

# Law of Georgia on Higher Education

## Chapter I. General Provisions

### Article 1. Scope of the Law

This Law regulates the process of carrying out educational, scientific research activities by higher education institutions in Georgia, and the principles and procedures of administering and financing higher education; it also defines procedures for the establishment, reorganisation of the activities and for the liquidation of higher education institutions, as well as principles of the authorization and accreditation of higher education institutions.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

### Article 2. Definition of the Terms

The terms used in this Law have the following meaning:

- a) Entrant - a person who has completed general education and who holds a certificate of completion thereof or its equivalent document issued in Georgia, and who intends to continue studies at a higher education institution;
- b) Autonomy – the rights of higher education institutions and their main educational units to determine and carry out academic, financial, economic and administrative activities independently;
- b<sup>1</sup>) Authorisation – – procedures for acquiring the status of a higher education institution, intended to ensure compliance with the standards necessary to implement appropriate activities for issuing a document certifying education recognised by the State;
- c) Academic freedom – the right of the academic personnel and students to carry out research, teaching and learning activities independently;
- c<sup>1</sup>) Attestation – determination of compliance of professional skills, academic activities and scientific activities of a Professor and a chief research fellow with the requirements set for the occupied positions;
- d) Mobility – free movement of students and academic personnel to ensure the participation in learning, teaching and research activities both in Georgia and abroad, that is followed by the recognition of the education, credits acquired/accumulated or qualification gained during the study period;
- e) Academic Council – the highest representative body of a legal entity under public law (LEPL) higher education institution;
- e<sup>1</sup>) Higher academic education – a higher education course consisting of Bachelor’s and Master’s programmes, Integrated Bachelor’s and Master’s Educational Programme of Teacher Training, Integrated Master’s Educational Programme of Veterinary and Doctoral programme;
- e<sup>2</sup>) (Deleted - 20.09.2018, №3438)
- f) Academic degree – a qualification awarded to a person by a higher education institution or by an orthodox theological higher education institution upon completion of the relevant cycle of the academic higher education;

- f<sup>1</sup>) joint academic degree – qualification jointly awarded to a person by higher education institutions recognised under the legislation of Georgia and/or a foreign country as a result of implementing a joint higher education programme after completion by the person of an appropriate cycle of academic higher education;
- f<sup>2</sup>) Associate Degree - qualification, which is awarded to a person as a result of achieving the learning outcomes and the accumulation of credits envisaged in the short cycle educational programme;
- g) Academic title – a title (honorary doctor, emeritus) granted to scholars or public figures for their special merits as provided for by the legislation of Georgia;
- h) Accreditation – procedures for determining the compliance of educational programmes of higher education institutions with accreditation standards, which are intended to introduce a systematic self-evaluation system and facilitate the development of quality assurance mechanisms for the improvement of education quality, on the basis of which State financing is acquired, as well as for the implementation of certain programmes determined by this Law;
- i) Assistant Professor - a person holding an academic position of a higher education institution who participates in the academic and scientific research process according to his/her competence;
- i<sup>1</sup>) Assistant - a person occupying an academic position at a higher education institution who conducts seminars and performs research activities under the supervision of a Professor, an Associate Professor or an Assistant Professor during studies at main educational units;
- j) Associate Professor – an academic position at a higher education institution. An Associate Professor participates in the study process and supervises learning and scientific research activities of students;
- k) Head of the Administration (Chancellor) – the head of a higher education institution administration in the field of management of financial, material and human resources;
- l) Bachelor - a person holding the academic degree that is awarded as a result of the accumulation of the number of credits provided for by the Bachelor's educational programme;
- l<sup>1</sup>) Bachelor's educational programme – The first cycle educational programme of academic higher education, the learning outcomes of which correspond to the generalized learning outcomes defined for Level 6 of the National Qualifications Framework;
- m) Bachelor's studies - First cycle of higher academic education;
- m<sup>1</sup>) Independent scientific research unit – an independent structural unit of a Legal Entity under Public Law (LEPL) university or of a major educational unit of a university (a scientific research institute, centre, laboratory, etc.), which carries out scientific research work and has management bodies. Independent scientific research unit shall have the right to participate in the learning process. The independent scientific research unit must meet the criteria determined by the Statute of a higher education institution and must be established in accordance with the procedure established by the Statute. The scope of autonomy of an independent scientific research unit, management and performance procedure shall be defined by the statute of the university;
- m<sup>2</sup>) a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university – an institution established by the Government of Georgia within a LEPL university with the consent of the university. A LEPL the scientific research institute affiliated at the LEPL the university carries out scientific research activities and shall be authorized to take part in the study process based on the contract concluded with a higher education institute;

- n) Diploma – a document certifying qualification awarded by a higher education institution, and a document certifying qualification jointly awarded by higher education institutions recognised by the legislation of Georgia and/or of a foreign country;
- n<sup>1</sup>) Certified medical doctor/dentist – a person holding an academic degree granted for completing an academic medical higher education programme and for gaining the required number of credits. The programme provides for training a Medical Doctor/Doctor in Dentistry for practical professional activities;
- n<sup>2</sup>) Master of Education – a holder of an academic degree awarded to a person as a result of completing the integrated Bachelor's and Master's educational programme of teacher training or a Master's educational programme and obtaining the determined credits. An Academic Degree of the Master of Education may entitle a person to teach;
- n<sup>3</sup>) Master of Veterinary Medicine - a holder of the academic degree awarded to a person upon completion of an integrated master's degree programme in veterinary medicine and accumulation of established credits;
- o) (Deleted).
- o<sup>1</sup>) (Deleted).
- o<sup>2</sup>) Distance learning – the study process or a part thereof that does not require the presence of a student and a teacher simultaneously at a certain location, based on modern information and communication technologies and organised by a higher education institution of Georgia at any cycle of higher education to acquire a qualification. Appropriate approaches and methods for planning the curriculum and organising and administering the study process are required for providing distance learning;
- p) Diploma supplement – a document issued together with the diploma by a higher education institution to certify the content of the education acquired by a student, and the qualification awarded to him/her by the higher education institution; also a document to certify the content of the education acquired by a student as a result of completing a joint higher education programme, and the qualification jointly awarded to him/her by higher education institutions recognised by the legislation of Georgia and/or of a foreign country;
- q) Dissertation – a scientific paper presented by a doctoral student in order to acquire a Doctor's academic degree;
- r) Doctor – a person studying for a Doctoral programme;
- s) PhD programme - third cycle of higher academic education;
- s<sup>1</sup>) Doctoral educational programme - the educational programme of the third cycle of higher academic education, which constitutes a unity of the learning and scientific research components and the learning outcomes of which correspond to the generalized learning outcomes defined for Level 8 of the National Qualifications Framework;
- t) Doctor – a person holding the academic degree that is awarded as a result of performance of the components provided for by the PhD educational programme and defending of the PhD thesis;
- t<sup>1</sup>) E-learning – the study process or a part thereof that does not require the presence of a student and a teacher simultaneously at a certain location, based on modern information and communication technologies and organised by a higher education institution for persons in the territory of Georgia to acquire a qualification on the basis of higher education programmes accredited in Georgia. For implementing the E-learning, it is mandatory to employ respective approaches and methods of curriculum planning, organisation and administration of the study process;

u) Unified National Examinations – a procedure establishing readiness of an entrant to accomplish a higher education programme;

u<sup>1</sup>) (Deleted - 20.09.2018, №3438)

u<sup>2</sup>) Unified Master's Examination Network – group of higher education institutions participating in Master's examinations, where the applicants for Master's Degree are enrolled in accordance with the procedure, prescribed by this Law, on the basis of Unified Master's Examination and the examination/examinations set by the Higher Education Institution;

v) Individual Educational Programme – a programme prepared in accordance with the interests and levels of the academic training of students;

w) (Deleted);

w<sup>1</sup>) College – a higher education institution that carries out only the first cycle educational programmes of higher academic education;

w<sup>2</sup>) (Deleted - 20.09.2018, №3438)

x) Coefficient(s) – the unit(s) determined by a higher education institution at the beginning of an academic year, based on which the results of the Unified National Examinations are ranked for the admission of students to a particular educational programme at a particular higher education institution;

y) Credit– the unit that defines the necessary academic load for students and which can be obtained after achieving certain learning outcomes;

z) (Deleted);

aa) (Deleted);

bb) Master – a person holding the academic degree that is awarded as a result of the accumulation of credits provided for by the Master's educational programme;

bb<sup>1</sup>) Master student - a student studying for a Master's degree;

bb<sup>2</sup>) Master's educational programme - the second cycle educational programme of higher academic education that includes elements of scientific research and is intended to train specialists of the academic level that follows Bachelor's studies or to train scholars; the programme is also intended to train persons to work with acquired qualifications;

cc) Master's studies - the second cycle of higher academic education;

cc<sup>1</sup>) Candidate for Master's degree – a person holding a Bachelor's, a certified medical doctor's/a dentist's, a Master's or a Master of Education or an equivalent degree and intending to continue study for a Master's programme. In the case of a regulated educational programme, to continue study for a Master's programme, a candidate for a Master's degree must hold a respective Bachelor's, certified medical doctor's/a dentist's or an equivalent academic degree;

cc<sup>2</sup>) Teacher Training Educational Programme - A higher education programme based on the relevant standard, independent of the Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training and Bachelor's Educational Programme, the learning outcomes of which are consistent with the general learning outcomes set for Level 6 of the National Qualifications Framework;

cc<sup>3</sup>) Teacher training certificate – a document awarded after completing the teacher education training programme;

cc<sup>4</sup>) Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training – higher education programme based on the relevant standard, which includes the relevant subjects / subject groups module, teacher training module, free components module, school practice and practice research module, and the

learning outcomes of which correspond to the general learning outcomes set for Level 7 of the National Qualifications Framework;

cc<sup>5</sup>) Scientist – a person holding a scientific position at an independent scientific research unit and carries out scientific research activity, and who has the right to participate in the study process and to administer the scientific research work of students;

cc<sup>6</sup>) Post-doctoral fellow – a person holding a Doctor's or an equivalent academic degree and employed on the basis of a fixed-term labour contract at a major educational unit or an independent scientific research unit under the procedure established by the Academic Council to carry out a specific scientific research project;

cc<sup>7</sup>) Educational Programme of Veterinary Training - an educational programme independent from the Integrated Master's Educational Programme of Veterinary developed based on relevant standard the learning outcomes of which correspond to the generalized learning outcomes defined for Level 7 of the National Qualifications Framework;

cc<sup>8</sup>) a Veterinary Certificate - a document issued upon completion of a veterinary training educational programme;

cc<sup>9</sup>) Integrated Master's Educational Programme of Veterinary - a higher education programme developed based on relevant standard which includes the learning outcomes of the Bachelor and Master cycles and ensures the achievement of the generalized learning outcomes defined for Level 7 of the National Qualifications Framework;

dd) Module – an independent and coherent teaching block uniting the related disciplines. Interrelations and sequence of subjects are defined in a module. Several modules form a curriculum;

ee) Professional Association – an independent non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity based on the membership principle, established under the legislation of Georgia, which comprises the representatives of one or more related professions and is intended to facilitate the development of professions, to protect common interests of its members and to ensure compliance with the norms of professional ethics;

ff) Professor – a person holding an academic position at a higher education institution, who administers studies and supervises the scientific research work of students;

gg) Ranking by absolute score(s) – a list prepared on the basis of the absolute score(s) gained by entrants and/or students in the Unified National Examinations and approved by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre in the manner provided for by the legislation of Georgia, and which identifies the entrants and/or students who have obtained state educational scholarships;

gg<sup>1</sup>) Ranking by coefficients – a list prepared on the basis of the recalculation of the absolute score(s) gained by entrants in the Unified National Examinations and approved by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre in the manner provided for by the legislation of Georgia in accordance with preliminary coefficients which have been established. As a result of that re-calculation, the entrants are allocated to specific educational programme of a higher education institute;

gg<sup>2</sup>) Regulated profession – an activity the precondition of performance of which, apart from having appropriate qualification, is passing of the State Certification Examination, or for awarding of the needed qualification to perform it, passing of an appropriate examination provided for by the legislation of Georgia is required;

gg<sup>3</sup>) Regulated educational programme – a programme for which the State determines special accreditation requirements and/or by which the State ensures the training of Masters and Doctors using special research programmes;

gg<sup>4</sup>) Rector – the head of a higher education institution established by the State, the chairperson of the Academic Council of a LEPL higher education institution, or the chairperson of one of the collegiate bodies of a higher education institution as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity;

gg<sup>5</sup>) Educational programme (curriculum) – a combination of training courses and/or modules for obtaining a higher education qualification, including the goals of the programme, the learning outcomes, the training courses and/or modules with appropriate credits, the system of students assessment and the special details related to the organisation of the study process including the possibilities of using e-learning (if any);

gg<sup>6</sup>) Recognition of education acquired abroad – recognition (certificate) of qualification obtained abroad or education received within the framework of a higher education programme while studying abroad, by a competent body;

gg<sup>7</sup>) Dissertation Council - a body granting a Doctor's academic degree. Dissertation Council in a legal entity under public law may exist in a basic educational unit or university or in accordance with the rules established by Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law;

gg<sup>8</sup>) (Deleted)

gg<sup>9</sup>) Educational programme in the fields of art, creative work and sport – an educational programme intended to train specialists (including artists, musicians, actors/actresses, sports specialists, etc.) in one or several specialties in the field of art and sport and to award these persons with corresponding qualifications;

gg<sup>10</sup>) State study grant – the sum awarded by the State under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia to a student or a person enrolled to a teacher training educational programme or to a veterinary training educational programme which is intended for funding a Bachelor's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Teacher Training, Integrated Master's Veterinary, Certified Medical Doctor's /Dentist's accredited educational programmes, and /or a teacher training educational programmes;

gg<sup>11</sup>) Arts and Creative Higher Education – higher education that aims to train specialists in one or more fields of art;

gg<sup>12</sup>) Higher education in sports– a higher education programme aiming at training specialists in one or several specialties of sport.

gg<sup>13</sup>) (Deleted);

gg<sup>14</sup>) A student – a person enrolled in a higher education institution under the procedure established by this Law and the Statute of the higher education institution and studying at the institution to take a Bachelor's, Master's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Teacher Training, Integrated Master's Veterinary or Certified Medical Doctor's/Dentist's and a Doctoral programmes; also a person enrolled in a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of a foreign country and is completing a part of the study and/or research component within the framework of a joint higher education programme at a Georgian higher education institution and/or at an independent scientific research unit/a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university/a LEPL scientific research institution; and a person with Georgian citizenship or a holder of a neutral identity card and/or a neutral travel document, who is enrolled in a foreign higher education institution recognised in accordance with the legislation of a foreign country;

gg<sup>15</sup>) Higher education – the education that follows the complete general education and that ensures the achievement of the relevant learning outcomes of Levels 6 – 8 of the National Qualifications Framework and is confirmed by the relevant qualification document;

gg<sup>16</sup>) Higher education institution – an education or an educational scientific research institution carrying out higher education programmes, the primary function of which is to deliver higher education activities and scientific research works or higher education activities, and to administer creative works. A higher education institute consists of the basic and auxiliary structural units and awards the relevant qualifications;

gg<sup>17</sup>) Branch of a higher education institution – a part of a higher education institution, which is partially independent, is territorially separated from the management bodies of the institution and delivers the higher education programme(s) that are equivalent to those of the respective higher education institution;

gg<sup>18</sup>) University – a higher education institution that conducts master's and doctoral education programmes or higher education programmes at all three cycles of academic higher education and scientific research; a higher education institution that carries out higher education programmes and scientific research of the second and third cycles or all the three cycles of academic higher education;

gg<sup>19</sup>) Main educational unit – a major educational and scientific and administrative unit of a higher education institution that trains students in one or more specialties and awards them appropriate qualifications; According to the statute of the higher education institution, the main educational unit may exist in the form of a faculty, school, institute, international school / international master's-doctoral school established according to the Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law or other basic educational unit established by the statute of the higher education institution;

gg<sup>20</sup>) Council of a main educational unit – representative body of a legal entity of public law - a main educational unit of a higher education institution (except for an international school / international master's-doctoral school);

gg<sup>21</sup>) Representatives Council (Senate) – a representative body of a LEPL higher education institution;

gg<sup>22</sup>) Quality assurance – internal and external assessment procedures, the implementation of which facilitates the improvement of education quality at higher education institutions;

gg<sup>23</sup>) Syllabus – a document that provides information on the goals of training courses and/or modules, the results of studies, credits, the content of studies, the methods of teaching and learning as well as information on assessment criteria and the possibilities of using e-learning (if any);

gg<sup>24</sup>) Unified Master's Examinations – procedures established in accordance with academic disciplines and/or educational programmes under the legislation of Georgia and which identify the readiness of a person to continue studies for a Master's degree;

gg<sup>25</sup>) Coefficient of Unified Master's Examinations – the unit determined for each part of the Unified Master's Examinations by a higher education institution in accordance with procedures established by the legislation of Georgia;

gg<sup>26</sup>) Minimum threshold for Unified Master's Examinations – minimum amount of scores determined for each part of the Unified Master's Examinations under the legislation of Georgia, which must be obtained by a Master's candidate in order to pass the Unified Master's Examinations and to gain the right to pass the examination / examinations established by a higher education institution;

gg<sup>27</sup>) (Deleted – 22.03.2013, №388);

gg<sup>28</sup>) Ranking by the absolute score / scores of the Unified Master's Examinations in accordance with each academic discipline and/or prioritised academic disciplines – a list prepared after the completion of the

Unified Master's Examinations in accordance with the absolute score / scores obtained by Master's candidates in the Unified Master's Examinations and approved by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre under the legislation of Georgia and which identifies the Master's candidates who obtained a State Study Scholarship for Master's in certain academic disciplines and/or prioritised academic disciplines of accredited higher education programmes on the basis of the results of Unified Master's Examinations within the percentage thresholds determined for the annual State Study Scholarship for Master's Programmes, which is allocated under the legislation of Georgia for certain academic disciplines, including for prioritised academic disciplines;

gg<sup>29</sup>) Master's examinations – procedures established for obtaining the right to continue studies for a Master's Programme that includes the Unified Master's Examinations organised by the National Assessment and Examination Centre in accordance with academic disciplines, as well as the examination / examinations organised by a higher education institution;

gg<sup>30</sup>) Sum of coefficients of Master's examinations – the sum of coefficients of the Unified Master's Examinations and/or the examination /examinations established by a higher education institution;

gg<sup>31</sup>) Ranking by coefficients of Master's examinations – a list of candidates for Master's degree, who have acquired the right to be admitted to an appropriate academic discipline of the Master's Programme of a particular higher education institution and who have been ranked in accordance with coefficients predetermined and listed by an appropriate higher education institution on the basis of the results of Master's examinations in accordance with procedures determined by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;

gg<sup>32</sup>) State study scholarship for Master's Programme – the amount, determined by the Government of Georgia, granted to students for academic disciplines, including for prioritised academic disciplines, and intended for financing accredited Master's Programmes, except for the accredited Master's Programmes of arts and creative, sports, maritime, Orthodox theological and military higher education institutions, unless admission to such programmes is conducted on the basis of the Unified Master's Examinations;

gg<sup>33</sup>) Teaching University - a higher education institution that delivers higher education programme/programmes (except for Doctoral Programmes). A teaching university is required to carry out the second cycle - Master's educational programme / programmes;

gg<sup>34</sup>) (Deleted - 20.09.2018, №3438)

gg<sup>35</sup>) Georgian language training educational programme – a special education programme used for citizens of Georgia and for persons provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, that are enrolled in a higher education institution on the basis of the Unified National Examinations to acquire skills and knowledge in the Georgian language (writing, reading, listening, speaking) on a level necessary for them to continue studies on the following programmes: Bachelor's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training, Integrated Master's Educational Programme of Veterinary, Certified Medical Doctor/Dentist Educational Programmes. The above educational programme may be undertaken by those individuals which, without passing the Unified National Exams, are enrolled in a higher education institute in the manner prescribed by Georgian legislation;

gg<sup>36</sup>) (Deleted - 20.09.2018, №3438)



gg<sup>37</sup>) Board of Regents – the collegiate body established by the Government of Georgia that exercises the supervisory authority determined by this Law over the activities of higher education institutions established by the State as non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities;

gg<sup>38</sup>) Higher Education Institution Development Fund – a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity set up by a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity that manages a part of the property and finances of the higher education institution;

gg<sup>39</sup>) Military higher education institution – a higher education institution, the State monitoring or the functions of which, as determined by this Law, are performed by the Ministry of Defence of Georgia;

gg<sup>40</sup>) Maritime higher education – higher education that ensures the acquisition of appropriate expertise in marine sciences and is certified by an appropriate document;

gg<sup>41</sup>) Orthodox theological higher education – a higher education programme based on Orthodox teaching, doctrine and culture and comprising the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctor's theological educational programmes;

gg<sup>42</sup>) Orthodox theological higher education institution – a teaching or teaching and scientific research institution implementing higher education programmes in Orthodox theology, the primary function of which is to carry out Orthodox theological higher education activities and scientific research works, as well as Orthodox theological higher education activities and creative works;

gg<sup>43</sup>) (Deleted- 21.07.2018, №3271).

gg<sup>44</sup>) Educational exchange programme – an educational programme carried out on the basis of a student exchange agreement concluded between a Georgian higher education institution and a foreign higher education institution recognised by the legislation of an appropriate foreign country, which enables the students participating in the educational exchange programmes to gain a certain number of credits at a partner higher education institution;

gg<sup>45</sup>) A student participating in an educational exchange programme – a student of a Georgian higher education institution or a foreign higher education institution recognised by the legislation of an appropriate foreign country, who gains a certain number of credits within the educational exchange programme at a partner higher education institution;

gg<sup>46</sup>) Maritime higher education institution – a teaching or teaching and scientific research institution delivering higher education programmes, the primary function of which is to carry out maritime higher education activities and maritime scientific research works.

gg<sup>47</sup>) Kutaisi International University - a higher education research institution established by the Law of Georgia on the Establishment of a Legal Entity under Public Law - Kutaisi International University;

gg<sup>48</sup>) Joint higher education programme – an educational programme carried out between a Georgian higher education institution/institutions and/or a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of a foreign country; also between a higher education institution and an independent scientific research unit/a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university/a LEPL scientific research institution on the basis of an agreement on the implementation of a joint higher education programme, and after completion of which a document/documents certifying higher education is issued under the procedure established by the Statute of a higher education institution and on the basis of an agreement on the implementation of a joint higher education programme.

gg<sup>49</sup>) Post-school education training programme - a programme implemented by the Ministry or LEPL/LEPLs, including educational institutions, defined by the Ministry to which the citizens of Georgia

and persons provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia have right to be enrolled, and who have studied for the last 2 years, and received a document certifying full general education or basic general education in general education institutions in the occupied territories defined according to the Law of Georgia on Occupied Territories, and their full general education or basic general education was recognised in accordance with the rules established by the Ministry;

gg<sup>50</sup>) A short cycle educational programme - the educational programme relevant to the generalized learning outcomes defined by the Level 5 of the National Qualifications Framework, which is based on the Vocational Education Programme's framework document and that is related to a Bachelor degree educational programme or the educational programme corresponding to the generalized learning outcomes of the Level 7 of the National Qualifications Framework which also corresponds to the generalized learning outcomes of the Level 6 of the National Qualifications Framework.

gg<sup>51</sup>) International school - a basic educational unit, managed by the manager of an international school, established in accordance with Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law with the consent of the Ministry.

gg<sup>52</sup>) International Master's-Doctoral School - a basic educational unit established in accordance with Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law with the consent of the Ministry, which is managed by the manager of the International Master's-Doctoral School;

gg<sup>53</sup>) A manager of an international school/ A manager of the International Master's-Doctoral School - A legal entity of public law or a legal entity of private law established in a foreign country, which had at least 8 years of experience (implementation of scientific research and / or other educational activities or financing or supervision of educational programmes) in the field of education in Georgia or in a foreign country before the establishment of an international school / international master's-doctoral school and which manages an international school / international master's-doctoral school based on the Statute of the international school/master's-doctoral school and the agreement with the higher education institution established by the State.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 17, - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4209 of 22 February 2011 - website, 10.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 6014 of 10 April 2012 – website, 20.04.2012

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 927 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 1627 of 20 November 2014 - website, 03.12.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website, 06.11.2014  
Law of Georgia No 2791 of 14 November 2014 - website, 26.11.2014  
Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017  
Law of Georgia No 953 of 1 June 2017 - website, 20.06.2017  
Law of Georgia No 1185 of 30 June 2017 – website, 10.07.2017  
Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017  
Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018  
Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019  
Law of Georgia No 6287 of 12 June 2020 - website, 15.06.2020  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021  
Law of Georgia No 1035 of 1 December 2021- website, 06.12.2021  
Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022  
Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

### **Article 3. Goals of Higher Education**

1. The main goals of higher education in Georgia are as follows:

- a) Promotion of the formation of Georgian and global cultural values, orientation toward the ideals of democracy and humanism essential for the existence and development of civil society;
- b) To satisfy the needs to obtain higher education, qualification and training corresponding to the interests and capabilities of the individuals;
- c) To realize the personal potential, develop creative skills, train persons with competences suitable for present-day requirements, ensure the competitiveness of persons with higher education in internal and external labor market, offer high-quality higher education to the interested persons, envisaging the requirements of the students and the society.
- d) To train and re-train new scientific personnel, create, ensure and develop scientific research conditions to ensure the sustainability of the State and the higher education system itself;
- e) To encourage the mobility of students and academic personnel of higher education institutions.

