



# DECREE

## OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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May 5, 2025

No. PD-76

### **On additional measures to ensure the quality of education and to improve the system of provision of educational services**

With a view to introducing a system for evaluating educational and research processes in educational organisations on the basis of international standards and enhancing the quality of personnel training, **I hereby decree:**

#### **I. Purpose**

1. The principal purpose of this Decree shall be to establish mechanisms for the external evaluation of the activities of educational and research organisations and to enhance the quality of educational services provided.

#### **II. Reforming the system of external assessment of the quality of education**

2. The National Quality Assurance Agency for Education under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter — the Agency) shall be established on the basis of the Project Office “Centre for Projects in the Field of Education”.

It shall be established that the Agency shall be a specially authorised state body responsible for carrying out external quality control in the fields of secondary specialised, vocational, higher and postgraduate education, as well as retraining and advanced training of personnel and qualifications assessment.

3. The following shall be approved:

**the principal areas of activity of the Agency** in accordance with Annex 1;

**the procedure for organising the activities of the Agency** in accordance with Annex 2.

#### **III. Ensuring the quality of education**

4. It shall be established that the Agency shall carry out external evaluation of education quality in the following forms:

(a) conduct institutional and program **state accreditation** of organisations providing secondary specialised, vocational, higher and postgraduate education, as well as retraining and advanced training of personnel (hereinafter — educational

organisations), irrespective of their departmental subordination and organisational-legal form. In this regard:

- (i) **institutional state accreditation** shall be conducted **every five years** on the basis of the results of external evaluation of educational organisations;
  - (ii) **program state accreditation** shall be conducted **prior to the commencement of the educational process** under educational programmes for which personnel training is being introduced;
- (b) conduct off-schedule review of an educational organisation based on **risk analysis** (appeals, deficiencies identified through surveys, materials from mass media and social networks, and other reliable information). In this regard:
- (i) where deficiencies are identified in the course of risk analysis, the Agency shall issue a submission to the educational organisation and establish a time limit for rectification of the deficiencies;
  - (ii) failure to eliminate deficiencies within the established time limit shall constitute **grounds for conducting an extraordinary institutional state accreditation of the educational organisation**, and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation shall be notified accordingly.

In this case, elimination of deficiencies indicated in the Agency's submission based on the results of state accreditation and risk analysis **shall be mandatory** for educational organisations;

- (v) maintain the **national ranking** of educational organisations on the basis of comparative assessment of the quality of educational and research processes;
  - (g) conduct a **Nationwide Employers' Survey** for the purpose of assessing the knowledge and skills of graduates of educational organisations and examining their compliance with the requirements of the modern labour market;
  - (d) conduct a **Nationwide Student Survey** aimed at studying the opinions of pupils and students of educational organisations regarding the quality of education.
- 5.** The following procedure shall be established whereby:
- (a) state accreditation of educational organisations shall be carried out on a **fee-paid basis**, and the funds received therefrom shall be allocated to cover expenses related to the conduct of accreditation (including remuneration of engaged specialists);
  - (b) the Agency shall establish requirements for **international, foreign and non-governmental accreditation organisations** authorised to operate within the territory of the Republic and shall maintain their register. Accreditation of educational programmes conducted by organisations included in this register shall be of a recommendatory nature;
  - (v) until 2025, educational fields and specialities that have not produced graduates and have not undergone accreditation shall, during the period of institutional state accreditation of the respective organisation, also undergo program state accreditation;

- (g) failure of an educational organisation to pass institutional state accreditation, or failure to eliminate deficiencies identified during its conduct within the established time limits, **shall be regarded as a gross violation of licensing requirements and conditions**, and the Agency shall submit an official representation to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation for resolution of the issue of revocation of the licence;
- (d) where gross deficiencies identified in a particular educational programme as a result of institutional state accreditation are not eliminated within the established deadline, **continuation of educational activities and admission under such educational programme** shall not be permitted;
- (e) transfer of students studying at an educational organisation whose licence has been revoked or in an educational programme whose accreditation has been revoked to corresponding and related fields and specialities of state and non-state educational organisations shall be carried out by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation in accordance with the established procedure.

