

Order N 99/n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia

1 October 2010

City of Tbilisi

On Approval of the Charter and Fees for the Authorization of Educational Institutions

Based on Article 3(b) of the Law of Georgia on Educational Quality Enhancement, Paragraph 1(i) of Article 26 of the Law of Georgia on General Education, Article 15(d) of Law of Georgia on Vocational Education, Article 7(1)(f) and (n) of Law of Georgia on Higher Education, Article 61 of General Administrative Code of Georgia and Paragraph 2(l) of Article 3 of the provision approved by decree № 37 of the Government of Georgia on the Approval of the Charter of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia of May 21, 2004, I hereby order:

1. To approve the Educational Institutions Authorization Charter as per Annex 1;

2. To approve the Educational Institutions Authorization Fees as per Annex 2;

2¹. To approve Higher Education Institutions Authorization Standards as per Annex 3 of this Order.

Order №77 / N of May 5, 2017, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 08.05.2017.

2². To approve Authorization Standards of Vocational Education Institutions as per Annex 4 of this Order.

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

2³. To approve Authorization Standards of General Education Institutions as per Annex 5 of this Order.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

3. To invalidate Order N1030 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of 20 November 2009 on the Approval of the Higher Education Institutions Accreditation Charter, the Procedure of Setting Student Quotas and the Procedure of Determination of the Threshold Amounts of Institutional Accreditation Fees.

4. The Order shall enter into force upon promulgation.

D. Shashkin

Annex №1

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Charter on Authorization of Educational Institutions

Chapter I

General provisions

Article 1. Scope of regulation

This Charter shall set the terms and conditions for meeting authorization standards by educational institutions (hereinafter, the “Standards”), as well as the authorization procedure.

Article 2. Goal and content of authorization of educational institutions

1. Authorization of educational institutions shall aim at ensuring meeting standards necessary for carrying out relevant activities.
2. A standard shall mean a requirement, set by the State, which should be met by an institution for the issuance of an educational document approved by the State.
3. (Removed 29.12.2022, №145/N).
4. Authorization is an external mechanism for the education quality assurance, which is implemented by the Legal Entity of Public Law - National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (hereinafter - the Center). The purpose of authorization is an institutional assessment of the institution and determination of compliance with the authorization standards. The authorization assessment is conducted by the authorization expert panel and is based on the analysis of the information received from the institution's self-evaluation and authorization site visit.
5. Authorization process shall be reliable, consistent and results shall be public.

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Article 3. Councils of authorization

The following types of Authorization Councils shall be established for authorization of educational institutions:

- a) Authorization Council of a general education institutions, which makes decision on authorization of the general education institution;
- b) Authorization Council of a vocational education institution, which makes decisions on authorization of vocational education institutions and on implementation of vocational education programmes by general education/higher education institutions;
- c) Authorization Council of the higher education institutions, which makes decisions on authorization of the higher education institutions.

Article 4. Process of authorization

1. The process of Authorization is comprised of the following stages:

- a) Submission of authorization application;
- b) Recognition of educational institution as an authorization status seeker;
- c) Creation of authorization expert panel;
- d) Preliminary review of authorization self-evaluation report and corresponding documents by the authorization experts' panel, and creating agenda for the site visit;
- e) Authorization site visit;
- f) Elaboration of the draft report of authorization expert panel and submission of it to the Center;
- g) Introduction of the authorization expert panel's draft report to the institution;
- h) Submission of argumentative position of the educational institution on the draft report of the authorization expert panel about the factual circumstances reflected in the draft report;
- i) Development of the final version of the report by the panel of experts, and submission of it to the Center;
- j) Introduction of the report of authorization expert panel to the institution;
- k) Sending the authorization application, the evaluation report of authorization experts panel and argumentative position on the expert panel's draft report to the members of the respective authorization Council;
- l) Oral hearing on authorization, and decision-making by relevant Authorization Council;
- m) Publication of the substantiated decision by the Center;

2. Decisions on authorization or on denial of authorization shall be made within 180 calendar days upon the official submission of the document confirming the payment of the authorization fee to the Center.
3. Authorization process could be implemented through electronic quality management system, management and use of which is approved by individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
4. Three months prior to submission of authorization application, education institution status seeker has a right to address the Center in written form and request authorization process preparatory visit. Preparatory visit is consultative in nature and is related to the following:
 - a) Planning and implementation of the self-evaluation process;
 - b) Planning and implementation of the authorization site visit;
 - c) Definition of authorization standards and procedures.
5. In the case envisaged by the paragraph 4 of this article, the Director of the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on determination of an employee/employees of the Center authorized to provide consultations and on implementation of the preparatory visit for the authorization process at the institution that seeks to acquire an educational institution status.
6. In the case envisaged by the paragraph 5 of this article, a written protocol that reflects the information on provided consultation shall be drawn up as a result of the preparatory visit for the authorization process by the authorized employee of the Center. The institution is obliged to support authorization process preparatory visit and elaboration of corresponding report. Also, the institution shall designate a person, who will be authorized to sign authorization process preparatory visit report in the name of the institution.

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Chapter II

Authorization of General Education Institutions

Article 5. Authorization Standards for General Education Institutions

1. Authorization standards for general education institutions apply to:
 - a) School philosophy;
 - b) School curriculum;
 - c) Administrative and infrastructural support of the learning process;
 - d) Student support.
2. Each standard of authorization of a general education institution consists of components, namely:
 - a) The standard related to school philosophy includes the following components:
 - a.a) School Mission, Vision and Values;
 - a.b) School Planning and Development;
 - b) The standard related to the curriculum includes the following components:
 - b.a) Curriculum Development;
 - b.b) Curriculum Implementation;
 - b.c) Curriculum Monitoring and Evaluation;
 - b.d) Curriculum Review and Revision;
 - c) The standard related to the administrative and infrastructural support of the educational process includes the following components:
 - c.a) Staff management;

- c.b) Staff Development;
- c.c) Process Management;
- c.d) Security of People and Processes;
- c.e) Material Resources and Infrastructure;
- c.f) Information Resources;
- c.g) Financial Resources;
- d) The standard related to student support includes the following components:
 - d.a) Student Rights Protection;
 - d.b) Student Support Activities.

3. Authorization standards for general education institutions are established by the Annex 5 of this Order.
4. In relation to the general education programmes defined by paragraph 3 of Article 9, compliance with the standards of authorization of the general education institution provided for by subparagraphs "b" and "c" of paragraph 2 of this article is evaluated separately.
5. The Director of the Center is authorized to approve the recommendations related to the material resources necessary for the implementation of the school curriculum by means of an individual administrative-legal act.

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Article 6. (Removed)

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Article 7. (Removed)

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Article 8. (Removed)

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Article 9. Authorization application

1. In order to obtain the status of the general education institution, the procedure for submitting the authorization application to the Center is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. The authorization application must be accompanied by a document confirming the payment of the authorization application review fee.
2. The general education institution, during each subsequent authorization, in order to maintain the status of the general education institution, when submitting the authorization application to the Center, must take into account the terms established by paragraph 2 of Article 4, and Article 11 of this regulation, so that the 180-calendar-day period determined for administrative proceedings is devoted to the implementation of the stages of the authorization process provided for by this provision. The general education institution shall be responsible for the consequences caused by not taking this into account.
3. For purposes of authorization, an independent general education programme is:
 - a) a general educational programme of the primary level of general education;
 - b) a general educational programme of the basic level of general education;
 - c) a general educational programme of the secondary level of general education;
 - d) a general education programme implemented in a foreign language;
 - e) a general education programme implemented in different municipalities.

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Article 10. The goals of the self-evaluation of the general education institution

The goals of the self-evaluation of the general education institution are the following:

- a) Assessment of the readiness of the general education institution to obtain authorization;
- b) Promoting continuous development of the general education institution through the use of evidence-based decision-making mechanisms.

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Article 11. Recognition of a general education institution as an authorization status seeker

1. Within 3 business days, the Center checks the compliance of the authorization application with the requirements established by the paragraph 1 of Article 9 of this regulation.
2. If there are any shortcomings, the Center will give the seeker a period of not less than 5 and not more than 15 business days to correct the shortcoming.
3. In case of fixing the shortcomings within the term set forth by the paragraph 2 of this article, the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on recognition of the seeker for obtaining the status of the general education institution, while in the case of failure to fix the shortcomings within the same time frame - an individual administrative-legal act is issued on leaving the application without reviewing.
4. An individual administrative-legal act of the Center on recognition of the general education institution as an authorization status seeker, shall be issued no later than 20 calendar days after submission of the application or fixing the shortcoming.
5. If the authorization status-seeker does not pay an authorization fee within 15 calendar days after getting familiar with the individual administrative-legal act about recognition as the seeker, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on termination of administrative proceedings.

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Article 12. Authorization expert pool of general education institutions

1. Authorization expert of the general educational institution must not be an employee of the Center, except for the cases when he/she is employed at the Center during the calendar year for the period of less than 3 months in order to complete a certain amount of workload.
2. The pool of experts for the authorization of general education institutions consists of general education quality assurance experts and general education quality assurance subject experts.
3. The procedure for the selection of authorization experts for general education institutions, their activities and the termination of membership in the pool of experts shall be approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be made public.

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Article 13. Creation of the authorization expert panel of the general education institutions

1. Within 60 calendar days after the presentation of the documentation confirming the payment of the authorization fee, the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on the creation of the expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution and the site visit to the institution seeking the status of the general education institution.
 - 1¹. The experts panel for the authorization of general education institution includes the members of the pool of experts for the authorization of general education institutions.
2. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.

3. An authorization expert of a general education institution shall recuse, if he/she has conflict of interests with the status seeker institution where he/she shall conduct a site visit.
4. The institution seeking for the authorization of general education institution is authorized to submit for recusal of authorization expert/experts within 2 days upon getting familiar with the individual administrative-legal act mentioned in the paragraph 1 of this article.
5. The institution seeking the status of a general education institution is obliged to substantiate the recusal of the expert/experts of the authorization of the general education institution. A conflict of interest with the chair and/or member of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution can be the reason for the recusal.
6. A conflict of interest is considered to be the existence of circumstances established by the procedure for the selection of experts for the authorization of general education institutions, rules for their activities and termination of membership of the pool of experts and/or Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.
7. The Center shall review the claim on recusal within 3 business days. In case of satisfying the claim, the Center makes decision on changing composition of panel of experts.
8. In case of not satisfying the claim on recusal of expert/experts, the authorization experts panel continues its activities in the same composition.
9. Duration of the site visit and number of general education institution authorization experts in the panel is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center described in paragraph 1 of this article as well as volume and specifics of work to be undertaken, and according to the Regulations for selection, activities, and termination of membership of pool of experts.
10. In order to manage the authorization expert panel activities efficiently and adhere to the unified approach to assessment within the scope set by the legislation, the Center is authorized to send the staff member to the site visit of the authorization experts panel.

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Article 14. Study of the authorization application of the general education institution that applied for authorization

1. The Center sends to each member of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution the authorization application submitted in accordance with the procedure defined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. Within 7 business days from the notification of the Center on the refusal to recuse the member of the expert panel of the general education institution or from the expiration of the period provided for in Article 13, paragraph 4 of this regulation.
2. The Chair of the general education institution's authorization experts panel shall ensure distribution of duties among the members of the expert panel to examine the authorization application and determine its compliance with the authorization standards.
3. Before the authorization site visit, the authorization expert panel of the general education institution will study the authorization application, based on which it will develop the agenda of the visit and agree it with the Center. In the process of agreeing on the agenda, the Center considers the argumentative opinions of the general education institution. The Center sends the final version of the agenda to the general education institution.
4. Before the authorization site visit, the panel of experts for the authorization of the general education institution conducts a preparatory meeting of experts, within the framework of which, in order to draw up a report, it determines additional issues to be studied within the framework of the visit.

Article 15. Authorization site visit

1. Chair of the authorization expert panel of the general education institution shall distribute the duties among the expert panel members during the visit.
2. Member of the general education institution's authorization experts panel participates in the work of the panel, ensures implementation of functions described in regulations for selection, activities, and termination of membership of pool of experts.
3. Authorization expert of general education institution, based on the agreed agenda, is responsible for thoroughly reviewing all issues to create a report, including, conducting interviews with stakeholders, requesting additional documents as needed, conduct visual inspection and if necessary, carry out activities not covered by the agenda.
4. The general educational institution is authorized to submit changes to the Center in relation to the information and/or attached documents in the authorization application within 5 calendar days after the introduction of the individual administrative-legal act defined by the paragraph 1 of Article 13, if necessary. In addition, if the change considers the need for substitution of any document, the institution shall submit a written description / explanation of the changes together with the mentioned document.
5. After the expiration of the term provided for in paragraph 4 of this article, the changes made by the general education institution in the authorization application and/or the documents attached to it will not be taken into account by the expert panel of the general education institution, except for the case provided for in paragraph 10 of this article.
6. If the changes to the respective legal act(s)/adoption of new legal act leads to necessity of making changes to the documentations presented by the general education institution as an authorization application, except for the cases when this improves the condition of the institution, the administrative proceedings commenced by the Center will be finished based on the regulations active for the moment of respective administrative proceedings and the authorization documentation presented by the institution.
7. The general education institution is responsible for supporting experts panel throughout their visit, and in preparation of the evaluation report. They are responsible for submitting all additional documents, as necessary, and ensure interviews with persons requested by the experts.
8. Authorization expert panel of the general education institution submits the main findings of the expert panel to the applicant institution at the final day of the visit.
9. If the general education institution interrupts the authorization experts panel to implement its activities, the Center is entitled to issue an individual administrative-legal act about termination of the administrative proceedings.
10. If the evaluation reflected in the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution with respect to a specific standard/standards differs from the self-evaluation of the general education institution and the institution shares the evaluation of the expert panel of the authorization of the general educational institution, the general educational institution is authorized to submit a plan for ensuring compliance with the standard/standards and/or evidence of compliance together with the argumentative position provided for in Article 16, paragraph 5. The panel of experts for the authorization of the general education institution is authorized to take this into account when formulating the final report.

Article 15¹. Evaluation of compliance of the general education institution with the standards of authorization

1. Compliance with the authorization standards of the general educational institution is assessed on a four-level scale: "Complies with the standard requirements"; "Substantially complies with the standard requirements"; "Partially complies with the standard requirements" and "Does not comply with the standard requirements".

2. The scheme of assessment of the compliance of the general education institution with the authorization standards is established by the annex No. 5 of this Order.

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Article 15². Definition of the evaluation scale for the component of the authorization standard of the general education institution

1. An applicant for the status of a general education institution is evaluated in relation to the component of the standard as "complies with the standard requirements" if the resources available in the institution, the established practice/system and the achieved results (in the case of a new institution - the achievable expected results) fully ensure the satisfaction of the requirements of the component of the standard, the maintenance of the achieved level and further development. However, possible minor challenges do not affect the quality of the institution's activities.

2. An applicant for the status of a general education institution is evaluated against a component of the standard as "substantially complies with the standard requirements" if the institution has more strengths than weaknesses that do not significantly impair the quality of the institution's performance. The resources and established practices/systems within the institution mostly provides compliance with the standard component requirements and the institution can demonstrate relevant results. The institution has a readiness and standards-compliant plan ensured by the resources to overcome weaknesses in the short term (no more than 12 months).

3. An applicant for the status of a general education institution is evaluated against a component of the standard as "partially complies with the standard requirements" if the institution largely fails to meet the requirements of the component and has weakness(es) that require the mobilization of significant resources to overcome. However, the institution has a readiness and standards-compliant plan ensured by the resources to overcome the weaknesses within a specified period (not exceeding 24 months).

4. An applicant for the status of a general education institution is evaluated against the standard requirement as "does not comply with the standard requirements" if the institution's weaknesses threaten the quality of the institution's activities and cannot ensure its development.

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Article 16. Preparing the report

1. As a result of the study of the authorization application and the authorization visit, the draft report of the expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution is drawn up and submitted to the Center.

2. The draft report describes the compliance of the institution with the authorization standards.

3. The Center determines the formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center provided for in paragraph 3 of article 12 and 8 of this article. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution.

4. If necessary, in order to ensure formal compliance of the authorization experts panel's draft report, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel of the general education institution.
5. Within 10 calendar days upon introduction with the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the applicant general education institution may submit argumentative position to the Center, regarding the factual circumstances mentioned in the draft report, which is sent to the panel of experts of authorization of general education institution.
6. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 5 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 5 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center. The report formed by the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution includes information about whether the authorization expert panel shares or not the argumentative position.
7. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report of general education institution to the institution.
8. The form of report of the authorization experts panel and the requirements set by it shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. It shall be published publicly.

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Article 17. Oral (Public) hearing

1. Authorization Council of the general education institution makes decision on granting authorization based on examination of the authorization documentation, authorization expert panel's report, argumentative position submitted by the institution on the expert panel's draft report and based on an oral hearing.
2. The meeting of the authorization Council of the general education institutions is summoned by the secretariat of the Council.
3. The interested party shall be notified on the oral hearing at least 7 calendar days prior to the oral hearing. The interested party participating in administrative proceedings shall be authorized to participate in oral hearing. The authorization council of general education institution has the right to postpone the oral hearing, taking into account the period determined by article 9, paragraph 2 of this regulation.
4. The oral hearing shall be led by the Chair of the Council, in case of his/her absence it shall be led by the deputy, while in case of absence of both the Chair and the deputy it shall be led by a member of the Council selected through majority of attendees' votes. If the secretary of the council is unable to perform his/her duties, such duties are carried out by one of the members of the Council, as requested by the Chair.
5. The session is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members, but no less than 3 members. This number does not include the member of the Council, which has self-recusal or recusal towards the issue discussed.
6. The session is public. The Chair of the Council is authorized to announce the session closed in the cases envisaged by the legislation of Georgia.
7. Members of the panel of authorization experts of general education institution participate in oral hearing, while representatives of the Center and other stakeholders are authorized to participate in the discussion, as agreed by the Chair.
8. The Council may decide to invite other parties to oral hearings.
9. The Chair of the hearing is obliged to ensure the examination of the circumstances relevant to the case at the oral hearing.

10. Stakeholders participating in the administrative proceedings are entitled to place a motion for further investigation of the circumstances that are important to the case.

11. When making a decision at the oral hearing, the document of the applicant, which was developed after the authorization visit, is not taken into account, except for the case defined by paragraph 10 of Article 15 of this rule.

12. Minutes of the Council meeting shall be signed within 10 working days after the session by the Chair of the Council and the Secretary. Based on the minutes of the Council sessions an individual administrative-legal act is issued signed by the Chair of the Council and Secretary.

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Article 18. Composition of the Authorization Council of the General Education Institution

1. The office term of the members of the authorization council of the general education institution is defined for a period of two years.

2. Members of the authorization council of general education institution are appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister, as recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (hereinafter, the Ministry).

3. The procedure for selecting the members of the authorization council of the general education institution is approved by the Order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. Activities of the Council members will be remunerated (will be given honorarium) from the Center's own revenues. Rules and amount of remuneration for the Council members (ex gratia payment) shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

4. During the decision-making by the authorization council of the general education institution, depending on the specifics of the issue, the person/persons determined by the chair of the authorization council of the general education institution may participate with the right of deliberative vote.

5. Authority of the member of the authorization council of the general education institution may be terminated before the expiration of the term of office by the initiative of the Prime Minister of Georgia or:

- a) On the basis of a personal statement;
- b) Upon the entry into force of the conviction of the court against him/her;
- c) In case of recognition as an entity with limited legal capacity or as a support recipient by a court, unless otherwise provided by the court's decision;
- d) In case of systematic absence from the sessions, if this hinders the work of the Council;
- e) In case of violation of the norms envisaged by Article 19 of the present regulation;
- f) Upon submission of the ministry.

6. Termination of the mandate of the member of the authorization council of the general education institutions before the expiration term is confirmed by the individual legal-administrative act of the Prime Minister of Georgia. In case of termination of the mandate before the term, the Prime Minister, as recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science, appoints a new member for the remaining term of the previous member.

Order No. 64/n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated August 6, 2021 - website, 09.08.2021

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Article 19. Rules and principles of activities of the authorization council of the general education institutions

1. A member of the Council shall be independent, objective, and impartial in fulfilling his/her functions.

2. A member of the Council shall maintain neutrality in any situation, and shall not be subject to the influence of interested parties, regardless of their status.

3. A member of the Council shall not disclose any information and/or documents obtained while performing his/her official duties, and shall not use them for personal interests.

4. Member of the Council should be focused on cooperation and should not try to display privileged position. He/she should not publicly doubt competence of experts, representatives of educational institutions, members of authorization Council, and members of appeal Council, even, if he/she does not share their position.

5. The member of the authorization council of the general education institution is obliged to declare about the conflict of interests and self-recusal with the general education institution before the discussion of the issue. A conflict of interest can be any circumstance stipulated in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

5¹. In the event of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the authorization council of general education institutions shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the council meeting. A member of the authorization council of a general education institution is also not authorized to present the position of an interested party - a general educational institution or a panel of experts on the authorization of a general education institution - at the meeting of the council.

6. Organizational-financial support of the council is ensured by the council secretariat, functions of which are fulfilled by the Center. Personnel of the Council Secretariat is defined according to the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

6¹. Functions of the council secretariat are as follows:

- a) Agreement on the agenda and date of the session of the authorization council of the general education institution and the publication of the mentioned information;
- b) Organizing the invitation to the meeting of the members of the authorization council of the general education institution, experts of the authorization of the general education institution, general education institutions and other interested parties;
- c) Providing materials related to the issues to be discussed to the council members within the terms established by the legislation;
- d) Support of the authorization council of the general education institution in the process of preparation of the decision and protocol;
- e) Ensuring the publicity of the minutes of the session of the authorization council of the general education institution and the reports of the experts;
- f) Delivery of the decisions of the authorization council of the general education institution to general education management information system in order to reflect them in the general education management information system.