2. To achieve the goals set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article, the State shall ensure:

- a) access to and openness of higher education and academic freedom in learning, teaching and scientific research; including for the convicted persons, within the limits established by Georgian legislation;
- b) the opportunity to acquire higher education at any time during a person's lifetime;
- c) the integration of higher education and science;
- d) development of quality assurance systems that considers functioning of authorization system, accreditation system and quality management (assurance) mechanisms at higher education institutions;
- e) full participation in a unified European educational and research area for the processes of learning, teaching and for conducting scientific research works, as well as in other international systems of cooperation;

- f) autonomy of a higher education institution;
- g) participation of academic personnel, scientific personnel and students of a higher education institution in the process of making decisions and monitoring of their execution;
- h) prevention of any forms of discrimination in the field of higher education, including academic, religious or ethnic discrimination, as well as discrimination on the grounds of opinion, sex, social origin and others;
- i) publicity and transparency of the management of higher education institutions and of the competitions held in these institutions;
- j) provision of other conditions that facilitate achievement of the goals specified by Paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. To achieve the goals set forth in Paragraph 1 of this Article, a higher education institution shall:

- a) train a person for such professional activities which require the application of both scientific knowledge and scientific methods;
- b) care about the professional development of its personnel;
- c) promote the improvement of students' social conditions;
- d) provide appropriate learning conditions defined by the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for students with disabilities;
- e) facilitate the development of sports within its authority;
- f) cooperate with any other higher education and scientific research institutions of Georgia;
- g) promote international cooperation and exchange of students/professors with the relevant foreign educational institutions;
- h) serve the development of science through teaching, learning and professional development in a free, democratic and socially equitable environment;
- i) support the dissemination of modern knowledge and technologies;
- j) ensure the accessibility and openness of higher education, academic freedom, life-long provision of higher education opportunities, involvement of academic personnel, scientific staff and students in decision-making and in the monitoring of its implementation, publicity and transparency of higher education institution management and competitions held therein, prohibition of all forms of discrimination in the field of higher education, including, on academic, ethnic, religious or social grounds, and/or based on views, gender, or any other grounds;
- k) ensure the provision of any such conditions which promote the accomplishment of the goals provided for by Paragraph 1 of this Article.

4. Academic freedom may be restricted only in the following cases:

- a) determining organisational issues and priorities in order to achieve freedom of scientific research;
- b) resolving organisational issues regarding the study process, and the issues concerning the approval of the timetable of lectures and the curricula, in order to achieve freedom of teaching;
- c) organising the study process and ensuring high quality studies in order to achieve freedom of learning;
- d) when the performance of scientific research and publication of its results are limited by a labour contract or they contain State confidential information.

5. No structural units of political and religious organisations can be established within a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 953 of 1 June 2017 - website, 20.06.2017

Law of Georgia No 6846 of 14 July 2020 - website, 28.07.2020

#### **Article 4. Language of Higher Education**

The language of instruction at higher education institutions is Georgian, and in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia (studies may be conducted in other languages as well, except for Individual Educational Programmes, if determined by international agreements of Georgia or agreed with the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia,) the language of instruction is Abkhazian as well.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Chapter II. Management of a Higher Education System**

#### **Article 5. Authority of the Parliament of Georgia in the Field of Higher Education**

Parliament of Georgia shall:

- a) determine the primary areas of higher education policy and management, and adopt appropriate legislative acts;
- b) periodically hear a report from the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia (hereinafter – the Minister) on the implementation of State policy, financial activities and the fulfillment of State programmes in the field of higher education.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 6. Authority of the Government of Georgia in the Field of Higher Education**

1. The Government of Georgia shall:

- a) implement the State policy in the field of higher education;
- b) upon recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, approve the annual volume and amount of State Study Scholarships and State Study Scholarships for Master's Programmes;
- b<sup>1</sup>) upon recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia approve annual academic disciplines for the Master's programme, including prioritised academic disciplines, and distribute the annual amounts of State Study Scholarships for Master's Programmes among each academic discipline for the Master's Programme and the prioritised academic disciplines for the Master's Programme, by distributing percentage thresholds of State Study Scholarships for Master's Programme among the prioritised academic disciplines for the Master's Programme;
- b<sup>2</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- b<sup>3</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- c) upon recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, determine the amount of and conditions for financing students admitted to accredited higher education programmes, with a minimum 6% and a maximum 20% of the annual State financing allocated under the social programme;
- c<sup>1</sup>) upon recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, approve the volume and amount of financing for persons enrolled for a teacher training educational programme;

- c<sup>2</sup>) upon recommendation of the Ministry define the volume and amount of the State academic grant that is used for funding the students enrolled based on the results of the Unified National Examinations which have undertaken the educational programme of the Georgian language training;
- c<sup>3</sup>) upon recommendation of the Ministry determine the amount of and conditions for financing students for the Master's degree admitted to Master's Programmes of higher education institutions with the State Study Scholarship for Master's Programmes under the social programme by not more than 10% of the annual amount of the State Study Scholarship for Master's Programmes;
- c<sup>4</sup>) determine the amount of and conditions for financing the higher education of foreign citizens on the basis of the international agreements of Georgia, or the principle of reciprocity or under a special State programme;
- c<sup>5</sup>) is authorised, upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, to determine the annual volume and amount of and conditions for allocating State Study scholarship to the citizens of Georgia and those persons provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia who continue studies at an accredited higher education programme of Georgian higher education institution without taking Unified National Examinations following the recognition of education acquired in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia or Tskhinvali Region (former South Ossetia Autonomous District) for the purpose of financing State Study Scholarship with the maximum amount allocated by the Government of Georgia for a given year; Upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia the Government of Georgia shall also be authorised to determine the amount of and the procedures for allocating State Study Scholarships and State Study Scholarships for Master's Programmes to the students affected by the natural disasters, who have been admitted to accredited higher education programmes of higher education institutions of Georgia;
- c<sup>6</sup>) approve the procedures for enjoying student discounts using the student ID Cards (residence cards) upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;
- d) upon the recommendation of the Ministry establish a legal entity under public law or a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity under private law in order to acquire the status of a higher education institution, and approve its temporary statute;
- d<sup>1</sup>) upon recommendation of the Ministry, approve the criteria and procedure for the establishment of a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university;
- e) set up the Board of Regents and approve its Charter;
- f) upon recommendation of the Ministry of Defense of Georgia, establish a legal entity under public law or a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity under private law in order to obtain the status of a military higher education institution and approve its temporary statute;
- g) upon recommendation of a legal entity under public law - the Maritime Transport Agency, establish a legal entity under public law for the purpose of obtaining the status of a maritime higher education institution, and approves its temporary statute;
- h) (deleted- 21.07.2018, №3271)
2. (deleted).

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 3987 of 14 December 2006 - LHG I, No 48, 22.12.2006, Art. 354

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 5533 of 4 December 2007 - LHG I, No 43, 12.12.2007, Art. 392

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art..44  
Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148  
Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281  
Law of Georgia №2941 of 20 April - LHG I, №123, 04.05.2010, Art. 123  
Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299  
Law of Georgia No 4040 of 15 December - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010, Art. 464  
Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012  
Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013  
Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013  
Law of Georgia No 1627 of 20 November 2014 - website, 03.12.2013  
Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 7. Authority of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia in the Field of Higher Education**

1. On the basis of the legislation of Georgia in the field of general education, in particular the Constitution of Georgia, the Constitutional Agreement, international agreements and treaties of Georgia, this Law, other laws and by-laws, the Ministry shall:

- a) implement the unified policy in the field of higher education;
- b) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- c) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- c<sup>1</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- c<sup>2</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- c<sup>3</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- d) (deleted);
- d<sup>1</sup>) appoint to and dismiss from the position, in agreement with the Prime Minister of Georgia, the Director of the National Assessment and Examinations Centre (NAEC);
- e) (deleted);
- f) approve the authorisation regulations of the educational institutions and the accreditation regulations of the educational programmes of educational institutions (hereinafter – accreditation regulations) upon the recommendation of a LEPL National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement (hereinafter - the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement);
- f<sup>1</sup>) approve the accreditation procedure and fees of Georgian language training educational programme upon the recommendation of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement;
- g) draft and approve the Charter of the Legal Entity under Public Law – the National Assessment and Examination Center;

- h) approve the statutes of higher education institutions established by the State upon the recommendation of the Council of Representatives or the collegiate body in accordance with the Organic Law of Georgia on Normative Acts, and issue reports on the draft statutes of military, police, maritime, arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions established by the State upon the recommendation of an appropriate ministry;
- h<sup>1</sup>) (deleted- 06.09.2013, №1081);
- i) approve the regulations for organising the Unified National Examinations and the procedures of allocating and distributing State Study Scholarships, also the regulations for organising the Unified Master's Examinations and the procedures of allocating and distributing State Study Scholarships for Master's Programmes upon the recommendation of the National Assessment and Examinations Centre;
- i<sup>1</sup>) approve incentives for foreign citizens to acquire higher education in Georgia;
- j) cooperate with international organizations, other countries, their educational institutions in the area of examination and ensuring of the higher education quality;
- k) (deleted);
- l) be responsible for the compliance with the normative acts applicable to the field of higher education;
- l<sup>1</sup>) approve the procedure for conducting the first elections of the management bodies of the Legal Entity under Public Law – a higher education institution (except for Kutaisi International University);
- m) approve the templates of a State document certifying higher education and of its supplement;
- m<sup>1</sup>) approve the procedure for admitting a person to a teacher training educational programme, and the procedure for awarding the State Study Scholarship to a person admitted to a teacher training educational programme and the procedure for issuing a teacher training certificate;
- m<sup>2</sup>) submit the volume and amount of financing for persons enrolled for a teacher training educational programme to the Government of Georgia for approval;
- m<sup>3</sup>) approve the accreditation procedures and the fees of teachers' training programmes upon the recommendation of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement and upon the approval the National Centre for Teachers' Professional Development;
- m<sup>4</sup>) approve the procedure for issuing a veterinary certificate;
- n) approves the fees for the authorization of higher education institutions (except Kutaisi International University) and the accreditation of their educational programs;
- n<sup>1</sup>) approve a procedure, conditions and fees for holding English language certification exams. The Ministry may determine the procedures and periods for submitting and reviewing administrative complaints regarding English language certification examinations other than the procedures and periods determined by the General Administrative Code of Georgia;
- o) determine the procedures and conditions for allocating and transferring State Study Scholarships and State Study Scholarships for Master's Programmes among the accredited higher education programmes of higher education institutions;
- o<sup>1</sup>) establish the procedures for the calculation of credits for higher education programmes;
- o<sup>2</sup>) upon recommendation of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement, determine the procedures and fees for transferring from one higher education institution to another, also the procedures for transferring from one academic programme to another within the same higher education institution, and the procedures and fees for the verification of the authenticity of educational documents issued in Georgia, and for the recognition of education acquired abroad;



- o<sup>3</sup>) approve a procedure and terms of creation and administration of an information system of management of higher education;
- o<sup>4</sup>) deleted 20.09.2018, №3438)
- o<sup>5</sup>) approve a list of international examinations, in which if a person passes a certain threshold he/she will have a right to take the examination/examinations determined by a higher education institution for academic disciplines, including for the prioritised academic disciplines of the higher education institutions that are members of the Unified Master's Examination Network;
- o<sup>6</sup>) annually approve a programme discipline/disciplines of a Bachelor's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Teacher Training, Integrated Master's Veterinary, and/or Certified Medical Doctor's/Dentist's accredited academic educational programmes of a higher education institution established by the State, for which tuition fees of a student are fully and/or partially financed by the State;
- o<sup>7</sup>) approve procedures and conditions for financing Doctoral Programmes;
- o<sup>8</sup>) approve procedures for the conditional admission of Georgian national team members participating in International Educational Olympiads to Georgian higher education institutions as well as procedures for the financing thereof;
- o<sup>9</sup>) with regard to the examinations provided for by the normative acts of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia, have the right to determine the time limits and procedure for submitting and reviewing an administrative complaint that are different from those determined under the General Administrative Code of Georgia;
- o<sup>10</sup>) have the right to determine the service fees/cost of activities provided by the legal entities under public law within the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (except for the tuition fees for a higher education institution);
- o<sup>11</sup>) together with the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, determine the rules and conditions for the convict to receive education in bachelor's and master's degree programmes;
- o<sup>12</sup>) provide programme funding for arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions;
- o<sup>13</sup>) participate in the development of the authorisation and accreditation conditions for arts and creative, and sports education institutions.
- o<sup>14</sup>) upon recommendation of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, approve the procedure of elaboration of the Bachelor's educational programme (that includes at least 180 credits) and Master's educational programme (that includes at least 60 credits);
- o<sup>15</sup>) approve the procedure and terms of suspension and termination of a student's status for a student;
- o<sup>16</sup>) approve the rules and conditions of enrollment and financing in a higher education institution of Georgia without passing the Unified National Examinations for citizens of Georgia and persons provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, who have studied for the last 2 years and received a full general education certificate in a general education institution located in the occupied defined by the Law of Georgia of the Occupied Territories and whose full general education was recognised in accordance with the rules established by the Ministry; also for persons with special educational needs provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, who did not have access to full general education due to lack of relevant infrastructure and educational programmes in the occupied territories and received a certificate of complete general education at a school operating in Georgia (except in the occupied territories).

o<sup>17</sup>) approve the rule of enrollment and financing in the higher education institution of Georgia without passing the Unified Master's Examinations for citizens of Georgia and persons provided in Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, who have Bachelor's degree, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Degree of Teacher Training, Integrated Master's Degree of Veterinary, academic degrees relevant to educational programmes of Certified Medical Doctor/Dentist;

o<sup>18</sup>) during an epidemic / pandemic, make decisions on the suspension, renewal and remote management of the educational process in Georgian higher education institutions;

o<sup>19</sup>) issue consent to the establishment of an international school / international master's-doctoral school in accordance with Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law;

p) carry out any other functions provided for by Georgian legislation and the Statute of the Ministry.

2. (deleted - 13.04.2022, №1500).

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009. Art.281

Law of Georgia №2941 of 20 April - LHG I, №123, 04.05.2010, Art. 123

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4040 of 15 December - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010, Art. 464

Law of Georgia No 4209 of 22 February 2011 - website, 10.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5347 of 25 November 2011 - website, 06.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 5512 of 20 December 2011 - website, 28.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 6014 of 10 April 2012 – website, 20.04.2012

Law of Georgia No 6450 of 12 June 2012 – website, 25.06.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 927 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 953 of 1 June 2017 - website, 20.06.2017

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 2754 of 29 June 2018 - website, 19.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018.

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 5091 of 3 October 2019 - website. 04.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

Law of Georgia No 5279 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019  
Law of Georgia No 6287 of 12 June 2020 - website, 15.06.2020  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021  
Law of Georgia No 458 of 14 April 2021 – website, 16.04.2021  
Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022  
Law of Georgia No 1466 of 30 March 2022 - website, 06.04.2022  
Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

**Article 8. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67  
Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299  
Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 1632 of 7 December 2017 - website, 14.12.2017  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

**Article 8<sup>1</sup>. The Competence of the Ministry of Defence of Georgia with regard to Military Higher Education Institutions**

1. For military higher education institutions, the Ministry of Defence shall, in the manner prescribed by this Law:

- a) submit proposals to the Government of Georgia, upon the approval of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, with regard to establishing an appropriate legal entity in order to acquire the status of a higher education institution;
- b) approve the statute of a higher education institution on the basis of the report of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;
- c) be responsible for the implementation of the normative acts of Georgia in the area of military education;
- d) ensure programme funding of the higher military education institute and/or purchases services from it;
- e) participate in the development of procedures for the authorisation and accreditation of higher military education institutions.

2. The military higher education institution shall have the right to:

- a) implement professional military educational programmes;
- b) carry out respective study activities aiming to promote professional development of the personnel of the Ministry of Defence of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 8<sup>2</sup>. Competences of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and of LEPL- the Maritime Transport Agency in the Area of Higher Maritime Education**

1. The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia shall approve the statute of a LEPL higher maritime education institution on the basis of the report of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and under the Law of Georgia on Normative Acts.

2. The LEPL Maritime Transport Agency shall, in the manner prescribed by this Law:

- a) submit proposals to the Government of Georgia, upon the approval of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, on the establishment of a LEPL higher maritime education institution in order to acquire the status of a higher education institution;
- b) in accordance with the Law of Georgia on the Legal Entity under Public Law, shall exert a State control over the higher maritime education institute;
- c) be responsible for compliance with the normative acts applicable to the field of higher maritime education;
- d) have the right to finance the academic programmes of higher maritime education institutions;
- e) participate in the development of procedures for the authorisation and accreditation of higher maritime education institutions;
- f) exercise any other powers provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Article 83. (deleted)

Law of Georgia No 1627 of 20 November 2014 - website, 03.12.2013

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018

#### **Article 8<sup>4</sup>. Competence of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs of Georgia in the field of Art-Creative and Sports Higher Education**

For State-established art-creative and sports higher education institutions, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs of Georgia, within its competence, in accordance with the rules established by this Law, shall:

- a) submit proposals to the Government of Georgia in agreement with the Ministry on establishing legal entities under public law or non-profit legal entities under private law for the purpose of acquisition of the status of a higher education institution;
- b) approve the statute of a higher education institution on the basis of the report of the Ministry; The charter of a legal entity of public law a higher education institution is approved in accordance with the Organic Law of Georgia on Normative Acts;
- c) shall exert the State control over a legal entity under public law higher education institution in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Legal Entity of Public Law;
- d) shall be responsible for the performance of the normative acts of Georgia;
- e) ensure programme funding for arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions;
- f) participate in the development of the authorisation and accreditation conditions for arts and creative, and sports education institutions.

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Chapter III. Purpose, Types, Establishment, Obtaining of Status, Reorganization and Liquidation of a Higher Education Institute**

*Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299*

**Article 9. The Types of Higher Education Institutions shall be as follows:**

1. The types of higher education institutions shall be as follows:

- a) a university;
- b) teaching university;
- c) college;
- d) any other higher education institute established under the law.

1<sup>1</sup>. In order to carry out scientific research activities within the Master and PhD programmes, the University must have an appropriate base, and in case of absence of such a base, a contract should be signed with the scientific research institution on the implementation of a Joint Higher Education Programme.

2. A higher education institution shall be established in the form of either a legal entity under public law or legal entity under private law.

3. An orthodox theological higher education institute may exist in the form of a structural unit of the Patriarchate of Georgia or an individual legal entity under private law.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

**Article 10. Distinguishing the Competences within a Higher Education Institution**

1. A higher education institution shall, under this Law:

- a) approve the basic directions of study, research and creative activities;
- b) draft the statute, approve that institution's internal regulations, the grounds and rules for the ethics and disciplinary responsibility;
- c) approve common rules for the recruitment of the academic and auxiliary personnel;
- d) approve the coefficients for specific disciplines for the Unified National Examinations submitted by the basic educational units;
- d<sup>1</sup>) make a decision regarding the assignment or not assignment of coefficients to the Unified Master's Examinations upon the recommendation of the main educational units in cases determined by the legislation of Georgia. If coefficients are assigned to the Unified Master's Examinations, a higher education institution shall approve the coefficients for each part of the Unified Master's Examinations and for the examination/examinations determined by it; however if the coefficients are not assigned to the Unified Master's Examinations and Master's candidates manage to pass a minimum threshold level in the Unified Master's Examinations for admission to Master's Programmes as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, the higher education institution shall apply the coefficients assigned to the examination/examinations determined by it;
- e) elect managerial bodies and officials of the institution;
- f) dispose own finances and assets in the manner prescribed by the legislation of Georgia;

g) be obliged, upon the recommendation of the basic educational unit, determine exams for Master's candidates in respective specialty; it shall also have the right to determine exams at any other subject/subjects;

h) approve procedures for the taking of the examination/examinations determined by higher education institutions for Master's candidates as provided for by an order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia upon the recommendation of the main educational units and in cases determined by the legislation of Georgia;

h<sup>1</sup>) establish the minimum threshold level in the examination specified in the list of international examinations approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, and if a person exceeds a minimum threshold level, he/she may take the examination/examinations established by a higher education institution;

i) for carrying out Master's Programmes determine the compliance of the list of specialisation/specialisations, submitted by the main educational units, with the academic disciplines approved by the Government of Georgia for the Master's Programmes of higher education institutions, upon the approval of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement;

j) determine and submit to the National Assessment and Examinations Centre, in accordance with each academic discipline, the list of Master's candidates, who have passed the examination/examinations determined by higher education institutions and acquired the right to continue studies for the Master's Programmes at an appropriate higher education institution.

k) carry out the activities provided for by the Georgian legislation within the system of professional orientation, consulting and career planning in the formal education.

1<sup>1</sup>. The independent scientific research unit shall have the right to:

a) carry out fundamental and applied scientific research activities;

b) carry out consulting and expert activities in the manner prescribed by the legislation of Georgia;

c) organize, in the manner prescribed by the statute of the higher education institute, scientific conferences and any other scientific events;

d) cooperate with Georgian and foreign scientific research institutions in the manner prescribed by the statute of the basic educational unit/the statute of the higher education institution;

e) take part in international scientific events in the manner prescribed by the statute of the basic educational unit/the statute of the higher education institute;

f) participate in the preparation and implementation of higher education programmes under the procedure established by a higher education institution, and in the preparation of Bachelor's and Master's theses and dissertations by students;

g) in the manner prescribed by the higher education institution, involve students in scientific grant projects, local and international scientific conferences and scientific research activities;

h) carry out any other activity provided for by the Georgian legislation and the statute of the independent scientific research unit.