#### **IV. Organisation of the provision of educational services**

**6.** It shall be established that, **from 1 July 2025**, the commencement of activities of newly established educational organisations shall be carried out in the following **two stages**:

- (a) **at the first stage**, for the purpose of commencing activities, organisations providing secondary specialised, vocational, higher and postgraduate education **shall be licensed** in accordance with the established procedure, and organisations providing retraining and advanced training of personnel shall be established under a **notification-based procedure**;
- (b) **at the second stage**, educational programmes under which personnel training is to be introduced (professions, fields of education, specialities, specialisations, courses) of educational organisations shall undergo **program state accreditation**. In this regard:
  - (i) admission of learners to educational programmes that have not undergone program state accreditation shall not be permitted;
  - (ii) conducting the admission process without having undergone program state accreditation shall be regarded as a gross violation of licensing requirements and conditions and shall constitute grounds for **revocation of the licence** issued to the educational organisation (termination of its activities).

**7.** It shall be established that:

- (a) beginning from the 2025/2026 academic year, admission to the **correspondence (part-time) form of education** shall be discontinued, and admission quotas for alternative forms of education other than full-time education shall be increased gradually;
- (b) beginning from the 2025/2026 academic year:

- (i) **the total admission quota of higher education institutions for alternative forms of education** shall not exceed 50 percent of the admission result for the full-time form of education;
- (ii) training of scientific and pedagogical personnel **on the basis of alternative forms of education at the Master's degree level** shall be permitted;
- (iii) higher education institutions shall be permitted to introduce an **optimised education model** (part-time education) based on the credit-modular system within alternative education;
- (iv) admission of students to alternative forms of education in excess of the established quota shall be regarded as a **gross violation of licensing requirements and conditions** and shall constitute grounds for revocation of the licence;
- (v) irrespective of departmental subordination and organisational-legal form, internal education quality control departments responsible for conducting internal education quality audits shall be established within each educational organisation within the framework of the approved staffing structure.

#### **V. Organisation, implementation and supervision of the execution of the Decree**

**8.** The “Roadmap” for the implementation of priority areas for improving the system of quality assurance in education shall be approved in accordance with **Annex 3**.

**9.** The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation shall:

- (a) **within one month**, at the expense of the Ministry's extra-budgetary funds and on the basis of calculations submitted by the Agency, provide the Agency with the necessary furniture, equipment and computer facilities;
- (b) **within two months**, jointly with interested ministries and agencies, submit to the Cabinet of Ministers proposals on amendments and additions to legislative acts arising from this Decree.

**10.** Supervision over the execution of this Decree shall be entrusted to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, A.N. Aripov, and to the Head of the Social Development Department of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, O.Q. Abdurakhmanov.

**President of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

**Sh. MIRZIYOYEV**

Tashkent city

## **Principal Areas of Activity of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Education**

The following shall be designated as **the principal areas of activity** of the Agency:

- (a) **carrying out external evaluation** of educational organisations;
- (b) providing methodological recommendations on the formation of a culture of quality in education within educational organisations, **improvement of internal quality assurance criteria and procedures**, and their effective implementation;
- (v) **developing and improving criteria and methods for assessing the quality of education**, taking into account international standards and advanced foreign experience;
- (g) conducting scientific and practical research and surveys aimed at **studying the effectiveness of measures directed towards ensuring the quality of education** in educational organisations;
- (d) expanding international cooperation in the field of quality assurance in education, obtaining membership in international organisations in the field of quality assessment, and **ensuring international recognition of the national accreditation system**;
- (e) **publishing annual reports** with the participation of the public and stakeholders in order to ensure accountability and transparency in activities related to education quality assessment;
- (j) **analysing** the achievement of target indicators and results established in state programmes and strategies in the field of education, and **developing recommendations**;
- (z) **developing proposals and advancing prospective initiatives** aimed at the development of the education and research sector and the **improvement of legislation in this field**.