7. The secretariat of the council sends the agenda of the session and the following documents to the members of the authorization council of the general education institution 7 calendar days before the oral hearing:

- a) The authorization application of a general education institution;
- b) Report of the authorization expert panel of the general education institutions
- c) The argumentative position submitted by the applicant seeking for the status of a general education institution/the general education institution on the draft report of the expert panel for the authorization of

the general education institution and, if available, the documentation provided for in paragraph 10 of Article 15 of this rule.

8. Before the oral hearing, for full examination and assessment of all substantial issues, each member of the Council is responsible for reviewing documents described in the paragraph 7 of this Article in advance. A member of the council is entitled to request additional documents for reviewing the subject matter, and the Council is entitled to postpone the oral hearing for that reason, with consideration of remaining time frame of the administrative proceeding.

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Article 20. Decisions regarding authorization

1. Authorization council of the general education institutions makes one of the following decisions:

- a) About authorization;
- b) About refusing the authorization;
- c) About canceling the authorization;
- d) About the deprivation of the right to implement the general education programme/programmes for the general education institution established in the form of a legal entity under private law;
- e) On cancellation of authorization/refusal of authorization for general education institutions founded by the State or with its participation; about addressing to the Ministry with a petition regarding the feasibility of functioning of the general education institution/general education programme in the event of cancellation of the general education programme of the general education institution established by the State or with its participation.

2. The authorization council of a general education institution is authorized, in the cases provided for by Article 15, paragraph 6 of this regulation, to make a decision on authorization and to set a reasonable period for the general education institution to ensure compliance with the conditions defined by the relevant legal acts.

3. The decision provided for in the paragraph 1 of this article is made by the authorization council of the general education institution by secret ballot. In addition, publicity of voting results is ensured.

4. In the case defined by paragraph 2 of this article, the authorization council of the general education institution has the right to petition the Center about implementation of monitoring.

5. The authorization council of the general education institution takes the decision provided for in the paragraph 1 of this article by at least 3/4 of the members present at the meeting. If the decision on authorization cannot be made according to the established rule, the decision to refuse authorization is considered accepted.

6. In the case of making a decision provided for in subparagraph "a" of the paragraph 1 of this article, the authorization council of the general education institution is authorized to give recommendations to the institution seeking the status of a general education institution.

7. Member of the council is not entitled to refrain from voting.

8. The Authorization council of general education institution shall substantiate all decisions made by it.

9. The council announces the decision to the institution at the oral hearing, announces the rules on how it enters into force and how to appeal. The decision enters into force upon publication on the Center's website, except for the cases envisaged by the paragraph 11 of this article.

10. Within 10 business days after the decision is made, the minutes of the session of the authorization council of the general education institution and the report of the panel of experts on the authorization of the general education institution are published on the website of the Center.

11. In the case of an evidence-based argumentative position, the council is authorized to determine the date when the decision envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article enters into force.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 21. Decision on granting or refusing the authorization

1. The council makes a decision on granting authorization if the applying institution meets all the standards.

1¹. Each standard for the authorization of a general educational institution, except for the standard for the authorization of a general education institution established by sub-paragraph "b" of the paragraph 1 of Article 5 of this Charter, is considered satisfied if the authorization council of the general education institution considers that, based on the four-level scale, according to the procedure established by Articles 15¹ and 15² of this Charter, the applicant general education institution at least "partially complies with the standard requirements".

1². The standard of authorization of a general education institution established by sub-paragraph "b" of the paragraph 1 of Article 5 of this Charter is considered satisfied if the authorization council of a general education institution considers that, according to the procedure established by articles 15¹ and 15² of this Charter, based on a four-level scale, the applicant general education institution at least "substantially complies with the standard requirements".

2. Authorization is valid for 6 years.

2¹. In the case of making a decision on authorization, the authorization council of the general education institution, taking into account the evaluation of each component, defines the recommendations to the general education institution and the obligation to inform the Center about the progress of the recommendations, except in the case when the general education institution was assessed as "complies with the standard requirements" in relation to all standards.

2². The form for informing the Center provided for in paragraph 2¹ of this article is determined by the Director of the Center by an individual administrative-legal act.

3. If the decision is made on authorization the authorization council of the general education institutions shall determine the quotas of students for the institution within the authorization period.

4. A decision to refuse authorization or cancel authorization is made in the following cases:

a) If the applicant general education institution is evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements" in relation to the standard of authorization of a general education institution determined by subparagraphs "a" and/or "d" of paragraph 2 of Article 5;

b) If all general education programmes defined by Article 9, paragraph 3 are assessed as "does not comply with the standard requirements" or "partially comply with the standard requirements" in relation to the standard of authorization of the general education institution defined by the subparagraph "b" of paragraph 2 of Article 5. If a separate general education programme receives the specified evaluation, the general education institution will not be given/shall be deprived of the right to implement the said programme.

c) If all general education programmes defined by Article 9, paragraph 3 are assessed as "does not comply with the standard requirements" in relation to the standard of authorization of the general education institution defined by subparagraph "c" of Article 5, paragraph 2. If a separate general education programme receives the specified evaluation, the general education institution will not be given/shall be deprived of the right to implement the said programme.

5. In the event of cancellation of authorization/refusal of authorization by the General Education Institutions Authorization Council for a general education institution established by the State or with its participation, in case of cancellation of the general education programme of a general education institution established by the State or with its participation, when applying to the Ministry with a petition, the general education institution/the general education programme of the general education institution continues to operate in its current mode until the relevant decision is taken by the Ministry.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 22. Legal outcome of the authorization of the general education institution

As a result of authorization, the general education institution has right to receive students according to the rules of procedure provided for by the legislation and to issue a document certifying their qualification.

Article 23. Legal outcome for refusing authorization or cancellation of authorization.

1. If granting an authorization is refused, the applicant will not obtain the status of the general education institution, and in case of termination of authorization, the institution will lose the status of the general education institution.

2. In the cases provided for in the paragraph a of this article, a student must exercise the right to mobility or his/her status as a student will be suspended in accordance with the current legislation of Georgia.

3. In the cases envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article, a legal entity is authorized to submit an authorization application to the Center after 1 year from the last decision.

Order No. 64/N of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated June 16, 2020 - website, 17.06.2020

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 24. Results of the reorganization of the general education institution

1. A general education institution that has been joined by another general education institution is considered authorized for the shortest remaining period of authorization specified for reorganized institutions, and if this period is less than one year, for a period of one year. The number of student places and general education programme(s) of the general education institution formed as a result of the merger is the sum of the existing quantities before the reorganization, which is reflected in the decision of the authorization council of the general education institution.

2. A general education institution, from which another institution is separated, is considered authorized for the remaining period of authorization. It is obliged to provide the Center with information on the above within 5 days after the end of the separation process in accordance with the law. The said general education institution is subject to monitoring if the remaining period of authorization exceeds 6 months.

3. In case of merger of a general education institution with another general education institution or division of a general education institution, the general education institution formed as a result of reorganization is obliged to apply for the authorization.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 25. Implementation of self-evaluation by the general education institution

1. The general educational institution is obliged to carry out an annual self-evaluation.

2. The terms for submission of the self-evaluation report shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is published for general audience.

3. The non-implementation of self-evaluation by the school according to the established procedure or the results of examination of the conducted self-evaluation may become the basis for monitoring by the Center.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 25¹. Rules of adding an educational programme

1. A general education institution is authorized to add a general education programme/programmes by submitting an application to the Center for the purpose of adding a general education programme/programmes.

2. The application form to be submitted to the Center for the addition of the general education programme is approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be public. The general education institution is obliged to submit to the Center a document confirming the payment of the fee determined for the addition of the general education programme, together with the application.

3. Within the scope of the administrative proceedings envisaged by this article, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the authorization experts panel of the general education institutions and on the visit to the general education institution. The same act defines the scope of the administrative procedure of adding the programme.

4. As a result of examination of the application envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article and its attached documentation and based on the authorization site visit, the authorization experts panel of the general education institutions draws up the draft report and submits it to the Center.

5. The Center determines formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 12 (3) and Article 16(8) of this rule. If the compliance is established, the draft report is sent to the general education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure formal compliance of the authorization experts panel's draft report, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel of the general education institution.

6. Within 10 calendar days upon introduction with the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the applicant general education institution may submit argumentative position to the Center, regarding the factual circumstances mentioned in the draft report, which is sent to the panel of experts of authorization of general education institution. If the evaluation reflected in the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution in relation to a specific standard/standards differs from the self-evaluation of the general education institution and the institution shares the assessment of the expert of the authorization of the general education institution, the general education institution is entitled to present a plan for ensuring compliance with the standard/standards, which by the authorization experts of the general education institution, together with an argumentative position, should be taken into account when forming the final report.

7. In the case of submission of the argumentative position envisaged by the paragraph 6 of this article, after its examination or in the case of non-submission of the argumentative position after the expiration of the term envisaged by the paragraph 6 of this article, the expert panel of the general education institution elaborates a final version of the report and submits it to the Center. The report formed by the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution includes information about the argumentation of sharing or not sharing the argumentative position by the panel of experts of the authorization of the general education institution.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report of general education institution to the institution.

9. If the general education programme, within the framework of the administrative proceedings determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center provided for in paragraph 3 of this article, in relation to the standard/component of the authorization of the general education institution, receives an assessment provided for in paragraphs 1¹ and/or 1² of article 21 of this Charter, the authorization council of the general education institution makes a decision on adding the programme by at least 3/4 of the members present at the session.

10. If the decision is made to add a general education programme, the authorization council of the general education institution shall define recommendations for the general education institution and apply to the Center for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, except for the case when the general education programme was evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements".

11. Decision on adding a programme is made for the remaining term of the authorization.

12. Decision on granting or refusing to grant a right to add a general education programme shall be made by the Center within 90 calendar days after application.

13. During the administrative proceedings related to the addition of the general education programme, the conditions established by the paragraph 1 of Article 9, Articles 11-17 of this Charter shall apply, taking into account the peculiarities of this article.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 25². Rules of changing the location/space of the implementation of the general education programme

1. If the institution changes the location/space of the implementation of the general education programme, it shall apply to the Center with an appropriate application.

2. The application form aimed at changing the place/space of the implementation of the general education programme, shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be made public. The general education institution is obliged, together with the application, to submit to the Center a document confirming the payment of the specified fee for the change of the place/space of implementation of the general education programme.

3. Within the scope of the administrative proceedings envisaged by this article, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the authorization experts panel of the general education institutions and on the visit to the general education institution. The same act defines the scope of the administrative procedure of changes in the place/space of the implementation of the general education programme.

4. As a result of examination of the application envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article and its attached documentation and based on the authorization visit, the authorization experts panel of the general education institutions draws up the draft report and submits it to the Center.

5. The Center determines formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative act of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 12 (3) and Article 16(8) of this Charter. If the compliance is established, the draft report is sent to the general education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure formal compliance of the authorization experts panel's draft report, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel of the general education institution.

6. The general education institution, within 10 calendar days after getting acquainted with the draft report of the general education institution's authorization expert panel, submits to the Center in written form an argumentative position regarding the factual circumstances mentioned in the draft report, which is then sent to the general education institution's authorization expert panel. If the evaluation reflected in

the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution in relation to a specific standard/standards differs from the self-evaluation of the general education institution and the institution shares the assessment of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution, the general education institution is entitled to present a plan for ensuring compliance with the standard/standards, which by the authorization experts of the general education institution should be taken into account when forming the final report, together with an argumentative position.

7. In the case of submission of the argumentative position envisaged by the paragraph 6 of this article, after its examination or in the case of non-submission of the argumentative position after the expiration of the term envisaged by the paragraph 6 of this article, the expert panel of the general education institution elaborates a final version of the report and submits it to the Center. The report formed by the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution includes information about the argumentation of sharing or not sharing the argumentative position by the panel of experts of the authorization of the general education institution.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report of general education institution to the institution.

9. If a general education institution receives the evaluation provided for in paragraphs 1¹ and/or 1² of Article 21 of this Charter in relation to the standard/component defined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center provided for in paragraph 3 of this article, the authorization council of the general education institution makes a decision regarding the change of the place/space of the implementation of the general education programme by at least 3/4 of the members present at the session.

10. In case of making a decision on the change of the place/space of implementation of the general educational programme, the authorization council of the general education institution defines the recommendations to the general education institution and applies to the Center with a petition to monitor the implementation of the recommendations, except for the case when the institution was evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements".

11. The decision to approve the change of the place/space of implementation of the general education programme or to refuse the change is made in the Center within 90 calendar days from the submission of the application for the change of the place/space of implementation of the general education programme.

12. During the administrative proceedings related to the change of the place/space of implementation of the general education programme, the conditions established by the paragraph 1 of Article 9, Articles 11 - 17 of this Charter shall apply, taking into account the peculiarities of this article.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 26. Changes made by the general education institution during the authorization period

1. In the event of a change in the name, contact information (phone, e-mail, school website) of the person authorized to lead and represent the general educational institution, as well as in the case of adding non-mandatory services (extended education, food service, transportation service, dormitory service, etc.), the general education institution is obliged to provide the mentioned information to the Center no later than 5 working days after the issuance of the relevant legal act on the implementation of the change/the occurrence of the fact and to submit the evidence of the legal implementation of the change/non-mandatory service.

2. In case of making the changes stipulated in the paragraph 1 of this article, the Center is authorized to check the conditions of authorization through monitoring.

3. Failure to comply with the requirements specified in the paragraph 1 of this article may serve as the basis for making a decision provided for in the subparagraphs "b-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this Charter.

Order №145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia of December, 29, 2022 - website 30.12.2022

Article 27. Examination of authorization conditions via monitoring

1. The fulfillment of the conditions of authorization by the general education institution is checked through planned and/or case-based monitoring, as well as at the initiative of the educational institution. Planned monitoring is carried out at the request of the authorization council of the general education institution and/or at the initiative of the Center. Case-based monitoring is carried out at the request of the authorization council of the general education institution, based on a complaint submitted to the Center regarding the fulfillment of the standards of the authorization of the general education institution and/or by the initiative of the Center.

2. The annual plan for planned monitoring of general education institutions is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. The information regarding the aforementioned is sent to the relevant general education institutions within 10 working days after the issuance of the act.

3. The basis for the initiation of administrative proceedings regarding the verification of the fulfillment of authorization conditions by the initiative of the general education institution is the application submitted to the Center by the general education institution. The form to be submitted to the Center is approved through individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center and it is made public. Along with the application, the general education institution submits a document confirming the payment of the fee.

4. In case of a petition to the Center regarding the verification of the fulfillment of the conditions of authorization, the authorization council of the general education institution indicates the period of monitoring, the form and scope of monitoring. In the cases envisaged by Article 20, paragraph 6, Article 21, paragraph 2¹, Article 25¹, paragraph 10, and Article 25², paragraph 10 of this Charter, if the general education institution/programme was assessed as "substantially complies with the standard requirements", the period of initiation of administrative proceedings on monitoring shall not exceed 12 months from the date of entry into force of the decision of the authorization council. And, if the general education institution/programme was assessed as "partially complies with the standard requirements", the period of initiation of administrative proceedings on monitoring should not exceed 24 months from the date of entry into force of the decision of the authorization council.

5. The scope of examination of the compliance with the standards of the general education institution/programme through monitoring is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

6. Within 7 working days from the issuance of the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center provided for in paragraph 5 of this article, the Center applies in written form to the general education institution for the list of documents to be submitted and the request to pay the fee for the verification of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions via mediation of the authorization council of general education institution.

7. Within 15 calendar days after receiving the correspondence provided for in paragraph 6 of this article, the general education institution must submit to the Center a document confirming the payment of the fee by the general education institution for the verification of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions via mediation of the authorization council. In the event of non-payment of the fee within this period, due to the inability to confirm compliance with the standard(s) of the authorization of the general

education institution, the issues to be evaluated by the authorization council of the general education institution in relation to the standard(s) can be evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements", which is the basis for making the decision provided for in subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this Charter.

8. In order to check the fulfillment of the authorization conditions, the Center is authorized to request respective documentation/information from the general education institution/from general education management information system and/or issue an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the authorization expert panel of the general education institutions and/or monitoring visit to the general education institution. The general educational institution is authorized to exercise the right to recusal of the experts according to the rules established by the legislation of Georgia. Using the right to recusal does not hinder the implementation of the visit.

9. Based on the study of the documentation/information requested for the purpose of checking the conditions of authorization, when there is no need to create a panel of experts for the authorization of a general education institution and/or carry out a monitoring visit to the general education institution, or in case of non-fulfillment of the obligations specified in paragraph 7 of this article, the Center is authorized to apply to the General Educational Institution Authorization Council and submit appropriate documentation for decision making. In this case, the authorization council of the general education institution is entitled to apply to the Center with a argumentative petition regarding the creation of a panel of experts for the authorization of the general education institution and/or the implementation of a monitoring visit to the general education institution.

10. In case of requesting the relevant documentation/information from the general education institution/general education management system by the Center, if as a result of examination of this documentation/information it is identified that there is a need for additional examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the general education institutions' authorization expert panel and/or on the monitoring visit to the general education institution.

11. The individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center on the creation of the expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution and the monitoring visit to the general education institution shall be submitted to the general education institution directly at the beginning of the visit, or no more than 3 working days before the beginning of the visit.

12. If during the monitoring the general education institution does not cooperate with experts or/and does not give them possibility to verify the compliance of the general education institution's/programme's with the standards, the respective standard will be evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements".

13. The expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution draws up the draft report of the expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution and submits it to the Center.

14. If, during the inspection of the standard determined within the framework of the administrative proceedings initiated on the basis of the paragraph 1 of this article, as well as the paragraph 1 of Article 25¹ and the paragraph 1 of Article 25², the panel of experts for the authorization of the general education institution, based on the said standard, reveals a circumstance that may indicate a deterioration of the assessment of the general education institution in the last administrative proceeding, compared to other standards accordingly, shall reflect the revealed circumstances in the report. In this case, the establishment of non-compliance with one of the authorization standards by the authorization council of the general education institution constitutes the basis for making a decision provided for in subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this regulation.

15. The Center determines formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative act of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 12 (3) and Article 16(8) of this Charter. If the compliance is established, the draft report is sent to the general education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.
16. The general educational institution, within 10 calendar days after getting acquainted with the draft report of the general education institution's authorization expert panel, submits to the Center in written form an argumentative position regarding the factual circumstances mentioned in the draft report, which is then sent to the general education institution's authorization expert panel. If the evaluation reflected in the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution in relation to a specific standard/standards differs from the self-evaluation of the general education institution and the institution shares the assessment of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution, the general education institution is entitled to present a plan for ensuring compliance with the standard/standards, which by the authorization experts of the general education institution, together with an argumentative position, should be taken into account when forming the final report.
17. In the case of submission of the argumentative position envisaged by the paragraph 16 of this article, after its examination or in the case of non-submission of the argumentative position after the expiration of the term envisaged by the paragraph 16 of this article, the expert panel of the general education institution elaborates a final version of the report and submits it to the Center.
18. Establishment of non-compliance with one of the authorization standards by the authorization council of the general educational institution constitutes the basis for making a decision provided for in subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this Charter.
19. If the authorization council of the general education institution does not take the decision provided for in subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this Charter, taking into account the evaluation of each component/standard, it shall define recommendations for the general education institution and apply to the Center for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, except for the case when all the standards defined in the paragraph 1 of Article 5 of this Charter are evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements".
20. Determining the fact of non-fulfilment of the recommendations specified by the General Education Institution's Authorization Council by paragraph 19 of this article, paragraph 6 of article 20, paragraph 2¹ of article 21, paragraph 10 of article 25¹ and paragraph 10 of article 25² of this Charter or absence of the circumstances defined by paragraph 21 of this article is the basis for making a decision provided for by subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of article 20 of this Charter.
21. In case it is established as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations defined by paragraph 19 of this article, paragraph 6 of article 20, paragraph 2¹ of article 21, paragraph 10 of article 25¹ and paragraph 10 of article 25² of this Charter, that the evaluation of at least 50% of the total number of components that were evaluated as "partially complies with the standard requirements" was improved, but taking into account the above, the change in the evaluation level of the standard could not be made, the authorization council of the general education institution shall set a deadline for the general education institution to submit a report on the implementation of the remaining recommendations and/or apply to the Center with a motion to implement monitoring.
22. In case it is established as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations defined by paragraph 19 of this article, paragraph 6 of article 20, paragraph 2¹ of article 21, paragraph 10 of article 25¹ and paragraph 10 of article 25² of this Charter, that at least one of the components which was evaluated as "substantially complies with the standard requirements" was

improved, but taking into account the above, the change in the evaluation level of the standard could not be made, the authorization council of the general education institution shall set a deadline for the general educational institution to submit a report on the implementation of the remaining recommendations.

23. In case it is established as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations defined by paragraph 19 of this article, paragraph 6 of article 20, paragraph 2¹ of article 21, paragraph 10 of article 25¹ and paragraph 10 of article 25² of this Charter, the evaluation level of the components has undergone a change, and instead of "substantially complies with the standard" it was evaluated as "partially complies with the standard requirements" - the authorization council of the general education institution shall set a deadline for the general education institution to submit a report on the implementation of the remaining recommendations or shall apply to the Center via motion on implementation of the monitoring.

24. If a general education institution was monitored for the purpose of checking the implementation of the standard defined by subparagraph "b" of the paragraph 1 of Article 5 of this Charter and the said standard was evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements", the authorization council of general education institutions makes the decision provided for by subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20.