2. The Main educational units of higher education institutions, under this Law, shall:

a) develop basic directions of the study, scientific research and creative activities, and draft respective programmes and plans;

b) develop the procedure for recruiting academic personnel, and the procedure for recruiting scientific personnel (if any);

c) determines coefficients for the Unified National Examinations in the beginning of an academic year;

- d) be authorised to make a decision on the assignment or not assignment of coefficients to the Unified Master's Examinations as provided for by an order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia and if assigned, determine the coefficient for each part of the Unified Master's Examinations and also assign coefficients to the examination/examinations determined by it;
- e) organise examination/examinations for Master's candidates;
- f) elect management bodies and officials;
- g) provide a mechanism for ensuring quality study and research;
- h) resolve the issues related to the ownership of finances acquired and to their own property, and issues related to the use of this property as provided for by the legislation of Georgia and their statute;
- i) develop procedures for organising the examination/examinations for Master's candidates determined by higher education institutions as provided for by an order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia;
- j) determine the list of specialization/specialisations within the scope of academic disciplines for carrying out Master's Programmes.
- k) carry out the activities provided for by the Georgian legislation within the system of professional orientation, consulting and career planning in the formal education.

2<sup>1</sup>. A legal Entity under Private Law – a higher education institution itself (except for a higher education institution established by the State) shall determine the delimitation of competences provided for under this Law between the higher education institution and a major educational unit. Delimitation of competences shall not apply to awarding a qualification as it falls within the competence of the major educational unit. Delimitation of competences shall not be necessary if there is only one major educational unit at a higher education institution.

2<sup>2</sup>. Scopes of authorities and procedures for delimiting such authorities at Orthodox theological higher education institutions, as provided for by this Article, shall be determined by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia.

2<sup>3</sup>. Kutaisi International Institute shall, on its own, define the separation of competences under this Law between a higher education institution and a major education unit.

3. A higher education institution shall meet the requirements determined by Article 52<sup>1</sup> (1) of this Law if it is a member of the Unified Master's Examinations Network.

4. Powers between a State-funded higher education institution and an international school / international master's-doctoral school are divided by an international school / international master's-doctoral school charter and a State-run higher education institution and by agreement between the State-run higher education institution and the international school head/ international master's-doctoral school head.

5. The Academic Council, in accordance with the rules established by Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law, upon the recommendation of the international school head/international master's-doctoral school head, shall approve for the international school / international master's-doctoral school the following:

- A) at the beginning of the academic year - the coefficients for the Unified National Examinations, as well as the number of students to be admitted to the international school;
- B) international master's-doctoral school Master's Examination coefficients for master's examinations, as well as the number of students admitted to the international master's-doctoral school;
- C) the limit of minimum competence in the exam provided by the list of international exams approved by the Ministry;

D) Strategic development plan of the international school / international master's-doctoral school, educational and scientific research programmes;

E) Statute of the international school / international master's-doctoral school dissertation council.

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art. 44

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4040 of 15 December - LHG I, №4041, 27.12.2010, Art. 464

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 917 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

#### **Article 10<sup>1</sup>. Legal Capacity of LEPL- a Higher Education Institution**

LEPL a higher education institution shall have the right to:

a) carry out educational and scientific research activities;

a<sup>1</sup>) carry out consultation activities and provision of expertise under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia;

b) carry out publishing activities;

b) sell the products developed in the process of educational, scientific research activities;

c) develop and sell products (inventions and useful models) created in the process of scientific, research and laboratory activities;

e) supporting entrepreneurial activity in the case provided for by its charter (statute);

f) any other activity provided for by respective law, the resolution of the Government of Georgia and/or its own statute (charter), unless otherwise stipulated by respective law.

Law of Georgia No 2100 of 7 March 2014- website, 14.03.2014

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 11. Higher Education Institution Established by the State**

1. The State establishes a legal entity under public law or a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity under private law in order to acquire the status of a higher education institution.

2. State supervision over the LEPL higher education institution (except for the Kutaisi International University, as well as military, police, maritime, arts, and sports higher education institutions) shall be carried out by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia as provided for by the Law of Georgia on Legal Entities under Public Law and this Law. State supervision over the military, police, maritime, arts, and sports higher education institutions shall be carried out by appropriate bodies.

3. The name and purpose of an education institution, and measures related to the transfer of property to the institution shall be determined and the acting head of the institution shall be appointed on the basis of the act of the Government of Georgia on the establishment of legal entities under public law and non-



entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities under private law for acquiring the status of a higher education institution. A temporary (provisional) charter shall determine the powers related to the passing through authorization/accreditation by an acting head, and to the implementation of higher education activities before the elections of management bodies.

4. Higher education institutions, including legal entities under public law, shall not have right to carry out general education activities without establishing another independent legal entity.

5. In order to facilitate the development of arts and creative, and/or sports education in the country, the arts-creative and/or sports higher education institutions established by the State may carry out out-of-school arts and/or sports educational programmes, within the scope of auxiliary activities, for the pupils of general education institutions as provided for by this Law and the statutes of the arts and creative, and/or sports higher education institutions, in coordination with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 3987 of 14 December 2006 - LHG I, No 48, 22.12.2006, Art. 354

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art. 118

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia №2379 of 18 December - LHG I, №48, 29.12.2009, Art. 364

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 1627 of 20 November 2014 - website, 03.12.2013

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 1632 of 7 December 2017 - website, 14.12.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 11<sup>1</sup>. LEPL- Scientific Research Institute Affiliated to the LEPL- the University**

1. The Government of Georgia may establish a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university with the consent of the university.

2. The issues relating to the structure and management of the LEPL- the scientific research institution operating under LEPL- the University shall be regulated under the Law of Georgia on the Science, Technologies and Their Development.

3. The LEPL- the scientific research institute under the LEPL- the university shall have the right, based on the contract concluded with a higher education institution:

- a) to participate in the development and implementation of joint educational programmes, also in the preparation of the Bachelor's and Master's theses and dissertations by students;
- b) involve students in scientific grant projects, local and international scientific conferences and scientific research events.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 12. Higher Education Institution - Legal Entity under Private Law**

1. A legal entity under private law may be established under the Law of Georgia on Entrepreneurs and the Civil Code of Georgia in order to acquire the status of a higher education institution.

1<sup>1</sup>. A legal entity under private law shall be entitled to carry out higher education activities in the manner prescribed by law, without the right to establish any other independent legal entity.

2. Local self-government bodies may not establish, own shares in or be the members of a legal entity under private law for the purpose of acquiring the status of a higher education institution.

2<sup>1</sup>. In order to obtain a status of a higher education institution, the State shall be prohibited to establish a legal entrepreneurial entity under private law, to hold shares or to serve as a member.

3. To the higher education institutions which operate as a legal entity under private law, excluding the institutions established by the State, taking into account their contents, shall not apply the provisions provided for by chapters IV, V (excluding Articles 32-35) and XIV of this Law.

4. (Deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 3987 of 14 December 2006 - LHG I, No 48, 22.12.2006, Art. 354

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 6906 of 15 July 2020 - website, 28.07.2020

#### **Article 12<sup>1</sup>. Obtaining the Status of a Higher Education Institute**

The status of a higher education institute can be obtained and respective educational activities can be carried out only when going through authorisation in the manner prescribed by the statute of authorisation of educational institutes.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

#### **Article 13. Reorganization and Liquidation of a Higher Education Institution**

1. A higher education institution may be reorganized or liquidated in accordance with the procedure envisaged by this Law, and respectively, by the Laws of Georgia on Entrepreneurs and on Legal Entities under Public Law, and the Civil Code of Georgia.

2. A higher education institution established by the State, also a legal entity established by the State with a view to acquiring the status of a higher education institution can be reorganized or liquidated by the Government of Georgia commensurate with the law of Georgia upon the recommendation of the authority by whose initiative this institution/entity was founded.

3. The requirements prescribed by Georgian legislation shall not apply to the reorganization and liquidation of the Orthodox theological higher education institutions. These institutions are reorganized and liquidated by the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia. After the liquidation, the assets of the institution concerned shall be transferred to the Patriarchate of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

### **Chapter IV. Structure of the Higher Education Institution Established by the State**

**Article 14. Structure of a Higher Education Institution**

1. The structure of a higher education institution shall be determined by the statute of the institution, which shall also include a main educational unit.
2. LEPL- a higher education institute shall consist of the basic educational units, library (libraries) of the higher education institute and supporting structural units as follows: The Rector's office, the Office of the Head of Administration, the Chancellery and the secretariats of the management bodies.
3. Any other structural units of a higher education institution, as well as the procedure for operation of structural units shall be determined by the statute of the institute and by the statute of respective structural unit.
4. An affiliate foreign higher education institution may carry out appropriate educational activities on the territory of Georgia, only after its compliance with the authorisation standards are verified under the procedures provided for by the international agreements and other legislative and subordinate normative acts of Georgia, and for carrying out appropriate educational activities on the territory of Georgia, the foreign higher education institution shall acquire authorisation on the basis of verifying its compliance with the authorisation standards determined by the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

**Article 15. Management of a Higher Education Institution**

1. The management bodies of a higher education institution shall be determined and the scope of authority among these bodies is delimited by the statute of the institution.
2. The management bodies (managing units) of a LEPL higher education institution are as follows: The Academic Council, the Council of Representatives, the Rector, the Head of Administration and the Head of Quality Assurance Service.
  - 2<sup>1</sup>. At the higher education institutions established by the State:
    - a) the remuneration of the Rector shall be determined within the range of the maximum amount of a Professor's remuneration multiplied by a coefficient not less than 1.15 and not more than 1.35;
    - b) the remuneration of the Head of Administration shall be determined within the range of the maximum amount of a Professor's remuneration multiplied by a coefficient not less than 1.10 and not more than 1.30;
    - c) the remuneration of the head of the quality assurance office of a higher education institution and of the head of the quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall be determined within the range of the maximum amount of a Professor's remuneration multiplied by a coefficient not less than 1.10 and not more than 1.30;
    - d) the remuneration of the Dean of a main educational unit shall be determined within the range of the maximum amount of the remuneration corresponding to the occupied academic position, multiplied by a coefficient not less than 1.10 and not more than 1.30.
3. The management bodies (managing units) of a main educational unit of a LEPL higher education institution are: The Council of a main educational unit, the Dean of a main educational unit and the quality assurance office of a main educational unit.
4. A higher education institution shall develop quality assurance mechanisms.

5. A higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity shall have at least one collegiate body that comprises the elected representatives of the academic personnel and students of the main educational units.

6. The Head of a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity shall be elected.

7. The senior administrative manager in the areas of financial, material and administrative resources of a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity shall be the Head of Administration.

8. The Higher Education Institution Development Fund may be established for the purpose of administering the property of a higher education institution, established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity.

9. A higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity and the Higher Education Institution Development Fund may purchase literature (printed, electronic or recorded on audio-visual drives) through simplified procurement procedures. Other products may be purchased through simplified procurement procedures upon the consent of the Board of Regents.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013.

#### **Article 16. Management Principles of a Higher Education Institution:**

1. A higher education institution shall ensure:

a) publicity and availability of decisions of a higher education institution, the reports of the governing bodies and legal acts for all interested persons. To the non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity established by the State shall apply the provisions of the freedom of information established by the General Administrative Code of Georgia. This institute shall have developed transparent procedures of decision-making;

b) academic freedom of academic personnel, scientific personnel and students;

c) participation of academic personnel, scientific personnel and students in the decision-making;

d) equal treatment regardless of the person's ethnic background, gender, social background, political or religious beliefs, etc.;

e) fairness and transparency of elections at higher education institutes and openness of competitions.

2. By the statute of a higher education institute and the statutes of structural units, no provisions restricting those principles shall be established.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015.

#### **Article 17. The Rule for Electing the Representatives Council**

1. The representative body of a LEPL higher education institution is the Representatives Council, which shall be elected from the main educational units of the higher education institution depending on how they are represented, individually by the students and academic personnel, in proportion with their representation in the main educational units. The number of members of the Representatives Council shall be at least double the number of members of the Academic Council as provided for by the statute of the institution.

2. The Representatives Council shall be elected from within the higher education institution on the basis of general, direct and equal elections, by secret ballot, in the manner prescribed by the statute of the higher education institution.
  3. The term of office of the Representatives Council shall coincide with the normative duration of basic cycle of education and shall be specified in the statute.
  4. The students shall comprise one third of the full list of the Representatives Council. An assistant takes part in the elections as a student. While for calculating the number of students, the number shall be approximated (rounded) for the benefit of students.
  5. The composition of the Representatives Council shall include a representative of the higher education institution library/libraries as prescribed by the higher education institution statute. In accordance with the procedures and proportions determined by the statute of a higher education institution, the persons to whom qualifications have been awarded by that higher education institution, also the representatives of independent scientific research units and public representatives may also be members of the Representatives Council.
  6. The grounds for the termination of the status of a member of the Representatives Council of professors and students may be the termination of their academic and/or labour relations with such higher education institution.
  7. In case the authority of a member of the Representatives Council is terminated prematurely, a member of the Council for the remaining term shall become candidate who obtained the most votes in the respective elections after the member whose authority had been terminated. In their absence, the elections shall take place with a view to electing respective representative with the same term.
  8. The Representatives Council may not be composed of representatives of administrative and supporting personnel, as well as of the Academic Council.
- Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67
- Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118
- Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009., Art.148
- Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.
- Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013.

#### **Article 18. Authority of the Representatives Council**

1. According to this Law, the Representatives Council shall:
  - a) develop the statute of a higher education institution in coordination with the Academic Council and submit it to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia for approval;
  - b) draft and approve the internal regulations of the institution, the code of ethics and procedures for disciplinary responsibility;
  - c) approve the procedure for drawing up the budget of a higher education institution and the regulations of its structural units (except for the regulations of an independent scientific research unit of a major educational unit);
  - d) elect the speaker of the Representatives Council;
  - e) approve a candidate for the Head of Administrative by the submission of the Academic Council;
  - f) approve the budget of higher education institution by the submission of the Head of Administration;
  - g) approve the structure of a higher education institution's administration based on the recommendation of the Head of Administration;

- h) approve an annual report of the Head of Administration;
  - i) upon recommendation by the Academic Council or on its own initiative, the Representatives Council is authorized to terminate the term of the Head of Administration prior to its expiration.
  - j) approve the procedure for recruitment of support personnel, the amount of and conditions for remuneration by the submission of the Head of Administration;
  - k) upon submission by the Academic Council, approve:
    - k.a) the procedure for hiring academic personnel, the amount and conditions of remuneration;
    - k.b) the procedure/procedures for recruiting scientific personnel of an independent scientific research unit/units of a university, and the amount and conditions of the remuneration of labour;
    - k.c.) additional conditions for holding an academic position at the university's independent scientific research unit;
  - l) approve the head of the quality assurance office of a higher education institution upon recommendation of the Academic Council;
  - n) exercises any other powers granted under the legislation of Georgia.
2. A session of the Representatives Council shall be convened by the initiative of the Speaker or at least by 1/3 of Council members. The procedure for making arrangements for and managing of a session of the Representatives Council shall be determined by the statute of the higher education institution.
3. The Representatives Council shall take decisions relating to the budget approval, election of the Head of Administration and approval of an annual report of the Head of Administration by the majority of the full list of the Representatives Council.

4. (deleted).

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 19. Speaker of the Representatives Council**

1. Meetings of the Representatives Council shall be organised and chaired by the Speaker elected by the Representatives Council from its members for the term of not more than the term of office of the Council. The term of office of the Speaker shall be specified in the statute of the higher education institution.
2. The following shall serve as grounds for premature termination of the term of office of the Speaker of the Representatives Council:
  - a) a personal wish;
  - b) upon the entry into legal force the court conviction against him/her;
  - c) death;
  - d) recognition as a disabled person by court or recognition as the person receiving support, unless otherwise provided for by a court judgement;
  - (e) (deleted);
  - e) dismissal from an academic position of a higher education institution;
  - g) any other case provided for by the statute of a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 3374 of 20 March 2015- website, 31.03.2015.

#### **Article 20. Election of the Academic Council**

1. The highest representative body of a LEPL higher education institution is the Academic Council. Members of the Academic Council shall be elected on the basis of the direct, free and equal elections by secret ballot by all members of the academic personnel of the major educational units, all members of the scientific personnel of the independent scientific research units and the representatives of the self-government of students that are members of the council of the major educational unit.

2. Each main educational unit shall have equal number of representatives in the Academic Council. The number of the representatives shall be determined by the statute of a higher education institution.

2<sup>1</sup>. Each independent scientific research unit (except for an independent scientific research unit of a major educational unit) must have at least one representative in the composition of the Academic Council.

3. A professor or associate professor is elected as a member of the Academic Council. A person may be elected as a member of an academic board only for two consecutive terms.

4. The term of election of members of the Academic Council shall be equivalent to the duration of the basic educational cycle as provided for by the statute.

5. (deleted - 01.06.2017, №933).

6. In case of holding an academic or administrative position at any other higher education institute, the membership of the Academic Council shall be terminated for the Academic Council.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 933 of 1 June 2017 - website, 21.06.2017

#### **Article 21. Powers of the Academic Council**

1. Under this Law, the Academic Council shall:

a) draft and approve a strategic plan for development of a higher education institution;

b) upon recommendation of the basic educational unit and/or an independent scientific research unit, approve educational and scientific research programmes;

b<sup>1</sup>) upon recommendation of the Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit of a university, approve the Director of the independent scientific research unit of the university;

b<sup>2</sup>) upon recommendation of an independent scientific research unit of a university, review and submit to the Representatives Council for approval the regulations of the independent scientific research unit of the university and additional conditions for occupying a scientific position at the independent scientific research unit of the university;

b<sup>3</sup>) review and submit to the Representatives Council for approval the procedure for recruiting the scientific personnel of an independent scientific research unit of a university;

- b<sup>4</sup>) upon recommendation of the quality assurance office of a higher education institution, review and approve the procedure for the internal assessment of scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of a university;
- b<sup>5</sup>) upon recommendation of a major educational unit, review and approve the procedure for participation of an appropriate independent scientific research unit in the preparation of Bachelor's and Master's theses and dissertations by students, and for the engagement of students in the scientific grant programmes, local and international scientific conferences and scientific research events;
- c) facilitate integration into the European area of higher education, draw up educational plans and curricula, and programmes for cooperation, mobility, integrated studies and scientific research among educational institutions;
- d) elect the Head of the Academic Council - the Rector- chair of the Academic Council, by free and equal elections, secret ballot, by the majority of the full list;
- e) nominate to the Representatives Council the candidate for the Head of Administration, selected by a majority of the members on the list on the basis of the competition;
- f) submit to the Representatives Council a reasonable proposal on the termination of the authority of the Head of Administration agreed by the majority of the members on the list;
- g) submit a new candidate for the Head of administration to the Representatives Council within a month after the authority of the Head of the Administration is terminated;
- h) participate in the discussion of a higher education institute's statute, statutes and budgets of structural entities, annual reports of the Head of Administration at the Representatives Council;
- i) in the beginning of an academic year, approves coefficients for the Unified National Examinations, also the number of students to be enrolled to the basic educational units by the recommendation of councils of the basic educational units;
- i<sup>1</sup>) approve the coefficients for the Unified Master's Examinations and the number of students to be admitted to main educational units upon the recommendation of the councils of the main educational units in cases determined by the legislation of Georgia, as provided for by an order of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia;
- i<sup>2</sup>) establish the minimum threshold level for the examination, determined by the list of international examinations approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, upon the recommendation of the councils of the main educational units;
- j) determine the procedure for recognising the credits received at any other educational institution;
- k) upon recommendation of the basic educational unit's council and/or by the recommendation of the independent scientific research unit, approve the statute of the Dissertation Council;
- l) submit for approval to the Representatives Council a candidate for the head of the quality assurance service of a higher education institution;
- m) determine general rules for the recruitment of, and the amount and conditions of remuneration of, academic personnel and submit the same to the Representatives Council for approval;
- m<sup>1</sup>) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- n) submit annual report to the Representative Council for approval;
- o) (Deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);
- p) elect the head(s) of the library(libraries) of a higher education institute;
- q) approve the Rules for Assessment of Teaching and Scientific research activities proposed by Quality Assurance Office;



r) exercise any other powers granted to it by this Law and Georgian legislation.

1<sup>1</sup>. The Academic Council is authorized to consider the issue of early termination of the Rector's authority on the grounds of violation of the legislation of Georgia by the Rector, improper performance of duties imposed on the Rector and / or implementation of activities unsuitable for the Rector. The decision on early termination of the Rector's term of office shall be taken by secret ballot, with the majority of its members on the list. The Rector shall not take part in the ballot defined by this article. Appellation of the decisions made on these issues does not result in suspension of the validity of the disputable act.

1<sup>2</sup>. (Deleted– 06.09.2013, №1081).

1<sup>3</sup>. A session of the Academic Council shall be convened under the initiative of the Rector or members of the Academic Council, by at least 1/3 of the members.

1<sup>4</sup>. The Rector shall cease to be a member of the Academic Council, if he ceases to serve as a Rector.

2. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007., Art..118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009., Art..44

Law of Georgia No 1341 of 26 June 2009 - LHG I, №16, 07.07.2009., Art.77

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009., Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 16 July - LHG I, №42, 22.07.2010, Art. 266

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4040 of 15 December - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010, Art. 464

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

## **Article 22. Head of a Higher Education Institution (Rector)**

1. The Rector of a higher education institution established by the State is a person holding the highest academic position, also the chairperson of the Academic Council in a LEPL higher education institution and a chairperson of one of the collegiate bodies of a higher education institution established as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, where he/she represents a higher education institution in academic and scientific fields inside and outside the country, and shall be authorised to conclude agreements and contracts on behalf of the higher education institution. Where agreements and contracts are concluded in relation to financial and economic matters, they shall be also concluded by the Head of Administration.

2. Before the approval of the results of the first elections of the Head of a higher education institution established by the State the acting Head is appointed by the Government of Georgia.

3. The Head of a higher education institution established by the State may be elected only for two consecutive terms, which shall not exceed two consecutive terms of the basic educational cycle.

4. A candidate for the Rector of a higher education institution established by the State (except for military, police, maritime, arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions established by the State) shall hold a Doctor's academic degree or its equivalent, and shall meet the requirements determined by the statute of the higher education institution.

5. A person who has previously held the position of Head of Administration, may hold the position of the Head of the same higher education institution only after one term of office of the Head of the higher education institution has expired after the termination of his/her authority as the Head of Administration.
  6. The Head of a LEPL higher education institution shall be elected by the Academic Council by a majority of its members on the list by secret ballot as provided by the legislation of Georgia, for the term of authority determined by the statute of the higher education institution, which shall not exceed the term of authority of the Council.
  7. The opening of applications for registration of the candidates for the Head of a LEPL higher education institution is announced by the Academic Council at least one month prior to the beginning of registration of candidates, in accordance with procedures established by the legislation of Georgia, and by the statute of the institution, on the basis of transparency, equality and fair competition principles.
  8. The Academic Council shall assess the action plans submitted by each candidate while selecting the candidates for the elections of the Head of a higher education institution.
  9. In compliance with the legislation of Georgia, in case of early termination of the term of Rector's authority, as well as in case of failure to elect the Rector, within 14 days the Academic Council shall elect an acting Rector through a secret ballot by the majority of the list composition for no more than 6 months. One and the same person may be elected as an acting Rector not more than once.
  10. The Head (Rector) of a higher education institution established by the State may appoint an acting Director of an independent scientific research unit of a university.
  11. The Head (Rector) of a higher education institution established by the State may appoint the Director of a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university and under the State control of the higher education institution, upon recommendation of the Scientific Council of this scientific research institution.
- Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67  
Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118  
Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148  
Law of Georgia №1916 of 3 November 2009 - LHG I, №35, 19.11.2009, Art. 226  
Law of Georgia No 3444 of 16 July 2010 - LHG I, №42, 22.07.2010, Art. 266  
Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013  
Law of Georgia No 1627 of 20 November 2014 - website, 03.12.2013  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 2320 of 4 May 2018 - website, 21.05.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3271 of 21 July 2018 - website, 31.07.2018

#### **Article 22<sup>1</sup>. Board of Regents**

1. The Board of Regents shall be established for the supervision of the activities of non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities established by the State.
2. The Government of Georgia shall establish the Board of Regents, approve its statute and determine the number of its members.