**Procedure for organizing the activities of the National Quality Assurance  
Agency for Education**

**1. The legal basis for the activities of the Agency is:**

- (a) The Agency, within its activities, is accountable to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- (b) the Agency carries out its activities independently of other state bodies, organizations and their officials on the basis of the principles of legality, objectivity, accountability, openness and transparency;
- (c) the Agency shall submit a report to the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the state of reform in the field of education, the measures being implemented, the factors hindering the implementation of reforms, and ways to eliminate them;
- (g) heads of public organizations provide comprehensive assistance to the Agency, including ensuring, at its request, the referral of employees of the central office and system organizations as experts, with the retention of their salaries and equivalent payments;
- (d) draft regulations and state educational standards (requirements) on educational process in the areas of secondary specialized, vocational, higher and postgraduate education, as well as retraining and advanced training of personnel, assessment of qualifications, are subject to mandatory approval by the Agency;
- (e) the Agency, within its competence, has the right to access, in the prescribed manner, the premises and buildings of educational institutions for the purpose of assessing the quality of education;
- (j) the Agency is headed by a director, who is appointed and dismissed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- (z) the Agency is the legal successor to the rights, obligations and agreements, including international agreements of the project office “Centre for Projects in the Field of Education.

**2. The Agency, for the implementation of its tasks, is granted the right to:**

- (a) receive the necessary statistical, analytical, and other information from state organizations and organizations, as well as through diplomatic missions of the republic abroad;
- (b) receive free of charge, including through the interagency integration platform of the “E-Government” system, the necessary information from government bodies and organizations for the implementation of their functions;

- (v) unimpeded access to the information systems for managing educational processes (HEMIS, EMIS) and the Unified Electronic System for Coordinating Postgraduate Education of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation;
- (g) submitting mandatory instructions to state organizations, including educational institutions on improving the quality of education;
- (d) recruit experienced foreign and domestic experts and non-governmental (private) organizations on the basis of direct contracts, including in the form of outsourcing, for the purpose of carrying out the tasks assigned to it;
- (e) pay remuneration to engaged foreign and domestic experts in national or foreign currency, including by transferring funds to their foreign accounts;
- (j) update the requirements and criteria for institutional and special state accreditation, taking into account the socio-economic situation in the country and changes in legislation, as well as modern trends in the global educational space;
- (z) conclude cooperation agreements with international and non-governmental organizations on quality assurance, accreditation, rating, and other issues.

**3. 62 staff units of the Agency are formed from the following staff units:**

- (a) 30 existing staff units of the liquidated project office “Centre for Projects in the Field of Education”;
- (b) 4 management staff units of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, 3 staff units of the Agency for Innovative Development, 3 staff units of the Agency for Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, and 22 staff units of the National Office for the Implementation of Innovations and Technology Transfer under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation.

**4. The Institute for the Development of the National Qualification System is transferred to the Agency.**

**5. The charter and structure of the Agency are approved by the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.**

The Director of the Agency is equated in status, terms of remuneration, material incentives, medical and transport services to the Deputy Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Director of the Agency has two deputies, appointed to the position by the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Deputy Directors and employees of the Agency are equated to the Agency for Strategic Reforms under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in terms of remuneration, material incentives, and medical services.

The Director of the Agency is granted the right, in coordination with the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to make, if necessary, changes to the approved structure of the Agency within the established total number of employees and payroll fund.

**6. The activities of the Agency is financed by:**

- (a) funds of the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- (b) funds allocated from the account of the Agency for Strategic Reforms under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan based on substantiated proposals of the Agency;
- (v) proceeds from accreditation, as well as from the provision of other services on a contractual basis;
- (g) extrabudgetary funds of the Agency, including funds received from the placement of temporarily available extrabudgetary funds on deposits in commercial banks;
- (d) sponsorship and grants and other sources not prohibited by law.

**“ROADMAP”**  
**for the implementation of priority areas for improving the system of quality assurance in education**

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
<b>I. Organizational issues of quality assurance in education</b>					
1.	Launch of the operations of the Agency	<p>1. Development, approval and state registration in accordance with the established procedure of the Agency’s founding documents.</p> <p>2. Allocation of an administrative building for the placement of the Agency on the basis of the right of operational management.</p>	<p>May 2025</p> <p>May 2025</p>	—	<p>Agency, Ministry of Justice; Tashkent City Khokimiyat, Agency for Management of State Assets</p>
2.	Provision of the Agency with necessary furniture, equipment, computer and other essential means	<p>1. Development of proposals for providing the Agency with necessary furniture, equipment, computer and other essential means.</p> <p>2. Provision of the Agency with necessary means on the basis of cost estimates submitted by the Agency.</p>	June 2025	Extra-budgetary funds of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation	<p>Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Agency</p>
3.	Allocation of limits for service and duty vehicles for the Agency	<p>1. Procurement, in accordance with the established procedure, of 4 service vehicles for the Agency, including 3 personally assigned vehicles and 1 duty vehicle.</p> <p>2. Allocation of limits for maintenance of the Agency’s vehicles.</p>	June 2025	State Budget funds	<p>Ministry of Economy and Finance, Agency</p>