25. If, as a result of the verification of the fulfillment of the conditions of authorization, it is determined that the compliance with the standards determined by the authorization council of the general education institution is ensured within the framework of monitoring, the authorization council makes a decision to terminate the administrative proceedings related to monitoring.

26. If the general educational institution submits the report provided for in paragraphs 21-23 of this article, the authorization council of the general education institution is authorized to accept the report as a notice or to apply to the Center with motion to implement monitoring at the institution, which is reflected in the minutes of the council meeting.

27. Failure of the general education institution to submit the report provided for in paragraphs 21-23 of this article can become the basis for monitoring.

28. The term of administrative proceedings related to the implementation of monitoring is determined by 90 calendar days from the issuance of the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

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Article 28. General basis for determination of the students' quotas at general education institutions

1. Basis for determining the students quota is the number of places indicated in the authorization application or in the application about adding a general education programme submitted by the general education institution to the Center.

2. The students' quota at the general education institution shall be determined:

- a) Upon making a decision on granting authorization – for the period of authorization;
- b) In case of the addition of the general education programme for the remaining term of the authorization.

3. A general education institution is authorized to admit students to a general educational programme only within the students quota determined by the authorization council for this general educational institution, except for cases established by legislation.

4. Exceeding the students' quota determined for a general education institution is the basis for making a decision provided for in subparagraphs "c-e" of the paragraph 1 of Article 20 of this Charter, except when the increase in the quota is caused:

- a) by restoring the status of a suspended student;

- b) by reasoned decision of the Ministry regarding general education institutions established by the State or with its participation;
 - c) by student mobility, based on the approval of the Ministry;
 - d) by other cases envisaged by the legislation.
5. As a result of the review of the application and the report of the expert panel for the authorization of the general education institution, and taking into account the opinions of the interested parties, the General Education Institution Authorization Council makes a decision on determining the students' quota by at least 3/4 of the members present at the session. The general education institution authorization council is authorized to either agree with the request of the general education institution, or reduce number of students. The general education institutions authorization council shall substantiate its decision.
6. In order to calculate the number of places for students to be admitted to a general educational institution, the number of students with an active status of this general educational institution at the time of the announcement of the admission of students to the general education institution is subtracted from the quota of students determined for the general education institution, and the number of students graduating in the current school year is added to the obtained difference, in accordance to the data of general education information management system.

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Article 29. Increasing the students' quota for the general education institutions

1. Basis for increasing the students quota is the number of places specified in the application for increasing the students quota submitted by the institution to the Center.
- 1¹. Along with the application, the institution submits a document confirming the payment of the prescribed fee for increasing the students' quota.
2. The application form to be submitted to the Center for increasing the students quota is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is made public.
3. Within the scope of the administrative proceedings envisaged by this article, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the authorization experts panel of the general education institutions and on the visit to the general education institution.
4. Upon examination of the application and attached documents envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article, considering the methodology for determining the number of the students of the general education institution by the specificity of the programme and the resources of the institution, a draft report of the authorization expert panel is drawn up as a result of the authorization site visit, and submitted to the Center.
5. The Center determines formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the paragraph 3 of Article 12 and paragraph 8 of Article 16 of this Charter. If the compliance is established, the draft report is sent to the general education institution. If necessary, to ensure the formal conformity of the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution, the draft report is returned to the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution.
6. Within 10 calendar days after getting acquainted with the draft report of the expert panel of the general education institution, the general education institution shall submit an argumentative position in written form to the Center regarding the factual circumstances mentioned in the draft report, which is then sent to the expert panel of the general education institution authorization. If the evaluation reflected in the draft report of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution in relation to a

specific standard/standards differs from the self-evaluation of the general education institution and the institution shares the assessment of the expert panel of the authorization of the general education institution, the general education institution is entitled to present a plan for ensuring compliance with the standard/standards, which should be taken into account when forming the final report by the authorization experts of the general education institution, together with an argumentative position.

7. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided for in paragraph 6 of this article, after familiarization with it or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period provided for in paragraph 6 of this article, the authorization experts panel formulates a report in a final form and submits it to the Center.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report of general education institution to the institution.

9. The decision to increase the students' quota is made in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 28 of this Charter.

10. (Removed 29.12.2022, №145/N).

11. The decision on increasing the number of students quota or on the refusal to increase the students quota shall be made within 90 calendar days after submission of a written application on increasing the number of students to the Center.

12. The students' quota in the general education institution is increased for the remaining period of authorization.

13. During the administrative proceedings related to the determination of students quota in a general education institution, the conditions established by the paragraph 1 of Article 9, Articles 11 - 17 of this Charter shall apply, taking into account the peculiarities of this article.

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Article 30. (Removed)

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Chapter III

Authorization of Vocational Education Institution

Article 31. Authorization Standards for Vocational Education Institutions

1. Authorization standards for vocational education institutions refer to:

- a) Mission and strategic development of a College;
- b) Education Programmes;
- c) Vocational students and their support mechanisms;
- d) Human resources;
- e) Material, information and financial resources;

2. Each standard of vocational education institution authorization consists of components, as follows:

- a) The standard related to the college mission and strategic development includes the following components:
 - a.a.) The mission of the vocational education institution;
 - a.b) Strategic development of the vocational education institution;
- b) The standard related to the educational programmes include the following components:
 - b.a) Planning and developing the educational programme;
 - b.b) Resources for implementation of an educational programme;

- b.c) Evaluation and development of the educational programmes;
- b.d) Organization of the study process and evaluation of the vocational students;
- c) The standard related to the vocational students and their support mechanisms includes the following components:
 - c.a) Protecting the rights of vocational students;
 - c.b) Support mechanisms for vocational students.
- d) The standard related to the human resources includes the following components:
 - d.a) Management of the staff and processes;
 - d.b) Staff development
- e) The standard related to material, information and financial recourses includes the following components:
 - e.a.) Material resources and infrastructure;
 - e.b.) Information Resources;
 - e.c) Financial resources.
- 3. Authorization standards for vocational education institutions are established by the Annex 4 of this Order.

Article 32. Authorization application

1. The authorization application submitted to the Center for obtaining the status of the vocational education institution shall be accompanied by:
 - a) Completely filled out form of the status seeker institution and the attached documentation;
 - b) Document confirming payment of the fee for review of the authorisation application.
2. The documentation envisaged in paragraph 1 of this article may be submitted to the Center through electronic document management system or in material form, while the documents attached to the completed form of self-evaluation will be submitted to the Center via electronic information carrier. In the case when the institution engaged in the electronic document management system submits the documentation envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article via electronic document management system as well as in material form, the Center only reviews the documentations submitted by the electronic document management system
3. For each following authorization, for the purposes of continuity of the status of vocational educational institution, while submitting the authorization application to the Center the vocational education institution shall consider 180 day time frame determined for the administrative proceedings for authorization or authorization refusal; countdown of this term starts from recognition of the vocational education institution as a status seeker; also the institution shall consider the terms set out by the Article 34 of this Charter.

Article 33. Self-evaluation of the authorization seeker

1. Purpose of the self-evaluation is to evaluate the readiness of the status seeker to obtain the authorization.
2. Self-evaluation is carried out in accordance with authorization standards.
3. Self-evaluation results are reflected in a self-evaluation report.
4. Self-evaluation form is approved through individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is published publicly.

Article 34. Recognition as an applicant of authorization

1. Within three business days, the Center shall verify the compliance of the documents attached to the authorization application with the requirements provided for by the paragraph 1 of the Article 32 of this Charter.
2. If the applicant fails to submit any of the documents listed in paragraph 1 of the Article 32 of this Charter, the Center gives the applicant at least 5 and maximum 15 days to fix the issue.
3. In the case of fixing the shortcomings within the term set forth by the paragraph 2 of this article, the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on recognition of the applicant for obtaining the status of the vocational education institution, while in the case of failure to fix the shortcomings within the same time frame - an individual administrative-legal act is issued on leaving the application without reviewing.
4. An individual administrative-legal act of the Center on recognition of the vocational education institution as an applicant for authorization, shall be issued no later than 20 calendar days after submission of the application or fixing the shortcoming.
5. If the vocational education institution applying for the authorization does not pay an authorization fee within 15 calendar days after getting familiar with the individual administrative-legal act about recognition as the applicant, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on termination of administrative proceedings.

Article 35. Authorization expert pool of the vocational education institutions

1. Authorization expert of the vocational education institution must not be an employee of the Center, except for the cases when he/she is employed at the Center during the calendar year for the period of less than 3 months in order to complete a certain amount of workload.
2. Authorization expert pool of the vocational education institutions is composed of the experienced specialists of the vocational education field and of those field specialists, who have professional experience in the employment fields envisaged by the vocational education programme.
3. The procedure for the selection of authorization experts, their activities and the termination of membership in the pool of experts shall be approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be made public.

Article 36. Creation of the authorization experts panel for vocational education institutions

1. Within 60 calendar days after payment of authorization fees, Center issues individual administrative-legal act based on the status of the educational institution, to create a panel of authorization experts and ensure authorization visit to the vocational education institution that applied for an authorization.
2. The expert panel is composed of the members of the authorization expert pool of the vocational education institution.
3. If the institution seeking the status of a general education or higher education institution wants to obtain the right to implement a vocational education programme, a general education or higher education institution authorization expert panel and a vocational education institution authorization expert panel are separately created by the order to visit the institution seeking the status of a general education or higher education institution.
4. If the general education or higher education institution wants to obtain right to implement a vocational education programme, the authorization experts panel is composed of the authorization experts of the vocational education institution, in addition, the authorization experts panel includes an authorization expert of the general education or higher education institution.

5. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.
6. Authorization expert must recuse, if he/she has conflict of interests with the authorization applicant institution where he/she is going to implement a visit.
7. The applicant institution is entitled to submit recusal of the authorization expert panel member to the Center within 2 business days after getting acquainted with the individual administrative-legal act provided for by the paragraph 1 of this article.
8. The institution is responsible for providing evidence for the recusal of the authorization expert(s). Basis for recusal could be conflict of interests of the panel chair and/or panel member.
9. A conflict of interest is considered to be the existence of circumstances established by the procedure for the selection of experts for the authorization, rules for their activities and termination of membership of the pool of experts and/or Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.
10. The Center shall review the claim on recusal within 3 business days. In case of satisfying the claim, the Center makes decision on changing composition of panel of experts.
11. In case of not satisfying the claim on recusal of expert/experts, the authorization experts panel continues its activities in the same composition.
12. Duration of the visit and number of experts in the panel is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center described in paragraph 1 of this article as well as volume and specifics of work to be undertaken, and rules for selection, activities, and termination of membership of pool of experts. In order to manage the authorization expert panel activities efficiently and adhere to the unified approach to assessment within the scope set by the legislation, the Center is authorized to send the staff member to the visit of the authorization experts panel.

Article 37. Examination of the completed self-evaluation form and attached documents of the applicant for the status of vocational education institution

1. The Center sends the documentation envisaged by the subparagraphs a and c of paragraph 1 of the Article 32 of this Charter to the each member of the authorization expert panel within 7 business days after informing the Center about refusal to recuse the authorization expert panel member or after expiration of the term envisaged by the paragraph 7 of the Article 36 of this Charter.
2. Chair of the authorization expert panel divides responsibilities among the members of the panel based on their competencies, with the purpose of ensuring review of self-evaluation report and additional documents, to determine compliance with authorization standards.
3. Before the authorization visit, the panel of experts reviews completed self-evaluation form and attached documentation, determines agenda of the visit based on this information and agrees it with the Center. In the process of agreeing on the agenda, the Center considers the argumentative opinions of the institution. The Center sends the final version of the agenda to the institution.

Article 38. Authorization site visit

1. Chair of the experts' panel is responsible for distributing duties between experts during the authorization visit.
2. Member of the authorization experts panel participates in the work of the panel, ensures implementation of functions described in regulations for selection, activities, and termination of membership pool of experts.

3. Authorization expert, based on the agreed agenda, is responsible for thoroughly reviewing all issues to create a report, including, conducting interviews with stakeholders, requesting additional documents as needed, conduct visual inspection and if necessary, to carry out activities not covered by the agenda.
4. If required, as a onetime measure, the institution is entitled to submit changes regarding the information reflected in the self-evaluation form or/and in the attached documents no later than in 5 calendar days after getting familiar with an individual administrative-legal act determined by the paragraph 1 of Article 36 of this rule. In addition, if the change considers the need for substitution of any document, the institution shall submit a written description / explanation of the changes together with the mentioned document. After expiration of this deadline, changes to the information reflected in the self-evaluation form cannot be made.
5. If the changes to the respective legal act(s)/adoption of new legal act leads to necessity of making changes to the documentations presented by the institution as an authorization application, except for the cases when this improves the condition of the institution, the administrative proceedings commenced by the Center will be finished based on the regulations active for the moment of respective administrative proceedings and the authorization documentation presented by the institution.
6. The institution is obliged to assist the authorization expert panel during the implementation of the site visit and preparation of the relevant report, submit the necessary documentation for authorization purposes and organize an interview with the persons requested by the panel.
7. Authorization experts panel presents main findings to the institution seeking authorization on the last day of the visit.
8. If the institution interrupts the authorization experts panel to implement its activities, the Center is entitled to issue an individual administrative-legal act about termination of the administrative proceedings.
9. After expiration of the term envisaged by the paragraph 4 of this article, the changes to the authorization application and/or to its attached documentation made by the institution shall not be taken into consideration by the expert panel.

Article 39. Evaluation of the compliance of the vocational education institution with the authorization standards

1. Compliance with the authorization standards of a vocational education institution is assessed by a four-level scale: "complies with standard requirements," "substantially complies with standard requirements", "partially complies with standard requirements," and "does not comply with standard requirements".
2. Each educational programme presented by the applicant vocational education institution via authorization application shall be evaluated against the educational programmes' standards separately. The standard determined by the subparagraph b of paragraph 1 of Article 31 of this Charter shall be deemed as met if at least one educational programme is evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements" or "substantially complies with the standard requirements". In this case, the institution is allowed to implement only this programme.
3. During evaluation of each component of the standard determined by the subparagraphs a-e of paragraph 2 of Article 31 of this Charter, four-level scale is reflected in scores by observing the following principle: "Complies with the requirements of the standard component"-3 points, "substantially complies with the requirements of the standard component"-2 points, "partially complies with the requirements of the standard component"-1 point and "does not comply with the requirements of the standard component"- 0 point.

4. Standard determined by the Article 31(1)(a) of this Charter is evaluated as “complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs a.a-a.b. of the paragraph 2 of Article 31 are granted with no less than 3 points.
5. Standard determined by the subparagraph b of the paragraph 1 of the Article 31 of this Charter is evaluated as “complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs b.a-b.c of Article 31(2) are granted with no less than 3 points, while the component determined by the subparagraph b.d. get no less than 2 points.
6. Standard determined by the subparagraphs c and d of Article 31(1) of this Charter is evaluated as “complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs c.a-d.a and c.b and d.b of Article 31(2) are granted with no less than 2 points.
7. Standard determined by the subparagraph e of the Article 31(1) is evaluated as “complies with the standard requirements”, if the component determined by the subparagraph e.a of the Article 31(2) is granted with no less than 2 points and the components determined by the subparagraph e.b and e.c are granted with no less than 3 points.
8. Standard determined by the subparagraph a of the Article 31(1) of this Charter is evaluated as “substantially complies with the standard requirements” if the standard component envisaged by the subparagraph a.a of Article 31(2) is granted with no less than 3 points, while the component determined by the subparagraph a.b gets no less than 2 points.
9. Standard determined by the subparagraph b of Article 31(1) of this Charter is evaluated as "substantially complies with the standard requirements", if the component determined by the subparagraph b.a of Article 31(2) gets no less than 3 points, while the components determined by the subparagraphs b.b-b.d get no less than 2 points.
10. Standard determined by the subparagraphs c and d of Article 31(1) of this Charter is evaluated as “substantially complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs c.a-c.b and d.a-d.b of Article 31(2) are granted with no less than 2 points.
11. Standard determined by Article 31(1)(e) of this Charter is evaluated as “substantially complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraph e.a-e.c of Article 31(2) get no less than 2 points.
12. Standard determined by Article 31(1)(a) of this Charter is evaluated as “partially complies with the standard requirements” if the component determined by the subparagraph a.a of Article 31(2) is granted with no less than 2 points, while the component envisaged by the subparagraph a.b gets no less than 1 point.
13. Standard determined by Article 31(1)(b) of this Charter is evaluated as “partially complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs b.a-b.b of Article 31(2) get no less than 2 points and the components determined by the subparagraphs b.c-b.d get no less than 1 point.
14. Standard determined by the Article 31(1)(c) of this Charter is evaluated as “partially complies with the standard requirements” if the component determined by the subparagraph c.a of Article 31(2) is granted with no less than 2 points, while the component envisaged by the sub-paragraph c.b gets no less than 1 point.
15. Standard determined by the subparagraphs d of Article 31(1) of this Charter shall be evaluated as “partially complies with the standard requirements” if the components determined by the subparagraphs d.a-d.b of Article 31(2) are granted with no less than 1 point.
16. Standard determined by the Article 31(1)(e) of this Charter is evaluated as “partially complies with the standard requirements” if the component determined by the sub-paragraph e.a and e.b of Article 31(2) is

granted with no less than 1 point, while the component envisaged by the subparagraph e.c gets no less than 2 points.

17. The standard determined by the Article 31(1) of this Charter is evaluated as “does not comply with the standard requirements” if at least one of the components is granted with 0 point.

18. Evaluation level of compliance with the standard will not change for the components determined by the Article 31(2) of this Charter by granting more points than determined by the paragraphs 4- 16 of this article, except for the cases when granting more points to the components causes change of the standard evaluation level.

19. If the standard component is granted with less points than determined by the paragraphs 4-16 of this article, the standard will be evaluated as “does not comply with the standard requirements”.

Article 40. Standard component evaluation scale

1. The vocational education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard components as “complies with the standard component requirements” if the resources at the institution, established practice/system and achieved results (in the case of new vocational education institution - achievable estimated results) fully satisfy the requirements of the standard component.

2. The vocational education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard components, as "substantially complies with the standard component requirements", if the resources of the facility, practice / system mostly provides compliance with the standard component requirements and the institution is able to demonstrate the relevant results. However, the institution has weaknesses and demonstrates a willingness to solve those shortcomings within a short period of time (no more than 6 months) and it has a plan ensured with relevant resources.

3. The vocational education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard components as “partially complies with the standard component requirements” if the institution ensures satisfaction of component requirements on basic level and has such areas for improvement that require mobilization of significant resources. However, the institution is ready and has a plan with respective resources to overcome the weaknesses (in no more than 18 months).

4. The vocational education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard components as “does not comply with the standard requirements” if the institution with its existing resources or/and practice is not able to ensure satisfaction of at least the standard component requirements of the level defined by the paragraph 3 of this article.

Article 41. Preparing the report

1. As a result of examination of the self-evaluation report and the attached documents and the authorization visit, the authorization experts panel draws up the draft report and submits it to the Center.

2. The draft report describes the compliance of the institution with the authorization standards.

3. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 35(3) of this Charter and paragraph 8 of this article. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution.

4. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel’s draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

5. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the vocational education institution status seeker submits to the Center a written argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the experts panel and the authorization council of vocational education institutions.
6. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 5 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 5 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center.
7. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.
8. The form of report of the authorization experts panel and the requirements set by it shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. It shall be published publicly.

Article 42. Oral (Public) Hearing

1. Authorization Council of the vocational education institution makes decision on granting authorization based on examination of the authorization documentation, authorization experts panel's report, argumentative position submitted by the institution on the expert panel's draft report and as a result of conducting an oral hearing.
2. Session of the Authorization Council of Vocational Education Institutions is convened by the Council Secretariat.
3. The interested party shall be notified on the oral hearing at least 7 calendar days prior to the oral hearing. The interested party participating in administrative proceedings shall be authorized to participate in oral hearing. The Council is authorized to postpone the oral hearing considering 180-day time frame envisaged by the Article 32 (3) of this Charter.
4. The oral hearing shall be led by the Chair of the Council, in case of his/her absence it shall be led by the deputy, while in case of absence of both the Chair and the deputy it shall be led by a member of the Council selected through majority of attendees' votes. If the secretary of the council is unable to perform his/her duties, such duties are carried out by one of the members of the Council, as requested by the Chair.
5. The session is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members, but no less than 3 members. This number does not include the member of the Council, which has self-recusal or recusal towards the issue discussed.
6. The session is public. The chair of the council is authorized to announce the session closed in the cases envisaged by the legislation of Georgia.
7. Members of the panel of authorization experts participate in oral hearing, while representatives of the Center and other stakeholders are authorized to participate in the discussion, as agreed by the Chair.
8. The council may decide to invite other parties to oral hearings.
9. The chair of the hearing is obliged to ensure the examination of the circumstances relevant to the case at the oral hearing.
10. Stakeholders participating in the administrative proceedings are entitled to place a motion for further investigation of the circumstances that are important to the case.
11. The document of the applicant institution that was drawn up after the authorization site visit, shall not be considered while making a decision at an oral hearing.

12. Minutes of the council meeting shall be signed within 10 working days after the session by the chair of the council and the secretary. Based on the minutes of the council sessions an individual administrative-legal act is issued signed by the chair of the council and secretary.