3. The activities of members of the Board of Regents shall not be subject to remuneration; however, the Government of Georgia shall have the right to take into consideration their remuneration in the State Budget for respective year.

4. The rights, obligations, responsibilities and termination of authority of a member of the Board of Regents, as well as the rules for the activities of the Board of Regents, shall be determined by the statute of the institution.

5. The Board of Regents shall:

a) nominate a candidate for the Head of Administration to the collegiate body determined by the statute of the higher education institution for approval. If the collegiate body rejects the candidate for the Head of Administration on two occasions consecutively, the Head of Administration shall be appointed by the Board of Regents. The procedure for selecting the candidate of the Head of Administration shall be determined by the Board of Regents;

b) approve the budget of the higher education institution upon the recommendation of the Head of Administration; moreover, the consent of the Board of Regents shall be required in the case of an amendment of more than 15% of the allocations of the approved line-item budget. Other amendments shall be made by the collegiate body of the higher education institution upon the recommendation of the Head of Administration;

c) approve the annual report of the Head of Administration;

d) approve the candidate for the Director of the Higher Education Institution Development Fund, appointed by a collegiate body of the higher education institution, upon the recommendation of the collegiate body of the higher education institution;

e) exercise other powers determined by the legislation of Georgia and the statute of a higher education institution provided that they do not restrict the academic freedom of the higher education institution.

6. The Law of Georgia on Conflicts of Interest and Corruption in Public Service shall apply to a member of the Board of Regents.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4381 of 27 October 2015- website, 11.11.2015

Law of Georgia No 155 of 21 December 2016 - website, 28.12.2016

### **Article 23. Head of Administration**

1. Head of Administration of a higher education institution established by the State shall represent the higher education institution in financial and economic relations. The same person may be appointed as Head of Administration only for two consecutive terms, which shall not exceed two consecutive terms of the basic educational cycle.

2. A person, who has previously held the position of Head of a higher education institution, may occupy the position of the Head of Administration of the same higher education institution only after one term of office of the Head of the higher education institution has expired after the termination of his/her authority as the Head of the higher education institution.

3. Head of Administration of LEPL higher education institute may be appointed by the Representatives Council upon the recommendation of the Academic Council, by secret ballot, in the manner prescribed by this law. One and the same person may be nominated by the Academic Council to the Representative Council only twice. If the Representative Council repeatedly refuses the candidate proposed, the Academic Council shall nominate a new candidate for the Head of Administration.

4. The requirements prescribed by the Law of Georgia on the Conflict of Interests and Corruption in Public Service shall apply to the Head of Administration.

5. In cases determined by the statute of the higher education institution the election to the position of the Head of Administration may be grounds for the termination of authority of a person holding an academic position.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4381 of 27 October 2015- website, 11.11.2015

Law of Georgia No 155 of 21 December 2016 - website, 28.12.2016

#### **Article 24. Authority of the Head of Administration**

1. The Head of Administration shall:

a) be the head of administration of the higher education institution;

b) be authorised to conclude financial and economic agreements on behalf of the higher education institution in compliance with the budget of the higher education institution;

c) draw up a draft of the structure of the administration of the higher education institution, and submit the same to the collegiate body or the Representatives Council of a higher education institution for approval;

d) draw up a draft of general rules for the recruitment of, and the amount and conditions of remuneration of, support personnel, and submit the same to the collegiate body or the Representatives Council of a higher education institution for approval;

e) administer the process of drawing up the draft budget of the main educational units of a higher education institution and its submission to the Representatives Council, and the process of drawing up a general draft budget of the higher education institution and its approval by the Representatives Council. The Head of Administration of a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, shall coordinate a draft budget of the higher education institution with the collegiate body of the institution and submit the same to the Board of Regents for approval;

e<sup>1</sup>) administer the process of drawing up by independent scientific research units of a higher education institution of their own draft budgets and their submission to the Representatives Council;

f) prepare an annual report of the work achieved and submit the same to an appropriate Board of Regents or the Representatives Council for approval;

g) issue individual acts within his/her authority;

h) be responsible for the lawfulness and efficiency of the financial and economic activities of a higher education institution;

i) performs other functions determined by the statute.

2. The Head of Administration shall be accountable to the Board of Regents and the collegiate body of the higher education institution, or the Representatives Council and the Academic Council.

3. The term of office of the Head of Administration may be terminated before its expiration on the basis of:

- a) repeated rejection of the annual report and budget by the Board of Regents at a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, and by the Representatives Council at a LEPL higher education institution;
- b) a reasonable decision made by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the Representatives Council at a LEPL higher education institution, and by a collegiate body at a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity;
- c) on the grounds for the termination of a labour agreement established by the Organic Law of Georgia - the Labour Code of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

### **Article 25. Quality Assurance at a Higher Education Institution**

1. Educational, scientific research work conducted by a higher education institution, and the quality of the professional development of its personnel, shall be subject to systematic assessment; the students of the institution shall participate in the assessment and its results shall be public and available to all persons concerned.

2. A quality assurance mechanism shall exist at a higher education institution, including at the main educational units operating in compliance with the statute of the higher education institution, for the purpose of the systematic assessment of the educational, scientific research work conducted by the institution and the quality of the professional development of its personnel.

3. To develop transparent criteria for quality control and the methodology for the assurance of those criteria, a higher education institution shall establish links and cooperate with the appropriate offices of foreign countries and foreign higher education institutions.

4. A higher education institution shall ensure the high quality of teaching by introducing modern methods for studying, teaching and evaluation (modules, credit systems, etc.), and preparing self-evaluation for the authorisation/accreditation process. The higher education institutions shall also ensure the high quality of research by introducing modern methods of research.

4<sup>1</sup>. The quality assurance office of a LEPL higher education institution shall prepare the procedure for internal assessment of scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of a university, and submit it to the Academic Council for approval.

4<sup>2</sup>. The procedure for the internal assessment of scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of a university shall be based on the international standards of the assessment of scientific research activities (participation of foreign assessors in the process of assessment, use of various forms of scientific bibliometric, etc.).

5. The Head of the quality assurance office of a LEPL higher education institution shall be approved by the Representatives Council upon recommendation of the Academic Council. The requirements for the Head of the quality assurance office shall be set by the higher education institution.

6. The cooperation between a quality assurance office of a LEPL higher education institution and the quality assurance offices of the main educational units shall be regulated by the statute of the higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 26. Budget of a Higher Education Institution**

1. The Head of Administration of a higher education institution shall administer the process of developing the draft budget of the institution for the following year.
2. The draft budget of a higher education institution for the following year shall be developed in consultation with the main educational units and other structural units of the higher education institution.
3. The Head of Administration of a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity established by the State shall coordinate the budget for the following year with the collegiate body of the higher education institution and shall submit the same to the Board of Regents for approval; the Head of Administration of a legal entity under public law shall coordinate the budget for the following year with the Academic Council and shall submit the same to the Representatives Council for approval.
4. The Board Regents or the Representatives Council shall review the submitted draft budget, and shall approve or return the same to the Head of Administration with appropriate comments.
5. If the Head of Administration agrees with the submitted comments, the draft budget shall be duly approved by the Board of Regents or the Representatives Council by taking into account the comments made.
6. If the Head of Administration does not agree with the comments made by the Board of Regents or the Representatives Council, he/she may return the initial version of the draft budget to the Board of Regents or the Representatives Council for further approval on the grounds of having provided appropriate validation thereof. The proposals of the Academic Council shall be attached to the validation submitted to the Representatives Council.
7. Repeated rejection of the draft budget by the Board of Regents or the Representatives Council shall result in termination of authority of the Head of Administration. The draft budget shall be approved upon the recommendation of a new Head of Administration.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

#### **Article 26<sup>1</sup>. Budget of an International School/International Master's-Doctoral School**

1. The budget of an international school/international master's-doctoral school is elaborated and approved independently of the budget of the State-funded higher education institution.
2. The budget of an international school/international master's-doctoral school is elaborated and approved by the head of the international school/international master's-doctoral school in agreement with an Academic Council.

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

#### **Article 27. Main Educational Unit and the Council of a Main Educational Unit**

1. The main educational unit of a LEPL higher education institution may consist of teaching, scientific research (including an academic department, a scientific research institute, a laboratory, a hospital, a

department devoted to a specialist discipline and others) and auxiliary (libraries and others) structural units.

1<sup>1</sup>. The procedure for management and operation of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit shall be established by the regulations of the independent scientific research unit approved by the Council of the main educational unit.

1<sup>2</sup>. Under the procedure determined by a higher education institution, an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit may:

- a) participate in the implementation of higher education programmes, also in the preparation of Bachelor's and Master's theses and dissertations by students;
- b) involve students in scientific grant projects, local and international scientific conferences and scientific research events.

2. The representative body of a main educational unit of a LEPL higher education institution shall be the Council of the main educational unit comprised of all persons holding academic positions at the main educational unit, all persons holding scientific positions at the independent scientific research unit, and representatives of the students' self-government, or representatives of the academic personnel, of persons holding scientific positions at the independent scientific research unit, and representatives of the students' self-government elected under the procedure established by the Statute of the higher education institution.

3. The number of representatives of student's self-government bodies in the Council of a main educational unit shall be determined by the regulations of the main educational unit; but it shall not be less than one fourth of the members of the Council.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 28. Authority of the Council of a Main Educational Unit**

The Council of a main educational unit shall:

- a) develop a draft budget for the main educational unit and submit the same to the Head of administration for approval;
- b) elect the Dean of the main educational unit by a majority of the members on the list on the basis of impartial and equal suffrage and by secret ballot;
- c) draw up a strategic development plan, and educational and scientific research programmes for the main educational unit upon the recommendation of the Dean, and submit the same to the Academic Council of the higher education institution for approval;
- d) develop the structure and the regulations of the main educational unit upon the recommendation of the Dean, and submit the same to the Representatives Council for approval;
- e) develop the regulations of a Dissertation Council and submit the same to the Academic Council for approval;
- f) elect the head of the quality assurance office of the main educational unit;
- g) have the right to review the issue of the termination of the authority of the Dean upon the request of not less than one third of the members of the Council of the main educational unit on the grounds of violation of the legislation of Georgia by the Dean, or the improper fulfillment of the duties imposed on him/her and/or on the grounds of conducting activities that are irrelevant to the duties of the Dean. The decision on the termination of the authority of the Dean shall be made on the basis of a secret

ballot by a majority of members on the list. The Dean shall not take part in the balloting, as defined by this article. An appeal of a decision regarding these matters shall not result in the suspension of the disputed act in proceedings;

h) appoint an acting Dean in the case of the termination of the authority of the Dean;

h<sup>1</sup>) upon recommendation of the Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit, approve the Director of the independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit;

h<sup>2</sup>) upon recommendation of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit, approve the procedure for recruiting scientific personnel of the independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit;

h<sup>3</sup>) upon recommendation of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit, approve the regulations of the independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit, and additional conditions for occupying scientific positions at the independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit;

h<sup>4</sup>) upon recommendation of the quality assurance office of a main educational unit, approve the procedure for the internal assessment of scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit;

i) exercise other powers granted to it under this Law and other legal and subordinate normative acts of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 17 2009 - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 16 July 16, 2010 - LHG I, №42, 22.07.2010, Art. 266

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

## **Article 29. Dean of a Main Educational Unit**

1. The Council of a main educational unit shall elect the Dean of the main educational unit for the term determined by the statute of the higher education institution, but not for more than four years. A person may be elected to the position of Dean only for two consecutive terms. The opening for applications for the registration of candidates for the position of Dean shall be announced by the Council of the main educational unit at least one month prior to the beginning of registration of candidates, in accordance with the procedures established by the legislation of Georgia and its statute and on the basis of principles of transparency, equality and fair competition.

2. Under the statute of a higher education institution (except for military, maritime, arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions established by the State), a Professor or an Associate Professor of a main educational unit of a corresponding higher education institution may be elected as Dean; the procedures and conditions for the election of the Dean at military, maritime, arts and creative, and sports higher education institutions established by the State are determined by the statute of the corresponding higher education institution.

3. The Dean of the main educational unit shall:

a) ensure the practice of effective educational and scientific activities by the main educational unit;



- b) submit a strategic development plan, and educational and scientific research programmes for the main educational unit to the Council of the main educational unit for approval;
- c) develop the structure and the regulations of the main educational unit and submit the same to the Council of the main educational unit for approval;
- d) be responsible, within his/her scope of authority, for the execution of decisions made by the Representatives Council, the Academic Council and the Council of the main educational unit;
- e) issue individual legal acts within his/her scope of authority;
- f) chair the meetings of the Council of the main educational unit;
- g) be responsible for the targeted use of the budget of the main educational unit as provided for by this Law and the statute;
- h) exercise other powers granted to him/her under this Law and other legal and subordinate normative acts of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 16 July, 2010 - LHG I, №42, 22.07.2010, Art. 266

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

#### **Article 29<sup>1</sup>. Structure and Management of an Independent Scientific Research Unit**

1. The structure of an independent scientific research unit may include main and auxiliary structural units.
2. The management bodies of an independent scientific research unit are the Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit and the Director of the independent scientific research unit.
3. Scientific and non-scientific structural units of an independent scientific research unit, their management and operation procedure shall be determined by the regulations of the independent scientific research unit. The regulations of an independent scientific research unit of a university shall be approved by the Representatives Council, and the regulations of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit shall be approved by the Council of the main educational unit.
4. The Head of a scientific structural unit of an independent scientific research unit shall be elected by the Scientific Council on the basis of an open competition and approved by the Director according to the regulations of the independent scientific research unit. A person who meets the requirements established for a chief research fellow or a senior research fellow of an independent scientific research unit may be elected as the Head of a scientific structural unit of the independent scientific research unit. If a person who has not occupied the position of a chief research fellow or a senior research fellow of an independent scientific research unit is elected as the Head of a scientific structural unit of the independent scientific research unit, he/she shall also be considered as elected to a respective scientific position.
5. The procedure for the election/appointment of the Head of a non-scientific structural unit of an independent scientific research unit shall be determined by the regulations of the independent scientific research unit.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 29<sup>2</sup>. Scientific Council of an Independent Scientific Research Unit**

1. Chief research fellows of an independent scientific research unit shall establish the Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit.

2. The Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit shall:
  - a) review and decide on the issues of scientific management and development of the independent scientific research unit;
  - b) in case of implementing higher education programmes, participate in the monitoring process of fulfilment of a research component;
  - c) perform other functions determined by this Law, other legislative and subordinate legal acts of Georgia and the regulations of an independent scientific research unit.
3. The activities of the Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit shall be administered by the Chairperson elected by majority of the members on the nominal list of the Council.
4. Powers, term of office, procedure of election and termination of powers of the Chairperson of the Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit shall be determined by the regulations of the independent scientific research unit.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

### **Article 29<sup>3</sup>. Director of an Independent Scientific Research Unit**

1. Operation of an independent scientific research unit shall be administered by the Director of the independent scientific research unit.
2. The Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit shall select the candidate for the Director of an independent scientific research unit on the basis of an open competition for a five-year term and submit to the Academic Council/the Council of the main educational unit for approval. In case of a grounded refusal of the Academic Council/the Council of the main educational unit to approve the candidate of the Director, the Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit shall submit the same candidate or select another candidate. In case of repeated refusal of the Academic Council/the Council of the main educational unit to approve the candidate of the Director, an acting Director of an independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit of a university shall be appointed by the Head (Rector) of a higher education institution, and an acting Director of an independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit shall be appointed according to the procedures determined by the Statute of a higher education institution. The Scientific Council of an independent scientific research unit shall, no later than 6 months, select a new candidate for the Director of the independent scientific research unit. An acting Director of an independent scientific research unit shall be appointed until the candidate for the Director of the independent scientific research unit is approved by the Academic Council/the Council of a main educational unit.
3. The position of the Director of an independent scientific research unit may be occupied by a person who meets the requirements established for a chief research fellow of the independent scientific research unit, and whose age does not exceed 65. If a person who does not hold the position of a chief research fellow of an independent scientific research unit occupies the position of the Director of the independent scientific research unit, he/she shall also be considered as elected to the position of a chief research fellow. Reaching the age of 65 shall not entail termination of powers of the Director.
4. The same person may occupy the position of the Director of an independent scientific research unit only for two consecutive terms.
5. The procedure for selecting a candidate for the Director of an independent scientific research unit and powers of the Director shall be determined by the regulations of the independent scientific research unit.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

### **Article 30. Dissertation Council**

1. The Dissertation Council is a body awarding an academic degree of a Doctor.
2. A higher education institution that carries out Doctoral Programmes shall establish a Dissertation Council at an appropriate main educational unit of a university. The Dissertation Council shall develop the Dissertation Council regulations that determine the procedures for establishing the Council and electing its chairperson, as well as procedures for presenting the dissertation. The regulations of the Dissertation Council shall be approved by the collegiate body of a higher education institution.
- 2<sup>1</sup>. The International Master's-Doctoral School shall additionally establish a Dissertation Council in accordance with the rules established by Chapter IV<sup>3</sup> of this Law. The head of the International Master's-Doctoral School shall develop the statute of the Dissertation Council of the International Master's-Doctoral School, which is approved by the Academic Council. The Statute of the Dissertation Council of the International Master's-Doctoral School defines the rules for composition of the Dissertation Council and for election of its chair, as well as the procedures for defending a dissertation.
3. The Dissertation Council shall be established within a legal entity under public law (LEPL) – a higher education institution or a main educational unit according to an appropriate field/specialisation. The decision on the establishment of the Dissertation Council/Councils shall be made by the Academic Council of a university.
4. The procedures for the establishment of a Dissertation Council within a main educational unit of a LEPL higher education institution and of the election of its chairperson shall be determined upon the recommendation of the Council of the main educational unit under regulations approved by the Academic Council. The procedures for the formation of a Dissertation Council of a university and of the election of its chairperson shall be determined upon the recommendation of the Council of a main educational unit and/or the Councils of main educational units and an independent scientific research unit and/or independent scientific research units, or upon the recommendation of the Councils of main educational units, or independent scientific research units under regulations approved by the Academic Council.
5. The Dissertation Council of a main educational unit of a LEPL higher education institution shall consist of all Professors and Associate Professors of an appropriate field/specialisation of the main educational unit, and of a senior research fellows and a chief research fellows of an appropriate field/specialisation of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit. The Dissertation Council of a university may consist of all Professors and Associate Professors of an appropriate field/specialisation of the university, and a senior research fellows and a chief research fellows of an appropriate field/specialisation of an independent scientific research unit of the university, or of the Professors and Associate Professors of an appropriate field/specialisation of the university and senior research fellows and chief research fellows of an appropriate field/specialisations of an independent scientific research unit of the university. Members of the Dissertation Council of a university shall be selected based on the criteria and the procedure determined by the Academic Council of the institution. Representatives of an appropriate field/persons with an appropriate specialisation from Georgia and abroad may be members of the Dissertation Council of a main educational unit and the Dissertation Council of a university, based on the criteria and the procedure determined by the Academic Council of a higher education institution.
6. The statute of a university which is a LEPL higher education institution, may determine the procedures and conditions for inviting persons with doctoral academic degrees to the Dissertation Council.

7. LEPL higher education institution may conclude agreements with scientific research institutions for carrying out Doctoral Programmes.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

### **Article 31. Quality Assurance Office of a Main Educational Unit**

1. For the systematic internal assessment of the quality of teaching and scientific research activities at the main educational unit of LEPL higher education institution, and of the quality of professional development of its academic personnel and scientific personnel, the quality assurance office shall be established for continuous development of the education quality assurance system. The quality assurance office shall operate according to the regulations of the main educational unit.

2. To develop transparent criteria of quality control and the methodology for the assurance of those criteria, the quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall establish links and cooperate with the appropriate offices of foreign countries and foreign higher education institutions.

3. The quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall ensure the high quality of teaching by applying contemporary methods for teaching, learning and assessing (modules, credit systems and others) and developing self-evaluation for the processes of authorisation and/or accreditation.

3<sup>1</sup>. The quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall develop the procedure for internal assessment of scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of the main educational unit and submit it to the Council of the main educational unit for approval.

3<sup>2</sup>. The procedure for internal assessment of the scientific research activities of an independent scientific research unit of a main educational unit must be based on the international standards of the assessment of scientific research activities (participation of foreign assessors in the process of assessment, use of various forms of scientific bibliometric, etc.).

3<sup>3</sup>. The quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall assess the scientific research activities of the main educational unit on the basis of the procedure of internal assessment of the scientific research activities of the main educational unit, which is developed by the quality assurance office of the higher education institution and approved by the Academic Council.

4. The requirements for the Head of the quality assurance office of a main educational unit shall be established by a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art..118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

## **Chapter IV<sup>1</sup>. Orthodox Theological Higher Education Institutions**

*Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012*

### **Article 31<sup>1</sup>. Establishment and Management of Orthodox Theological Higher Education Institutions**

1. Orthodox theological higher education institutions shall be established, their statutes approved and their structure and management bodies, other than specified by this Law, shall be determined by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia.
2. The Patriarchate of Georgia shall grant property to orthodox theological higher education institutions, established as legal entities, for the purpose of achieving the set goals and performing the assigned functions; the procedures of using such property are determined by the constituent act.
3. The procedure for transferring a student from one orthodox theological higher education institution to another orthodox theological higher education institution, and for transferring a student from one orthodox theological higher education programme to another orthodox theological higher education programme within the same orthodox theological higher education institution, and the procedure for awarding an academic degree at an orthodox theological higher education institution shall be established by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia.
4. The procedures for appointing and dismissing the Head of an orthodox theological higher education institution shall be determined by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia.
5. The head of an orthodox theological higher education institution shall perform the functions provided for by the statute of that institution.

*Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012*

*Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015*

## **Chapter IV<sup>2</sup>. Kutaisi International University**

*Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015*

*Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019*

### **Article 31<sup>2</sup>. Kutaisi International University**

1. Educational programmes of the Kutaisi International Institute shall aim to train persons under the procedure provided for by the Law of Georgia on Establishment of the Legal Entity under Public Law – the Kutaisi International Institute in the specialties defined by the same law, and to award appropriate qualifications to them.
2. Chapters IV and V shall not apply to Kutaisi international Institute.

*Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015*

*Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019*

## **Chapter IV<sup>3</sup>. International School/International Master's-Doctoral School**

*Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022*

### **Article 31<sup>3</sup>. International School/International Master's-Doctoral School**

1. To facilitate international cooperation and its development (including the implementation of foreign language education programmes), an international school and / or an international master's and doctoral school may be established in a State-established higher education institution with the consent of the Ministry.

