partners, the TLI regularly organises and

takes part in international events, competition festivals. The students also have active participation in competitions. As part of international competitions, the YSMPC collaborates with international VET institutions. The YSMPC has formed a collaborative environment and a culture of practice exchange with music schools and VET institutions. The institution has recently expanded its international partnership network as well.

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 State Musical-pedagogical College named after A. Babajanyan SNPO 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 fields of **“Governance and Administration”** and **“Internal Quality Assurance”**.
3. To pay special attention to:
 - a) the need to evaluate the strategic plan implementation, considering the established KPIs and to use the evaluation outcomes as the basis for strategic planning;
 - b) the connection of the KPIs with the planning processes;
 - c) the clarification of the connection between teaching method, assessment method and outcomes;
 - d) the introduction of mechanisms for studying and adopting comparable best practices;
 - e) the need to make assignments with a research-creative component a mandatory component of the academic programmes;
 - f) the emphasis on the analytical component in reports;

- g) the expansion of the scope of partnerships for conducting internships;
- 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

April 27, 2024

Yerevan