Article 43. Composition of the Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institution

1. Office term of the council members is 2 years.
2. The members of the Council are appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister of Georgia upon recommendation of the ministry.
3. The order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia (hereafter - the Minister) approves the procedure for the selection of members of the Vocational Education Institution Authorization Council. Activities of the Council members will be remunerated (will be given honorarium) from the Center's own revenues. Rules and amount of remuneration for the Council members (ex gratia payment) shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
4. During the decision-making by the Council, depending on the specifics of the issue, the person/persons determined by the Chair of the Council may participate with the right of deliberative vote.
5. Member of the Council may have his/her term terminated before expiration based on the initiative of the Prime Minister of Georgia, or:
 - a) On the basis of a personal statement;
 - b) Upon the entry into force of the conviction of the court against him/her;
 - c) In case of recognition as an entity with limited legal capacity or as a support recipient by a court, unless otherwise provided by the court's decision;
 - d) In case of systematic absence from the sessions, if this hinders the work of the Council;
 - e) In case of violation of the norms envisaged by Article 44 of the present Charter.
 - f) Upon submission of the ministry.
6. Termination of authority of the member of the council before expiration of the term is confirmed by an individual administrative-legal act of the Prime Minister of Georgia. In case of termination of the mandate before the term, the Prime Minister, as recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science, appoints a new member for the remaining term of the previous member.

Order No. 64/n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated August 6, 2021 - website, 09.08.2021

Article 44. Rules and principles of activities of the Authorization Council of Vocational Education Institutions

1. A member of the Council shall be independent, objective, and impartial in fulfilling his/her functions.
2. A member of the Council shall maintain neutrality in any situation, and shall not be subject to the influence of interested parties, regardless of their status.
3. A member of the Council shall not disclose any information and/or documents obtained while performing his/her official duties, and shall not use them for personal interests.
4. Member of the Council should be focused on cooperation and should not try to display privileged position. He/she should not publicly doubt competence of experts, representatives of educational institutions, members of authorization Council, and members of appeal Council, even if he/she does not share their position.
5. The Council member is obliged to declare about conflict of interests with the institution and about self-recusal. A conflict of interest can be any circumstance stipulated in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

6. Organizational-financial support of the Council is ensured by the Council secretariat, functions of which are fulfilled by the Center. Composition of the Secretariat is defined according to the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
7. Functions of the council secretariat are as following:
- a) agreeing the agenda and the date for the Council meeting, publishing the announcement about the Council meeting;
 - b) organization of invitation of the Council members, experts, institutions and other stakeholders to the Council meeting;
 - c) providing materials related to the issues to be discussed to the Council members within the terms established by the legislation;
 - d) supporting the Council in the process of decision making and preparing the minutes;
 - e) ensuring the publicity of the Council meeting minutes and experts' reports;
 - f) sending the Council decisions to the LEPL -Information System of Education Management in order to reflect them in the information system of vocational education management.
8. The secretariat sends the session agenda and the following documents to the Council members 7 calendar days prior to the oral hearing:
- a) Self-evaluation report of the authorization applicant and attached documents;
 - b) Evaluation report of the authorization expert panel;
 - c) Argumentative position on the authorization experts panel's report submitted by the applicant/educational institution.
9. Before the oral hearing, for full examination and assessment of all substantial issues, each member of the Council is responsible for reviewing documents described in the paragraph 8 of this Article in advance. A member of the council is entitled to request additional documents for reviewing the subject matter, and the Council is entitled to postpone the oral hearing for that reason, with consideration of remaining time frame of the administrative proceeding.

Article 45. Decisions regarding authorization

1. The decisions made by the Council can be as follows:
 - a) About authorization;
 - b) About refusing the authorization;
 - c) About canceling the authorization.
2. The council is authorized, in the case envisaged by the paragraph 5 of Article 38 of this Charter, to make a decision on authorization and set a reasonable deadline for the institution in order for it to ensure compliance with the conditions determined by the respective legal acts.
3. In the case envisaged by the paragraph 2 of this article, the Council addresses the Center via mediation about implementation of the monitoring.
4. Decision on granting/terminating authorization is made by the Council if the session is attended by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of its members. If the decision on authorization cannot be made according to the established rule, the decision to refuse authorization is considered accepted.
5. In the case envisaged by the subparagraph "c" of the paragraph 1 of this article, the decision is made by no less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the members that attend the meeting.
6. In case of making a decision described in paragraph 1, subparagraph "a" of this article, the Council is entitled to give recommendations to the institution seeking authorization.

7. Member of the Council is not entitled to refrain from voting.
8. Council is obliged to substantiate its decision.
9. Council announces the decision to the institution at the oral hearing, announces the rules on how it enters into force and how to appeal. The decision enters into force upon publication on the Center's website, except for the cases envisaged by the paragraph 11 of this article.
10. Within 10 business days after making the decision, the minutes of the Council meeting and the expert panel's report are published on the Center's website.
11. In the case of an argumentative position, the Council is authorized to, determine the date when the decision envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article enters into force.

Article 46. Decision on granting or refusing the authorization

1. The Council makes a decision on granting authorization if the applying institution meets all the standards.
2. Each standard, except for the standard established by the Article 31(1)(b) of this Charter, shall be deemed as met, if the council declares that according to the rules established by the articles 39 and 40 of this Charter, according to the four-level scale, the applicant "complies with the standard requirements", "substantially complies with the standard requirements" or "partially complies with the standard requirements".
3. Vocational Education Institution is granted the right to implement the programme if this programme is evaluated against the standard established by Article 31(1)(b) as "complies with the standard requirements" or "substantially complies with the standard requirements".
4. Authorization is valid for 6 years.
5. If the decision is made to grant the authorization, the council defines recommendations for the vocational educational institution considering evaluation of each component and addresses the Center with mediation on implementation of monitoring for fulfillment of recommendations, except for the cases, when the vocational educational institution is evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements" in all the standards.
6. If the decision is made on the authorization, the council defines amount of vocational students quotas for the institution within the scope of the programme during the authorization term.
7. While determining the amount of vocational student quotas at the vocational education programme, the authorization Council distributes the number of seats at the programme in the following manner:
 - a) According to the place of implementation;
 - b) According to the form of implementation the programme.
8. The decision on refusing the authorization or canceling the authorization is made if the authorization council evaluates the applicant/vocational educational institution as "does not comply with the standard requirements" in one of the standards.

Article 47. Legal Outcome of the authorization of a vocational education institution

As a result of authorization, the vocational educational institution has right to receive students according to the rules of procedure provided for by the legislation and to issue a document certifying their qualification.

Article 48. Legal outcome for refusing authorization or cancellation of authorization.

1. If granting of an authorization is refused, the applicant will not obtain the status of the vocational education institution, while in the case of cancellation of authorization, the vocational education institution loses the status of the educational institution.

2. In the case envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article, the vocational students' status is suspended for 5 years and they are entitled to use mobility.
3. In the cases envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article a legal entity is authorized to submit an authorization application to the Center after 1 year from the last decision.

Article 49. Outcomes of the reorganization of the vocational education institution

1. In the case of merger of the vocational education institutions, the institution established as a result of reorganization shall be deemed as authorized for the term of 6 months.
2. Threshold number of vocational students for each programme of the vocational education institution established as a result of the reorganization shall equal to the sum of the vocational students enrolled on these programmes.
3. In the case of division of an authorized institution the institutions created after the reorganization shall be required to apply for authorization.

Article 50. Submission of the self-evaluation report of the vocational education institution

1. For the purpose of monitoring the authorization conditions, the educational institution is obliged to submit a self-evaluation report to the Center at least once in three years. Terms for submission of the self-evaluation report shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which will be published publicly.
2. Self-evaluation report is submitted electronically, at the same time self-evaluation report can be submitted through electronic system of the quality management.
3. The form of self-evaluation report is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is published publicly.

Article 51. Application for the addition of the vocational education programme

1. Vocational education institution is entitled to add vocational education programmes by the application submitted to the Center for the purposes of adding a vocational educational programme.
2. The application form to be submitted to the Center for the addition of the educational programme is approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Center Director, which shall be public. Vocational education institution is obliged to submit the document certifying the payment for the addition of the vocational education programme to the Center.
3. In order to determine the compliance of the vocational education programme/programmes with the standard established by subparagraph "b" of the paragraph 1 of Article 31 of this Charter, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on the creation of a panel of authorization experts and a visit to the educational institution.
4. Based on examination of the application submitted for addition of the vocational education programme and the attached documentation and according to the authorization visit, the authorization experts panel elaborates a draft report and presents it to the Center. If during the inspection of the standard defined by subparagraph "b" of the paragraph 1 of Article 31 of this Charter, the expert panel, based on the said standard, reveals substantial/partial compliance or non-compliance with other authorization standards, it is obliged to reflect the identified circumstance in the report.
5. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged

by the Article 35(3) and Article 41(8) of this Charter. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

6. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the institution that desires to add a vocational education programme submits to the Center a written argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the experts panel and to the authorization council.

7. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 6 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 6 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.

9. If the vocational education programme is evaluated against the standard envisaged by the Article 31(1)(b) of this Charter as "complies with the standard requirements" or as "substantially complies with the standard requirements", the authorization council makes a decision on addition of a vocational education programme at the meeting by the votes of 3/4 of the attendees, according to the established rules of procedure. If the decision cannot be made on addition of vocational education programme via established rules of procedure, the decision on refusal of addition the vocational education programme shall be deemed as made.

10. If the decision is made in favor to add a vocational education programme, the council defines recommendations for the vocational education institution considering evaluation of each component and addresses the Center with mediation on implementation of monitoring for fulfillment of recommendations, except for the cases, when the vocational education programme is evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements".

11. In the case envisaged by the paragraph 4 of this article, if the council establishes noncompliance with one of the authorization standards, it makes a decision on cancellation of authorization.

12. Decision on granting or refusing to grant a right to add vocational education programme shall be made by the Center within 90 calendar days after the application for the purpose of adding an educational programme is submitted. Decision on adding a vocational education programme is made for the remaining term of the authorization.

13. During the administrative proceedings related to the addition of a vocational education programmes, the terms established by the Article 32(2) and articles 34-42 of this Charter shall apply, considering the characteristics of this article.

14. While determining the amount of vocational student quotas at the vocational education programme, the authorization council distributes the number of places at the programme in the following manner:

- a) According to the place of implementation;
- b) According to the form of implementation the programme.

Article 52. Rules of changing the location/space of the implementation of the vocational education programme

1. If the vocational education institution changes the location/space of the implementation of the vocational education programme, it addresses the Center with an application.

2. The form of accreditation self-evaluation is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be published. The vocational education institution is obliged to submit

to the Center with the application a document confirming the payment of the specified fee for the change of the place/area of implementation of the vocational education programme.

3. Within the framework of the administrative proceedings provided for in this article, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on the creation of the authorization expert panel and the visit to the educational institution. The term for the administrative proceedings is 90 days.

4. As a result of the study of the application and the documentation attached to it and the authorization visit provided for in the first paragraph of this article, a draft report of the authorization expert panel is drawn up and submitted to the Center.

5. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 35(3) and Article 41(8) of this Charter. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

6. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the educational institution submits to the Center a written argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the experts panel and to the authorization council.

7. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 6 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 6 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the Center.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.

9. During the administrative proceedings related to the change of location/space of the implementation of the vocational education programme, the terms established by the Article 32(2) and articles 34 -42 of this status shall apply, considering the characteristics of this article.

10. Failure to fulfill the requirements determined by the paragraph 1 of this article may become the basis for refusing or canceling the authorization.

Article 53. Changes implemented by the institution that implements vocational education institution during the authorization period

1. In the event of a change in the name of the vocational education programme, the form of its implementation, or the addition and/or removal of learning outcomes in the vocational education programme on its own initiative, as well as a change in the place of achievement of the learning outcomes, the vocational education institution is obliged to inform the Center about the said change within 30 calendar days from the issuance of the relevant legal act on the implementation of the change and submit appropriate justification and evidence to the Center.

2. In case of changing the vocational education standard, the vocational education institution is obliged to ensure compliance of the vocational education programme with the changed educational standard and to inform the Center about the aforementioned before announcing the admission of vocational students to the relevant vocational education programme, at least 60 calendar days before.

3. In the event that the vocational education institution decides to implement the vocational education programme that existed before the change only for the vocational students enrolled in it, in parallel with the changed vocational education programme, it is obliged to inform the Center within 30 calendar days after the issuance of the relevant legal act.

4. In case of implementation of the changes provided for in paragraphs 1 to 3 of this Article, the Center is authorized to check the conditions of authorization through monitoring.
5. Failure to comply with the requirements specified in paragraphs 1-3 of this article may be the basis for refusal of authorization or cancellation of authorization.

Article 54. Examination of authorization conditions via monitoring

1. Verification of the fulfillment of the conditions of authorization by the vocational education institution is carried out by the initiative of the Center via planned and/or case-based monitoring, by the initiative of the educational institution, or by means of monitoring at the request of the council.
2. Basis for commencement of the administrative proceedings regarding examination of the authorization conditions fulfillment by the initiative of the institution is the application submitted to the Center by the educational institution. The form of accreditation self-evaluation is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be published.
3. Together with the application, the vocational education institution submits the document certifying the payment of the fee for examination of the authorization conditions via monitoring upon initiative of the educational institution.
4. In case of addressing the Center via motion on examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions, the council defines the period of implementation of the monitoring, the form of monitoring according to the paragraph 7 of this article and the scope of the monitoring as well.
5. Within 7 business days after commencement of the period envisaged by the paragraph 4 of this article, the Center addresses the educational institution in a written form about the list of documents to be submitted and on the request of payment of the fee for examination of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the educational institution with the motion of the council.
6. Within 15 calendar days after receiving the correspondence provided for in paragraph 5 of this article, the educational institution must submit to the Center, at the request of the Council, a document confirming the payment of the fee for the verification of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the educational institution. In case of non-payment of the fee within this period, due to the impossibility of confirming the compliance of the educational institution with the standard(s) of authorization, the issues to be evaluated by the council in relation to the standard(s) can be evaluated as "does not complies with the standard requirements" and upon the petition of the Center, the council is authorized to make a decision to cancel the authorization for the institution.
7. In order to check the fulfillment of the conditions of authorization, the Center is authorized to request relevant documentation/information from the institution and/or from the education management information systems administered by EMIS- education management information system (higher education management information system; vocational education management information system; general education management information system) and /or issue an individual administrative-legal act on the creation of a group of authorization experts and/or a monitoring visit to the institution. The vocational education institution is authorized to exercise the right to recusal of the experts according to the rules established by the legislation of Georgia. Using the right to recusal does not hinder the implementation of the visit.
8. In case the Center requests relevant documentation/information from the institution/education management information systems, if as a result of the study of the documentation, an additional need to verify the fulfillment of the authorization conditions has been identified, the Center shall issue an individual

administrative-legal act on the creation of a panel of authorization experts and/or a monitoring visit to the institution.

9. The authorization expert panel draws up the draft report and submits it to the Center.

10. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 35(3) and Article 41(8) of this Charter. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

11. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the institution submits to the Center a written argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the experts panel and to the authorization council.

12. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 11 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 11 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center.

13. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.

The individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center on establishment of authorization expert panel of the vocational education institution and on case-based monitoring visit to the institution shall be submitted directly prior to the visit or no later than 1 day prior to the monitoring visit.

14. As a result of examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions, the council is authorized to make a decision on cancellation of the authorization if the vocational education institution is evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements" of one of the standards by the council.

15. If the Council does not make a decision on the cancellation of the authorization, taking into account the assessment of each component/standard, it shall define recommendations to the vocational education institution and apply to the Center for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, except in the case of paragraph 2 of Article 31 of this regulation when standard defined by subsections "a-e" is evaluated as "complies with the standard requirements".

16. If as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations determined by paragraph 15 of this article, paragraph 5 of article 46 and paragraph 10 of article 51 of this Charter, the council determines that none of the recommendations issued by it have been implemented, or if the circumstances defined by paragraph 17 of this article have been established, the council makes a decision to cancel the authorization.

17. If as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations determined by paragraph 15 of this article, paragraph 5 of article 46 and paragraph 10 of article 51 of this Charter, it is established that the components that were evaluated as "partially complies with the requirements of the standard component", the evaluation of at least 50% of the total number was improved, but taking into account the above, the change in the evaluation level of the standard could not be carried out, the Council sets a deadline for the institution to present a report on the implementation of the remaining recommendations and/or applies to the Center with a petition to implement monitoring.

18. If the institution, taking into account the circumstances specified in paragraph 17 of this article, cannot ensure the improvement of the assessment level of the standards with respect to which the recommendation is made, the Council makes a decision to cancel the authorization for the institution.

19. If as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations determined by paragraph 15 of this article, paragraph 5 of article 46 and paragraph 10 of article 51 of this Charter, it is determined that among the components that are evaluated as "substantially complies with the requirements of the standard component", the evaluation of one of them improved, but taking into account the above, the change of the evaluation level of the standard could not be carried out, the Council sets a deadline for the institution to submit a report on the implementation of the remaining recommendations.

20. If as a result of the monitoring related to the implementation of the recommendations determined by paragraph 15 of this article, paragraph 5 of article 46 and paragraph 10 of article 51 of this Charter, it is determined that the evaluation level of the components has undergone a change and instead of being "substantially complies with the requirements of the standard component" has been evaluated as "partially complies with the requirements of the standard component", the council sets a deadline for the institution to submit a report on the implementation of recommendations or applies to the Center with a petition for implementation of monitoring.

21. If the monitoring is held at vocational, higher or general education institution in order to check the vocational education programme's fulfillment of the standard envisaged by the Article 31(1)(b) of the Charter and this standard is evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements", the council makes a decision on cancellation of the right to implement the programme.

22. If a monitoring is held at the general education or higher education institution in order to examine the fulfillment of the authorization standards of vocational education institution, the council makes a decision on deprivation of a right of the general or higher education institution to implement the vocational education programmes if the general or higher education institution is evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements" in at least one of the authorization standards.

23. The term of administrative proceedings related to the implementation of monitoring is determined by 90 calendar days.

24. If during monitoring the institution does not cooperate with experts and/or does not provide an opportunity to confirm compliance with the standards, the evaluated standard will be evaluated as "does not comply with the standard requirements".

25. In the case of the presentation of the report defined by this article by the vocational education institution, the authorization council of the vocational education institution is authorized to accept the report as a reference or to apply to the Center for monitoring in the institution, which is reflected in the minutes of the council meeting.

26. Failure of the vocational education institution to submit the report envisaged by this article may become a basis of implementation of the monitoring.

Order No. 1 30/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 13, 2022 - website, 14.12.2022

Article 55. General basis for determination of the quotas of vocational students at the programme

1. The basis for determining the vocational students quotas is the number of places specified in the authorization application submitted by the vocational education institution to the Center or in the application for adding a vocational education programme.

2. Amount of vocational students quotas on the programme shall be determined as follows:

a) Upon making a decision on granting authorization – for the period of authorization;

b) In case of the addition of the vocational education programme – for the remaining term of the authorization.

3. Vocational education institution is authorized to accept students to the vocational education programme only within the number of places determined by the authorization council for this programme, except for the cases established by the legislation.
4. If a vocational education institution implements joint vocational education programmes, the number of vocational students enrolled in the programmes for each educational institution involved in the implementation of the programme is counted in the total number of vocational students established within the relevant programme.
5. Exceeding the number of vocational students quotas established within the scope of respective programme for the vocational education institution represents the basis for cancellation of the authorization, except for the cases envisaged by the legislation.
6. The council revises the application described in paragraph 1 of this article and considering the authorization expert panel's report and opinions of other stakeholders makes the respective decision by the votes of no less than 3/4 of the members attending the meeting. The council is authorized to either agree with the request of the institution or reduce the required number of vocational students. The council is responsible for providing arguments for its decision.

Article 56. Increasing the number of students at the vocational education programme

1. The basis for increasing the number of vocational students is the number of students indicated in the application on increasing the number of vocational students submitted to the Center by the educational programme.
2. Together with the application, the vocational education institution submits the document certifying the payment of the fee for increasing the number of vocational students.
3. Form of the written application on increasing the number of vocational students, to be submitted to the Center, shall be approved by the individual administrative- legal act of the Director of the Center and published publicly.
4. In the scope of administrative proceedings described in this Article, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on the establishment of authorization expert panel and site-visit to the educational institution.
5. Upon examination of the application and attached documents envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this article, considering the methodology for determining the threshold number of the students of the vocational education institution, based on the specificity of the programme and the resources of the institution, a draft report of the authorization expert panel is drawn up as a result of the authorization site-visit and submitted to the Center.
6. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report elaborated by the authorization expert panel with the requirements set by individual administrative- legal acts of the Director of the Center, which are defined by the Article 35 (3) and Article 41 (8) of the Charter. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, for ensuring the formal compliance with the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the draft report is returned to the authorization expert panel.
7. Within 10 calendar days from the acquaintance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the institution shall submit a written argumentative position about factual circumstances in the draft report to the Center, which is then sent to the expert panel and respective authorization council.
8. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 7 of this article, after its examination or in case of non- submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period

envisaged in paragraph 7 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the Center.

9. The Center sends the report elaborated by authorization expert panel to the institution.

10. The decision on increase of pupil, vocational student and student number is made in accordance with paragraph 6, Article 55 of this Charter.

11. The application on increasing the threshold number of vocational students indicated those vocational education programmes for which the educational institution desires to increase the threshold number of students.

12. The decision on increasing the number of vocational students or on the refusal to increase the number of vocational students shall be made within 90 calendar days after submission of a written application on increasing the number of vocational students to the Center.

13. While determining the number of vocational student at the vocational educational programme, the authorization council distributes the number of students at the programme in the following manner:

a) By the location of implementation (area owned by the institution);

b) By the form of implementation.

14. The number of vocational students at the programme is increased for the period of the remaining term of the authorization.

15. During the administrative proceedings related to determination of the vocational students' number at the vocational education programme, the terms established by the Article 32(2) and Articles 34 and 42 of this Charter shall apply, considering the characteristics of this article.