2. Scope of Chapter IV (except for Articles 17, 19, 22 and 26<sup>1</sup>, 30(1)(2<sup>1</sup>)(5)(7) and Article 31(1)(3<sup>1</sup>)) and Chapter V of this law (except for Article 32, Article 33 (1)(3)(4) and Articles 35, 37, 37<sup>2</sup> and 42) do not apply on an international school and / or an international master's and doctoral school.

3. Issues not covered by this Chapter may be regulated by the statute of the international school / international master's and doctoral school and the agreement between the State-run higher education institution and the head of the international school / international master's-doctoral school.

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

#### **Article 31<sup>4</sup>. Structure and Management of the International School / International Master's-Doctoral School**

1. International school / international master's-doctoral school may be governed by a head of the international school / international master's-doctoral school based on the statute of the international school / international master's-doctoral and on an agreement concluded with a State-run higher education institution envisaging the limitations and peculiarities set forth in this Chapter.

2. The Head of an international school/international master's-doctoral school:

a) develops and approves the budget of the international school / international master's-doctoral school in agreement with the Academic Council;

b) develops and submits to the Academic Council for approval the strategic development plan of the international school/international master's-doctoral school, educational and scientific research programmes;

c) develops and submits the statute and structure of the international school / international master's-doctoral school for approval to the Academic Council;

d) develops and submits the regulations of the Dissertation Council of the international school / international master's-doctoral to the Academic Council for approval;

e) appoints the head of the quality assurance office of the international school / international master's-doctoral school;

f) issues individual administrative legal acts within the framework of his/her competence;

g) approves the rules for hiring the scientific staff of an independent scientific research unit of an international school / international master's-doctoral school and additional conditions for holding a scientific position in an independent scientific research unit of an international school / international master's-doctoral school;

h) at the beginning of the academic year, determines and submits to the Academic Council for approval the coefficients for the Unified National Examinations, as well as the number of students to be admitted to the international school;

i) in the case provided for by the legislation of Georgia, determines the coefficients of the Master's examination of international master's-doctoral school for the Master's examinations in accordance with the rules established by the order of the Minister and submits them to the Academic Council for approval as well as determines the number of students to be admitted to the international master's- doctoral school;

- j) determines and submits for approval to the Academic Council the minimum competency threshold in the examinations provided for in the list of international examinations approved by the Ministry;
- k) develops and approves the unified rules for hiring the academic staff, support staff, scientific staff and other staff of the international school / international master's-doctoral school, the amounts and conditions of their remuneration;
- l) in agreement with the Academic Council, approves the regulations of the international school / international master's-doctoral school quality assurance office;
- m) approves the rules for the evaluation of teaching and scientific research work upon the submission of the quality assurance office of the international school / international master's-doctoral school;
- n) prepares and submits an annual report on its activities to the Academic Council;
- o) exercises the authority granted by the statute of the higher education institution and the agreement concluded between the higher education institution and the head of an international school/international master's-doctoral school;
- p) determines the amount of the educational programme fee and / or additional fee, which may exceed the amount of the State study grant or the State master's degree grant and / or other State grant, and submits the amount of the defined educational programme fee and / or additional fee to the Academic Council for approval;
- q) develops and approves the regulations and structures of the advisory bodies of the international school / international master's-doctoral school.

3. The number of students' self-government representatives in the advisory body of the international school / international master's-doctoral school established by the international school / international master's / doctoral school is determined by the statute of the international school / international master's-doctoral school.

4. The number of representatives of the international school / international master's-doctoral school in the Academic Council is determined by the statute of the higher education institution. In addition, their number should not be less than 1 member less than the number of representatives of other main educational units of the higher education institution. According to the statute of the higher education institution and the agreement concluded between the higher education institution and the head of an international school/international master's-doctoral school the representatives of the international school / international master's-doctoral school in the Academic Council may be restricted from participation in the voting of only those issues that are not related to the international school/international master's-doctoral school.

5. The number of representatives of the international school / international master's and doctoral school in the Representative Council is defined and the procedure for their election is determined by the statute of the higher education institution. In addition, their number should not be less than 1 member less than the number of representatives of other main educational units of the higher education institution. According to the statute of the higher education institution and the agreement concluded between the higher education institution and the head of an international school/international master's-doctoral school the representatives of the international school / international master's-doctoral school in the Representative Council may be restricted from participation in the voting of only those issues that are not related to the international school/international master's-doctoral school.

**Article 31<sup>5</sup>. Quality Assurance Office of the International School / International Master's-Doctoral School**  
For systematic evaluation of academic and scientific research performance of an international school / international master's-doctoral school, as well as of professional development quality of its academic and scientific staff, for continuous development of education quality assurance system, a quality assurance office of the international school / international master's-doctoral school shall be established which acts according to the statute of the international school / international master's-doctoral school and Georgian legislation.

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

## **Chapter V. Personnel of Higher Education Institutions**

*Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011*

### **Article 32. Personnel of Higher Education Institution**

1. At a higher education institution there shall be academic, scientific, administrative and support positions, as well as other positions provided for by the Statute of the higher education institution.
2. A person convicted of a crime committed against sexual freedom and inviolability envisaged by the Law of Georgia on Combating Crimes against Sexual Freedom and Inviolability and / or a person deprived of the right to work in an educational institution by the same law may not be employed in a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 5763 of 17 March 2020 - website, 23.03.2020

### **Article 33. Academic Personnel of a Higher Education Institute**

1. The academic personnel of a higher education institution comprises professors, associated professors, assistant professors and assistants.
2. (Deleted - 16.12.2016, №105).
3. Professors participate in and/or manage the educational process and scientific research.
4. An assistant conduct seminars and carry out research activities within the scope of the study process at a main educational unit under the supervision of professors, associate professors and assistant professors assistants.
5. The workload threshold for academic personnel shall be determined by a higher education institution as provided for by its statute.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

### **Article 34. Procedures for Holding Academic Positions**

1. An academic position may be held only on an open competition basis, which shall comply with the principles of transparency, equality and fair competition; and an academic position at an Orthodox theological higher education institutions may be held under the procedure established by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia.



2. The date and requirements for conducting competitions shall be published as provided for by the legislation of Georgia and the statute of a higher education institution, within not more than one month prior to the submission of applications.

3. Procedures for a competition shall be determined by the statute of the higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

### **Article 35. Conditions for the Election and Appointment to Academic Positions**

1. For the position of a Professor:

a) a person with a Doctor's or an equivalent academic degree, who has at least six years of experience in a scientific and pedagogical fields and who meets the additional conditions established by the statute of a higher education institution may be elected to the position of a Professor.

b) a person maybe elected indefinitely who satisfies requirements determined by the subparagraph "a" of this paragraph and who has exceptional professional achievements or/and scientific achievements ( for instance, has published scientific works in the leading local and international journals and any other publications, has participated in national and international scientific research projects, etc.);

c) a person with a Doctor's or an equivalent academic degree, who has at least eight years of experience in a scientific and/or pedagogical field and who satisfy the additional requirements defined by the statute of art-creative higher education institution;

d) a person elected to the position of a professor at an art and creative higher education institution may, by a decision of the Academic Council, hold the position of professor for an indefinite term, if that person complies with the requirements established by subparagraph "c" of this paragraph and defined by the statute of the art and creative higher education institution, and if that person has been elected to the position of professor for a third consecutive term and/or has some special professional, pedagogical and/or scientific achievements.

2. A person with a Doctor's academic degree or an equivalent degree, who has at least three years of experience in scientific and pedagogical field, may be elected to the position of an Associate Professor. A person with a Doctor's academic degree or an equivalent degree, who has at least four years of experience in a scientific and pedagogical field and/or art (creative activity), may be elected to the position of an Associate Professor in the field of art (creative activity) (except for theoretical fields) at an art and creative higher education institution for at least a four-year term. Additional requirements may be determined by the statute of an art and creative higher education institution.

3. A person with a Doctor's academic degree or an equivalent degree may be elected to the position of an Assistant Professor for a three- or four-year term under the procedure defined by the statute of a higher education institution. A person with a Master's academic degree or an equivalent degree may be elected to the position of an Assistant Professor in the field of art (creative activity) (except for theoretical fields) at an art and creative higher education institution for at least a four-year term.

4. A doctoral student may be elected to the position of an Assistant for a three- or four-year term under the procedure defined by the statute of a higher education institution. A master's student may be appointed to the position of an Assistant in the field of art (creative activity) (except for theoretical fields) at an art

and creative higher education institution for a two- or three-year term under the procedure defined by the statute of the higher education institution.

4<sup>1</sup>. In case of being elected to the position of a professor provided for in subparagraphs “a” and “b” of paragraph 1 of this article for a term of more than 5 years, the professor shall be subject to attestation once in 5 years in accordance with the rules established by the statute of the higher education institution. The professor elected for the position provided for in subparagraphs "a" and "b" of paragraph 1 of this Article and who has been elected to the position of Professor for more than 5 years, but has less than 5 years left in office after 5 years of being elected to the position of Professor, shall not be subject to attestation.

5. The possibility of occupying academic positions under paragraphs 1-4 of this Article by professionally qualified personnel may be defined by the statute of a higher education institution. In this case the person's qualification can be proved by professional experience, special training and/or publications. A person shall be deemed to have appropriate qualification if he/she has the competence required for achieving the learning outcomes provided for under the programme.

6. The requirements under this Article do not apply to an academic position of an Orthodox theological higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013

Law of Georgia No 4202 of 3 September 2015 – website, 16.09.2015

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 2148 of 18 April 2018 – website, 01.05.2018

### **Article 36. Labour Relations with Academic Personnel**

1. Labour agreements with academic personnel shall be concluded in accordance with procedures established by the labour legislation of Georgia.

2. A person who has attained the age of 65 may not be elected to an academic position at a higher education institution established by the State, and a person occupying an academic position, who has attained the age of 65 shall be dismissed after the expiration of the term of his/her office.

3. Exception to paragraph 2 of this Article may be determined by the statute of a higher education institute.

Law of Georgia No 1341 of 26 June 2009 - LHG I, №16, 07.07.2009, Art.77

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

### **Article 37. Rights of Academic Personnel**

1. The academic personnel shall have the right to:

a) participate in the management of the higher education institution as provided for by this Law and the statute of the higher education institution;

b) carry out teaching, research, creative activities and publish scientific research without interference;

c) determine the content of the syllabi of educational programmes independently, as well as the teaching methods and mechanisms within the scope of educational programmes;

d) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

e) exercise any other powers granted to them under this Law and legislation of Georgia.

2. Academic personnel shall be obliged to:

- a) comply with the requirements determined by the statute of a higher education institution;
- b) observe the Code of Ethics and the rules of disciplinary liabilities;
- c) comply with obligations undertaken under a labour agreement.
- d) submit a report on the work performed after the completion of research leave.
- e) provide the police and / or other competent authorities with the personal information provided for in paragraph 4 of Article 43 of this Law, regarding the fact of violence against women and / or possible domestic violence, if there is a risk of recurrence of violence.

3. A higher education institution shall ensure freedom of academic personnel in scientific studies and research work and provide appropriate conditions for carrying out their activities.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 772 of 4 May 2017 - website, 25.05.2017

### **Article 37<sup>1</sup>. Scientific Personnel of a University**

1. The scientific personnel of an independent scientific research unit may consist of scholars and postdoctoral fellows.

2. Scholars are persons holding the following scientific positions: a chief research fellow, senior research fellow and a research fellow.

3. A postdoctoral student is a person who is selected for a specific research project on the basis of a competition in a main educational unit or in an independent research unit according to the rules and for a term determined by the Academic Council. A person may be elected to the position of a postdoctoral fellow only once.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

### **Article 37<sup>2</sup>. Procedures for Occupying a Scientific Position**

1. A scientific position may only be occupied on the basis of an open competition to be conducted according to transparency, equality and fair competition principles.

2. The position of a chief research fellow:

a) can be occupied by a person with a Doctor's or an equivalent academic degree, who has at least six years of experience in a scientific research field and who meets additional conditions established by the statute of a higher education institution for the term defined by the higher education institution;

b) can be occupied indefinitely by a person who meets the requirements set out in subparagraph "a" of this paragraph and who has special scientific achievements (for example, has published scientific publications in leading local and international journals and other publications, participated in national and international scientific research projects, etc.).

3. A person with a Doctor's or an equivalent academic degree, may hold the position of a senior research fellow. A person shall hold the position of the senior research fellow for the term determined by the statute of a higher education institution.

4. A person with a Master's or an equivalent academic degree may hold the position of a research fellow. A person shall hold the position of a research fellow for the term determined by the statute of a higher education institution.

5. The date of the competition for occupying the scientific position and additional conditions shall be published under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia and the regulations of the scientific research unit one month prior to submitting appropriate documents.

5<sup>1</sup>. In case of being elected to the position of a chief research fellow provided for in Paragraph 2 of this Article for a term of more than 5 years, the chief research fellow shall be subject to attestation once in 5 years in accordance with the rules established by the statute of the higher education institution. The chief research fellow elected to the position provided for by paragraph 2 of this Article, who has been elected to that position for more than 5 years, but who has less than 5 years left in office after 5 years of being elected to the position of the chief research fellow, shall not be subject to attestation.

6. The procedure for recruiting the scientific personnel of an independent scientific research unit of a university and the additional requirements for occupying a scientific position at an independent scientific research unit of a university shall be developed by the Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit and submitted to the Academic Council of a higher education institution for review. The Academic Council shall submit the procedure and additional requirements to the Representatives Council of the higher education institution for approval.

7. The procedure for recruiting the scientific personnel of an independent scientific research unit of a major educational unit and the additional requirements for occupying a scientific position at an independent scientific research unit of a major educational unit shall be developed by the Scientific Council of the independent scientific research unit of the major educational unit and submitted to the Council of the major educational unit for approval.

8. A person with a Doctor's academic degree may be elected as a postdoctoral fellow according to the procedure established by the Academic Council.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

### **Article 37<sup>3</sup>. Labor Relations of the Scientific Personnel**

1. A written labor agreement shall be concluded with the scientific personnel.

2. The grounds for termination of the labor contract concluded with the scientific personnel shall be the following:

- a) personal statement;
- B) term expiration of the agreement of labor;
- c) gross or systematic violation of disciplinary provisions;
- d) violation of the conditions under the labor agreement;
- e) other cases determined by the Georgian legislation.

3. The issue of compatibility of an academic position and a scientific position shall be determined by the statute of a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

### **Article 37<sup>4</sup>. Rights and Obligations of a Scientist**

1. Rights of a scientist shall be determined by Georgian legislation, the statute of the independent scientific research unit and/or a labour contract.

2. A scientist shall have the right to:

- a) conduct a scientific research without external involvement and publish the results of the research without any limitation except in the case when its limitation is envisaged by the labor contract or when it contains State secrets;
- b) independently determine the content, methods and means of the scientific research;
- c) participate in the completion of teaching and research components of the educational programmes;
- d) along with scientific research activities, participate in competitions for obtaining grant financing, and use the financing under an individual grant/grants and obtain additional financing;

3. A scientist shall be obliged to:

- a) comply with the requirements established under the legislation of Georgia and the regulations of an independent scientific research unit;
- b) fulfill the obligations undertaken by a labor agreement;
- c) annually submit an activity report according to the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia

4. A university/main educational unit and an independent scientific research unit shall ensure freedom of scientific research of the scientific personnel.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 38. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

#### **Article 39. Academic Titles**

1. A higher education institution has the right to award the title of Honorary Doctor or Emeritus to a scientist or public figure for special merit.
2. The rules and conditions for awarding the titles of Honorary Doctor and Emeritus are determined by the statute of the higher education institution. The statute may also provide for the remuneration of a person having the status of an Emeritus.
3. An Emeritus shall not be entitled to hold an academic position at the same higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1341 of 26 June 2009 - LHG I, №16, 07.07.2009, Art.77

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

#### **Article 40. Administrative Positions and Other Personnel**

1. The administrative personnel of a higher education institution established by the State comprise the following: positions of the head (rector) of a higher education institution, the head of the administration, the head of the main educational unit and the director of the independent scientific research unit, as well as other positions provided by the statute of the higher education institution. Administrative positions of a legal entity of public law - a higher education institution also include the positions of the head of the quality assurance office of the higher education institution and the head of the quality assurance office of the main educational unit.
2. A person who has attained the age of 65 may not be elected or appointed to an administrative position of a higher education institution established by the State, unless otherwise expressly determined by the statute of the higher education institution.
3. The personnel of teachers include a teacher and a senior teacher.
4. A teacher may carry out practical and laboratory work without holding an academic position.

5. Support staff includes other persons necessary for the activities of the higher education institution provided for in the staff list.
6. A higher education institution may invite a specialist with appropriate qualifications to participate in and/or manage the teaching and/or scientific research processes without occupying an academic or a teacher's position determined by this Law.
7. A higher education institution may consider the option of giving remuneration from its budget (out of the income earned from economic activities of the higher education institution, except for the income from study fees established for accredited higher education programmes) to former academic or scientific personnel on account of their special merits for the institution. The procedures and conditions for allocating remuneration shall be determined by the Academic Council and the Representative Council of the higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007წ., Art..118

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3051 of 18 February 2015 – website, 26.02.2015წ.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 41. Dismissal from an Administrative Position**

The following may be the grounds for the early dismissal of a person holding an administrative position at a higher education institution established by the State:

- a) a personal desire;
- b) the entry into force of a judgment of conviction pronounced by the court against him/her;
- c) death;
- d) recognition as a disabled person by court or recognition as the person receiving support, unless otherwise provided for by a court judgment;
- e) attainment of the age of 65, unless otherwise expressly provided for the statute of the higher education institution;
- f) dismissal from an academic position of this higher education institution, if holding of the academic position is a precondition for occupying a respective administrative position;
- g) any other case provided for by the statute of a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3374 of 20 March 2015- website, 31.03.2015.

#### **Article 42. Conflict of Interest in a Higher Education Institute Established by the State**

1. A person holding an administrative position may not, at the same time, hold any other administrative position at that higher education institution or serve as the head of any other structural unit.

1<sup>1</sup>. If holding an academic position constitutes a prerequisite for occupying an administrative position or membership of a managerial body, the expiration of the term of office at the academic position shall result in termination of the power at respective administrative position or managerial body once the results of the competition announced for holding an academic position have been approved, unless the person has been selected for respective academic position.

2. A member of the Board of Regents may not hold an administrative or academic position at a higher education institution established by the State. A member of the Academic Council may not at the same time hold an administrative position, except position of Rector, or be a member of the Representative Council at the same higher education institution.

3. The speaker of the Representative Council may not, at the same time, hold an administrative position at this higher education institution.

4. The incompatibility of offices of academic, teaching and support personnel, as well as other cases of incompatibility, shall be determined by the legislation of Georgia and the statute of the higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

## **Chapter VI. Students**

### **Article 43. Student's Rights**

1. A student has a right to:

a) obtain quality education;

b) participate in a scientific research;

c) use the material and technical and, library and, informational and other resources of a higher education institution on equal terms, as provided for by the statute, and the internal regulations and provisions of the higher education institution;

d) (deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

e) elect a representative and be elected as a member of the students' self-government body, as well as of the management bodies of the higher education institution and its main educational units on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, as provided for by the statute of the higher education institution;

f) freely establish and/or join student's organizations according to his/her interests;

g) express opinions freely and reasonably refuse to share ideas offered during the study process;

h) transfer to an alternative higher education institution after the completion of the first year of studies in accordance with procedures established by the legislation of Georgia and the statute of the alternative higher education institution; The procedure for the transfer of State funding shall be determined by the Minister;

h<sup>1</sup>) transfer to alternative Master's Programme by changing higher education institution as provided for by an order of the Minister; and transfer a State grant, obtained within the percentage thresholds determined for the annual State study scholarship for Master's Programmes allocated under the legislation of Georgia for certain academic disciplines, including prioritised academic disciplines, to another accredited Master's Programme in case of continuing studies for the same academic discipline or prioritised academic discipline at a higher education institution that is a member of the Unified Master's Examination Network as provided for by this Law;

i) obtain scholarship, financial or material assistance and other benefits from the State, higher education institution or other sources as provided for by the legislation of Georgia and the statute of the higher education institution;

j) choose an educational programme;

k) participate in preparing an Individual Educational Programme;

l) periodically evaluate the work of academic staff;

m) exercise any other powers granted to them under this Law and legislation of Georgia.

1<sup>1</sup>. If the institution has been liquidated without determination of a successor, if the institution has lost authorization or the educational programme is no longer implemented, students shall have the right to mobility/transfer regardless of duration of the study period;

1<sup>2</sup>. A convicted student shall have no right to exercise the rights provided for by subparagraphs “e” and “f” of the paragraph 1 of this Article. Within the limits of Georgian legislation, for the convicted student may be restricted the rights provided for by subparagraphs “c”, “j” and “l” of the paragraph 1 of this Article.

2. (Deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

3. The higher education institution ensures appropriate conditions for students with disabilities to create the necessary conditions for their full-fledged education, which is defined by the Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the statute of the higher education institution.

4. Personal information disclosed by a student in the presence of academic personnel, or information about personal and political opinions and religious confessions of students which become known to the academic personnel during the study process, as well as information on disciplinary measures against a student shall be confidential, unless otherwise authorised by the student or where it is a legal interest of the administration to ensure the safety and protect the lawful rights of others. Information on the academic performance of a student and on disciplinary measures taken against a student shall be kept separately. The administration shall keep information on a student as provided for by the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

5. A higher education institution may not exercise its rights and use its material and technical base in a manner that increases the risk of imposing censorship or restricting freedom of expression, except for cases determined by paragraph 7 of this Article.

6. A higher education institution shall be obliged to provide a fair assessment of a student's knowledge for which reason it shall develop adequate procedures.

7. Disciplinary proceedings against a student shall be proportionate to the committed disciplinary offence, and may be implemented only in the cases and in accordance with the procedures determined by the statute and the internal regulations of the higher education institution, and shall be conducted in accordance with this Law and by way of fair procedures. A higher education institution shall draft a Code of Ethics for Students that may impose restrictions on certain types of conduct of students related to the educational process. The higher education institution is obliged to define in detail the rules of conduct that lead to disciplinary liability.

8. The initiation of disciplinary proceedings against a student shall not restrict the student's right to participate in the learning process, except as provided by the statute and internal regulations of the higher education institution, if it threatens the protection of another's rights, health, property and safety of the educational institution. The issue of disciplinary proceedings against a student is decided by the higher education institution, the statute of which determines the body authorized to make a decision. A student shall have the right to attend the hearings concerning him/her.

9. The student who is the subject to a disciplinary proceeding shall be entitled to:

a) take, in written form, a grounded decision on the disciplinary proceeding against him/her;

b) attend the discussion of disciplinary proceedings and enjoy the right to defense;



c) provide to respective body of a higher education institute the information and evidence available to him/her;

d) participate in the examination of the evidences which have been obtained by respective body of a higher education body;

e) request the review of the issue of a disciplinary proceeding against him/her at a public session.

10. The burden of proof in the hearing of the issue of disciplinary proceedings shall be prosecuted. The decision on the disciplinary proceedings shall be substantiated and be based on the evidence obtained in accordance with procedures established by the legislation of Georgia and the statute and internal regulations of the higher education institution. All evidence that is the basis for the disciplinary proceedings shall be investigated by the appropriate body of the higher education institution.

11. A student may appeal before court the decision taken against him/her by a higher education institute.

12. A student's status shall be terminated upon completion of respective educational programme or in any other cases provided for by the statute of a higher education institution.

