



National Center For Professional
Education Quality Assurance
Foundation

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

ANQA-2024/98

DECREE N 98

February 15, 2024

**ON ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES OF
YEREVAN REGIONAL STATE COLLEGE N 2 NAMED AFTER N.
ACHEMYAN**

General Information about the Institution

Full name of the Institution: Yerevan Regional State College N 2 named after N.
Achemyan SNCO
Official Address: 37 Moldovakan St., Nor Nork 2nd Block, 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 N 2 named after N. Achemyan (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 13, 2023
Submission of the revised self-evaluation: May 2, 2023

Site visit by the expert panel: June 26–29, 2023

Submission of the expert panel report: September 6, 2023

Submission of the preliminary follow-up plan: October 28, 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, “**Governance and Administration**” and “**Internal Quality Assurance**” were 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 eight secondary vocational and one primary vocational (handicraft) academic programmes (APs) that correspond to the levels 3 and 5 of the National Qualifications Frameworks (NQF).

In response to the labour market requirements, three out of eight vocational academic programmes have been introduced in the last three years, while one is implemented through dual education.

Most of the teaching staff applies interactive teaching and learning methods. However, these methods are not included in the academic programmes. In addition to theoretical knowledge, the educational materials contain practical assignments. The internship premises are varied. There is an active contact with employers. Most alumni work in their profession.

The YRSC primarily comprises teaching, administrative, and supporting staff with relevant qualifications for AP implementation. Considering the growing number of students and the introduction of new academic programmes, the TLI has hired more than 20 teachers through a competitive process, including Candidates of Sciences.

Attracting specialists in some of the newly available professions remains an issue.

The YRSC currently has the necessary resources for the AP implementation and takes steps towards their enhancement.

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 that reflects its own goals and objectives and is consistent with the NQF.

The YRSC lacks strategic management based on the KPIs.

The YRSC has not evaluated the effectiveness of the governance system. The strategic plan (SP) does not include actions to address potential issues. The Strategic Plan 2020-2025 is the same as the SP 2015-2020.

The YRSC's management is not outcome-based and data-driven. It primarily addresses ongoing issues without a long-term development plan.

The YRSC is not guided by the Strategic Plan, as the action plan does not arise from it.

There is a lack of interconnection between the SP, short- and mid-term planning, as well as the accountability system. The annual reports do not arise from the SP's action plan. In the governance system, there is an overlap in the functions of a number of bodies, divisions and positions.

The steps towards the development of the internal quality assurance system remain inadequate. The functions of the quality assurance manager are not well-defined. Stable mechanisms for data collection and issue identification have not yet been established.

The YRSC still lacks an internal quality assurance system that would contribute to the continuous enhancement of all processes and the formation of a quality culture.

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

The development plan 2020-2025 does not include the YRSC's research interests and. Research activity is not regarded as a strategic priority. However, student assignments and various individual works contain a research component that helps ensure the formation of the skills and competencies

described in the outcomes, contributing to the development of students' research skills, analytical and critical thinking.

The YRSC's teachers are authors of professional manuals, educational resources, methodological guides and development games in English. Candidates of Sciences and adjunct teachers are engaged in research activities.

The TLI has an accountability system and ensures transparency through electronic and social media platforms.

The YRSC has stable feedback mechanisms that facilitate relations with the society. There are also mechanisms for transferring knowledge (values) to society, mainly through the Supplementary Education Centre.

The SP's development and action plans do not outline the design of policies, procedures and mechanisms that promote external relations and internationalisation, as well as measures towards internationalisation. The YRSC does not have a division or staff responsible for the development of external relations. This responsibility is distributed among several bodies.

The YRSC actively works to expand and strengthen the scope of cooperation with local organisations. Through external relations, the YRSC ensures the effective implementation of the Aps, particularly, the dual education programmes. The TLI highlights the importance of ensuring the knowledge of foreign languages among internal stakeholders through the designated classes and additional activities.

The internationalisation practice remains limited and does not significantly impact the institution's development.

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 N 2 named after N. Achemyan 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”** and **“Internal Quality Assurance”**.
3. To pay special attention to:
 - a) the need for clearly measurable qualitative and quantitative KPIs to evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented processes;
 - b) the need for research assignments in the APs and mechanisms for their evaluation;
 - c) the need to diversify interactive teaching and learning methods and include them in the APs;
 - d) the introduction of mechanisms for evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness of the Aps;
 - e) the decision-making process informed by previously collected and analysed data;
 - f) the link between research and educational processes;
 - g) the development of policies that promote external relations and internationalization;
 - h) the organisation of professional trainings for teachers;
 - i) the implementation of the PDCA cycle in all processes.
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.

6. The decision enters into force from the moment of registration in the State Accreditation Register.

Chair of the Accreditation Committee:

A. Saghyan

February 15, 2024

Yerevan