Article 57. The rules of procedure for determining the number of students to be enrolled at the educational programme

1. Number of students to be enrolled in the vocational educational programme shall be determined by the vocational education institution within the number of students established by the authorization council within the respective programme.

2. In order to calculate the number of vocational students to be enrolled at the vocational education programme, the number of active vocational students at the moment of an announcement on acceptance of students at the programme is subtracted from the threshold number of the vocational students determined for the vocational programme, then added the number of last year students at the moment of the beginning the study process, according to the data of the vocational education management information system.

3. For the educational institutions founded by the State/by the participation of the State that implement the vocational programmes and also for those educational institutions established by the form of the legal entity of private law that implement the vocational education programmes, which accept the students to the vocational programmes via vocational tests organized by the National Assessment and Examination Center, in order to calculate the number of students to be accepted to these vocational programmes, the dates for calculation of the number of active and last year vocational students shall be determined by the individual administrative act of the head of the LEPL Education Management Information System.

Article 58. Characteristics of establishing the compliance of the vocational education institution with the authorization standards

In the case of administrative proceedings envisaged by the Articles 52, 54, 56 and 62 of this Charter, the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center shall determine the list of those standards

within the scope of which the expert panel shall implement the examination of the vocational education institutions compliance with the authorization standards and prepare the report.

Article 59. Changing the number of vocational students for the vocational education institution upon the Center's initiative

The number of vocational students determined within the respective programme of the institution may be reduced upon the initiative of the Center based on the examination of the respective conditions of the institution, according to this chapter.

Article 60. Right to carry out vocational education programmes

1. General education institution is authorized to implement only basic and secondary vocation education programmes without creating an independent legal entity.
2. The higher education institution is authorized to implement any types of vocational education programmes without creating an independent legal entity.

Article 61. The precondition to implement the vocational education programmes

1. General education or higher education institution is authorized to implement the educational programme determined by Article 60 of this Charter only if it meets the authorization standards determined by this chapter for the vocational education institutions.
2. In case of willingness to acquire the right to conduct a vocational education programme determined by the Article 60 of this Charter, an applicant general or higher education institution/institution shall submit a completed form of self-evaluation of the vocational education applicant institution, all the necessary documentation and the payment confirmation document of the established fee, which is required for obtaining the right to conduct the vocational education programme.
3. The decision on granting the right to implement the vocational education programmes for the general and higher education institutions is made by the authorization council of the vocational education institutions according to the rules of procedure established by this chapter.
4. If the applicant that seeks the status of general education or higher education institution desires to obtain the right to implement the educational programme envisaged by the Article 60 of this Charter, the authorization council of the vocational education institutions makes the decision on granting/refusing the right to implement the respective educational programme envisaged by the Article 60 of this Charter only after the respective authorization council makes a decision on the authorization of the institution. Educational institutions are granted with the right to implement the educational programmes envisaged by article 60 of this Charter for the period of authorization term.

Article 62. The precondition for implementation of the secondary vocational education programme, where learning outcomes of the secondary level of general education are integrated

1. In order to add a secondary vocational education programme which has integrated the learning outcomes of the secondary level of general education, the institution shall address the Center. This programme is added according to the rules of procedure envisaged by Article 51 of this Charter, considering the characteristics of this article.
2. If the institution wants to implement a secondary vocational education programme which has integrated the learning outcomes of the secondary level of general education, then together with the programme, it

shall submit two curricula to the Center, where one of them ensures implementation of the vocational education programme considering the general modules integrated in it, while the other one - is without those modules.

3. If the institution which implements the secondary vocational education programme wants to implement this programme with integrated general modules, it shall address the Center with an application, the form of which is approved by the individual administrative- legal act of the Director of the Center and published publicly. The institution is obliged to submit the document certifying the payment of the respective fee.

4. In the cases established by the paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, the threshold number of the persons to be enrolled to the programme shall be distributed according to the curricula (curriculum, which includes integrated general modules/curriculum, which does not include an integrated general module).

5. The institution is not authorized to increase or reduce the number of persons to be enrolled according to the curriculum within the threshold number of the persons to be enrolled to the programme, except for the case established by the paragraph 6 of this article.

6. The institution is authorized to increase the number of students to be enrolled within the programme and the curriculum which does not include the integrated general modules. In this case, the institution is obliged to reduce the number of persons to be enrolled within the curriculum of the programme which includes the integrated general modules proportionally to the increased number.

Chapter IV

Authorization of Higher Education Institution

Article 63. The Authorization Standards for the Higher Education Institutions

1. The Authorization standards for a higher education institution shall refer to:

- a) Mission and strategic development of higher education institution;
- b) Organizational structure and management of higher education institution;
- c) Educational programmes;
- d) Staff of higher education institution;
- e) Students and their support services;
- f) Research, development and/or other creative work;
- g) Material, information and financial resources.

2. Each standard of the higher education institution authorization consists of the components, as follows:

a) The standard related to the mission and strategic development of the higher education institution includes the following components:

- a.a) HEI Mission;
- a.b) Strategic development.

b) The standard related to the organizational structure and management of a higher education institution includes the following components:

- b.a) Organizational structure and management;
- b.b) Internal quality assurance mechanisms;
- b.c) Observing principles of ethics and integrity;

c) The standard related to the educational programmes includes the following components:

- c.a) Design and development of educational programmes;
- c.b) Structure and content of educational programme;

- c.c) Assessment of learning outcomes;
- d) The standard related to the staff of a higher education institution includes the following components:
 - d.a) Staff management;
 - d.b) Academic/ Scientific and invited staff workload;
- e) The standard related to the students and their support services included the following components:
 - e.a) The rule for obtaining and changing student status, recognition of education, and student rights;
 - e.b) Student support services;
- f) The standard related to the research, development and/or other creative work includes the following components:
 - f.a) Research activities;
 - f.b) Research support and internationalization;
 - f.c) Evaluation of research activities;
- g) The standard related to material, information and financial resources includes the following components:
 - g.a) Material resources;
 - g.b) Library resources;
 - g.c) Information resources
 - g.d) Financial resources.
- 3. Authorization standards for higher education institutions are established by the Annex 3 of this Order.
- 4. Within the process of authorization of the higher education institutions, EU Agenda for the Modernization of Higher Education and the recommendations elaborated within the Bologna process, including the requirements of Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) shall be considered.

Article 64. Authorization application

- 1. The authorization application submitted to the Center for obtaining the status of the higher education institution shall be accompanied by:
 - a) Completed self-evaluation report of the authorization seeker, and related documents;
 - b) Certificate of payment of the authorization application examination fee;
- 1¹. In the case of indicating in the authorization application of the joint higher education programme envisaged by Article 49¹ of Law of Georgia on Higher Education, in addition to the documentations stipulated in the paragraph 1 of this article, the document that confirms an agreement with the Center about the draft agreement to be signed with the implementer institutions and the agreement signed between the implementers of the higher educational program, considering the agreed draft shall also be submitted in order to implement a joint higher education programme.
- 2. The documentation envisaged in paragraph 1 of this Article may be submitted to the Center through electronic document management system or in material form, while the documents attached to the completed form of self-evaluation will be submitted to the Center via electronic data carrier.
- 3. During each subsequent authorization, a higher education institution shall take into consideration the terms defined by paragraph 2 of Article 4 and Article 66 of this Charter during submission of authorization application to the Center for the continuity of educational institution status.
- 4. In order to facilitate the authorization process of the higher education institution with the support of the international expert, the Center will ensure translation of completed self-evaluation report and attached documents required by subparagraph “a” of the first paragraph of this Article submitted by higher education

institution status seeker into English language. Availability of English translations is a precondition indicated in the approved form of self-evaluation report.

5. In cases described in paragraph 4 of this Article, the Center sends the translated documentation to the higher education institution status seeker in order to ensure the quality control of the translation service. The higher education institution is authorized to inform the Center on translation-related reasonable comments within 10 (ten) calendar days after receipt of translations, otherwise, a higher education institution shall be deemed to have no comments regarding translations.

6. Higher education institution status seeker has a right to submit its own English translations of the documentation provided in paragraph 4 of this Article when submitting the application or after submission of the application within the term agreed with the Center in written form. In such cases, provisions set out in paragraph 5 of this Article are not applicable.

7. A higher education institution is responsible for accuracy and authenticity of translations in the case described in paragraph 6 of this Article. If during authorization process translation deficiencies affecting determination of the compliance of the higher education institution with the authorization standards are identified, the Center is entitled to issue an individual administrative-legal act on termination of administrative proceedings. In other case when distinguishing difference between Georgian and English texts of the documents, preference shall be given to the Georgian text.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 65. Self-evaluation of the authorization seeker

1. The purpose of the self-evaluation is to assess the readiness of the institution to obtain authorization.
2. The self-evaluation is carried out in accordance with the authorization standards.
3. Self-evaluation results are reflected in a self-evaluation report.
4. The self-evaluation form is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center and is public.

Article 66. Recognition of the authorization seeker

1. Within three working days, the Center shall verify the compliance of the documents attached to the authorization application with the requirements provided for by paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this Charter.
2. If the applicant fails to submit any of the documents listed in paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this Charter, the Center shall assign at least 5 and maximum 15 days to the applicant to rectify the deficiencies.
3. In the case of rectifying the deficiencies within the term set forth by paragraph 2 of this Article, the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on recognition of the applicant as a higher education institution status seeker while in the case of failure to rectify the deficiencies within the same time frame an individual administrative-legal act is issued on leaving the application without reviewing.
4. An individual administrative-legal act of the Center on recognition of the applicant as a higher education institution status seeker for authorization shall be issued no later than 20 calendar days after submission of the application or rectifying the deficiencies.
- 4¹. If necessary, the institution is entitled to submit changes about the information reflected in the self-evaluation form or/and about attached documentation to the center within 20 calendar days after receiving individual administrative- legal act described in paragraph 4 of this article. In addition, if the change considers the need for substitution of any document, the institution shall submit a written description / explanation of the changes together with the mentioned document. After expiration of this

deadline, changes to the information reflected in the self-evaluation form and in the attached documentation are inadmissible.

4². After expiration of the term envisaged in the paragraph 4¹ of this article, the changes made to the self-evaluation form and attached documentation shall not be taken into account.

5. If the authorization status seeker does not pay an authorization fee within 15 calendar days after getting familiar with the individual administrative-legal act about recognition as the applicant, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on termination of administrative proceedings.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 67. Experts Panel of authorization of higher education institutions

1. Authorization expert of the higher education institution must not be an employee of the Center, except for the cases when he/she is employed at the Center for less than 3 months within a calendar year to complete a certain amount of workload.
2. Authorization expert panel shall include experts of wide range of knowledge and experience that is relevant to the status and specifics of the institution.
3. The procedure for selection of authorization experts, their activities and the termination of membership of the experts' panel shall be approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center and shall be public.

Article 68. Creation of the authorization expert panel of the higher education institutions

1. Within 60 calendar days after payment of authorization fees, the Center issues individual administrative-legal act on creation of authorization expert panel and implementation of the authorization site visit at the higher education institution status seeker.
2. In case of the higher education institution status seeker, during formation of expert panel, the recommendations elaborated in the framework of Bologna process including the requirements of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) shall be taken into consideration; the expert panel includes the following members of the experts pool: administrative/academic personnel and a student of other higher education institutions, an international expert, as well as employers and other persons with relevant qualification.
3. If the higher education institution status-seeker indicates the regulated higher education academic programme in Medicine, the expert panel shall be chaired by an international expert who has field-specific competence.
4. The authorization expert panel is led by the Chair.
5. An authorization expert is obliged to declare the self-recusal, if he/she has a conflict of interest with the authorization seeker institution where the site visit shall be implemented.
6. The authorization seeker higher education institution is entitled to submit a recusal of the authorization expert(s) within 2 working days after receiving the individual administrative-legal act indicated in paragraph 1 of this article.
7. The institution is obliged to provide the evidence for the recusal of the authorization expert(s). The basis for the recusal can be a conflict of interest of the chair of the panel and/or panel member.
8. For the purposes of this Charter, a conflict of interest is considered the circumstances described in the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Expert Pool and/or in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

9. The Center shall review the claim on recusal within 3 working days. In case of satisfying the claim, the Center shall make a decision on changing the composition of the expert panel.
10. In case of not satisfying the claim on recusal of expert/experts, the authorization expert panel continues its activities in the same composition.
11. Duration of the visit, number of experts in the panel as well as volume and specifics of work to be undertaken is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center described in paragraph 1 of this Article according to the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Experts Pool.
12. The Center sends its representative to the authorization site visit in order to effectively implement the work of the expert panel within the framework of the law and ensure the use of unified approaches of the assessment.

Article 69. Examination of the completed self-evaluation report and attached documents of the higher education institution status seeker

1. The Center shall send the documentation envisaged by subparagraph "a" of paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this Charter to each member of the authorization expert panel within 7 working days upon expiration of the term defined in paragraph 8 of Article 68 of this Charter, while in the case envisaged by paragraph 4 of Article 64 of this Charter it shall send within 30 calendar days.
2. Chair of the authorization expert panel divides responsibilities among the members of the panel based on their competencies in order to ensure the review of self-evaluation report and additional documents and determination of compliance with the authorization standards.
3. Before the authorization site visit, the panel of experts reviews completed self-evaluation report and attached documentation, determines agenda of the site visit based on this information and agrees it with the Center. The Center takes into account the argumentative opinions of the institution in the process of agreeing on the site visit agenda. The Center sends the final version of the agenda to the higher education institution.
4. Within the scope of a preparatory meeting held before the authorization visit, the authorization expert panel draws up additional issues to be studied during the visit in order to compose a report.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 70. Authorization site visit

1. Chair of the expert panel is responsible for distributing duties between experts during the authorization site visit.
2. Member of the authorization expert panel participates in the work of the panel, ensures implementation of functions described in the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Experts Pool.
3. During the authorization site visit based on the agreed agenda, an authorization expert is obliged to thoroughly review all issues for elaborating a report, including interviews with stakeholders, requesting additional documents as needed, conducting visual inspection and if necessary, carrying out activities not covered by the agenda.
4. (Removed - 16.03.2021, №19/n).
5. The higher education institution shall support the authorization experts during implementation of the authorization site visit and preparation of the respective report, present them additional documentation

necessary for the aims of authorization and ensure interviews with the persons requested by the expert panel.

6. In the case of international expert's participation in the authorization expert panel, the Center takes responsibility to provide required translation services during the authorization site visit.

7. Authorization expert panel presents main findings to the authorization seeker institution on the last day of the site visit.

8. If the institution interrupts the authorization experts panel to implement its activities, the Center is entitled to issue an individual administrative-legal act about termination of the administrative proceedings.

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Article 71. Assessment of compliance of the higher education institution with authorization standards

1. Compliance with the authorization standards of a higher education institution is assessed by a four-level scale: "complies with standard requirements," "substantially complies with standard requirements", "partially complies with standard requirements," and "does not comply with the standard requirements"

2. A higher education institution "complies with standard requirements" if the institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard as "substantially complies with standard requirement" and is evaluated as "complies with standard requirements" in terms of remaining components.

3. A higher education institution "substantially complies with standard requirements" if the institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard as "partially complies with standard requirements" and no other component is evaluated as "does not comply with standard requirements".

4. A higher education institution "partially complies with the standard requirements" in the following two cases:

a) The institution is evaluated in relation to more than one component of this standard as "partially complies with standard requirements" and is not evaluated in respect of any other component as "does not comply with standard requirements";

b) The institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard (except for the components of the standard(s) under the sub-paragraphs "c" and/or "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Charter) as "does not comply with standard requirements".

5. A higher education institution "does not comply with standard requirements" if it is evaluated in relation to more than one component of this standard as "does not comply with standard requirements".

6. Paragraph 5 of this Article does not apply to the standards under the subparagraphs "c" and/or "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Charter, which implies that the HEI "does not comply with standard requirements" if it is evaluated in relation to at least one of the components of this standard as "does not comply with standard requirements".

Article 72. Definition of the four-level assessment scale

1. A higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as "complies with standard requirements" if the resources at the institution, established practice/system and achieved outcomes (in the case of a new higher education institution - estimated achievable outcomes) fully satisfy the requirements of the standard component.

2. A higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as "substantially complies with standard requirements", if the resources at the institutions, established practice/system mostly provides compliance with the standard component requirements and the institution

is able to demonstrate the relevant outcomes. However, the institution has areas for improvement and demonstrates readiness and has plan with respective resources in order to overcome them in short term period (no more than 1 year).

3. A higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as “partially complies with standard requirements” if the institution ensures satisfaction of component requirements on the basic level and has such areas for improvement that require mobilization of significant resources. However, the institution has a willingness and plan to provide adequate resources to overcome weaknesses in the medium term (more than 1 year but not more than 3 years).

4. The higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as “does not comply with standard requirements” if the institution with its existing resources or/and practice is not able to ensure the satisfaction of the standard component requirements at least at the level defined by paragraph 3 of this Article.

Article 73. Elaboration of the report

1. The authorization expert panel elaborates the draft report and submits it to the Center as a result of examination of the self-evaluation report, the attached documents and the authorization site visit.

2. The draft report describes the compliance of the institution with the authorization standards.

3. The Center defines formal compliance of the authorization expert panel’s draft report with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by paragraph 3 of Article 67 and paragraph 9 of Article 73 of this Charter. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution.

4. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel’s draft report, it shall be send back to the authorization expert panel.

5. A higher education institution status seeker submits an argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report in written form to the Center within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the authorization expert panel’s draft report. Then, it is sent to the expert panel and Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions.

6. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided in paragraph 5 of this Article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of an argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 5 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the Center.

6¹. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided for in paragraph 5 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel of experts or not.

7. In case of participation of an international expert in the authorization expert panel, the Center shall provide the translation service required for the finalization of the draft report and final version of the report of the panel. In case of difference between the Georgian and English texts, preference is given to the Georgian one.

8. The Center sends the authorization expert panel final report to the institution.

9. The form of authorization expert panel report and the requirements set for it shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. It shall be public.

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Article 74. Oral (Public) Hearing

1. Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions makes decision on granting authorization based on examination of the authorization documentation, authorization expert panel's report, argumentative position submitted by the institution on the expert panel's draft report and as a result of conducting an oral hearing.
2. Session of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions is convened by the Council Secretariat.
3. Interested parties are informed on the oral hearing no less than 7 days before the date of the oral hearing. The interested party participating in administrative proceedings shall be authorized to participate in oral hearing.
4. The hearing is led by the Chair of the Council, in case of his/her absence it is led by the deputy Chair, while in case of absence of both the Chair and the deputy it is led by a member of the Council selected through majority of attendees' votes. If the secretary of the Council is unable to perform his/her duties, such duties are carried out by one of the members of the Council, as requested by the Chair.
5. The session is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members, but no less than 3 members. In case of participation of invited members of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions, the Council is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members, but no less than 3/4 of invited ones. The number defined by this paragraph does not include the Council member, which has self-recusal and/or recusal towards the issue to be discussed.
6. The Council session is public. The Chair of the Council is authorized to announce the session closed in the cases envisaged by the legislation of Georgia.
7. Members of the authorization expert panel participate in oral hearing, while representatives of the Center and other stakeholders are authorized to participate in the discussion, as agreed by the Chair.
8. The Council can decide to invite other parties to oral hearings.
9. The Chair of the meeting is obliged to ensure examination of the case related circumstances at the oral hearing.
10. The stakeholders participating in the administrative proceedings are entitled to present a petition for further investigation of the circumstances that are important to the case.
11. The document of the status seeker institution that was drawn up after the authorization site visit, shall not be considered while making a decision at an oral hearing.
12. Minutes of the Council session is signed within 10 working days after the session by the signatures of the Council Chair and the Council Secretary. An individual administrative-legal act is issued signed by the Council Chair and Council Secretary based on the minutes of the Council session.

Article 75. Composition of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions

1. The term of office of the Authorization Council of Higher Education Institutions is two years. Permanent and invited members of the council shall be paid for their work (are given honorarium) from the Center's own revenues. Rules and amount of remuneration for the council members (for honorarium) shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center. The members of the Authorization Council are appointed and dismissed by the Prime-Minister of Georgia upon nomination of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia.
2. Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions consists of permanent and invited members. Invited members participate in the activities of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education

Institutions only if the authorization application submitted by the higher education institution status seeker indicates the regulated academic higher education programme provided for in subparagraph “b” of paragraph 2 of Article 75 of the Law of Georgia on Higher Education. Invited members of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions have the right to vote.

3. In selecting candidates for the members of the Authorization Council of higher education institutions, the requirements and criteria set by the World Federation of Medical Education in relation to the composition of the Council shall be taken into account.

4. Based on the specificity of the field, no more than 2 persons with right to deliberate vote determined by the council chair may participate during the council's decision making process.

5. Member of the council can have his/her term terminated before expiration based on the initiative of the Prime Minister of Georgia, or based on the following:

- a) Based on a personal statement;
- b) Upon the entry into force of court conviction related to him/her;
- c) In case of recognition as an entity with limited legal capacity or as a support recipient by a court, unless otherwise provided by the court's decision;
- d) In case of systematic absence from the sessions, if this hinders the work of the Council;
- e) In case of violation of the norms envisaged by Article 76 of this Charter.
- f) Based on the request of the Center or/and the ministry.

6. Termination of authority of the member of the Council before expiration of the term is confirmed by an individual administrative-legal act of the Prime Minister of Georgia. In case of termination of the mandate before the term, the Prime Minister, as recommended by the Ministry, appoints a new member for the remaining term of the previous member.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Order No. 64/n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated August 6, 2021 - website, 09.08.2021

Article 76. Rules and principles of activities of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions

1. The Council member shall be independent, objective and impartial in fulfilling his/her functions.

2. A member of the Council shall maintain neutrality in any situation and shall not be subject to the influence of interested parties, regardless of their status.

