



National Center For Professional
Education Quality Assurance
Foundation

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2021/58

DECREE N 58

July 24, 2021

ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF

Yerevan State College of Informatics SNCO

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Yerevan State College of Informatics SNCO
Official Address: 52 Mamikonyants St., 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 30 June 2011, the RA Government Decree N 959-N as of 30 June 2011 on Approval of the 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 “ANQA”) as well as by ANQA’s Regulation on the Formation of the Expert Panel, ANQA’s Accreditation Committee (hereinafter the “Committee”) discussed the issue on accreditation of institutional capacities of Yerevan State College of Informatics SNCO (hereinafter “TLI, YSCI”) in the session of the Accreditation Committee held on July 24, 2021.

Having examined the YSCI’s self-evaluation of institutional capacities, the expert panel report, remarks and suggestions on the preliminary version of the expert panel report, the follow-up plan; having heard the conclusions on the expert panel evaluation of the YSCI, 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 YSCI’s representatives, as well the comments

and suggestions made by the Accreditation Committee members, the Committee stated the following:

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

Submission of application: May 14, 2020
Submission of the self-evaluation: August 8, 2020
Site visit by the expert panel: November 9-12, 2020
Submission of expert panel report: February 12, 2021
Submission of the follow-up plan: March 11, 2021

The external review of the YSCI's institutional capacities was carried out by an independent expert panel formed in compliance with the requirements set by ANQA'S 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-N as of 30 June 2011.

Among 10 criteria of the institutional accreditation, "**Governance and Administration**", "**Research and Development**", "**External Relations and Internationalization**", "**Internal Quality Assurance System**" were evaluated as unsatisfactory.

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

The YSCI's academic programmes (APs) align with its mission, correspond to the levels of the NQF, and are made based on the state academic standards. Separate APs have been prepared on the basis of international cooperation. Assessment policies and procedures are in place. The Aps' package includes general descriptions of teaching methods.

The YSCI has a certain competitive procedure for the selection of academic and supporting staff. The teaching staff is replenished by teachers with working experience and academic degrees in the field of information technologies, as well as employer teachers. The YSCI's management staff realizes the importance of the young staff's involvement in the educational process, the gradual development of their pedagogical and professional skills and takes steps in that direction. The YSCI has the necessary learning environment for the implementation of the Aps. Resources and material-technical base enable the Aps' implementation.

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

The Strategic Plan (SP) 2018-2022 is the long-term plan for the YSCI's activity. However, a clear plan for the SP's implementation, with a time schedule for actions, KPIs, responsible persons and executors, has not been developed.

The organizational structure's evaluation has not been not been carried out.

The mid-term planning aimed at the realization of current SP's goals is not carried out. The YSCI conducts annual planning of structural divisions. However, these plans do not arise from the SP and generally do not include evaluations. The YSCI's monitoring activities are not systematic and planned in nature.

Quality assurance as a separate function has been implemented in the college since 2014, when the YSCI passed the ISO 9001:2008 certificate according to the international standards.

However, the quality assurance system and culture are not still fully introduced. It is necessary to coordinate the activities carried out in the direction of quality assurance.

3. Internationalization and research/creative activities have trends for development.

The YSCI has taken some steps to create a research/creative environment and promote innovation. As a result, the TLI has recorded successes. The activities aimed at internationalization and external relations have contributed to the Aps' enhancement and the creation of new opportunities. However, the activities in the direction of internationalization and external relations are not regulated.

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 based on the expert panel report is mainly realistic and planned reforms will bring about changes. However, regular monitoring should be planned to ensure the implementation of the proposed developments.

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

DECIDED

1. **To award institutional accreditation to Yerevan State College of Informatics 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 fields of **“Governance and Administration”, “Research and Development”, “External Relations and Internationalization”, “Internal Quality Assurance System”**.
3. To pay special attention to:
 - a) the development and implementation of the schedule plan for actions arising from the SP’s goals;
 - b) the need to have clear and measurable qualitative and quantitative KPIs for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the processes implemented by the YSCI,
 - c) the introduction of mechanisms for the evaluation of the effectiveness of short-term and mid-term planning, accountability and governance processes arising from the SP;
 - d) the implementation of PDCA cycle in all the processes of the YSCI;
 - e) the creation and use of effective mechanisms for quality assurance;
 - f) the organization of teaching aimed at the development of students' analytical, creative and critical skills.
4. To organize an internal audit of the YSCI’s Aps with the involvement of external experts.
5. 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 the YSCI activity’s enhancement, innovations and achievements.
6. To assign the ANQA to carry out mandatory monitoring of effectiveness of the YSCI’s activities in accordance with the KPIs.

Chair of the Accreditation Committee:

A. Saghyan

July 24, 2021

Yerevan