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
<b>II. Improvement of education quality assurance processes</b>					
4.	Development of information systems for evaluating the effectiveness of the education system and monitoring education quality	<p>1. Development of the concept and technical specifications for the Agency's official website and relevant platforms reflecting all statistical and analytical data aimed at ensuring quality in the educational process in an open and transparent manner.</p> <p>2. Allocation of necessary funds for the creation of the Agency's website and relevant platforms on the basis of the developed proposals.</p> <p>3. Development and commissioning of the Agency's website and relevant platforms.</p> <p>In this regard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• launch of electronic platforms supporting the state accreditation and ranking systems in the form of subdomains;</li> <li>• integration for data exchange with platforms of relevant state and non-state organisations and education management information systems;</li> <li>• maintenance of relevant registers and creation of facilities for convenient public access to open data;</li> <li>• ensuring the effectiveness of the website and the continuous updating of information contained therein.</li> </ul>	<p>June-July 2025</p> <p>July 2025</p> <p>January 2026</p>	Higher Education Development Fund, State Budget, international financial institutions and donors	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation; Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Digital Technologies, Ministry of Justice; relevant executive authorities
5.	Formation of a culture of quality in secondary specialized, vocational, higher and postgraduate	Introduction, within the approved staffing structure of each educational organization, of an internal education quality control	August 2025	—	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation,

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
	education, as well as retraining, advanced training of personnel and research organizations (educational organizations)	department or position responsible for conducting internal education quality audits.			Ministry of Economy and Finance, relevant ministries with affiliated education organizations
6.	Increasing the effectiveness of regulatory legal acts developed in the fields of secondary specialized, vocational, higher and postgraduate education, as well as retraining, advanced training of personnel and qualifications assessment	Ensuring that draft regulatory legal acts developed by republican executive authorities are subject to mandatory agreement with the Agency through the unified electronic system for development and approval of draft regulatory legal acts.	June 2025	—	Ministry of Justice, Agency
7.	Improvement of internal quality assurance systems in educational organizations	<p>1. Development of methodological guidelines on internal quality assurance and dissemination thereof to educational organizations in electronic form.</p> <p>2. Organization of seminar-trainings for employees responsible for education quality in educational organizations.</p>	September 2025;  October–November 2025	Budgetary and extra-budgetary funds of educational organizations, donor funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, relevant ministries with affiliated education organizations
8.	Formation of an expert pool for conducting institutional and program state accreditation of educational organizations	<p>1. Formation of an expert database by types of education.</p> <p>2. Development of regulatory documents on training and professional development of experts.</p> <p>3. Professional development of experts engaged in institutional and program state</p>	According to approved schedule	Budgetary and extra-budgetary funds, donor funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
		<p>accreditation in the field of external evaluation.</p> <p>4. Formation of the expert corps based on the final results of professional development courses.</p>			
9.	Determination of the national ranking of state and non-state educational organizations	<p>1. Verification and acceptance of the completeness and reliability of data uploaded by participating educational organizations into the Agency's specialized information system.</p> <p>2. Analysis and assessment of uploaded data in accordance with established criteria.</p> <p>3) Publication of ranking results on the Agency's website, provision of explanatory notes substantiating results and recommendations for improvement.</p> <p>4) Harmonization of national ranking criteria and assessment methodology with indicators used by leading international ranking organizations.</p>	Regularly according to plan	—	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation
10.	Establishment of cooperation with international organizations maintaining educational rankings	<p>1. Study of the activities of international ranking organisations.</p> <p>2. Establishment of cooperation with international organisations maintaining educational rankings.</p>	February 2026 2026–2028	Donor funds, Agency funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
11.	Maintenance of the register of accreditation organisations authorised to operate in the republic	1. Establishment of basic conditions for inclusion of international, foreign and non-governmental accreditation organisations in the register.	Regularly according to plan	—	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
		<p>2. Formation of the list of authorised international accreditation organisations.</p> <p>3. Conducting regular audit and monitoring of the activities of organisations included in the register.</p>			
12.	Taking measures for accession to international organisations in the field of quality assurance in education	<p>1. Study of the activities of international organisations in the field of quality assurance in education.</p> <p>2. Establishment of close cooperation with such organisations for the purpose of obtaining membership.</p>	2026–2028	Donor funds, Agency funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice
13.	Development of proposals for ratification of international agreements and conventions on mutual recognition of qualifications and diplomas	<p>1. Study of the terms and obligations of international agreements and conventions.</p> <p>2. Development of proposals for improvement of education-related regulatory legal acts based on such agreements and conventions.</p> <p>3. Submission of proposals on ratification of international agreements and conventions to the authorised body.</p>	2026–2028	—	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Academy of Sciences, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice
14.	Development of methodological recommendations on quality assurance in secondary specialised and vocational education organisations	<p>1. Study of factors affecting the quality of education in secondary specialised and vocational education organisations.</p> <p>2. Development of methodological recommendations on ensuring the quality of education.</p>	<p>October 2025</p> <p>December 2025</p>	Donor funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation
15.	Development of quality indicators for ensuring education	1. Establishment of a responsible working group for development of education quality assessment indicators.	June 2025	Donor funds	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation,