3. A member of the Council should not disclose any information and/or documents obtained during work situation, and shall not use them for personal interests.

4. A member of the Council should be focused on cooperation and shall not try to display privileged position. He/she shall not publicly doubt competence of experts, representatives of educational institutions, members of the Authorization Council, and members of the Appeal Council, even if he/she does not share their position.

5. A member of the Council is obliged to declare about conflict of interests with an institution and on self-recusal before the review of the case starts. Conflict of Interests could be any circumstance stipulated in the Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

5¹. In the event of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the council meeting.

5². The member of the council is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party - the institution- at the council meeting.

6. The organizational-financial support of the Council is ensured by the Council secretariat, functions of which are fulfilled by the Center. Composition of the Secretariat is defined according to the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

7. The secretariat sends the meeting agenda and the following documents to the Council members 7 calendar days prior to the oral hearing:

- a) Self-evaluation report of the authorization seeker and attached documents;
- b) Authorization expert panel's final evaluation report;
- c) An argumentative position on the draft report of the authorization expert panel submitted by an authorization seeker.

8. Before the oral hearing, with the purpose of full examination and assessment of all substantial issues, each member of the Council is responsible for reviewing documents described in the paragraph 7 of this Article. Member of the Council is entitled to request additional documents for reviewing the subject matter, and the Council is entitled to postpone the oral hearing for that reason, with consideration of remaining time frame of the administrative proceedings.

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Article 77. Decisions regarding authorization

1. The decisions made by the Council can be as follows:

- a) About granting the authorization;
- b) About refusing the authorization;
- c) About canceling the authorization.

2. The Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions is authorized to make a decision on restricting the higher education institution from admitting the students (including vocational students if it has right to implement vocational education programmes) within the process of the authorization of the higher education institution or examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the higher education institution.

3. Decision of the Council is made by at least 3/4 of the members attending the session. In addition, in case of participation of invited members of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions, the Council shall make a decision by no less than 3/4 of the attending members, from which the votes of the invited members should be no less than 3/4 of the invited members.

3¹. The decision referred to in paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article shall be made by the council on the basis of secret ballot. Furthermore, the minutes of the council meeting ensure publicity of the ballot results.

4. In case of making a decision described in subparagraph "a" of paragraph 1 of this Article, the Council is entitled to give recommendations to the authorization seeker institution.

5. A member of the Council is not entitled to refrain from voting.

6. The Council is obliged to substantiate its decision.

7. Within 10 business days upon making a decision, it is published on the web- page of the Center. Together with publication of the decision, a filled out form of the self-evaluation submitted by the institution and the report of the panel of experts are also published on the center's website.

8. In the case of an evidence-based argumentative position, the Council is authorized to determine the date when the decision envisaged by the paragraph 1 of this Article enters into force.

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Article 78. Amending the type of a higher education institution in the decision on the authorization of a higher education institution

1. University, which intends to continue activities with a status of a Teaching University or a College and, in accordance with the exiting law, implements educational programme/programmes compatible with the appropriate type of the institution of higher education - the Teaching University/College, for the remaining authorization term, is authorized to apply to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions with an argumentative solicitation on the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the decision on the authorization.
2. Teaching University, which intends to continue activities with a status of a College and, in accordance with the exiting law, implements educational programme/programmes compatible with the appropriate type of the institution of higher education - a College, for the remaining authorization term, is authorized to apply to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions with an argumentative solicitation on the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the decision on the authorization.
3. In the cases of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article, the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions shall make a positive/negative decision with regard to the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the authorization decision considering the solicitation of the University/Teaching University and the students' interests in accordance with Article 77 of this Charter. In case of a positive decision of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions, the educational institution is obliged to bring the documentation regulating its activities in full compliance with the amended type of the higher education institution.

Article 79. Decision on granting or refusing the authorization

1. The Council shall make a decision on granting authorization if the applying institution meets all the standards.
2. All standards shall be deemed to be satisfied if the Council considers that, in accordance with the rule defined by Articles 71 and 72 of this Charter, according to the four-level scale, a higher education institution status seeker “complies with the standard requirements”, “substantially complies with the standard requirements” or “partially complies with the standard requirements”.
3. Authorization is valid for 6 years.
4. In case of making a decision on authorization, the Council defines the threshold number of students allowed during the authorization term for the institution.
5. While being evaluated by the Council in compliance with the authorization standards, if the higher education institution status seeker:
 - a) is evaluated against all standards as “complies with standard requirements” or is evaluated against one of the standards as “substantially complies with standard requirements” and as “complies with standard requirements” with all other standards, the Council shall make a decision on the authorization of the institution.
 - b) is evaluated against more than one standard as "substantially complies with standard requirements" and against all other standards as "complies with standard requirements" or is evaluated against one of the standards as "partially complies with standard requirements" (except the standard(s) under the subparagraphs "c" or/and "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Charter) according to the subparagraph "a" of paragraph 4 of Article 71 of this Charter, and is not evaluated against any of the standards as "does not

comply with standard requirements", the Council shall make a decision on authorization of the institution and shall define the time-frame for submitting a report on fulfillment of the given recommendations, which is reflected in the minutes of the Council session;

c) is evaluated against more than one standard as "partially complies with standard requirements (except the standard(s) under the sub-paragraphs "c" or/and "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Charter) according to the subparagraph "a" of paragraph 4 of Article 71 of this Charter, and is not evaluated against any of the standards as "does not comply with standard requirements", the Council shall make a decision on the authorization of the institution and refers to the Center with the petition on implementation of monitoring at the institution (in 2 years), which is reflected in the minutes of the Council;

d) is evaluated against one of the standards as "partially complies with standard requirements" based on subparagraph "b" of paragraph 4 of Article 71 of this Charter and is not evaluated against any of the standards as "does not comply with standard requirements", the Council shall make a decision on the authorization of the higher education institution and on restricting the right of the admission of the students (including vocational students if the institution has the right to implement vocational education programmes).

e) is evaluated as "partially complies with standard requirements" against the standard(s) envisaged by subparagraphs "c" or/and "d" of paragraph 4 of Article 63 based on subparagraph "a" of paragraph 4 of Article 71 and is not evaluated against any of the standards as "does not comply with standard requirements", the Council shall make a decision on the authorization of the higher education institution and on restricting the right of the admission of the students (including vocational students if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes).

6. (Removed 16.03.2021, №19/N).

7. In case the Council makes the decision envisaged by the subparagraph "c" of paragraph 5 of this Article and as a result of the monitoring, if the higher education institution is still evaluated as "partially complies with standard requirements" against one of the standards, the Council shall make a decision for the higher education institution on restriction of the right of admitting the students (including F if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes).

8. The decision on refusal on authorization or the cancellation of authorization shall be made if the Council evaluates the higher education institution as "does not comply with standard requirements" against one of the standards.

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Article 79¹. The decision on submission of the report about fulfillment of the recommendations provided for the higher education institution

1. The term for submission of the report referred to in Article 79(5)(b) by the council shall not exceed one year. Countdown of the term for submission of the report starts from the day the decision enters into force.

2. A form of the report on fulfillment of the council's recommendations shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

3. Within 3 business days, the Center shall examine compliance of the report submitted by the institution with the requirements envisaged by the paragraph 2 of this article.

4. If the institution won't submit the report or the attached documentation referred to in the paragraph 2 of the article to the Center, the Center shall set at least 5 and no more than 15 business days for the educational institution in order to resolve the shortcoming.

5. In order to examine the report submitted by the institution according to the rule provided for by the paragraph 2 of this article, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on creation of the authorization expert panel.
6. The authorization expert panel shall be composed by the members of the expert pool - administrative / academic staff and student of other higher education institutions, the composition may also include a student, an employer and other persons with relevant qualifications.
7. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.
8. Upon request from the expert panel envisaged by the paragraph 5 of this article, the center is authorized to request respective documentation from the institution.
9. As a result of the examination of the report, as well as, of the documentation referred to in paragraph 8 of this Article, if necessary, a panel of experts shall draw up a draft report.
10. A form of the report on fulfillment of the recommendations submitted by the institution shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
11. The Center shall establish formal compliance of the report drawn up by the expert panel with the form envisaged by the paragraph 10 of this article. If necessary, in order to ensure formal compliance, the report is returned back to the authorization expert panel.
12. The report drawn up by the authorization expert panel shall be submitted to the council and also to the respective educational institution for introduction.
13. The report submitted by the educational institution and report of the authorization expert panel shall be reviewed at the council meeting. The Council is authorized to take a report as a note or address the Center for examination of the authorization conditions, with a motion on the implementation of monitoring at the educational institution, which will be reflected in the minutes of the session.
14. The decision envisaged by the paragraph 13 of this article shall be made within 90 calendar days after the individual administrative-legal act of the Center envisaged by the paragraph 5 of this article is issued.

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Article 80. The decision on restricting the right to the higher education institution of the admission of the students (including vocational students if the institution has the right to implement vocational education programmes)

1. The Council is authorized within the authorization process of higher education institution or in the process of inspecting (monitoring) of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions(s) by higher education institution, to make the decision on restricting the right to the higher education institution of admission of the students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) for at least 1 year as one time manner and for no more than 3 years, in the case of evaluations envisaged by subparagraphs “d” and “e” of paragraph 5 of Article 79 and paragraph 7 of the same Article of this Charter.
2. The higher education institution, which was restricted to admit students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) according to this Article, shall be authorized to submit a report on fulfilling the recommendations stipulated in the expert panel report and in the minutes of the Council to the Center in 4 months after the restriction enters into force. Based on this report, the Center shall implement monitoring within the term envisaged by the legislation.

3. If the higher education institution does not submit a report on fulfilling the recommendations stipulated in the expert panel report and in the minutes of the Council no later than established 4-month term, the Center shall implement a monitoring upon its own initiation.
4. As a result of the monitoring provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, the Council shall make the following decisions:
 - a) Terminate restriction of admission of the students for the higher education institution (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes);
 - b) Continue validity of the decision on restricting the admission of students for a higher education institution (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes);
 - c) Reinstate restriction on admission of students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) for the higher education institution;
 - d) Cancel the authorization of a higher education institution.
5. The form of the report referred to in the paragraph 2 of this article shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

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Article 81. Legal Consequences of the authorization of the higher education institution

As a result of authorization, the higher education institution shall be entitled to receive students in accordance with the procedure established by the law, except for the case under the Article 80 of this Charter, and to issue a certificate of qualification.

Article 82. The Specifics of the authorization

1. A status seeker of a higher education institution – University, is obliged to submit an application to the Center on accreditation of at least one doctoral educational programme within the period of 6 months after it is granted with authorization. If the university fails to submit such application for accreditation to the Center, or fails to get accreditation for any of its doctoral programmes, the Authorization Council, with the initiative of the Center, discusses the issue of termination of authorization, or in accordance with Article 78 of this Charter, based on the University's argumentative solicitation, discusses an issue of making amendments to the decision on authorization in terms of amending the type of this higher education institution. In this case, the University is authorized to submit an argumentative solicitation to the Center on the amending the type of higher education institution in the authorization decision after expiring 6-month term for the submission of the accreditation application defined under this paragraph or within a period of one month upon enforcing the decision on refusal of accreditation. The rule under this paragraph does not apply to the University that is already implementing doctoral educational programme at the time of submitting authorization application to the Center.
2. If a status seeker of a higher education institution - Teaching University indicates in the authorization application that in case of gaining authorization it will implement only that MA programme(s) that need to be accredited according to the Georgian legislation, the institution is obliged to submit an accreditation application for at least one MA programme within 6 months upon receiving authorization. If the institution fails to submit such application within the given time-frame, or fails to get accreditation for the MA programme, the Authorization Council, with the initiative of the Center, discusses the issue of termination of authorization, or in accordance with Article 78 of this Charter, based on the Teaching University's

argumentative solicitation, discusses an issue of amendments to the type of this higher education institution in the decision on authorization. In this case, the Teaching University is authorized to submit an argumentative solicitation to the Center on the amending the type of higher education institution in the authorization decision after expiring 6-month term for submission of the accreditation application defined under this paragraph or within a period of one month upon enforcing the decision on refusal of accreditation. The rule provided for in this paragraph does not apply to the Teaching University that already implements the programme provided for in this paragraph when submitting an authorization application to the Center.

3. If an authorization status seeker of a higher education institution indicates in the authorization application that in case of gaining authorization it will implement only those BA and/or MA programme(s) that require to be accredited according to the Georgian legislation, the institution is obliged to submit accreditation application to the Center for at least one educational programme within 6 months upon receiving authorization. If the higher education institution fails to submit the accreditation application to the Center within the given time-frame, or fails to get accreditation for all educational programmes, the Authorization Council, with the initiative of the Center, discusses the issue of termination of authorization. This rule does not apply to a higher education institution that implements any of the programmes provided for in this paragraph when submitting an authorization application to the Center.

Article 83. Legal Consequences of Refusal on Authorization and Cancellation of Authorization

In case of refusing authorization or cancellation of authorization:

- a) Higher education institution cannot obtain/shall lose the status of an educational institution;
- b) Students have the right to move to another relevant institution;
- c) Students shall have student status suspended for 5 years and are entitled to use mobility rights.

Article 84. Reorganization consequences of a higher education institution

1. In case of merger of authorized higher education institutions, the institution established as a result of the reorganization shall be deemed to have the shortest remaining term of the authorization period specified for the authorized reorganized institutions. If the expiration of the authorization period of one of the higher education institutions coincides with the reorganization period, the Authorization Council is authorized to determine a reasonable period of authorization for the higher education institution established as a result of the reorganization, which shall not exceed one year. The number of student quotas in the institution formed as a result of the reorganization is the sum of the numbers existing before the reorganization.

2. In case of division of the authorized institution, the institutions resulting from the reorganization are obliged to apply for authorization. In addition, the legal entity designated as a legal successor of the reorganized higher education institution, which aims at obtaining the right to carry out educational activities, is obliged to submit an authorization application to the Center within 5 working days after its establishment, and in this case it will be considered as an authorized reorganized higher education institution for the remaining period of authorization, but for not more than 6 months.

Article 85. Submission and assessment rule of a self-evaluation report of a higher education institution

1. For the purpose of monitoring the authorization conditions, a higher education institution is obliged to submit a self- evaluation report to the Center at least once in three years. Terms for submission of the self-

evaluation report shall be determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which will be published publicly.

2. The self-evaluation report can be submitted through the electronic document management system or in material form, at which time the accreditation self-evaluation report and the accompanying documentation are submitted to the Center via the electronic information carrier.

3. Submission of a self-evaluation report envisaged by this article shall not be obligatory for the following educational institutions:

a) the higher education institution which was granted with authorization based on the decision envisaged by Article 79(5)(c) of this Charter;

b) the higher education institution which was granted with authorization and where authorization conditions were examined based on the motion of the council according to the article 88 of this Charter.

c) the higher education institution which was granted with the authorization based on the HEI authorization standards that existed before the Authorization Standards of the Higher Education Institutions envisaged by the order N77/n of 5 May 2017 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on making amendments to the order N99/n of October 1 2010 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on Approval of the Authorization Provision and Fee of Educational Institutions entered into force;

d) the higher education institution, which is subject of administrative proceedings about an authorization application during the period of submission of the self-evaluation report envisaged by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center referred to in the paragraph 1 of this article.

4. The form of self-evaluation report is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is published publicly.

5. Within 3 business days, the Center shall examine compliance of the self-evaluation report submitted by the institution with the requirements envisaged by the paragraphs 2 and 4 of this article.

6. In order to examine a self-evaluation report, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on creation of an authorization expert panel and on evaluation of the self-evaluation report.

7. Composition of authorization expert panel created for the purposes of examination of the self- evaluation report includes members of the expert pool- administrative/academic/scientific/invited stuff of other higher educational institutions, also composition may include a student, employers. If HEI carries out a regulated educational programme the composition may include- also representatives of relevant regulatory body or/and professional association and other persons having relevant qualification.

8. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.

9. Based on the request from the authorization expert panel, the Center is authorized to request respective documentation from an institution.

10. As a result of the examination of the self-evaluation report, as well as, if necessary, of the documentation referred to in paragraph 9 of this Article, a panel of authorization experts shall draw up a draft report.

11. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report elaborated by the Authorization Experts Panel with the requirements set by individual administrative- legal acts of the Center Director defined under the Article 67(3) and (19) of this provision. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution.

12. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

13. Within 10 calendar days upon familiarization with the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the higher education institution may submit reasoned position related to factual circumstances stated in the draft report to the Center. The reasoned position is sent to the expert panel.
14. In case of submission of the reasoned position provided in paragraph 13 of this article, after its examination or in case of non- submission of the reasoned position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 13 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the Center.
15. In case of submission of a reasoned position provided for in paragraph 13 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the reasoned position is shared by the panel of experts or not.
16. The Center shall send the report of the authorization expert panel to the higher education institution within 90 calendar days after the issuance of the individual administrative-legal act of the Center provided for in the paragraph 6 of this Article.
17. The results of the assessment of the self-evaluation report provided for in this Article shall be used by the Center to facilitate the establishment of systematic self-evaluation process within the higher education institutions to facilitate the development of internal quality assurance mechanisms and planning of evaluative and supportive activities based on the needs of higher education institutions.
18. Failure to submit the self-evaluation report within the prescribed time-frame provided for in this article may serve as a basis for examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the higher education institution according to Article 88 of this provision.
19. The form of report of the Authorization Expert Panel and the requirements set by it shall be approved by the individual administrative- legal act of the Director of the Center.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 86. Rule of procedure for adding a higher education programme

1. Higher education institution is authorized to add academic higher education programme/programmes with written application submitted to the Center, except the regulated educational programmes, teacher training programme, Georgian language training and PhD programmes.
2. The application form to be submitted to the Center for the addition of the educational programme is approved by an individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be public.
3. An application to be submitted for addition of an educational programme shall include information on educational programme implementing personnel and relevant resources, also the information on internal mechanisms of quality assurance of the educational programme. Educational programme/programmes and syllabi shall be attached to the application as well.
4. In order to identify educational programme/programmes compliance with the authorization standards, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on establishment of authorization expert panel and the site visit to educational institution.
5. The authorization expert panel elaborates a draft report and presents it to the Center based on the examination of the application and the documentation attached submitted to the Center for adding the educational programme and according to the authorization site visit.
6. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by paragraph 3 of Article 67 and paragraph 9 of Article 73 of this Charter. Upon determination of the

compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel.

7. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the institution that desires to add an educational programme submits an argumentative position to the Center in written form related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the expert panel and to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions.

8. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 7 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 7 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center.

9. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.

10. If the educational programme meets the authorization standards, the Council by no less than 3/4 of the members present at the session shall make a decision on adding the educational programme, in accordance with the rules of procedure provided for by this Charter.

11. Decision on granting or refusing to grant a right to add educational programme shall be made within 90 calendar days after the application for the purpose of adding an educational programme is submitted to the Center.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 87. Amendments made by a higher education institution during the authorization period

1. If the higher education institution changes the study area or address, the institution is obliged to notify the Center upon this change in written form 30 days prior to commencement of implementation of its activities at the changed area/address, except for cases caused by urgent necessities, when the institution is obliged to inform the Center regarding the start of activity in the changed area/address immediately and provide documentation confirming the legitimate possession of the area.

2. In case the changes in the number of academic and scientific personnel has reached 20% since the moment of granting authorization to the higher education institution, the HEI shall notify the Center on the matter within 30 calendar days after such changes are made.

3. In case of any amendments in learning outcomes of educational programme, except for accredited educational programmes, the institution is obliged to notify the Center within 30 calendar days upon such amendments, and submit an educational programme as well as an act issued on implementation of the amendments.

4. In the case of implementation of the changes envisaged by the paragraphs 1-3 of this article, also in the case of failure to fulfill the obligations envisaged by the same paragraphs, the Center is authorized to examine the authorization conditions via monitoring according to the article 88 of Charter.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 88. Examination of authorization conditions via monitoring

1. Examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions by the HEI is carried out via planned and/or case-based monitoring.

2. Planned monitoring is done by mediation of the council and/or by initiative of the Center.

3. The methodology for drawing up the plan for planned monitoring, the criteria for selection of educational institutions, are approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
4. Annual plan for planned monitoring of the higher education institutions shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center , which shall be sent to the respective higher education institution within 10 business days after its publication.
5. Case-based monitoring is implemented by the mediation of the council, based on the complaint submitted to the Center about fulfillment of the authorization standards of the HEI and/or by the initiative of the Center.
6. The complaint referred to in the paragraph 5 of this article may be submitted to the Center by the interested person (a student, academic, scientific, invited or/and administrative staff and others) who believes that the authorization standards of HEI defined by this Charter are breached. In addition, the form of the complaint, the methodology for drawing up and reviewing the complaint shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
7. For the purpose of examination of fulfillment of authorization conditions, during implementation of the planned or/and case-based monitoring, the Center is authorized to request relevant documentation from the institution and/or issue relevant individual administrative-legal act on the creation of Authorization Expert Panel and/or on planned or/and case-based monitoring visit to the institution.
8. In the case of the Center's request of relevant documentation/information from the institution, if as a result of examination of the documentation/information an additional need for examination of fulfillment of authorization conditions is identified, the Center shall issue an individual administrative- legal act on the creation of Authorization Expert Panel and on planned or/and case-based monitoring at the institution by visiting or/and examining the documentation, while otherwise, the council terminates the administrative proceedings started about the monitoring based on the motion of the Center.
9. In the case of examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions via planned or/and case-based monitoring, the authorization expert panel shall include the members of the expert pool - the administrative/academic/scientific/invited staff of other higher education institutions, also it may include a student and employer. If HEI carries out a regulated educational programme the composition may include also representatives of relevant regulatory body or/and professional association and other persons having relevant qualification.
10. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.
11. An individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center on creation of the authorization expert panel and implementation of planned monitoring at the institution via visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at least 10 business days prior to the commencement of the process of visit/evaluation.
12. An individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center on creation of the authorization expert panel and implementation of case-based monitoring at the institution via visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at the time of commencement of the visit/evaluation process or at least 5 calendar days prior to commencement of the visit/evaluation process.
13. The matters of self-recusal or/and recusal of the expert/experts shall be regulated according to the paragraphs 5-10 of Article 68 of this provision. Using the right to recusal by the higher education institution does not hinder the implementation of the visit.
14. In case of establishment of authorization expert panel, authorization expert panel's draft report is elaborated and submitted to the Center.

15. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by the Article 67(3) and Article 73(9) of this Charter. In case of defining the compliance, the draft report is sent to the higher education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.
16. Within 10 calendar days upon familiarization with the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the higher education institution may submit argumentative position related to factual circumstances stated in the draft report to the Center. The argumentative position is sent to the experts panel and to authorization council.
17. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 16 of this article, after its examination or in case of non- submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 16 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the Center.
18. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided for in paragraph 16 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel of experts or not.
19. The Center sends the report of the authorization expert panel to the institution.
20. As a result of examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions, the council is authorized to make a decision on cancellation of the authorization if the institution is assessed in relation to one of the standards as "does not comply with the standard requirements", or the institution violates the norms of the education legislation in Georgia regarding the origin, suspension or termination of the student status of the higher education institution.
21. In the case of identification of a violation, the council is authorized to provide higher educational institution with reasonable period of no more than 60 days for resolution of the shortcoming, except for the case, when it is apparent that it may not have actual results.
22. In the case of failure of the higher education institution to fulfill respective recommendations within the terms defined under the paragraph 21 of this article, the council shall be entitled to make a decision on cancellation of the authorization in accordance with the rules of procedure envisaged by this document.
23. As a result of examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the HEI, in the case of the evaluation envisaged by the subparagraphs "d" and "e" of Article 79(5) of this Charter, also by the paragraph 7 of the same article, the council is authorized to make a decision envisaged by the article 80 of this Charter.
24. If the HEI manages to resolve respective shortcoming by more than 50% within the terms defined by the paragraph 21 of this article, and provided that none of the standards are evaluated as "does not comply the standard requirements", the council shall be authorized to set a term for the institution for submission of the report on fulfillment of the remaining recommendations or address the Center with motion on implementation of the monitoring. The rules of procedure for submission and review of the report envisaged by this paragraph shall be determined according to the Article 79¹ of this Charter.
25. If the examination of the authorization conditions establishes that the institution has fulfilled all the recommendations, the council shall make a decision to terminate the administrative proceedings related to the monitoring.
26. In the case of addressing the Center via motion on examination of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions, the council shall define the period for implementation of the monitoring, the form of the implementation of such monitoring and the scope of the monitoring.

27. Respective decision of the council on performance of authorization conditions by higher education institution shall be made within 90 calendar days upon issuing an individual administrative-legal act by the Director of the Center. The latter term is deemed suspended during the term determined by the authorization council for resolution of the shortcoming.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 89. General basis for determining the student quotas

1. Student quotas shall be determined by the authorization council according to this rule.
2. Student quotas shall be defined as follows:
 - a) Upon making a decision on granting authorization – for the term of authorization;
 - b) If the amount of student quotas is increased – for the remaining term of authorization;
3. Within the limits of the amount of student quotas designated by the authorization council, the higher education institution is authorized to accept students for the educational programme.
4. Student quota determined by the authorization council for a higher education institution also includes the quantity of the persons enrolled on educational programmes of teacher training and veterinary.
5. Exceeding student quotas set for a higher education institution shall be construed as the basis for the cancelation of authorization, except cases explicitly provided by law when the student quotas are exceeded in case of restitution of the student status or enrollment to a higher education institution through student mobility procedures.

Article 90. Determination of the student quotas

1. The basis for determining the student quotas is the number of places indicated in the authorization application submitted by the higher education institution to the Center or in the application for increasing the number of students.
2. The student quotas specified by a higher education institution in the application provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article, shall be based on the methodology for determining the student quotas in the institution, taking into account the specifics of the programmes and the resources of the institution.
3. The Council reviews the application described in paragraph 1 of this Article, and considering the report of the authorization experts panel and opinions of other stakeholders, makes respective decision by the votes of no less than 3/4 of the members attending the session. The Council is authorized to either agree with the request of the institution, or reduce number of requested student quotas. The Council shall substantiate its decision.

Article 91. Increasing the number of student quotas

1. A higher education institution is authorized to submit written application to the Center on increasing the student quotas.
2. Written application form on increasing the student quotas to be presented to the Center, is approved based on individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center and is public.
3. The Director of the Center issues an individual administrative-legal act on establishment of authorization expert panel and on the site visit to the higher education institution for the administrative proceedings described in this Article.
4. A draft report of the authorization expert panel is prepared and submitted to the Center after reviewing the application and the attached documentation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, considering the

methodology for determining the student quotas in a higher education institution which is based on the specifics of the programmes and the resources of the institution and as a result of the authorization site visit.

5. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative-legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by paragraph 3 of article 67 and paragraph 9 of article 73 of this Charter. In case of defining the compliance, the draft report is sent to the higher education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel.

6. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the higher education institution submits an argumentative position related to the factual circumstances in the draft report in written form to the Center. Then, it is sent to the expert panel and to the authorization council of the higher education institutions.

7. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 6 of this Article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 6 of this article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the center.

8. The Center sends the report elaborated by the authorization expert panel to the higher education institution.

9. Decision on the increase of student quotas is made in accordance with paragraph 3, article 90 of this Charter.

10. When making decision on increasing the student quotas, the Council is authorized to take into consideration that space of institution, which was under construction during the expert panel site visit, also, the certificates on possession of other material resources. If at the moment of admission of the students there are no relevant conditions, exceeding the number of existing quotas before the decision is made considering these conditions shall become a basis for cancellation of authorization according to paragraph 5 of Article 89 of this Charter.

11. Decision on approval or on refusal to increase the student quotas is taken within 90 calendar days upon submitting the written application on increasing the student quotas to the Center.

Article 92. Rule of procedure for determining the number of students to be enrolled to the higher education programme

1. A higher education institution determines the number of students to be enrolled to the educational programme within the number of student quotas established by the authorization council.

2. The calculation of the number of students to be admitted to the higher education programme as well as the number of persons to be admitted to the educational programmes of teacher training and veterinary is made in accordance with the registry data of the educational institutions, on the basis of number of actual (with active status) students and those graduating in the relevant year, as well as in accordance with the number of quotas established by the rule set by the educational institution under the law for the relevant year.

3. If according to the paragraph 2 of this article, the data on the number of places for the persons to be admitted by the higher education institution does not correspond the number of quotas established by the authorization council, the Center notifies respective higher education institution about this.

Order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 13, 2022 No. 1 30/N - website, 14.12.2022

Article 93. Changing the number of student quotas for the higher education institution by the initiative of the Center

The student quotas may be reduced under the initiative of the Center on the basis of checking relevant conditions of the institution, in compliance with this Charter.

Article 94. Implementation of a vocational education programme by a higher education institution

Issues related to the implementation of a vocational education programme by a higher education institution shall be governed by Chapter III of this Charter.

Chapter V

Authority and Rules of Operation of the Appeals Council

Article 95. Composition of the Appeals Council

1. Decisions made based on paragraph 1 of article 20, paragraph 1 of article 45, and paragraph 1 of article 77 of this Charter can be appealed by the authorization seeker/educational institution to the appeals council within one month after receiving such decision as stipulated in the law.
2. The members of the appeals council are appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister of Georgia. The term of office of the appeals council is set at two years. Members of the appeals council cannot be public servants, members of authorization or accreditation councils.
3. Members of the appeals council are paid for their work (are given honorarium) from the Center's revenues. Rule and amount of remuneration (giving honorarium) of the appeals council shall be determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
4. The appeals council is functionally independent from any educational institution and State agencies.
5. Termination of the mandate of the member of the appeals council before the expiration term takes place through the initiative of the Prime Minister, or:
 - a) On the basis of a personal statement;
 - b) Upon the entry into force of court conviction related to him/her;
 - c) If the court declares him/her incapable;
 - d) In case of systematic absence from the sessions, if this hinders the work of the appeals council;
 - e) In case of actions that are incompatible with implementation of mandate of the member of the Appeals Council;
 - f) In the case of employment in the structural unit of the educational institution that regularly ensures quality assurance;
 - g) Based on the request of the Center or/and the Ministry.
6. Termination of the mandate of the member of the appeals council before the term is confirmed by the individual administrative-legal act of the Prime Minister. In case of termination of the mandate before the term, the Prime Minister, as recommended by the Ministry of Education and Science, appoints a new member for the remaining term of the previous member.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Article 96. Rule of activities of the Appeals Council

1. Member of the appeals council shall be independent, objective and impartial in fulfilling his/her functions.

2. A member of the appeals council shall maintain neutrality in any situation and shall not be subject to the influence of interested parties, regardless of their status.
3. Member of the appeals council shall not disclose and use in personal interest the information and / or documentation obtained during the performance of his/her official duties.
4. Member of the appeals council should be focused on cooperation and should not try to portray himself/herself in a privileged position; he/she should not publicly doubt competence of an expert, member of the authorization council or other member of the appeals council, regardless he/she agrees with their position or not.
5. A member of the appeals council is obliged to declare about a conflict of interest with an institution and on self-recusal before the review of the case starts. Conflict of interest is existence of circumstances described in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.
- 5¹. In the event of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this article, the member of the appeals council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the appeals council meeting.
- 5². The member of the appeals council provided for in paragraph 5¹ of this article is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party- educational institution- at the Appeals Council meeting.
6. The secretariat of the appeals council is responsible for the organizational and financial support of the Appeals Council activities. Function of the secretariat is fulfilled by the Center. Composition of the Secretariat is defined according to the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.
7. The secretariat sends the meeting agenda and the following documents to the Council members 7 days prior to the oral hearing:
 - a) Appeal claim and attached documents;
 - b) Authorization documents;
 - c) A report of the authorization expert panel and argumentative position of the status seeker (if available);
 - d) Appealed decision.
8. Before the oral hearing, with the purpose of full examination and evaluation of all substantial circumstances regarding the case, each member of the appeals council is responsible for preliminary examination of documents listed in paragraph 7 of this Article. Member of the appeals council is entitled to request additional documents for better examination of the case.

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Article 97. The appeal

1. Appeal should be drawn up in written form and it shall indicate the following:
 - a) Reference to the appeals council;
 - b) Identity/Name, address and contact information of the person presenting the appeal;
 - c) Name of the Council decision of which is under appellation;
 - d) The title of the appealed resolution;
 - e) A request;
 - f) Circumstances on which the request is based on;
 - g) List of documents attached to the claim, if any;
2. Appeals Council does not review the appeal, if:
 - a) The appealed resolution is under a court proceeding;
 - b) The appeal is submitted by an unauthorized person;

- c) The term laid down in paragraph 1 of Article 95 of this Charter for submission of the appeal has expired;
 - d) The claimed issue is beyond the scope of the appeals council authority.
3. The appeals council makes its decision on accepting or refusing the review of the claim within 10 days after submission of the claim. The decision of the appeals council shall be signed by the Chair of the appeals council.

Article 98. Term for review of an appeal

The appeals council is obliged to review the appeal and make a relevant decision within 60 calendar days from receiving the appeal

Article 99. Oral (Public) hearing and decision-making

1. The Appeals council makes its decision on the basis of review of the appeal, the authorization documentation, the report of authorization expert panel, the argumentative position of the authorization seeker on the report (if available), appealed decision and based on oral hearing.
2. The session of the Appeals Council is convened by Chair of the Council.
3. Interested parties are informed on the oral hearing no less than 7 days before the date of oral hearing. Interested parties are authorized to participate in oral hearings.
4. The session is led by the chair of the council, in case of his/her absence it is led by the deputy chair, while in case of absence of both the chair and the deputy it is led by a member of the council selected through majority of attendees' votes. If the secretary of the council is unable to perform his/her duties, such duties are carried out by one of the members of the appeals council, as requested by the chair.
5. The session is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members of the list of appeals council, but no less than by 3 members. This number does not include member of the appeals council, which has self-recusal and/or recusal towards the issue to be discussed.
6. Sessions of appeals council are public. The chair of the session is authorized to declare session as closed in the cases envisaged by the legislation.
7. Experts of the authorization expert panel as well as representatives of the Center are entitled to attend oral hearing, and participate in oral hearing as well upon decision of the chair of the session.
8. It is possible to invite other person to the oral hearing by the decision of the appeals council;
9. Depending on the specifics of the field, a person designated by the appeals council can participate in the process of decision-making by the appeals council with a right to deliberative vote.
10. The Chair of the session is obliged to ensure the examination of the circumstances relevant to the case at the oral hearing.
11. The interested party has the right to declare a petition to investigate the circumstances relevant to the case, to provide oral or written explanations to the appeals council, to present additional evidence, to substantiate its claim or to reject the data, opinions or evidence on which the appealed decision was based.
12. The appeals council discusses only the documentation that was prepared prior to the appealed decision was made at the oral hearing.
13. The minutes of the appeals council is signed within 10 working days after the session by the signatures of the chair and secretary of the appeals council. Based on the minutes of the appeals council session an individual administrative-legal act shall be issued, which is signed by the chair and secretary of the appeals council.

Article 100. Participation of the authorization council that made the appealed decisions in the proceedings related to the appeal

1. If the appeals council receives an appeal, the appeal and copies of the attached documents shall be sent via secretary to the authorization council that made the appealed decision
2. The authorization council that made the appealed decision shall be authorized to submit its own written opinion on the appeal to the appeals council within 10 working days after receipt of the copy of the appeal.
3. The authorization council that made the appealed decision exercises the same rights in the administrative proceedings related to the appeal as those that were granted to the interested parties that participate in the administrative proceedings.
4. The authorization council that made the appealed decision shall be represented in the administrative proceedings, including at the oral hearing, by the chair of the council or by other member of the council upon consent of the chair.

Article 101. Decisions of the Appeals Council

1. Appeals council shall examine the appealed decision in respect of legality and expediency.
2. Appeals council shall make one of the following decisions by a majority of the members present at the hearing:
 - a) On sharing the decision of the authorization council;
 - b) On returning the issue to the authorization council for re-consideration.
- 2¹. The decision referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be taken by the appeals council on the basis of secret ballot. Furthermore, the minutes of the appeals council meeting ensure publicity of the ballot results.
3. A member of the appeals council is not authorized to refrain from voting.
4. Appeals council is obliged to substantiate its decision.
5. A decision of the appeals council is published on the webpage of the Center within 10 working days upon making it.
6. Appealing the decision of the authorization council at the appeals council does not result in suspension of that decision.

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Article 102. Legal Consequences of the Decisions of the Appeals Council

1. If the appeals council decides to support the decision of the authorization council, the interested party is entitled to appeal that decision in court in accordance with the rules and within the term established by law.
2. If the appeals council decides to return the issue for reconsideration to the authorization council, the respective authorization council shall review the issue according to the rules established by this Charter and make a decision within the term established by legislation.
3. If the appeals council makes a decision to return the issue for reconsideration to the authorization council, respective authorization council shall make a decision based on the documentation envisaged by paragraph 1 of Article 17, paragraph 1 of article 42 or paragraph 1 of Article 74 of this Charter, based on the appealed decision of the Authorization Council, based on review of the decision of appeals council and based on oral hearing.

4. Authorization seeker/educational institution can appeal the decision related to the authorization according to the rules of procedure provided by this chapter only once.

Article 102¹. The rules of procedure for review of complaints related to the authorization process

1. An authorization seeker educational institution or/and other stakeholder that participates in the authorization process shall be authorized to submit a complaint to the center about the authorization process within 10 calendar days after occurrence of a specific circumstance during the authorization process or after its completion, if the employee/employees of the center or/and the member/members of the expert panel violate the requirements established by this provision, by Article 12(3) and Article 35(3) and by the individual administrative-legal act of the center's director envisaged by Article 67(3) of this provision, by the Code of Ethics of Authorization and Accreditation Experts approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center's director or/and by the internal regulations of the Center.

2. A complaint which is submitted against the member/members of the authorization expert panel, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established individual administrative-legal act of the center's director envisaged by the Article 12(3), Article 35(3) and the article 67(3) of this provision.

3. A complaint which is submitted against the employee/employees of the Center, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established by the Center's internal regulations.

4. The form of the complaint envisaged by this article, the methodology for drawing up and reviewing the complaint shall be approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Chapter VI

Transitional Provisions

Order No. 36/N of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 18, 2020 - website, March 19, 2020

Article 103. Rules for implementation of some legal relations envisaged by the Charter during the transitional period

1. Functions-duties of the authorization experts of the general education/vocational education/higher education institutions, members of the Councils and members of the Appeals Council envisaged by this Charter may be implemented remotely by using modern electronic means of communication (if such thing is possible) except for the functions-duties to be implemented by the authorization experts within the proceedings related to the implementation of regulated academic higher education programme of Medicine before the session of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions.

1¹. During the transitional period, within the administrative proceedings related to the implementation of regulated academic higher education programme (MD programme) envisaged by Article 75(2)(b) of Law of Georgia "On Higher Education, the functions and duties of the authorization experts of the higher education institutions provided for by this provision may be implemented in a partially remote manner, which implies evaluation of the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories by the authorization experts (except for the international expert) through a site visit. In addition, this implies that an international expert/experts will evaluate the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories remotely via modern electronic communication means, which shall be technically ensured by the authorization seeker.

2. Transitional period is the period before the threat of New Coronavirus spread is eliminated.

Order No. 19/n of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated March 16, 2021 - website, March 16, 2021

Annex №2

Fees for the Authorization of Educational Institutions

Article 1. General Provisions

1. Amounts of the fees envisaged by this annex include factual administrative expenses (salaries, expenses for office and for council sessions), remuneration of authorization experts and expenses for business trips (if necessary), expenses for the services related to the examination of fulfillment of authorization conditions of the educational institution during the authorization period, VAT, amount of money from the Center's own revenues to be addressed to the State budget of Georgia and the pension contribution.

2. The fees envisaged by this Annex shall be paid as cash-free payment via transferring the funds to the bank account of the Center.

Order №88/ N of May 2, 2012, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 08.05.2012.

Order №99 / N of May 17, 2012, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 17.05.2012.

Order №112 / N of September 2 2015, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 02.09.2015

Order №90 / N of 8 August, 2016, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 09.08.2016

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Order No. 145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2022 - website, 30.12.2022.

Article 1¹. Fee for the Review of Authorization application

Fee for the review of authorization application is 500 GEL.

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Article 1². Returning back of the authorization fee

The authorization fee, except for the fee for reviewing the authorization application, is fully returned if the educational institution requests the termination of the administrative proceedings before the authorization expert panel is created.

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Article 1³. Authorization fee for a higher education institution status seeker

1. In case of being recognized as a status seeker for the authorization, the higher education institution pays the authorization fee, the amount of which is calculated according to the volume of work of the expert panel - number of people/days (minimum 20 and maximum 42 people/day).

2. The number of people/days provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined according to the following criteria, which have a corresponding share in the overall assessment (100%) and are broken down by content/quantitative indicators:

a) The type of the higher education institution - 1/10 share, from which:

a.a) College=30%;

a.b) Teaching university=50%;

a.c) University =100%;

b) Condition (Existing/New) - 1/20 share, from which:

b.a) new=70%;

b.b) existing=100%;

c) Requested student quotas - $\frac{1}{4}$ share, from which:

c.a) 1-500 = 60%;

c.b) 501-1500 = 70%;

c.c) 1501-4500 = 80%;

c.d) 4501-13500 = 90%;

c.e) 13501 and more=100%;

d) The number of higher education programmes specified - $\frac{1}{4}$ share, from which:

d.a) 1-20 = 60%;

d.b) 21-50 = 70%;

d.c) 51-100 = 80%;

d.d) 101-150 = 90%;

d.e) 151 and more=100%;

e) Number of academic staff – $\frac{1}{5}$ share, from which:

e.a) 1-50 = 45%;

e.b) 51-100 = 60%;

e.c) 101-150 = 70%;

e.d) 151-200 = 80%;

e.e) 201 and more=100%

f) Space - $\frac{1}{20}$ share, from which:

f.a) 1-5000sq.m=50%;

f.b) 5001-15000 sq.m = 60%;

f.c) 15001-40000 sq.m = 70%;

f.d) 40001-80000 sq.m = 80%;

f.e) 80001 and more sq.m = 100%;

g) The number of the addresses and location - $\frac{1}{10}$ of the share, from which:

g.a) at one address =0%;

g.b) at different addresses in one municipality=70%;

g.c) at different municipalities=100%.