13. A student of an Orthodox theological higher education institution does not enjoy the rights under subparagraphs "e" and "f" of paragraph 1 of this Article, nor the rights to obtain state educational scholarships and state educational scholarships for Master's Programmes. A student of an Orthodox theological higher education institute shall have the right, in the manner prescribed by the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia and by the statute of the accepting Orthodox theological higher education institute, move into any other Orthodox theological higher education institute, also move, in the manner prescribed by the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia and by the statute of the Orthodox theological higher education institute, from the Orthodox theological higher education programme at the same institute into any other Orthodox theological higher education programme.

14. The mobility of a student of an orthodox theological higher education institute into any other education institute shall be prohibited, except for the case provided for by paragraph 13 of this Article.

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 953 of 1 June 2017 - website, 20.06.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 6846 of 14 July 2020 - website, 28.07.2020

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 44. Responsibilities of a Student**

A student shall be obliged to study all the subjects determined according to the programme established by a higher education institute which he/she has chosen at will and the study of which shall be obligatory; he/she shall comply with the statute and internal regulations of the higher education institute.

#### **Article 45. Rights of the Students' Self-Government**

1. The students' self-government bodies, elected for each main educational unit, shall be established within a higher education institution on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.
2. The unity of students' self-government bodies, elected within the main educational units, shall constitute the self-government of a higher education institution that develops regulations for the students' self-government bodies.
3. Under its regulations the students' self-government shall:
  - a) ensure participation of students in the management of higher education institutions;
  - b) facilitate the protection of student rights;
  - c) elect representatives to the council of the main educational unit and / or in the case provided for by the statute of the international school / international master's-doctoral school, to the advisory body established by the head of the international school / director of the international master's-doctoral school;
  - d) have the right to make proposals concerning the improvement of the management system and education quality of a higher education institution that he/she shall submit to respective body;
  - e) exercise any other rights provided for by the statute.
4. The administration of a higher education institution shall have no right to interfere with the activities of the students' self-government.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

## **Chapter VII. Cycles of Higher Education**

### **Article 46. Cycles of an Academic Higher Education and Orthodox Theological Higher Education**

1. The academic higher education and the Orthodox theological higher education contain three cycles.
2. Within academic higher education and Orthodox theological higher education:
  - a) The Bachelor's educational programme includes no less than 240 credits (except for the case envisaged in paragraph 23 of this Article);
  - b) The Master's educational programme includes not less than 120 credits (except for the case envisaged in paragraphs 22 and 23 of this Article);
  - c) The duration of the Doctoral educational programme is not less than 3 years and its learning component includes not more than 60 credits.
- 2<sup>1</sup>. The educational programme during one academic year at a higher education institution includes 60 credits, on the average.
- 2<sup>2</sup>. A person, holding the certificate determined by Article 47<sup>2</sup>(5) of this Law, shall be granted the academic degree of Master of Education after completion of the Master's Programme in Education that consists of 60 credits.
- 2<sup>3</sup>. The higher education institution is authorized to develop a bachelor's educational programme, which includes at least 180 credits, and / or a master's educational programme, which includes at least 60 credits, in accordance with the rules established by the Minister. The rule provided for in this paragraph shall include reservations about the preconditions for admission to the relevant educational programme, the components of the educational programme and the distribution of credits.
3. Upon completion of each educational cycle, a relevant diploma shall be awarded together with a standard supplement.

4. Any person who does not or could not complete any of the above cycles shall be given an appropriate certificate.

5. A person who completes a short cycle educational programme, is awarded a professional diploma certifying the associated degree;

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 46<sup>1</sup>. The Ways of Implementing a Short Cycle Educational Programme and Recognising the Learning Outcomes Achieved**

1. Higher education institution is authorized to implement a short cycle educational programme as follows:

a) Within the Bachelor's educational programme or within the educational programme relevant to the generalized learning outcomes determined by the seventh level of the National Qualifications Framework, which also corresponds to the generalized learning outcomes of the sixth level of the National Qualifications Framework, when a student is awarded an associated degree as a result of accumulation of the credits provided for by this educational programme and of achieving the learning outcomes provided for by the short cycle educational programme;

b) In the form of an individual educational programme and award an associated degree to a vocational student, as a result of achieving the learning outcomes and accumulating the appropriate number of credits for the completion of the corresponding short cycle educational programme.

2. In the case stipulated by subparagraph “a” of paragraph 1 of this Article, the status of a student is obtained in accordance with Article 52 of this Law.

3. In the case provided for in subparagraph “b” of paragraph 1 of this Article, the status of a vocational student is obtained in accordance with the rules established by the Law of Georgia on Vocational Education.

4. In case of obtaining the right to study, according to the rule established by the legislation of Georgia, within the Bachelor's educational programme or within the educational programme relevant to the generalized learning outcomes determined for the seventh level of the National Qualifications Framework, which also corresponds to the generalized learning outcomes of the sixth level of the National Qualifications Framework, a higher education institution is authorized to recognise the learning outcomes of a student's academic achievement in the framework of a short cycle educational programme within a Bachelor's programme or within the educational programme relevant to the generalized learning outcomes defined by the seventh level of the National Qualifications Framework, which also corresponds to the generalized learning outcomes of sixth level of the National Qualifications Framework.

5. As a result of the examination of the contents of the academic courses of the short cycle educational programme, a higher education institution determines the compatibility of the learning outcomes achieved by this programme with the educational programme stipulated by paragraph 4 of this Article and makes a

decision on recognizing the relevant credits, if the enrollment and training on the short cycle educational programme was carried out in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.

6. A higher education institution, in accordance with the rule established by the legislation of Georgia, is authorized to calculate the workload of a person with credits in the course of the educational programme which is not carried out according to the European Credit Transfer System. Credits shall be recognised by the procedure established by the statute of a higher education institution.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

#### **Article 46<sup>2</sup>. Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training**

1. Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training can be a higher education programme developed based on respective standard that is completed by awarding a Master's academic degree in the subject/group of subjects for respective cycle of general education.

2. Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training shall include at least 300 credits.

3. Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training of the primary cycle of general education shall include:

a) a subject and methodic module of the subject/group of subject of the primary cycle of general education- at least 180 credits;

b) a module of free components - not more than 60 credits;

c) a module of school practice and practical research- at least 60 credits.

4. Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training (except for the Integrated Bachelor's and Master's Educational Programme of Teacher Training of the primary cycle of general education provided for by paragraph 3 of this Article) shall include:

a) a module of subject/group of subjects – at least 120 credits;

b) a teacher training module – at least 60 credits;

c) a module of free components – not more than 60 credits;

c) a module of school practice and action research- at least 60 credits.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 46<sup>3</sup>. Integrated Master's Educational Programme in Veterinary Medicine**

1. Integrated Master's Educational Programme in Veterinary Medicine is a higher education programme based on respective standards which is completed by awarding an academic degree of Master in Veterinary.

2. Integrated Master's Educational Programme in Veterinary shall include at least 300 credits.

3. Enrollment in the Integrated Master's Educational Programme in Veterinary shall be done in the manner prescribed by the legislation of Georgia, based on passing through the Unified National Examinations.

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

#### **Article 46<sup>4</sup>. Preparatory Educational Programme in Veterinary**

1. Preparatory Educational Programme in Veterinary is an educational programme developed based on respective standard in which may participate a person holding a Bachelor's academic degree in Veterinary.

2. Preparatory Educational Programme in Veterinary shall include 60 credits and it shall be taught for at least one academic year.

3. Accreditation procedure and fee for the Preparatory Educational Programme in Veterinary shall be approved by the Ministry by the recommendation of the National Center for Education Quality Enhancement.

4. In case of completing the Preparatory Educational Programme in Veterinary the relevant certificate will be issued, which grants the person the right to continue studying at the doctoral programme of veterinary.

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 47. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007., Art..118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009., Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

#### **Article 47<sup>1</sup>. Medical/Dental Education**

Medical/dental educational programme is a one-cycle higher education programme that ends with the award of an academic degree of Doctor of Medicine/Doctor of Dentistry. The academic degree awarded after graduating from a 360-credit educational programme of Doctor of Medicine or a 300-credit educational programme of a Doctor of Dentistry is equivalent to a Master's academic degree.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

#### **Article 47<sup>2</sup>. Teacher Training Programme**

1. Teacher Training Programme is a higher education programme developed based on respective standards.

2. A person with at least a Bachelor's or an equivalent academic degree, or with an appropriate professional education in arts/sports/military shall have the right to take Teacher Training Programme.

3. Teacher Training Programme consists of 60 credits and it lasts for at least one academic year.

4. The procedures and fees or accreditation of Teacher Training Programme shall be determined by the Ministry upon the recommendation of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement and the National Center for Teacher Professional Development.

5. After the accomplishment of Teacher Training Programme respective certificate shall be issued.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Law of Georgia of February 1, 2022 №1354 - website, 08.02.2022.

#### **Article 47<sup>3</sup>. Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme**

1. Undertaking Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme shall be mandatory for the individuals enrolled in the manner prescribed by Article 52(12) of this Law.
2. Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme shall be a 60 ECTS credit programme and it is mandatory to teach this programme during the first year of education.
3. After completion of Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme a higher education institution shall issue a certificate certifying the accomplishment of the programme.
4. After completing Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme, students enrolled in higher education institutions on the basis of the Unified National Examinations shall continue studying for a Bachelor's, and integrated Bachelor's and Master's teacher training programme, or integrated Master's programme in Veterinary, and educational programmes of certified medical doctor/dentistry at the same higher education institution.
5. Applicants who intend to study on the educational programmes of arts-creative or sports through the Georgian Language Preparation Programme are obliged to pass the relevant competition before the Unified National Examination in accordance with the rules established by the institution implementing the arts-creative or sports educational programme.
6. After completing Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme, students shall be obliged to continue studying for Bachelor's, and integrated Bachelor's and Master's teacher training programme, or integrated Master's programme in Veterinary, and educational programmes of certified medical doctor/dentistry in the Georgian language.
7. All higher education institutions established by the State shall be obliged to admit students to the Georgian Language Preparation Programme on the basis of the results of the Unified National Examinations.
8. Persons enrolled in higher education institutions under Article 52(3) of this Law shall have the right to take the Georgian Language Preparation Educational Programme in order to continue studying for Bachelor's, and integrated Bachelor's and Master's teacher training programme, or integrated Master's programme in Veterinary, and educational programmes of certified medical doctor/dentistry. The Georgian language educational training programme consists of 60 credits. It can be done only during the first academic year. After completing this educational programme the higher education institution shall grant a certificate evidencing completion of the programme.

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 2009 - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

#### **Article 47<sup>4</sup>. E-learning**

1. E-learning means carrying out the study process through the Learning Management System (LMS). The LMS is an internet-based software application that is necessary for organising and managing the study process based on information and communication technologies, in particular providing teaching materials, communicating of a student (except for a student placed in a penitentiary institution) with other student

and/or with the personnel of a higher education institution, ensuring testing, consultations, monitoring of students' progress, etc.

2. E-learning is carried out in the form of asynchronous or synchronous communication. Asynchronous communication shall mean the interaction when a sender and a recipient of the information are not communicating simultaneously, and synchronous – when the communication is simultaneous.

3. After completing an e-learning programme a person shall be granted an appropriate qualification and a document certifying such qualification.

4. The electronic learning is allowed only within the Bachelor's and Master's educational programmes.

5. (Deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

Law of Georgia No 4209 of 22 February 2011 - website, 10.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 953 of 1 June 2017 - website, 20.06.2017

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

#### **Article 47<sup>5</sup>. Orthodox Theological Higher Education Programmes**

1. The Orthodox theological higher education institute shall have the right to undertake the following educational programmes:

a) an educational programme in theology;

b) an educational programme in iconography;

c) an educational programme in church architecture (art of building);

d) an educational programme in church music and church musicology;

e) an educational programme in Christian psychology;

f) an educational programme in Christian art;

g) an educational programme in easel and monumental iconography restoration;

h) an educational programme in Christian philosophy.

2. After completing the educational programmes specified by paragraph 1 of this Article, a diploma and a diploma supplement recognised by the State shall be granted, the template of which shall be approved by the Head of an Orthodox theological higher education institution upon the agreement of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.

3. Education received by a person after passing one of the educational programmes provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be deemed to be unconditionally recognised by the State.

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

#### **Article 47<sup>6</sup>. Programmes of Kutaisi International University**

1. Kutaisi International University is authorized to carry out doctoral programmes, master's degree programmes, bachelor's degree programmes and postgraduate research programmes approved on the recommendation of the International Advisory Board of Kutaisi International University.

2. After passing the programme provided for in the paragraph 1 of this Article, a diploma recognised by the State will be issued.

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

**Article 47. Distance Learning**

1. Distance learning involves conducting the learning process remotely / electronically or using other means of communication.
2. Distance learning is carried out in the form of synchronous or asynchronous communication. Synchronous communication refers to an interaction when the communication between the sender and the receiver of the information takes place at the same time, and asynchronous communication - an interaction when the communication between the sender and the receiver of the information does not take place at the same time.
3. To implement the distance learning provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article, a higher education institution shall ensure the selection and proper use of the distance learning application / platform, through which it will be possible to conduct the learning process interactively.
4. To ensure access to distance learning, a higher education institution will develop an instruction / video-guide of the selected distance learning application / platform and provide it to students and staff of the higher education institution.
5. The list of components of the higher education programmes under which distance learning will be allowed is approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.
6. The Minister approves the rules and conditions for conducting the educational process remotely in Georgian higher education institutions and evaluating the results obtained.
7. The decision on admission to distance learning and distance learning in higher education institutions of Georgia, as well as the decision on the higher education institution that should use distance education to provide higher education, is made by the Minister by an individual administrative-legal act.

Law of Georgia No 6287 of 12 June 2020 - website, 15.06.2020

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 48. Bachelor's and Master's Programmes**

1. Only the persons holding the State certificate of full general education or the equivalent document shall have the right to take a Bachelor's programme.
2. The purpose of a Bachelor's programme to deepen the knowledge of theoretical aspects of academic disciplines together with the professional training at a higher level than complete general education, in order to ensure the training of persons through research programmes for continuing studies for a Master's academic degree and for working within the limits determined by the legislation of Georgia.
  - 2<sup>1</sup>. The title of the qualification to be awarded after the completion of the Bachelor's educational programme shall be determined in accordance with the Classifier of the Fields of Study.
3. A person having at least Bachelor's degree or an equivalent academic degree has the right to undertake the Master's Programme.
4. A Master's Programme aims to:
  - a) obtain profound and systematic knowledge in respective direction, field/specialty and/or sub-field/specialty and acquire appropriate skills that trains a person for working, taking into account the restrictions imposed under the legislation of Georgia, and/or for undertaking a Doctoral programme;
  - b) change of specialty (except for the regulated educational programme);



- a) prepare for scientific research work and teaching practice at a higher education institution;
- d) professional development and qualification upgrade.

5. A Master's Programme, except for arts and sports higher education programmes, may not comprise studies only. It also shall necessarily include independent research or such activities to be carried out by the students, on the basis of which they submit a Master's thesis and/or a draft, taking into account the specifics of the direction, field/specialty or sub-field/specialty.

5<sup>1</sup>. The title of the qualification to be awarded after the completion of the Master's educational programme shall be determined in accordance with the Classifier of the Fields of Study.

6. (Deleted).

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009., Art. 44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 2320 of 4 May 2018 -website, 21.05.2018.

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

#### **Article 49. Doctoral Programmes**

1. A person with at least a Master's academic degree or its equivalent may continue studies for a Doctoral programme.

2. A higher education institution shall provide a doctoral student with a supervisor, and shall ensure for him/her appropriate conditions for carrying out works focused on a scientific research, which shall include substantiated results of theory and experiments, and shall also facilitate the integration of a doctoral student into the international scientific community.

3. After completing a Doctoral programme and after presenting a dissertation a doctoral student shall be granted an academic degree the title of which shall be determined according to the Classifier of the Fields of Study.

4. A Doctoral academic degree shall be awarded by the Dissertation Council in compliance with the requirements of respective statute.

5. (Deleted – 17.06.2011, №4792);

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art. 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

#### **Article 49<sup>1</sup>. Joint Higher Education Programmes**

1. The higher education programmes specified by Articles 47<sup>1</sup>– 49 of this Law may be jointly carried out by several Georgian higher education institutions and/or a foreign higher education institution recognised by a foreign legislation in order to consolidate and rationally allocate their own resources, carry out joint activities for integration into the international education environment and facilitate the regional development. The procedure for carrying out a joint higher education programmes shall be jointly established by higher education institutions.
2. The higher education programmes specified by Articles 47<sup>1</sup>– 49 of this Law may be jointly carried out by a Georgian higher education institution/institutions and an independent scientific research unit/units and/or a LEPL scientific research institution within a LEPL university, and/or a LEPL scientific research institution.
3. In order to carry out a joint higher education programme, the institutions intending to carry out the programme shall sign an agreement, under which the content of the joint higher education programme and the form of its implementation is determined. The draft agreement under this paragraph must be agreed upon with the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.
4. After completion of a joint higher education programme a joint academic degree shall be awarded by a higher education institution/institutions implementing the programme, which is determined under an appropriate agreement.
5. A joint higher education programme can be implemented if it is accredited. Accreditation of Joint Higher Education Programme is carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
6. (Deleted - 26.07.2017, №1225).
7. (Deleted - 26.07.2017, №1225).
8. A citizen of Georgia shall be enrolled in a joint higher education programme in the manner prescribed by the legislation of Georgia. Any other person shall be admitted to a joint higher education programme according to the procedure established under the legislation of a respective country at one of the higher education institutions preliminarily agreed upon between the higher education institutions implementing the programme.
9. student admitted to a joint higher education programme of several Georgian higher education institutions shall be included in the total number of students determined for each of the higher education institutions.

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009., Art.44

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art 299

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 1225 of 26 July 2017 - website, 28.07.2017

Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

#### **Article 49<sup>2</sup>. Exchange Educational Programmes**

1. Before concluding an agreement on a student exchange programme with a foreign higher education institution, the Georgian higher education institution shall obtain information, in a written form, from the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, on the recognition of the foreign higher education institution by the legislation of the foreign country.
2. student participating in an exchange programme of a higher education institution recognised by the legislation of a foreign country, who has acquired the status of a student at a higher education institution

recognised by a foreign country, may continue studies at an appropriate educational cycle of higher education at a partner Georgian higher education institution on the basis of the act issued by the Head of this higher education institution.

3. A student participating in an exchange programme, who has acquired the status of a student at a Georgian higher education institution, may continue studies at a partner foreign higher education institution as provided for by the legislation of that foreign country.

4. The status of students who have left Georgia within education exchange programmes and who participate in exchange programmes shall not be suspended.

5. Foreign students participating in exchange programmes, who continue studies at Georgian higher education institutions, shall not be included in the total number of students registered at such institutions.

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

#### **Article 50. Recognition of the Education Obtained Abroad**

1. The qualification obtained in a foreign higher education institution or the education received during the period of study in a foreign higher education institution shall be recognised only if they comply with the appropriate qualifications granted by Georgian higher education institutions. The compliance with the learning outcomes and granted qualification may be established irrespective of the duration of the studies.

2. Qualifications or education acquired at a foreign higher education institution shall be recognised by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement in accordance with procedures established by the international agreements of Georgia and the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

3. The decision to admit an entrant or a student holding a foreign educational document to a Georgian higher education institution shall be made by an appropriate higher education institution under the legislation of Georgia, on the basis of the document certifying recognition issued by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art. 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November, - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 50<sup>1</sup>. Recognizing the Learning Outcomes Achieved within One Qualification for the Purposes of Any Other Qualification**

1. A higher education institution shall be entitled to recognise the learning outcomes achieved by a certain person within the educational programme of respective cycle of an academic higher education for the purposes of granting respective qualification by overcoming any other educational programme of the same cycle of an academic higher education.

2. The subject to recognition shall be the credits obtained within that higher education programme in which enrollment and study is performed in the manner prescribed by the legislation of Georgia.

3. In order to recognise credits, a higher education institution establishes the compatibility of the learning outcomes achieved by a certain person within any other educational programme of the same cycle of

higher education with respective higher education programme and takes a decision on recognition of the relevant credits.

4. As a result of the content-wise examination of the teaching courses envisaged by the educational programmes, it is possible to establish compliance of those courses, regardless of the differences in their titles.

5. In accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia a higher education institution shall be authorized to calculate the workload of a student with the credits in the course of the educational programmes which is not fulfilled in compliance with the European Credit Transfer System.

6. Credits shall be recognised by the procedure established by the statute of a higher education institution.

7. In cases of recognition of mobility and education received abroad, the relevant credits are recognised in accordance with the rules established by the Minister.

Law of Georgia No 1225 of 26 July 2017 - website, 28.07.2017<sup>6</sup>.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

## **Chapter VIII. Procedure for Admission of Students to a Higher Education Institution**

### **Article 51. National Assessment and Examinations Center (NAEC)**

1. The National Assessment and Examinations Center is a legal entity under public law that organises Unified National and Unified Master's Exams and is authorised to carry out national assessments and international research work and to exercise other rights determined by the legislation of Georgia;

1<sup>1</sup>. When exercising its powers, the National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall develop databases in accordance with the procedures determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. In order to ensure access to information gathered in the process of keeping the databases and in the process of organising Unified National and Unified Master's Exams and also in exercising other rights, the National Assessment and Examinations Centre may use its available means, including telephones, insured post packages, e-mails, short text messages and others.

1<sup>2</sup>. The fees for services provided by National Assessment and Examinations Centre may be defined, and their amount and payment procedures shall be determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

2. The Statute of National Assessment and Examinations Centre is developed and approved by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

3. A Director of National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall be appointed to and dismissed from the position by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia upon the agreement with the Prime-Minister of Georgia.

3<sup>1</sup>. When exercising its powers, the National Assessment and Examinations Centre may receive, keep and issue any document in written or electronic form. The procedures for and terms and conditions of receiving, keeping and issuing electronic documents by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall be determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

4. The results of the Unified National Examinations conducted by National Assessment Examinations Centre shall be binding for all higher education institutions and they shall serve as a basis for granting State scholarships to the citizens or residents of Georgia in order to acquire higher education. All persons

presenting a State document that certifies complete general education shall be eligible to take part in the Unified National Examinations for obtaining higher education.

5. The results of the Unified Master's Exams conducted by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall be binding for higher education institutions.

6. In order to enroll in an accredited Master's degree programme, all applicants have the right to participate in the examination/examinations conducted by the higher educational institution, who submit a document confirming the academic degree of higher education issued in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 2941 of 20 April 2010, - LHG I, №23, 04.05.2010, Art.123

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 917 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 655 of 21 April 2017 - website, 10.05.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 52. Grounds for the Admission of Students to the Bachelor's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's in Teacher Training, Integrated Master's in Veterinary or Certified Medical Doctor's/Dentist's Educational Programmes of Higher Education Institutions.**

1. Only an applicant that has passed the Unified National Examinations under the procedure approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall be eligible to study for a bachelor's, integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary or certified medical doctor's/dentist's educational programmes of higher education institutions.

1<sup>1</sup>. Students shall be admitted to Orthodox theological higher education institutions on the Bachelor's Programme in theology on the basis of a proposal submitted by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia, in accordance with the procedures established by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and based on the results received in individual subjects at the Unified National Examinations.

1<sup>2</sup>. The right to undertake the Georgian language training educational programme shall be enjoyed by the entrant who are Georgian citizens or a person provided for by Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, and who, at the Unified National Examinations, has passed only one of the following tests in the manner prescribed by the Ministry:

a) Standardized test in Azerbaijani language;

b) Standardized test in Armenian language;

c) a test in Ossetian language;

d) a test in Abkhazian language.

