**M. NALBANDYAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF SHIRAK FOUNDATION**

**PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL, MONITORING AND**

**REVIEW POLICY**

(New Edition)

## 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. The "Policy for developing, approving, monitoring, and revising professional educational programs of Shirak State University named after M. Nalbandyan" (hereinafter referred to as "Policy") was developed in accordance with RA laws "On Education," "On Higher and Postgraduate Professional Education," and the Foundation's internal legal acts. It defines the purpose, tasks, and methodology for developing, approving, monitoring, and revising the professional educational programs of the Foundation (hereinafter referred to as PES).

1.2. The policy, focusing on the development, monitoring, efficiency evaluation, and improvement of bachelor's and master's professional educational programs, aims at the effective organization and implementation of the process of training specialists. This is in accordance with the requirements of national and sectoral frameworks of education qualifications (The National Qualification Framework, Professional Educational Framework) within the context of modern educational reforms.

## 2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

2.1. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the development, implementation, and revision of. Professional Education Programs consistent with the mission and goals of the Foundation, in accordance with the state educational policy, which aims to contribute to the mobility and internationalization of students and teaching staff.

2.2. The stated goal encompasses the following tasks:

2.2.1. Ensuring compliance with educational policies of RA, as well as (Professional Educational Programs) in accordance with requirements and professional needs of external and internal beneficiaries.

2.2.2. Ensuring compliance of the final results of the studies achieved by the graduate with the requirements and characteristics of the levels set by the RA national framework of qualifications. 2.2.3. Ensuring a flexible structure of Professional Education Programs , with a consideration of the need to respond promptly to changes in educational needs.

2.2.4. Develop the specification of the Educational Program of each profession, including the credit-based programs of individual subjects, modules/courses of the given profession, with a clear statement of the expected learning outcomes of the awarded qualification.

The specification of the PES presents the philosophy and way of thinking of the profession, the content, the curriculum, the goals of the educational process, the problems, the expected results, the teaching, learning and evaluation methods resulting from them, the material and technical, human resources necessary for the implementation, the subject and practice descriptors, and the further possibilities of the graduate study. and is a regulatory documentation package. The package, including clear, complete information about the Professional Education Programs  has the following structure:

- Indicator and name of the specialty and educational program;
- NQF (National Qualification Framework) level figure
- Awarded qualification;
- Number of credits;
- Language of study and form of education;
- Academic year of program start;
- Faculty and chair(s) implementing the Professional Academic  program;
- Licensing/accreditation  information;
- Educational program admission criteria (admission conditions);
- A brief description of the Professional Academic Programs
- The purpose and tasks of the Professional Education Programs
- The structure of the Professional Academic Programs   credits;
- The methods of assessment, teaching, and learning of the Professional Academic Programs
- Curriculum of the major including courses/modules with individual subject descriptors.
- The curriculum map of the specialty;
- Areas of professional activity of graduates;
- The educational standards or program guidelines used in developing the program;
- The requirements presented to the teachers within the framework of the Professional Academic Programs.
- Further study opportunities for graduates;
- The results of the Professional Academic Programs

2.2.5 Implementation and improvement of curriculum planning, design, development, approval, quality monitoring, evaluation, and periodic review procedures.

2.2.6 To provide the Professional Academic Programs  with faculty members possessing the necessary professional qualifications and to establish clear policies and procedures for their regular evaluation.

2.2.7 To ensure the credibility of the final results of the Professional Academic Programs

2.2.8 Provide a clear system for the academic integrity of the assessment of learning outcomes within the framework of the Professional Academic Programs      and develop mechanisms for the continuous improvement of the assessment system.

2.2.9 Ensure the alignment of teaching and learning methods with learning outcomes/competencies, emphasizing the need for regular modernization of these methods and the development and implementation of mechanisms.

2.2.10 Design and implement content based Professional Academic Programs  to ensure students' preparation for future professional activities, as well as the mobility and internationalization of students and teaching staff.

2.2.11 Develop and implement mechanisms for quality assurance and certification of Professional Academic Programs

2.2.12 Ensure the implementation of research-based Professional Academic Programs  emphasizing the research process.

## 3. METHODOLOGY OF PES PROCESSING

3.1. Conducting a best practice study (benchmarking), SWOT analysis, and summary to ensure comparability and alignment of Professional Academic Programs

3.2. Providing a qualitative and quantitative description of necessary resources, including teaching staff, infrastructures, information resources, and material and technical base.

3.3. Involving external and internal stakeholders in the development and quality assurance processes of educational programs, achieved through:

- Conducting meetings with focus groups,
- Conducting surveys,
- Conducting discussions, consultations, seminars,
- Utilizing other means to provide feedback.

3.4. Developing specific outcomes for each specialty.

3.5. Developing and implementing effective mechanisms and tools for evaluating the educational results achieved by students in each module/course.

3.6. Developing a profile for each major, including an ECTS credit-based curriculum with a clear statement of outcomes/competencies for all courses/modules.

3.7. Conducting the development of the Professional Academic Programs      by the relevant professional chair.

3.8. Monitoring, analyzing, and evaluating the development and review processes of the Professional Academic Programs  by the Foundation's Quality Assurance Department, in line with changing demands and needs  of  external  and  internal  stakeholders.

3.9. Coordinating and controlling the approval and review process of professional educational programs by the Educational Methodological Process Management Center of the Foundation.

## 4. FINAL PROVISIONS

4.1. Approval of this Policy, along with any proposed changes and additions, is granted by the Scientific Council of the Foundation.

4.2. The effective date of this Policy is upon approval by the Scientific Council.