3. According to the paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, according to the type of the higher education institution and the number of people/days:

a) for College status seeker:

People/Day	Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip	Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
20	23340	27441
21	23858	28378
22	24376	29315
23	24893	30252
24	25411	31189
25	25929	32126
26	26447	33063
27	26965	34000
28	27483	34937

29	28001	35874
30	28519	36811
31	29037	37748
32	29555	38685
33	30073	39622
34	30591	40559
35	31109	41496
36	31627	42433
37	32145	43370
38	32663	44307
39	33180	45244
40	33698	46181
41	34216	47118
42	34734	48055

b) for Teaching University status seeker:

People/Day	Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip	Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
20	29948	34050
21	30466	34987
22	30984	35924
23	31502	36861
24	32020	37798
25	32538	38735
26	33056	39672
27	33574	40609
28	34092	41546
29	34610	42483
30	35128	43420
31	35646	44357
32	36163	45294
33	36681	46231
34	37199	47168
35	37717	48105
36	38235	49042
37	38753	49979
38	39271	50916
39	39789	51853
40	40307	52790
41	40825	53727
42	41343	54664

c) for University status seeker:

People/Day	Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip	Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
20	32624	36725
21	33142	37662

22	33660	38599
23	34178	39536
24	34695	40473
25	35213	41410
26	35731	42347
27	36249	43284
28	36767	44221
29	37285	45158
30	37803	46095
31	38321	47032
32	38839	47969
33	39357	48906
34	39875	49843
35	40393	50780
36	40911	51717
37	41429	52654
38	41947	53591
39	42465	54528
40	42982	55465
41	43500	56402
42	44018	57339

4. If the higher education institution status seeker indicates that it desires to implement the regulated academic higher education programme in Medicine in the authorization application, the expenses for remuneration and business trips (if required) for the authorization experts with respective qualification shall be added to the authorization fee defined by paragraph 3 of this Article, these expenses shall be calculated by multiplying people/days calculated according to paragraph 2 of this Article by respective coefficients in a following manner:

People/Day	Coefficient (without a business trip)	Coefficient (In case of a business trip)
20	913.90	964.00
21	875.2857	927.4761
22	840.1818	894.3181
23	808.1304	864.00
24	778.7916	836.2083
25	751.76	810.64
26	726.8461	787.0384
27	703.7407	765.2222
28	682.2857	744.9285
29	662.3103	726.0344
30	643.6666	708.40
31	626.2258	691.9032
32	609.9062	676.4687
33	594.5454	661.9393
34	580.0882	648.2647
35	566.4571	635.3714
36	553.5833	623.2222
37	541.4054	611.7027
38	529.8684	600.7894
39	518.9487	590.4358

40	508.575	580.60
41	498.6829	571.2682
42	498.2619	562.3571

5. If the higher education institution status seeker indicates in the authorization application that it desires to implement vocational education programmes as well, a fee established for obtainment of the right to implement respective vocational education programme shall be added to the authorization fee determined by the paragraph 3 of this article. The amount of the additional fee shall be calculated according to the workload of the experts that is the number of people/days (minimum 8 and max 36 people/day).

6. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes. One and the same programme, to be implemented by one legal entity in different municipalities or in different languages, shall be considered as independent programmes for the purposes of fee determination.

7. The fee of application for acquiring the right to implement a vocational education programme is as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) In case of a business trip
1	8	10,449.00	14,030.00
2	10	10,722.00	14,550.00
3	12	10,995.00	15,070.00
4	14	11,268.00	15,591.00
5	16	11,540.00	16,111.00
6	18	11,813.00	16,632.00
7	20	12,086.00	17,152.00
8	22	12,359.00	17,672.00
9	24	12,632.00	18,193.00
10	26	12,905.00	18,713.00
11	28	13,178.00	19,234.00
12	30	13,451.00	19,754.00
13	32	13,724.00	20,274.00
14	34	13,997.00	20,795.00
15	36	14,270.00	21,315.00

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Article 14. Authorization fee for the vocational education institution status seeker

1. In case of being recognized as a seeker of the authorization, the vocational education institution status seeker shall pay the authorization fee and the amount shall be calculated according to the volume of the workload of the expert panel that is the number of people/days (minimum 6 and maximum 34 people/day).

2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes. The one and the same programme implemented by one legal entity in

different municipalities or in different languages is considered as an independent programme for the purpose of determining the fee.

3. Authorization fee for the vocational education institution status seeker equals to the following:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) In case of a business trip
1	6	8,658.00	13,745.00
2	8	8,931.00	14,265.00
3	10	9,204.00	14,786.00
4	12	9,477.00	15,306.00
5	14	9,750.00	15,826.00
6	16	10,022.00	16,347.00
7	18	10,295.00	16,867.00
8	20	10,568.00	17,388.00
9	22	10,841.00	17,908.00
10	24	11,114.00	18,428.00
11	26	11,387.00	18,949.00
12	28	11,660.00	19,469.00
13	30	11,933.00	19,990.00
14	32	12,206.00	20,510.00
15	34	12,479.00	21,030.00

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020

Article 1⁵ Authorization fee for the general education institution status seeker

1. In case of recognition of the general education institution as a status seeker, the general education institution pays the authorization fee in the following amount:

a) 5,533.00 GEL, without the need for a business trip, and 7,679.00 GEL, in case of the need for a business trip, only in the case of implementation of the educational programme of primary level;

b) 6533.00 GEL, without the need for a business trip and 9599.00 GEL, in case of the need for a business trip only in case of implementation of only basic or only secondary level educational programme;

c) 7533.00 GEL without the need for a business trip and 12133.00 GEL, in case of the need for a business trip only in case of implementation of educational programmes of only primary and basic or only primary and secondary levels;

d) 9199.00 GEL, without the need for a business trip, and 14719.00 GEL, in case of the need for a business trip, in case of implementation of educational programmes of basic and secondary levels only;

e) 10,199.00 GEL, without the need for a business trip, and 17,253.00 GEL, in case of the need for a business trip, in case of implementation of the educational programme of all levels of general education.

2. In addition to what is provided for in the first paragraph of this article, for each additional educational programme, the fee provided for in the first paragraph of this article is added to the fee provided for in the 7th paragraph of Article 17 of this annex in accordance with the type of program;

3. (Removed - 29.12.2022, №145/n).

4. If the higher education institution status seeker indicates in the authorization application that it desires to implement vocational education programmes as well, a fee established for obtainment of the right to implement respective vocational education programme shall be added to the authorization fee determined by the paragraph 3 of this article. The amount of the additional fee shall be calculated according to the workload of the experts that is the number of people/days (minimum 8 and max 36 people/day).

5. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes. One and the same programme, to be implemented by one legal entity in different municipalities or in different languages, shall be considered as independent programmes for the purposes of fee determination.

6. The fee of application for acquiring the right to implement a vocational education programme is as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	8	10,091.00	12,716.00
2	10	10,364.00	13,237.00
3	12	10,636.00	13,757.00
4	14	10,909.00	14,278.00
5	16	11,182.00	14,798.00
6	18	11,455.00	15,318.00
7	20	11,728.00	15,839.00
8	22	12,001.00	16,359.00
9	24	12,274.00	16,880.00
10	26	12,547.00	17,400.00
11	28	12,820.00	17,920.00
12	30	13,093.00	18,441.00
13	32	13,366.00	18,961.00
14	34	13,638.00	19,482.00
15	36	13,911.00	20,002.00

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Article 1⁶. Fee for obtaining the right to implement a vocational education programme

1. The general education institution or higher education institution which desires to obtain the right to implement vocational education programmes in addition to general education/higher education programmes, shall pay a fee which is calculated according to the workload of the experts that is the number of people/day (minimum 8 and max 36 people/day).

2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes; the amount of fee for the higher education institutions shall be defined according to paragraphs 6 and 7 of Article 1³, while for general education institutions shall be defined according to paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 1⁵.

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Article 17. Fee for adding an educational programme

1. The higher education institution intending to add the relevant academic higher education programme/programmes, pays a fee, the amount of which is calculated according to the volume of workload of the expert panel that is the number of people/days.

2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of academic higher education programmes and the fee equals to the following:

People/Day	The Number of Academic Higher Education Programmes	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
9	1	2441	3217
12	2	2943	4334
15	3/4	3445	5451

3. Adding a vocational education programme shall be the case when an institution with the right to implement a vocational education programme requests to obtain right to implement such vocational education programme for which it does not have the right to implement or when it requests to obtain right to implement the vocational education programme at other municipalities or different languages for which it already has the right to implement.

4. The fee for adding each vocational education programme by a general education institution is 2,502.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip is needed.

5. The fee for adding each vocational education programme by a vocational education institution is 2,229.00 GEL without a business trip and 3,272.00 GEL in case of a business trip is needed.

6. The fee for adding each vocational education programme by a higher education institution is 2,570.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,122.00 GEL in case a business trip is needed.

7. Fees for the general education institution is:

a) 3841.00 GEL for the adding of the elementary level educational programme without the need for a business trip, and 5988.00 GEL if a business trip is needed;

b) 4841.00 GEL for the adding of the basic level educational programme without the need for a business trip, and in case of the need for a business trip, 7908.00 GEL;

c) 4841.00 GEL for the adding of the secondary education programme without the need for a business trip, and 7908.00 GEL if a business trip is needed.

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Order No. 145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2022 - website, 30.12.2022.

Article 1⁸. Fee for increasing the number of school students/vocational students/students quotas

1. A general educational institution that wants to increase the total number of places for students or to increase the number of places for students in a separate programme pays a fee of 3841.00 GEL without the need for a business trip, and 5988.00 GEL if a business trip is needed.

2. (Removed - 29.12.2022, №145/n).

3. (Removed - 29.12.2022, №145/n).

4. The general education institution that intends to increase the number of student quotas shall pay a fee, the amount of which is calculated according to the volume of workload of the expert panel - the number of people/days.

5. The number of people/days provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined according to the following criteria, which have a corresponding share in the overall assessment (100%) and are broken down by content/quantitative indicators:

a) The required number of students by which the institution intends to increase the student quotas - 1/5 share, from which:

a.a) 1-100 = 60%;

a.b) 101-150 = 70%;

a.c) 151-500 = 80%;

a.d) 501-1000 = 90%;

a.e) 1001-and more = 100%;

b) Number of personnel conducting educational programmes - 1/3.33 share, from which:

b.a) 1-20 = 45%;

b.b) 21-50 = 60%;

b.c) 51-100 = 70%;

b.d) 101-150 = 80%;

b. e) 151-and more = 100%;

c) The number of the addresses and location - 1/3.33 of the share, from which:

c. a) at one address = 35%;

c. b) different addresses in one municipality = 70%;

c. c) in different municipalities = 100%;

d) Space - 1/5share, from which:

d. a) 1-500 sq.m.= 50%;

d. b) 501-1500 sq.m. = 60%;

d. c) 1501-3000 sq.m = 70%;

d. d) 3001-5000 sq.m. = 80%;

d. e) 5001-and more sq.m. = 100%.

6. In accordance with the paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article, according to the number of people/ days, the authorization fee consists of the following:

People/Day	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
12	3844	4827
13	4013	5189
14	4182	5550
15	4351	5911
16	4520	6272
17	4689	6633
18	4857	6995
19	5026	7356
20	5195	7717
21	5364	8078
22	5533	8439
23	5702	8801
24	5871	9162

7. An educational institution that considers to increase the marginal number of vocational student quotas on a vocational education programme, shall pay a fee that consists as follows:

- a) 2,229.00 GEL without a business trip and 3,272.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the vocational education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each programme;
- b) 2570.00 GEL without a business trip and 4122.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the higher education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each programme;
- c) 2,502.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the general education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each programme;

8. One and the same programme to be implemented by one legal entity in different municipalities or in different languages, for the purposes of determining the fee envisaged by the paragraph 7 of this Article shall be considered as independent programme.

Order №07 / N of January 31, 2018, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 31.01.2018

Order №106/M issued on June 13, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 14.06.2019

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Order No. 145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2022 - website, 30.12.2022.

Article 1⁹. Fee for submitting a report on the removal of the restrictions on the right of admission of the students (including vocational students if a higher education institution has the right to implement vocational programmes) for the higher education institution

The fee for submission of a report on the removal of the restriction on the right of admission of the students (including vocational students if a higher education institution has the right to implement vocational

programmes) for the higher education institution, based on which the process of examination (monitoring) of the fulfillment of authorization conditions shall be implemented is calculated according to the number of people/days and equals:

People/Days	Fee (GEL) for examining (monitoring) the fulfillment of the authorization conditions without a business trip	Fee (GEL) for examining (monitoring) the fulfillment of the authorization conditions in case of a business trip
20	3650	5406
21	3817	5754
22	3984	6100
23	4151	6447
24	4318	6793
25	4486	7140
26	4653	7486
27	4820	7834
28	4987	8181
29	5155	8527
30	5322	8874
31	5489	9220
32	5656	9567
33	5823	9914
34	5991	10261
35	6158	10607
36	6325	10954
37	6492	11300
38	6660	11647
39	6827	11995
40	6994	12341
41	7161	12688
42	7328	13034

Order №106/M issued on June 19, 2019 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 19.06.2019

Article 1¹⁰. Fee for changing the place/space for the implementation of a vocational education programme

1. An educational institution considering to change the place/space for the implementation of a vocational education programme shall pay a fee for each change made in each municipality, that comprises the following:

- a) for a general education institution - 2,502.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip;
- b) for a vocational education institution - 2,229.00 GEL without a business trip and 3,272.00 GEL in case of a business trip;

c) for a higher education institution - 2,570.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,122.00 GEL in case of a business trip;

2. If the change of place/space for implementation of a vocational education programme is conditioned from the increase of student quotas, the respective educational institution shall only pay the fee for the increase of the number of a marginal number of vocational student quotas.

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Article 1¹¹. Fee for changing the place/space for implementation of a general education programme

The fee for changing a place/space for the implementation of a general education programme in each municipality is 3841.00 GEL without a business trip and 5988.00 GEL in case of a business trip.

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Order No. 145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2022 - website, 30.12.2022.

Article 1¹². Fee for examination of the conditions of authorization through monitoring initiated by an educational institution

1. An institution with the right to implement a vocational education programme, which intends to check the conditions of authorization through monitoring on its own initiative, pays a fee, the amount of which is calculated according to the volume of workload of the expert panel - the number of people/days.

2. The amount of the fee shall be determined according to the type of the institution and number of programmes in amount determined by the paragraphs 6-7 of Article 1³, paragraphs 2-3 of Article 1⁴ and paragraphs 5-6 of Article 1⁵ of this Annex.

3. A general educational institution, which intends to check the conditions of authorization through monitoring on its own initiative, pays fee, the value of which is as follows:

a) 3841.00 GEL without the need for a business trip and 5988.00 GEL in case of the need for a business trip only in case of examining the conditions of authorization of the primary level educational programme;

b) 4841.00 GEL without the need for a business trip and 7908.00 GEL if a business trip is needed in case of implementation of only the basic or only the secondary level educational programme;

c) 5841.00 GEL without the need for business trips and 10441.00 GEL in case of the implementation of educational programmes of only primary and basic or only primary and secondary levels;

d) 7508.00 GEL without the need for a business trip and 13028.00 GEL in case of the need for a business trip only in case of implementation of educational programmes of only basic and secondary levels;

e) 8508.00 GEL without the need for a business trip and 15561.00 GEL if the educational programme of all levels of general education is implemented.

Article 1¹³. Fee for monitoring the authorization conditions, based on the petition of the Council

1. The education institution where the monitoring is conducted based on the petition of the authorization council of the vocational education institutions shall pay the fee and the amount shall be calculated by the workload of the expert panel - people/day number.

2. Fee for monitoring the authorization conditions in a general education institution, based on the petition of the authorization council of the vocational education institutions in each municipality, shall amount to as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	6	2,321.00	3,365.00
2	10	2,594.00	3,885.00
3	12	2,867.00	4,405.00
4	14	3,140.00	4,925.00
5	16	3,413.00	5,446.00
6	18	3,686.00	5,966.00
7	20	3,959.00	6,487.00
8	22	4,232.00	7,007.00
9	24	4,505.00	7,527.00
10	26	4,777.00	8,048.00

3. Fee for conducting a monitoring at vocational education institution based on the petition of the authorization council of the vocational education institutions for each municipality shall amount to as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	6	2,048.00	3,092.00
2	10	2,321.00	3,612.00
3	12	2,594.00	4,133.00
4	14	2,867.00	4,653.00
5	16	3,140.00	5,173.00
6	18	3,413.00	5,694.00
7	20	3,686.00	6,214.00
8	22	3,959.00	6,735.00
9	24	4,232.00	7,255.00
10	26	4,505.00	7,775.00

4. Fee for conducting a monitoring at the higher education institution based on the petition of the authorization council of the vocational education institutions for each municipality shall amount to as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without the need for a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	6	2,458.00	3,501.00
2	10	2,731.00	4,022.00
3	12	3,004.00	4,542.00
4	14	3,276.00	5,062.00
5	16	3,549.00	5,583.00
6	18	3,822.00	6,103.00
7	20	4,095.00	6,624.00
8	22	4,368.00	7,144.00
9	24	4,641.00	7,664.00
10	26	4,914.00	8,185.00

5. A general education institution, in which monitoring is conducted based on the request of the general education institutions authorization council, pays a fee, which will be calculated as follows: without the need for a business trip, the number of person/days of the work volume of the authorization expert panel of the general education institution multiplied by 167.00 GEL per person/day shall be added to 2175.00 GEL. And, in case of the need for a business trip, the number of person/days of the work volume of the authorization expert panel of the general education institution multiplied by 320.00 GEL per person/day shall be added to 2788.00 GEL. The number of person/days is determined in accordance with the specifics and content of monitoring, by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center on the implementation of monitoring.

Order No. 25/N of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated February 11, 2020 - website, 12.02.2020

Order No. 145/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 29, 2022 - website, 30.12.2022.

Article 1¹⁴. Fee for obtaining the right to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme

The educational institution which desires to obtain the right to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme, shall pay the fee of following amount for each vocational education programme:

- 2,502.00 GEL for a general education institution without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip;
- 2,229.00 GEL for a vocational education institution without a business trip and 3,272.00 GEL in case of a business trip;
- 2,570.00 GEL for a higher education institution without a business trip and 4,122.00 GEL in case of a business trip;

Order No. 25/N of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated February 11, 2020 - website, 12.02.2020

Article 1¹⁵. Fee for expedited services for adding a vocational education programme, for increasing the marginal number of vocational student quotas, for changing the place/space of programme implementation, for obtaining the right to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme

An educational institution which desires to add respective vocational education programme/programmes, to increase the marginal number of vocational student quotas, to change the place/space for the implementation of programmes, to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme via expedited services (no later than in 45 working days) shall pay the fee within each administrative proceeding the amount of which is double the fee determined for respective service envisaged by this Annex.

Order №25/M issued on February 11, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 12.02.2020.

Article 2. Transitional Provisions

1. An accredited higher education institution that decide to change the status before November 1, 2012 and submit an authorization application to the Center to obtain the status of a professional or community college are free from paying the authorization fee.

2. An institution, which presented a self-evaluation report of 2010 at LEPL- National Center for Education Accreditation is authorized to present additional new educational programmes or modify existing programmes till February 1, 2011, for implementation of the vocational education programme. An institution is obliged to pay the fee stipulated in paragraph 4 of Article 1 of this Annex.

3. Vocational colleges and general education institutions for implementing vocational education programmes are authorized to present a self-evaluation report of 2010 at LEPL National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, before February 1, 2011. A general education institution is obliged to pay the fee stipulated in paragraph 3 of Article 1 of this Annex.

4. For the purpose of adding (through presenting the self- assessment report) the vocational education programme(s) in 2015 created on the basis of the vocational education programme framework document, the self-evaluation report should be presented by the educational institution at the Center within August 10 to August 31, 2015. In the mentioned period the fee defined by subparagraph 4¹ of paragraph 2, Article 1 of this annex, shall be covered from the budget of the "Vocational Qualifications Development Programme" approved by the Order No 3 of January 5, 2015, of the Director of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.

5. For the purpose of adding (through presenting the self-evaluation report) in 2016 the vocational educational programme(s) created on the basis of the vocational education programme framework document, the self-evaluation report should be presented by the educational institution at the Center within March 1 to March 5, 2016. In the mentioned period the fee defined by subparagraph 4¹, Article 1 of this annex, shall be covered from the assignments allocated by the Law of Georgia "on State Budget of Georgia of 2016" for the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.

6. Except of the case envisaged in paragraph 5 of this Article, for the purpose of adding (through presenting the self-evaluation report) the vocational educational programme(s) created in 2016 on the basis of the vocational educational programme framework document, the self-evaluation report should be presented by the educational institution at the Center from August 15 to August 30 2016. In the mentioned period, the fee defined by paragraph 4¹ of Article 1 of this annex, shall be covered from appropriations allocated for the Center under the Law of Georgia "on the State Budget of Georgia of 2016" for those vocational educational program/programmes created on the basis of the framework document, for adding purposes of which administrative proceedings are held for the first time in the Center.

7. The higher education institution that decides to change its status and submits an authorization application to the Center before January 1, 2018 to obtain the status of a professional or community college will be exempted from paying the authorization fee.

8. The Center is authorized to conduct relevant administrative proceedings within 45 working days on the basis of submitted applications from February 13, 2020 to June 12, 2020 within the scope of services provided for in Article 115 of the "Educational Institutions Authorization Fee" (Annex N2) approved by paragraph 2 of this order without paying the fee established for expedited service, based on the payment of the standard fee stipulated in the "Educational Institutions Authorization Fee" (Annex N2) approved by paragraph 2 of this order.

Order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated December 10, 2010 No. 118/N - SSM III, No. 162, 13.10.2010, Article 294

Order No. 6/n of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated January 27, 2011 - website, 28.01.2011

Order No. 70/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated July 10, 2015 - website, 10.07.2015.

Order No. 19/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated February 29, 2016 - website, 29.02.2016.

Order No. 90/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated August 8, 2016 - website, August 9, 2016.

Order No. 180/N of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia dated October 13, 2017 - website, 16.10.2017

Order No. 65/N of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia dated June 22, 2020 - website, 22.06.2020