2. Before taking part in the Unified National Examinations, entrant shall take part in respective competition:

a) to acquire higher education in arts or sports as provided for by higher education institutions carrying out arts or sports educational programmes;

b) to acquire the right to go through the procedures determined by the legislation of Georgia for admission to military higher education institutions in accordance with the procedures established by these institutions.

3. For the purpose of supporting entrants and for ensuring the mobility of students, admission to higher education institutions without passing the Unified National Examinations, in accordance with the procedures and within the periods established by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, shall be permitted for:

a) citizens of foreign countries or stateless persons who have acquired complete general education or equivalent education in a foreign country;

b) citizens of Georgia who have acquired complete general education or its equivalent education in a foreign country and have studied on a complete general educational programme in a foreign country for previous two years.

c) citizens of foreign countries (except for students participating in a joint higher education programme and students participating in a higher education exchange programme) who study/have studied and have acquired credits/qualification in a foreign country at a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of that country.

d) citizens of Georgia (except for students participating in a joint higher education programme and students participating in a higher education exchange programme) who live/have lived and study/have studied for the period determined by the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Georgia and who have acquired credits/qualification in a foreign country at a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of that country.

3<sup>1</sup>. In order to support applicants, members of the Georgian national team, who will become gold medalist's/ silver medalist's /bronze medalists in the Olympic/Paralympic Games, as well as in the Chess Olympiads, can study at the State University of Physical Education and Sports of Georgia, a legal entity under public law, without passing the Unified National Examinations, in accordance with the rules and deadlines established by the Government of Georgia.

4. (Deleted - 06.08.2013, №917).

5. A higher education institution that is willing to accept students for bachelor's, integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary or certified medical doctor's/dentist's educational programmes, shall announce the coefficients granted by its educational programme to the results of the entrants in each examination subject. On the basis of Unified National Examinations, entrants are admitted to educational programmes according to the coefficients assigned to the exam subjects.

5<sup>1</sup>. A higher education institution implementing the Georgian language training educational programme shall, according to the number of students defined for the higher education institution by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, announce, for the enrollment of students, the vacancies corresponding to the following percentages of the total number of students to be admitted by the Unified National Examinations:

a) 5% – for students to be admitted only on the basis of the results of the standardized test in the Azerbaijani language;

b) 5% – for students to be admitted only on the basis of the results of the standardized test in the Armenian language;

- c) 1% - for students to be admitted only on the basis of the results of the Abkhazian-language test;
  - d) 1% - for students to be admitted only on the basis of the results of the Ossetian-language test.
- 5<sup>2</sup>. Taking into consideration the number of entrants registered for the Georgian language training educational programme and to be admitted on the basis of the tests of the Unified National Examinations, based on a grounded decision of the higher education institute and the agreement of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia, it is possible to change the percentage distributions provided for in paragraph 5<sup>1</sup> of this article within their sum.
- 5<sup>3</sup>. Within the framework of the number of students defined for the higher education institution by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement a higher education institution shall be obliged to define, for the students provided for by Article 52<sup>2</sup> of this Law, the number of places that constitutes, at least, 1% of the total number of students to be admitted based on the Unified National Examinations.
6. Within the number of students established as a result of authorization, a higher education institution may designate places for the persons provided for by paragraph 3 of this article.
7. (Deleted).
8. Upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, the Government of Georgia shall be authorised to determine the amount, and the terms and conditions, of financing for students under the social programme admitted to accredited higher educational programmes, in no less than 6% and no more than 20% of the annual volume for financing State educational scholarships.
9. The National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall compile the lists of applicants that have passed the Unified National Examinations and acquired the right to study for a bachelor's, integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary or certified medical doctor's/dentist's educational programmes at a major educational unit, and shall forward the lists to the appropriate major educational unit.
- 9<sup>1</sup>. NAEC shall draft lists of the entrants which have obtained the right to undertake the Georgian language training educational programme at a higher education institution, and submit those lists to respective higher education institution.
10. Higher education institutions and main educational units shall admit entrants only in accordance with the lists specified by paragraphs 9 and 9<sup>1</sup> of this article, except for the persons determined by paragraph 3 of this article.
11. Admission to a branch of a higher education institution shall be carried out by the higher education institution. This article shall not apply to the branches specified by Article 14(4) of this Law.
- Law of Georgia No 1443 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005, Art.170
- Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67
- Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118
- Law of Georgia No 5533 of 4 December 2007 - LHG I, No 43, 12.12.2007, Art. 392
- Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241
- Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009., Art.44
- Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148
- Law of Georgia No 2078 of 17 November 2009 - LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009, Art.281
- Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299
- Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011
- Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011
- Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013  
Law of Georgia No 917 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013  
Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016  
Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017  
Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021  
Law of Georgia No 1081 of 14 December 2021- website, 23.12.2021

**Article 52<sup>1</sup>. Grounds for Admission to the Master’s programme at Higher Education Institution**

1. Only Master's candidates, who have overcome the minimum threshold limit determined by the legislation of Georgia or by a higher education institution may take part in the examination / examinations determined by the higher education institution for the academic disciplines, including prioritised academic disciplines, of the higher education institution, which institution is a member of the Unified Master Exams Network.

1<sup>1</sup>. Students shall be enrolled in the theological Master's educational programme at the Orthodox theological higher education institute without a general Master's examination, in the manner prescribed by the Catholicos-Partriarch of All Georgia.

2. The higher educational institution included in the unified master’s examination network is authorized to conduct the exam/examinations determined by it both before the publication of the results of the unified master's exams and after the publication of the results of the unified master's exams.

3. (Deleted – 28.02.2012, №5718).

4. Only Master's candidates who have passed successfully the Unified Master’s Exam/Exams under this Law may study for the Master's Programmes of higher education institutions that are members of the Unified Master’s Exams Network, (except for Master's Programmes in arts or sports, where candidates are not admitted to these programmes on the basis of passing the Unified Master’s Exams). This procedure shall not apply to the persons specified by paragraphs 7 and 7<sup>1</sup> of this article.

5. If a higher education institution, which is a member of the Unified Master’s Exams Network, assigns coefficients to the individual parts of the tests of the Unified Master’s Exams in the cases determined by Article 10(1) (d<sup>1</sup>) of this Law, the higher education institution shall use the total of coefficients of the master’s exams determined by it for admission to the Master's Programmes.

6. If a higher education institution, which is a member of the Unified Master’s Exams Network, fails to assign coefficients to the individual parts of the tests of the Unified Master’s Exams in the cases determined by Article 10(1) (d<sup>1</sup>) of this Law, the higher education institution shall use the coefficients of the exam/exams determined by it for admission to the Master's Programmes.

7. For the purpose of supporting Master's candidates and for ensuring the mobility of students, studying at higher education institutions without passing the Unified Master’s Exams in accordance with the procedures and within the periods determined by the Ministry, shall be permitted for:

a) Master's candidates who have obtained certificates of academic degrees of appropriate higher education abroad;



b) citizens of foreign countries (except for students participating in a joint higher education programme and students participating in a higher education exchange programme) who study/have studied and have acquired credits/qualification in a foreign country at a graduate school of a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of that country;

b<sup>1</sup>) citizens of Georgia (except for students participating in a joint higher education programme and students participating in a higher education exchange programme) who live/have lived and study/have studied for the period determined by the Ministry of Education and Sciences of Georgia and who have acquired credits/qualification in a foreign country at a graduate school of a higher education institution recognised under the legislation of that country.

c) Master's candidates who have been admitted to higher education institutions under Article 52(3) of this Law.

7<sup>1</sup>. Admission to study at higher education institutions without passing the Unified Master's Exams shall be permitted for persons who have overcome the minimum threshold limit in the examination determined by the list of international examinations approved by the Ministry.

8. Candidates for Master's Programmes in arts and sports shall be admitted in accordance with the procedures established by higher education institutions, except for cases where candidates are admitted to these programmes on the basis of the Unified Master's Exams.

9. Within the range of the number of students determined as a result of the authorisation, a higher education institution may define the admission limit for the persons specified in paragraphs 7 and 7<sup>1</sup> of this article.

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4040 of 15 December 2010, Art. 464 - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

**Article 52<sup>2</sup>. Grounds for Admission of Students to a Higher Education Institution, to Bachelor's, Integrated Bachelor's and Master's in Teacher Training, Integrated Master's in Veterinary or Certified Medical Doctor's/Dentist's Educational Programmes**

1. Citizens of Georgia and persons provided for by Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in

Georgia who have studied in the last 2 years and received a document confirming complete general education in a general educational institution in the occupied territory provided for by the law of Georgia "On Occupied Territories" and whose complete general education was recognized by the Ministry, have the right to continue their studies in the educational programme of bachelor's degree, integrated bachelor's and master's degree in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary, certified medical doctor/dentist educational programme without passing the unified national exams, based on the completion of the post-school education preparation programme, and upon confirmation of mastering the learning outcomes provided for by the programme based on the evaluation organized by NAEC.

2. The procedure and terms of undertaking the training programme for post-school education, and of enrollment in that programme, as well as the procedure of confirmation of the achievement of the learning outcome stipulated by the programme, based on the evaluation organized by NAEC, shall be approved by respective order of the Minister.

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Article 53. Unified National and Unified Master's Examinations**

1. Unified National and Unified Master's Examinations shall be prepared and conducted by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre.

2. The Minister shall approve the regulations for conducting the Unified National Examinations and the procedures for the allocation and distribution of State educational scholarships, and the regulations for conducting the Unified Master's Examinations and the procedures for the allocation and distribution of State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes, upon the recommendation of the National Assessment and Examinations Centre.

3. Persons interested in taking part in the Unified National and Unified Master's Examinations shall apply to the National Assessment and Examinations Centre in a written and/or electronic form by means of special software. The procedures and conditions for submitting applications shall be established by the Minister upon the recommendation of the National Assessment and Examinations Centre

3<sup>1</sup>. (Deleted – 11.03.2011, №4431).

4.(Deleted – 11.03.2011, №4431).

5. (Deleted).

6. The Unified National Examinations programme shall be approved by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia upon the recommendation of the National Assessment and Examinations Centre.

7. A fee for taking part in the Unified National and Unified Master's Examinations shall be determined by a normative administrative act of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. The procedures for, and the terms and conditions of exemption from the payment of fees shall be approved by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

8. The Ministry may determine the periods and procedures for submitting and reviewing administrative complaints regarding the Unified National and Unified Master's Examinations, other than the periods and procedures determined by the General Administrative Code of Georgia. The decisions made by the National Assessment and Examinations Centre with regard to the Unified National and Unified Master's

Examinations may be appealed to court and the appeal thereof shall not cause the suspension of the disputed acts in proceedings.

Law of Georgia No 1443 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005, Art.170

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 917 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 54. Granting the State Educational Scholarships**

1. Considering the results of the Unified National Examinations the National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall prepare a document on the granting of State educational scholarships, except for the cases determined by Article 54<sup>2</sup> of this Law.

2. State educational scholarships shall be granted in accordance with the procedures determined by the Minister.

2<sup>1</sup>. The minister determines the rules of funding for those students who have to study in the educational programme of Georgian language training and continue their studies on the educational programme of bachelor's degree, integrated bachelor's and master's degree in teacher training, integrated master's degree in veterinary medicine, certified medical doctor/dentist educational programme.

3. (Granted – 22.03.2013, №388);

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art..118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 from November 17, 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 917 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 54<sup>1</sup>. Granting the State Educational Scholarships for Master's Programmes**

1. (Deleted – 22.03.2013, №388);

2. The accredited academic disciplines of the Master's Programmes of higher education institutions which are members of the Unified Master's Examinations Network, shall be equally financed within the percentage threshold limit allocated for academic disciplines out of the annual amount of State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, and shall be distributed among the Master's students in the form of a State educational scholarship for Master's Programmes in accordance with the absolute ranking of the score / scores of the Unified Master's Examinations in each academic discipline as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

3. The accredited prioritised academic discipline of the Master's Programmes of higher education institutions which are the members of the Unified Master's Examinations Network, shall be financed within the percentage threshold limit allocated for the prioritised academic disciplines out of the annual amount of State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, and shall be distributed among the Master's students in the form of a State educational scholarship for Master's Programmes in accordance with the absolute ranking of the score/scores of the Unified Master's Exams in each prioritised academic discipline as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

4. After holding the examination/examinations determined by the higher education institution member of the Unified Master's Examination Network and presentation of the results by the higher education institution the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia shall approve the document of absolute ranking of State Masters Examination score/scores for each educational programme directions, amongst them for priority programme direction, under the submission of the National Examination Centre.

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 927 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013

Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014

#### **Article 54<sup>2</sup>. Awarding of State Study Grants to Persons Enrolled for Teacher Training Educational Programmes**

A person enrolled for a teacher training educational programme shall be awarded a State study grant under the procedure approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 55. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011

#### **Article 55<sup>1</sup>. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 4431 of 11 March 2011 - website, 22.03.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

#### **Article 56. Procedures for Admission to Master's and Doctoral Programmes**

1. The procedures for admission to Master's and Doctoral Programmes shall be defined under the by-law of a respective major educational unit of a higher education institution, based on the requirements of this Law.

2. (Deleted - 01.11.2019, №5276).

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

### **Chapter VIII<sup>1</sup> Authorization**

*Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299*

#### **Article 56<sup>1</sup>. Scope of Authorization**

1. Authorization is a procedure for acquiring the status of a higher education institution, which is intended to ensure the meeting of standards necessary for the implementation of appropriate activities in order to issue an education certificate recognised by the State.

2. Authorization standards shall apply 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 a higher educational institution;
- e) Students and their support services;
- f) Research, development and/or other creative activity;
- g) Material, information and financial resources.

3. The term of authorisation is six years.

4. Authorization shall be carried out by the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement as provided for by the Authorisation Regulations of an Education Institutions.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

#### **Article 56<sup>2</sup>. Decisions with Regard to Authorisation**

1. In order to carry out authorisation of higher education institutions the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement shall form a Group of Experts for Authorisation of a Higher Education Institution, the rules of formation and activities of which shall be determined by the Authorisation Regulations of Educational Institution.

2. A decision on authorization shall be made by the Council for the Authorization of Educational Institutions (hereinafter the – Authorization Council) the members of which shall be composed of permanent and invited members. Members invited to the Council for the Authorization shall only

participate if in the accreditation application submitted by the higher education institution is indicated regulated academic higher education programme envisaged by subparagraph "b" of paragraph 2 of Article 75 of this Law. The invited members of the Council for the Authorization shall have the right to vote.

2<sup>1</sup>. The Prime Minister of Georgia appoints and dismiss permanent and invited members of the authorization council upon the recommendation of the Ministry. During the selection of candidates for the invited members of the Authorization Council, the Ministry is guided by the requirements and criteria established by the World Federation of Medical Education regarding the staffing of the Council.

3. The authorization council makes one of the following decisions based on the authorization documentation and the report of the expert panel on authorization of higher education institutions:

- a) authorization;
- b) refusal from authorization;
- c) revocation of authorization.

3<sup>1</sup>. The Council for the Authorization shall have the right, during the process of authorization of a higher education institute or within the process of checking the fulfillment of conditions for authorization by the higher education institute, take a decision on the restriction for the higher education institution of the right to admit students/vocational students for at least one year. The procedure and conditions for this decision, as well as the maximum period for restricting the right for higher education institutions to admit students/vocational students shall be determined by the statute of authorization of the education institutions.

4. The Authorisation Council shall justify all decisions made by it.

5. A decision on authorization shall, within 10 work days after it is adopted, be published at the website of the National Education Quality Development Center.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 351 of 20 March 2013 - website, 28.03.2013

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 1934 of 23 December 2017 -website, 11.01.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Article 56<sup>3</sup>. Decision with Regard to Authorisation and Legal Consequences of Authorisation**

1. A decision with regard to authorisation shall be made if an educational institution meets all the authorisation standards.

2. In the case of taking a decision on authorization, the Council for the Authorization shall in the manner prescribed by the statute of authorization of a higher education institution, determine for the higher education institution the number of places of students for the period of authorization.

3. As a result of the authorization, the higher education institution is entitled to accept students to the accredited higher education programme, to the educational programme of training in the Georgian language in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia, and to issue a qualification document, except for the case provided for in paragraph 3<sup>1</sup> of Article 56<sup>2</sup> of this law.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 1934 of 23 December 2017 -website, 11.01.2018§.

Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

#### **Article 56<sup>4</sup>. Decisions to Refuse or Revoke Authorisation and Legal Consequences Thereof**

1. Decisions to refuse authorisation shall be made where an education institution fails to meet one of the authorisation standards.

2. On the basis of the inspection results of a higher education institution the Authorisation Council may make a decision to revoke the authorisation of the higher education institution upon the recommendation of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement, where the institution fails to meet the authorisation standards or violates the legislation of Georgia in the field of education regarding the origination, suspension or termination of student or vocational student status.

3. In case of refusing authorization or cancellation of authorization:

a) an institution will not obtain a status of higher education institution or will lose such status from the date when respective decision enters into force;

b) in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article 11 of the Law of Georgia "On Education Quality Improvement", the educational institution continues its educational activities within the period established by the Authorization Council, within which the right to admit students/entrants/master's degree candidate's/doctorate candidates is limited;

c) in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article 11 of the Law of Georgia "On the Development of the Quality of Education", the student has the right to continue his/her studies in the same educational institution or to transfer to another relevant educational institution for the period determined by the authorization council;

d) in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article 11 of the Law of Georgia "On Education Quality Improvement", the student's status shall be suspended for 5 years from the expiration of the period established by the Authorization Council (if such a period exists), from the entry into force of the decision of the Authorization Council on refusal of authorization or cancellation of authorization and he/she is entitled to exercise the right of mobility;

e) an entrant who successfully passed the Unified National Examinations and obtained a right to be enrolled to the Higher Education Institution according to the ranking document approved by the LEPL National Assessment and Examinations Center, shall be authorized to exercise the right of mobility;

f) a candidate of master's degree, who has been listed in the ranking document with the coefficients of the master's exams shall be authorized to exercise the right of mobility;

4. In the case of a decision to refuse authorization or a decision to revoke authorization, a legal entity is entitled to submit an authorization application to the National Center for the Development of Education Quality to obtain the same status as an educational institution 1 year after the decision to refuse authorization or a decision to revoke authorization was made.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 6285 of 12 June 2020 - website, 15.06.2020

Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

#### **Article 56<sup>5</sup>. Implementation of the Theological Educational Programmes**

Institutions that deliver only theological educational programmes shall acquire authorisation for and accreditation of their educational programmes in accordance with other procedures established by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 56<sup>6</sup>. Implementation of Educational Programmes by Kutaisi International University**

Kutaisi International University is authorized and educational programmes are accredited in accordance with the Law of Georgia "On the creation of a legal entity under public law - Kutaisi International University".

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

**Chapter IX. (Deleted).**

*Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67*

**Article 57. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Article 58. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Article 59. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Article 60. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Article 61. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Article 62. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

**Chapter X. Accreditation Process**

**Article 63. Scope of Accreditation**

1. The purpose of accreditation is to introduce a systematic self-evaluation of education institutions and facilitate the development of quality assurance mechanisms for the improvement of education quality by means of determining the compliance of educational programmes of higher education institutions with accreditation standards.

<sup>1</sup>1. The accreditation procedures determined by this Law do not apply to the Orthodox theological higher education programmes delivered by Orthodox theological higher education institutions

<sup>1</sup>2. The accreditation procedures established under this Law shall not apply to the education programmes implemented by Kutaisi International University.

<sup>1</sup>3. Accreditation of a higher education programme (including a joint higher education programme) can be carried out by a foreign organization with relevant competence recognized by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement in the manner established by the accreditation regulation.

2. The accreditation standards are as follows:

a) Education Programme Purpose, Learning Outcomes and their Compliance with the Programme;



- b) Teaching Methodology and Organization, Adequate Evaluation of Programme Mastering;
- c) Student Achievements and Individual Work with Them;
- d) Providing Teaching Resources;
- e) Teaching Quality Enhancement Opportunities.

3. State educational scholarships and State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes shall be allocated to finance the educational programme of an educational institution (except the Orthodox theological higher educational institution) that has obtained an accreditation or was accredited by a foreign organization with relevant competence recognized by the NCEQE. Accreditation granted by this organization is recognized by the Center in accordance with the procedure established by the Accreditation Regulations.

4. Implementation of the higher education programme (except for the Orthodox theological higher education programmes of the Orthodox theological educational institution) and the Georgian language training educational programme is possible only in case of obtaining accreditation.

5. The accreditation shall be undertaken by the National Education Quality Improvement Center.

6. An Accreditation Council for Educational Programmes is established to make a decision on accreditation (hereinafter referred to as "Accreditation Council") that consists of permanent and invited members. Members invited to the Accreditation Council shall only participate in its activities, if, in the accreditation application submitted by the higher education institution is indicated regulated academic higher education programme envisaged by subparagraph "b" of paragraph 2 of Article 75 of this Law. The invited members of the accreditation council exercise the right of voting.

6<sup>1</sup>. The Prime Minister of Georgia appoints and dismisses permanent and invited members of the accreditation council upon recommendation by the ministry. During the selection of candidates for invited members of the Accreditation Council, the Ministry is guided by the requirements and criteria established by the World Federation of Medical Education regarding the staffing of the Accreditation Council.

7. The NCEQE shall supervise the fulfillment of the accreditation conditions. If accreditation conditions are violated, the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement may require the Accreditation Council to revoke accreditation.

8. Higher education institutions, including legal entities under public law, may jointly establish a legal entity under private law for quality assurance purposes, assessments of which may be reviewed by the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement during the accreditation process of the educational programmes of higher education institutions.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №1916 of 3 November 2009 Art.226- LHG I, №35, 19.11.2009

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia №2941 of 20 April 2010, - LHG I, №123, 04.05.2010

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012.

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 1225 of 26 July 2017 - website, 28.07.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018  
Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021  
Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

#### **Article 64. Panel of Accreditation Experts**

1. To hold accreditation, the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement shall establish a panel of accreditation experts. The procedure for the creation and activity of the accreditation expert panel is determined by the accreditation regulation.

2. The first stage of performance of accreditation shall be self-evaluation performed by the accreditation seeker according to the forms preliminary provided to the accreditation seeker by the National Education Quality Development Center.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

#### **Article 65. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

#### **Article 66. Decisions with Regard to Accreditation**

1. Decisions with regard to the accreditation of educational programmes of higher education institutions shall be made by the Accreditation Council in accordance with the Accreditation Regulations of the Educational Programmes of Education Institutions and based on the opinion of Accreditation Experts Panel as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

2. With regard to accreditation there may be four types of decisions on:

- a) On accreditation;
- b) On conditional accreditation;
- c) On refusal of accreditation;
- d) On cancellation of accreditation.

[3. The term of accreditation of an educational programme is seven years. The educational programme submitted to the Center for accreditation during the calendar year when educational programmes classified in the field of study of the said educational programme do not have to undergo re-accreditation, accreditation is granted until the next period of accreditation of educational programmes classified in the field of study of this educational programme. Conditional accreditation term of the educational programme is no longer than 4 years. The educational programme submitted to the Center for accreditation during the calendar year when educational programmes classified in the field of study of the said educational

programme do not have to undergo re-accreditation, conditional accreditation is granted until the next period of accreditation of educational programmes classified in the field of study of this educational programme, but not more than for 4 years. The accreditation is canceled in case of expiration of authorization term or cancellation of authorization. (To enter into force from 1 July 2022)]

4. In case of the first and every subsequent accreditation of an educational programme, the decision on accreditation is made according to the rule established under the accreditation statute, if the educational programme fully and/or substantially meets the accreditation standards.

