

Law of Georgia

**on making amendments in Law of Georgia
on Education Quality
Improvement;**

Article 1. The following amendment shall be made in the Law of Georgia on Education Quality Enhancement (Legislative Herald of Georgia, N47, 05.08.2010, article 301)

1. An article 2¹ of the following content shall be added to Article 2:

Article 2¹. Definition of terms

1. The terms explained by the law bear the following meaning for the law purposes as well as higher, vocational and general education system:

a) National Qualifications Framework - An instrument, that classifies qualification for the education sub-systems' (general, vocational and higher education, informal education) integration and coordination, as well as improvement of qualification quality, transparency, availability and development, taking the labor market and social interests into consideration;

b) Qualification - A formal result of evaluation and approval of a learning outcome that is asserted with a state-recognized certificate, state document confirming higher or vocational education - diploma, or state document confirming general education.

c) Learning outcome - an individual's declaration for achieving 'knowledge and awareness' (that implies a result of assimilation of information, facts, principles, theories, theoretical and practical methods linked with the learning or activity field) and 'skill' (that implies ability of applying knowledge relevant for coping with a certain errand and problems resolution) or/and regarding 'responsibility and autonomy' (that implies application of knowledge and skills with relevant quality of values and independence);

d) Classifier of Fields of Study - an instrument that classifies the study fields existing in Georgia and connects relevant qualifications to them;

e) Formal education - a part of lifelong education system that implies gaining 'knowledge and awareness', 'skill', 'responsibility and autonomy' within the framework of a qualification-awarding educational program;

f) Informal education - a part of lifelong learning system that implies obtaining 'knowledge and awareness' above the formal education or/and 'skill', or/and 'responsibility and autonomy'.

2. Other terms applied in the law that are not explained in Paragraph 1 of this Article are used with the meaning defined by the legislation of Georgia.

2. Paragraph 5 of Article 8 shall be edited as follows:

5. An institution that has obtained a status of general, vocational or higher educational institution without establishment of any other independent legal entity, is not authorized to gain a status of different educational authority. A general educational institution shall be authorized to carry out educational programs of the three first stages of vocational education and higher educational institution shall be authorized to conduct vocational educational program or/and short-cycle educational program without gaining an additional status. An authorization board for general educational institutions or higher educational institutions makes decisions regarding the aforementioned.

3. Paragraph 3 of Article 12 shall be edited as it follows;

3. If making a decision, the authorization boards shall define the limited number of students, vocational students and students through the authorization term in accordance with the rule set out by the provision on authorization."

4. Paragraph 1 of Article 16¹ to be edited as it follows:

1. The educational institution is authorized to add higher educational academic program/programs by means of an address to Center regarding the addition. It is also allowed to add vocational education program/programs or/and short-cycle educational program/programs, except regulated, teacher training, preparation in the Georgian language and PhD educational programs.";

5. The following Paragraphs of Article 19:

a) Paragraph 2 shall be edited as it follows:

2. An Accreditation Board for Educational Programs is established to make a decision on accreditation (hereinafter, the 'Accreditation Board') that consists of permanent and invited members. A public servant is not allowed to be the board member except for the case envisaged in Paragraph 2² this Article. The rights and activity rule of the board is defined in the accreditation provision which guarantees its functional independence from educational institutions and state agencies."

b) Paragraphs 2¹ and 2² of the following content shall be added after Paragraph 2:

2¹ The invited members participate in the accreditation board activity only when the accreditation application introduced by a higher educational institution reads 'On Higher Education' regulated academic higher educational program envisaged in Paragraph 2(b) of Article 75. The accreditation board invited members enjoy the voting right.

2² The Prime Minister of Georgia appoints and dismiss permanent and invited members of the accreditation board according to presentation by the ministry. While selecting the candidate invited members of the board the ministry follows the requirements and criteria set out by Medical Educational World Federation regarding creation of the board.

6. Chapter IV² of the following content shall be added after Chapter IV¹:

Chapter IV². The National Qualifications Framework and Classifier of Fields of Study

Article 24². The National Qualifications Framework and its goals

1. The National Qualifications Framework consists of eight levels. Every single level represents an element determining the qualification difficulty that unites the learning outcomes generalized via 'knowledge and awareness', 'skill', 'responsibility and autonomy' and descriptors.

2. The goals of the National Qualifications Framework are:

- a) Classification of qualifications by protection of the following key principles of the National Qualifications Framework: Compliance of learning outcomes, quality assurance, availability of qualification-related information;
- b) Interconnection of general, vocational and higher education, its management and development;
- c) Promoting learning for lifelong; d) Supporting quality assurance system;
- e) Ensuring compatibility, comparison ability and transparency of qualifications at international level;
- f) Promoting mobility;

- g) Supporting recognition of formal education obtained during learning period; h) Supporting recognition of informal education;
- i) Providing public with information on current qualifications;
- j) Reflection of permanently changing requirements in the education system and stimulation of renewable qualifications description relevant to it.

Article 24a. Management and development of the National Qualifications Framework

1. After presentation made by the Center, Minister of Education and Science of Georgia approves the National Qualifications Framework.
2. The Minister of Education and Science of Georgia approves the rules of the National Qualifications Framework management and development, the National Qualifications Framework monitoring, e-registry creation and administration, as well as procedures and rule of recognition of informal education as presented by the Center.

Article 24b. Classifier of Fields of Study

1. The Classifier of Fields of Study classifies fields of education existing in Georgia and identifies a qualification to be granted in each field.
2. The Minister of Education and Science of Georgia approves the Classifier of Fields of Study as presented by the Center.
3. The Center's director approves the rule of classifier management and development as well as its monitoring by an individual administrative-legal act.

Article 2. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia:

- a) Should provide approval of the National Qualifications Framework and the Classifier of Fields of Study within 3 months since the law takes effect and identify the stages of making the National Qualifications Framework of educational programs acting in an authorized/accredited mode and learning fields be in compliance with a classifier. Should be considered as compatible to the legislation before the corresponding stage ends and as a result of ending the educational programs acting in an authorized/accredited mode before the law takes effect, qualification granted regarding approval of the National Qualifications Framework according to the decree N120/N by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia, dated December 10, 2010.
- b) Should provide approval of relevant law-subordinated normative acts except those ones envisaged in the 'a' sub-section of this article, as well as ensuring the compliance of all relevant law-subordinated normative acts with the law.

Article 3. This provision shall come into force upon promulgation.

President of Georgia Giorgi Margvelashvili