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
	quality in vocational education organisations	<p>2. Study and analysis of advanced foreign experience and international standards (ESG, EQAVET, ISO and others) in the process of developing quality indicators.</p> <p>3. Development and approval of quality indicators.</p>	<p>September 2025</p> <p>December 2025</p>		relevant executive authorities
16.	Development of proposals to improve the quality of postgraduate education	<p>1. Study of admission procedures for all forms of postgraduate education in developed countries.</p> <p>2. Analysis of the activities of existing scientific councils established in educational organisations on the basis of advanced foreign experience.</p>	December 2025	—	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Academy of Sciences
<b>III. Improvement of the Sector-Specific Regulatory Legal Framework</b>					
17.	Introduction of amendments and additions to existing regulatory legal acts governing external quality control, arising from reforms implemented in the field of education	<p>1. Preparation of a draft regulatory legal act providing for amendments and additions to the Laws “On Education” and “On Licensing, Permitting and Notification Procedures”.</p> <p>2. Agreement of the draft regulatory legal act, in accordance with the established regulation, with interested state organizations and economic associations, and submission thereof to the Cabinet of Ministers.</p>	<p>July 2025</p> <p>November 2025</p>	—	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation; Agency, interested republican executive authorities and economic associations
18.	Development of program accreditation criteria by field of education	<p>1. Establishment of a working group composed of specialists from various fields.</p> <p>2. Study of foreign experience in establishing accreditation criteria.</p> <p>3. Development and approval of accreditation criteria by field of education.</p>	2025–2026	Funds of international financial institutions and donors, budgetary and extra-budgetary funds of the Agency	Agency, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Ministry of Justice, interested republican executive authorities and economic associations

No.	Measure	Implementation Mechanisms	Timeframe	Source of Financing	Responsible organization
19.	Determination of fees for conducting state accreditation of educational organisations	<p>1. Development of fee amounts in agreement with the Ministry of Economy and Finance.</p> <p>2. Registration, in accordance with the established procedure, of the regulatory act providing for determination of fee amounts with the Ministry of Justice.</p>	June–July 2025	—	Agency, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Justice
20.	Development of the procedure for training personnel under the optimised full-time education model in higher education institutions	<p>1. Drafting a regulatory legal act on the procedure for training personnel under the optimised full-time education model on the basis of advanced foreign experience.</p> <p>2. Agreement of the developed draft regulatory legal act with interested republican executive authorities in accordance with the established procedure.</p> <p>3. Submission of the draft regulatory legal act to the Cabinet of Ministers in accordance with the established regulation.</p>	<p>June 2025</p> <p>July 2025</p> <p>August 2025</p>	—	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Agency, interested republican executive authorities and economic associations

*Note: draft regulatory legal acts may, depending on the subject of regulation, be revised or consolidated into a single document. Where two or more items are merged, the latest deadline established for their implementation shall apply.*