5. In case of first accreditation of the educational programme and for every subsequent accreditation, the decision on conditional accreditation shall be made according to the rule established under the accreditation statute, if the educational programme partially meets the accreditation standard.

6. A decision on the conditional accreditation of an educational programme may not be taken twice consecutively.

[7. In relation to the regulated academic higher education programme provided for in subparagraph “b” of paragraph 2 of Article 75 of this law, when making a decision provided for in subparagraphs “a” or “b” of paragraph 2 of this Article, the Accreditation Council within the limits of the maximum number of student places established for the higher education institution, determines the maximum number of places for students during the accreditation period in accordance with the procedure established by the accreditation regulations. (To enter into force from 1 July 2022)]

8. In case of refusal or revoking of accreditation for the higher education programme of a higher education institution:

a) The higher education institution is restricted from admitting students/entrants/Master's Programme candidates/doctoral candidates to the higher education programme and Georgian language training educational programme, for which the accreditation has been refused, cancelled or expired;

b) According to the Article 22, paragraph 11 of the law of Georgia "On Education Quality Improvement" a student who studies with State funding shall be entitled to continue the studies at the same higher educational programme for the term (if any) established by the Accreditation Council and to receive State funding or exercise the right to mobility, transfer to other accredited educational programme and transfer the remaining funds allocated by the State to him/her to that higher educational programme;

c) According to the Article 22, paragraph 11 of the Law of Georgia "On Education Quality Improvement", the student who studies on the accredited higher educational programme or Georgian language training educational programme, after expiration of the term (if any) established by the Accreditation Council, shall be subject to termination of the student status for 5 years after the Accreditation Council's decision on refusing or canceling the accreditation enters into force and this student shall be entitled to exercise their right to mobility.

d) An entrant who successfully passed the Unified National Examinations and obtained a right to be enrolled to the Higher Educational Programme according to the ranking document approved by the LEPL National Assessment and Examinations Center, shall be authorized to exercise the right to mobility;

e) A candidate of the Master's programme, who has been listed in the ranking document with the coefficients of the Master's Exams shall be authorized to exercise the right to mobility;

9. In case of expiration of the accreditation period for a higher education programme or a Georgian language training programme, based on the decision of the Accreditation Council, a student has the right to continue their studies in the same educational programme until the end of the ongoing semester and

receive State funding. The status of a student is suspended for a period of 5 years after the end of the current academic semester, and he/she is entitled to exercise the right to mobility.

10. (Deleted - 30.03.2022, No. 1466).

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 from November 17, 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 1934 of 23 December 2017 -website, 11.01.2018

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 6285 of 12 June 2020 - website, 15.06.2020

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Law of Georgia No 1430 of 16 March 2022 - website, 24.03.2022

Law of Georgia No 1466 of 30 March 2022 - website, 06.04.2022

#### **Article 66<sup>1</sup>. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

### **Chapter XI. (Deleted).**

*Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299*

#### **Article 67. Types of Accreditation**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

#### **Article 68. Institutional Accreditation**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

#### **Article 69. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

#### **Article 70. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

**Article 71. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

**Article 72. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

**Article 73. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

**Article 74. (Deleted)**

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

**Chapter XII. Accreditation of Regulated Educational Programmes**

**Article 75. Regulated Educational Programmes**

1. A regulated educational programme shall be regulated by respective legislation.

2. The regulated academic higher educational programmes include:

- a) Law;
- b) Medical;
- c) Pedagogical;
- (d) (Deleted);
- e) Marine;
- f) Veterinary.

3. The procedures and fees for accreditation of regulated higher academic educational programmes shall be approved by the Ministry upon the recommendation of the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement

4. (Deleted).

5. The National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement shall ensure the development and approval of sectoral benchmarks of the regulated educational programmes.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia №5625 from December 18, 2007, Art. 415 - LHG I, №48, 27.12.2007

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia №2383 from December 18, 2009, Art. 400 - LHG I, №50, 31.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018  
Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 76. Regulated Professions**

1. Only the law may establish a list of the regulated professions that require higher academic education and passing of the State certification examination, or for awarding a required appropriate qualification to engage in which an appropriate examination must be passed.
2. The procedures and terms and conditions for conducting certification examinations in regulated professions shall be determined by appropriate legislation.
3. The procedure and conditions of conducting an appropriate examination required for awarding an appropriate qualification to carry out pedagogical activity shall be determined by an order of the Minister.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 77. Accreditation of regulated educational programmes**

1. The terms and conditions for the accreditation of regulated educational programmes shall be developed by the National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement in coordination with the professional associations determined by the legislation of Georgia, and shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia for approval.
2. Unless there is no professional association in respective field provided for by Georgian legislation, the National Education Quality Development Center shall develop the conditions for the accreditation of the regulated educational programme with the participation of the interested organization(s) and parties.
3. (Deleted - 19.02.2016, №4787).
4. The National Education Quality Development Center shall take a decision provided for by Article 66(2) on the accreditation of the regulated educational programme.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4787 of 19 February 2016 - website, 07.03.2016

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Chapter XIII. Types of Operation of Higher Education Institutions and the Sources for their Funding**

#### **Article 78. Economic Activities of Higher Educational Institutions**

A non-entrepreneurial legal entity- a higher educational institute may carry out any other economic activities permitted by Georgian legislation.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

### **Article 79. Financing of Higher Education Institutions**

1. The financing of higher education institutions from the State Budget is focused on studies and/or scientific research, training, re-training and the professional development of the personnel of the institutions.

2. The sources of the financing of higher education institutions are:

A) tuition fees covered by State grant and State study master's grant (only accredited higher education programme);

b) grants, contributions or revenues received from a testament;

c) scientific research grants allocated by the State on the basis of a competition;

(d) (Deleted);

e) the programme funding allocated by the ministries;

e<sup>1</sup>) the funding allocated from the budget of the autonomous republic;

f) any revenues permitted by Georgian legislation, including those received from economic activities.

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 2320 of 4 May 2018 -website, 21.05.2018

### **Article 80. Financing of Higher Education by State Educational Scholarships**

1. A citizen of Georgia and a person provided for by Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, which have been enrolled in the accredited educational programme of a higher educational institution in the manner prescribed by this Law, may obtain a State study grant.

2. Aliens, including a foreign citizen with the status of compatriot living abroad, may be granted State educational scholarships only within then threshold limit of 2% of the annual amount of State educational scholarships under the State programme determined by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

3. It shall be prohibited to allocate to the same person for each cycle of study more than more State study grant.

4. The tuition fee of a student of a higher education institution shall be covered only by the State within the funds available under the State study grant, except for the cases of programme funding issued by the ministries.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4999 of 1 July 2011 - website, 15.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5304 of 24 November 2011 - website, 08.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3436 of 20 September 2018 - website, 28.09.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 80<sup>1</sup>. Funding Higher Education with the State Study Master's Grant**

1. A citizen of Georgia and a person provided for by Article 20<sup>13</sup> of Law of Georgia on the Procedure for Registering, Issuing Identity (Residence) Cards and Passports of Citizens of Georgia and Aliens Residing in Georgia, which have been enrolled into the unified master's examination network on the accredited educational programme of a higher educational institution in the manner prescribed by this Law, may obtain a State study grant.
2. Foreigners, including the foreigners holding the status of a compatriot residing abroad may obtain a State study Master's grant within the threshold limit of 2% of the annual amount of State study grants under the State programme determined by the Ministry.
3. A student with a Master's degree may be financed from the State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes only once, in accordance with one academic discipline, as well as in accordance with a prioritised academic discipline.
4. The State shall cover the tuition fee of a student who is enrolled for an accredited educational programme of a higher education institution – member of the Unified Master's Examination Network, which fee is set by the higher institution concerned, only within the limits of the State Master's study grant.
5. Master's students of the Kutaisi International University shall be funded through targeted State grants, the amount of which shall be determined by decision of the Government of Georgia upon recommendation of the Executive Director of the Kutaisi International University.

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4040 from December 15, 2010, Art. 464 - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010

Law of Georgia No 4999 of 1 July 2011 - website, 15.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5304 of 24 November 2011 - website, 08.12.2011

Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 4562 of 25 November 2015 - website, 08.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3436 of 20 September 2018 - website, 28.09.2018

Law of Georgia No 5276 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 81. Amount of State Study Grant and State Master's Study Grant**

1. The tuition fees for the educational programmes of higher education institutions established by the State shall be determined by higher education institutions as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.
2. The Government of Georgia shall determine an annual amount of a State study grant that fully covers tuition fees for a bachelor's, integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary or certified medical doctor's/dentist's accredited educational programme and a teacher training educational programme and veterinary training programme at a higher education institution established by the State. The State shall finance higher education for a bachelor's programme for 4 years (and for five



years if a Georgian language preparation programme is studied along with an accredited bachelor's education programme); an accredited educational programme of bachelor's degree envisaged under paragraph 23 of Article 46 of this Law - within 3 years (4 years - in case if a Georgian language education preparation programme is studied along with an accredited Bachelor's education programme envisaged by paragraph 23 of Article 46 of this Law,); an accredited integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training programme of 300 credits and integrated master's in veterinary programme of 300 credits shall be financed for not more than five years (and for not more than six years if a Georgian language education training programme is studied along with the integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training programme and integrated master's programme in veterinary); a certified dentist's educational programme of 300 credits shall be financed for not more than five years (and for six years if a Georgian language education training programme is studied along with the certified dentist's accredited educational programme); a medical doctor's educational programme of 360 credits shall be financed for not more than six years (and for seven years if a Georgian language education training programme is studied along with the medical doctor's accredited educational programme), and a teacher training educational programme shall be financed for not more than one year. The Government of Georgia may also determine partial amounts of an annual State study grant that partially cover tuition fees for a bachelor's, integrated bachelor's and master's in teacher training, integrated master's in veterinary or certified medical doctor's/dentist's accredited educational programme at a higher education institution established by the State.

2<sup>1</sup>. (Deleted).

2<sup>2</sup>. (Deleted).

2<sup>3</sup>. Annual quantity of State study master's grant of accredited master's degree programme of higher education institutions founded by the State shall be determined by the Government of Georgia according to educational programmes' directions established by the Government of Georgia. The State shall finance tuition fees for Master's programmes for two years, except for the Master's Programmes in arts and sports if admission to these programmes does not require passing the Unified Master's Exams, whereas the accredited educational Master programme envisaged in paragraph 23 of Article 46 of this Law - for 18 months.

2<sup>4</sup>. The amount/amounts of the State study grant shall not include the cost of financing for the period of study relevant to the credits that are recognized by a higher education institution under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia, except as provided for in Article 49<sup>2</sup> (4) of this Law. In this case, the value of the State study grants within the amount/amounts of the State study grant determined by the Government of Georgia shall be calculated under the procedure approved by the Ministry.

3. If the tuition fee of an accredited educational programme of a legal entity of private law is higher than the amount of the State study grants or the State master's study grant, respectively, defined by the State, the higher education institution shall be entitled to set an additional fee which should be covered by other than State sources. The tuition fee of an accredited master's programme of a higher education institution, established by the State may exceed the amount of the State master's study grant only in agreement with the Government of Georgia.

3<sup>1</sup>. The fee for an accredited educational programme of an international school/international master's-doctoral school of a higher educational institution established by the State may, by the decision of the academic council of this higher educational institution, in agreement with the Government of Georgia, exceed the amount of State study grant or the State master's grant and/or other State grant stipulated by law.

4. If the tuition fees for the accredited educational programmes of higher education institutions are less than the amount of State educational scholarships or State educational scholarship for master's programmes determined by the State, the State educational scholarships or State educational scholarships for master's programmes shall be equal to the tuition fees for these programmes.

5. The agreement between a higher education institution and a student and/or vocational student shall determine the tuition fees for an appropriate educational programme of the higher education institution, and the conditions for making possible changes to the agreement for the duration of the educational programme. A higher education institution may not increase the tuition fees determined under the agreement by way of violating the conditions of the agreement. The terms and conditions of the agreement related to tuition fee should be known before the commencement of registration of the entrants for the Unified National Examination. The above terms shall, unaltered, become part of the agreement. The tuition fees, determined for the year of admission of students and/or vocational students to higher education institutions, may be unilaterally increased where circumstances substantially change and this fact is established by an ordinance of the Government of Georgia.

6. If a student, holding a State educational scholarship or a State educational scholarship for master's programmes, moves to another higher education institution, the State shall allocate the State educational scholarship or State educational scholarship for master's programmes for the studies of the student at that higher education institution within the maximum threshold limit of the State educational scholarships or State educational scholarships for master's programmes, except for the cases specified by Article 43(1)(h1) of this Law.

7. The amount of financing allocated for a student admitted to an arts or a sports higher education institution established by the State, who obtains a scholarship from the assignments allocated from the State budget for a controlling body of the institution, or State educational scholarships or State educational scholarships for master's programmes, shall not exceed the maximum amount of State educational scholarships or State educational scholarships for master's programmes.

Law of Georgia No 1443 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005, Art.170

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art.118

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 3438 of 20 September 2018 – website, 05.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

Law of Georgia No 1500 of 13 April 2022 – website, 19.04.2022

## **Article 82. Relationship of Higher Education Institutions with the Body Allocating State Educational Scholarships and State Educational Scholarships for Master's Programmes**

1. The State, in accordance with the procedures and within the terms determined by the legislation of Georgia, shall transfer to the higher education institution, the amount that corresponds to the total number of students having obtained State educational scholarships and State educational scholarships for Master's Programmes.

2. Higher education institutions, in accordance with the procedures and within the terms determined by the legislation of Georgia, shall notify the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia of the identity of all students who have terminated or postponed studies for whatever reason.

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009, Art.44

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Article 83. State Research Scholarships**

1. State research scholarships shall be allocated for higher education institutions on the basis of a competition, in accordance with the procedures established by the Ministry.

2. The amount of State research or educational scholarships may not be used to finance other activities.

3. State Master's and Doctoral Programmes shall be funded from research scholarships under a special State programme, in accordance with the priorities determined by the Ministry.

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

## **Chapter XIV. Property of a Higher Education Institution, Established by the State and Monitoring of the Observance of Normative Acts**

*Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299*

*Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011*

### **Article 84. Property of Higher Education Institutions Established by the State**

1. The property of a higher education institution established by the State consists of the property transferred to it by State, legal and private entities, and of the property acquired by it with its own funds.

2. The State shall impose taxes on the initial transfer of property to a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (noncommercial) legal entity in accordance with the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

### **Article 85. Using the Property of Higher Education Institutions Established by the State**

1. The real property of a LEPL higher education institution or part thereof may be purchased, disposed of or leased, and any decision, outside the scope of educational, scientific research activities, regarding the property may be made only by resolution of the Board of Representatives of the higher education institution and upon the approval of the Ministry and the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

- 1<sup>1</sup>. Any decision regarding the movable property of a legal entity of public law – a higher educational institution, if it goes beyond the scope of educational and scientific-research activities, can only be made by the decision of the representative council of the higher educational institution, with the approval of the Ministry, in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
2. A Higher Education Institution Development Fund may be established for the purpose of managing the property of a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity under private law, and part of the property and finances of the higher education institution shall be transferred to that Fund.
3. A higher education institution shall establish a Higher Education Institution Development Fund and shall provide it with the property necessary for its operation. The taxation of initial transfer of assets shall be regulated by the law of Georgia.
4. A higher education institution shall approve the statute of a Higher Education Institution Development Fund upon the approval of the Board of Regents, which statute shall define the authority of the Director of the Fund and the rules of management and disposal of the property transferred to the Fund.
5. The consent of the Board of Regents is required for the entire or partial disposal and encumbrance of the property of a higher education institution established by the State as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity under private law.
6. The property transferred by the State to an arts and/or a sports higher education institution, established by the State as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, may be transferred with the right of free ownership and use to a general education institution as a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, which delivers out-of-school arts and/or sports educational programmes determined by Article 11(5) of this Law; the transfer shall be made upon the consent of the Board of Regents (upon the consent of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs of Georgia, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, and the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia in the case of legal entities under public law).

Law of Georgia №2379 from December 18, 2009, Art. 364 - LHG I, №48, 29.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 4469 of 22 March 2011 - website, 01.04.2011

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

Law of Georgia No 1632 of 7 December 2017 - website, 14.12.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 86. Assets Transferred to the Higher Education Institutions by the State**

1. Upon the establishment of a higher education institution, the State shall transfer thereto the relevant assets in accordance with the procedure envisaged by the law of Georgia.
2. The list of assets subject to transfer shall be attached to the act of establishment of the higher education institution.
3. The inventory of transferred assets shall indicate:
  - a) The list of assets;
  - b) the results of evaluation of the condition of the property by an independent audit, or balance sheet data.
4. The property remaining as a result of the liquidation of a higher education institution established by the State, shall be returned to the State in full, as provided for by the legislation of Georgia. The liquidation of

a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity established by the State shall result in the liquidation of the Higher Education Institution Development Fund, and the property remaining as a result of liquidation shall be returned to the State in full as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 47, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

#### **Article 86<sup>1</sup>. Monitoring of Compliance with Normative Acts at Higher Education Institutions Established by the State as Non-Entrepreneurial (Non-Commercial) Legal Entities**

1. Monitoring of compliance with normative acts implies supervision of the lawfulness of activities carried out by higher education institutions established by the State as non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities.

2. Monitoring of compliance with normative acts is accordingly carried out by the Ministry, the Ministry of Defence of Georgia, the Ministry of Culture Sports and Youth Affairs of Georgia.

3. Authorities carrying out monitoring of compliance with normative acts may require the submission of documents and information necessary to implement such monitoring.

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 1632 of 7 December 2017 - website, 14.12.2017

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

### **Chapter XIV<sup>1</sup>. LEPL Higher Education Management Information System**

*Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018*

#### **Article 86<sup>2</sup>. LEPL Higher Education Management Information System**

1. The higher education management information system includes information on the higher education institutions, respective educational programmes, the personnel carrying out those programmes, and the personal data on the individuals eligible to be enrolled/enrolled in the educational programme (including, in the cases provided for by the legislation of Georgia - data on their health status), as well as any other information determined by the legislation of Georgia.

2. Collection, storage, processing, analysis and administration of data within the higher education management information system by the Ministry shall, in compliance with the requirements of the Law of Georgia on the Protection of Personal Data, in the prescribed manner, shall be ensured by the legal entity under public law included in its system that has been designated by that Ministry.

3. The legal entity under public law provided for by paragraph 2 of this article may, for the purpose of performance of the functions envisioned by the same paragraph, receive and use the personal data available at any other legal entities under public law included in the system of the Ministry.

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 86<sup>3</sup>. Obligations of a Higher Education Institution and Presumption of Accuracy of Data of the Higher Education Management Information System**

1. A higher education institution shall be obliged to include respective information in the higher education management information system within the time frames prescribed by the legislation of Georgia.
2. The failure of a higher education institution to timely include respective information in the higher education management information system may serve as grounds for suspending or refusing to take the appropriate action to be taken based on the data of the higher education management information system.
3. If there is a difference between the information included in a legal act of a higher education institution and respective information included in the higher education management information system, the data included in the higher education management information system shall be taken into consideration.
4. In cases provided for by the legislation of Georgia, forms of confirmation of the information included in the higher education management information system may be established.

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

#### **Article 86<sup>4</sup>. Responsibility for the Accuracy and Completeness of the Information included in the Higher Education Management Information System**

For the accuracy and completeness of the information included in the higher education management information system shall be responsible a subject which has an obligation to reflect this information in system.

Law of Georgia No 3444 of 20 September 2018 – website, 09.10.2018

### **Chapter XV. Transitional Provisions**

#### **Article 87. Management of a Higher Education Institution**

1. Higher education institutions established as legal entities under public law on the basis of the edicts of the President of Georgia prior to the entry of this Law into force shall be deemed incorporated.
2. The entry of this Law into force shall cause the early termination of the authorities of Rectors and Faculty Deans of LEPL higher education institutions. The Rector's term of power shall be prematurely terminated by the order of the President of Georgia. The President of Georgia shall have the right to task the Rector dismissed with the obligation to act as a Rector, or appoint a professor of that higher education institution as an Acting Rector. The President of Georgia shall have the right to prematurely dismiss the Acting Rector. Early termination of authority of a Faculty Dean shall be documented by a legal act of an Acting Rector of a higher education institution, who is authorised to devolve the Dean's responsibilities on the dismissed Dean, or to appoint another candidate as an Acting Dean.
3. The first elections of the management authorities of LEPL higher education institutions shall be held by the higher education institutions in accordance with the procedures established by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia not later than two years after the entry of this Law into force.
4. LEPL higher education institutions shall submit new statutes prepared in accordance with this Law to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia for approval not later than six months after the first elections of the management authorities determined by this Law are held.
5. According to this law, once the first composition of the academic council is elected, based on a voting shall be determine one thirds of the members the period of whose election shall be determined by the period which is half of the duration of the basic educational cycle.
6. Under this Law, the term of the candidates for Rectors, Heads of Administration and Faculty Deans of higher education institutions determined by Articles 22(3), 23(1) and 29(1) of this Law, shall respectively

include the term during which they have held the position of a Rector and/or Faculty Dean at the higher education institutions, for two full consecutive terms, including as Acting Rector and/or Acting Faculty Dean.

7. Higher education institutions shall completely replace their current study programmes with the educational programmes (Bachelor's, Master's, certified specialist's, Doctoral Programmes) under this Law and shall grant appropriate degrees determined by this Law not later than the beginning of the academic year 2007-2008. Before completely changing the current programmes with the educational programmes (Bachelor's, Master's, certified specialist's) determined by this Law and after finishing one-level, and at least a five-year educational programme, the graduates of higher education institutions shall be granted a higher education diploma, which shall be equal to a Master's diploma. Procedures for ensuring the equivalence with the Master's diploma, including additional educational modules, shall be determined by an appropriate faculty of the higher education institution.

8. Higher education institutions shall, in order to ensure the implementation of the educational programmes provided for by this Law, before the beginning of an academic year 2009-2010, ensure the shift to the European credit transfer system.

9. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and higher education institutions shall ensure the compliance of appropriate legal acts with this Law before 31 December 2009.

10. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall approve the procedures specified by Article 7(1) (11) of this Law before the beginning of the academic year 2010-2011.

11. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall approve the Authorisation Regulations of Education Institutions determined by Article 7(1)(f) of this Law before 15 September 2010, and approve the Accreditation Regulations of the Educational Programmes of Education Institutions determined by Article 7(1)(f) of this Law before 1 March 2011.

12. President of Georgia, Government of Georgia, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and Higher Education Institutions until March 1, 2011 should ensure the relevance of legal acts to this law.

13. Institutions that carry out a regulated academic higher education programme under Article 75(2)(e) of this Law shall be conferred the right to carry out a maritime academic higher education programme, irrespective of the accreditation, before commencement of the 2017-2018 academic year

Law of Georgia No 1444 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005, Art.171

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007, Art..118

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 from November 17, 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

#### **Article 88. Status and Funding of Higher Educational Institutions**

1. Higher education institutions accredited under Edict No 418 of 20 July 1998 of the President of Georgia on the Approval of the Statutes and Membership of Accreditation Council of Higher Education Institutions shall be considered as holding the institutional accreditation provided for by this Law prior to the beginning of the academic year 2007-2008. Documents certifying the completion of an educational programme that are granted under the legislation of Georgia prior to the beginning of the academic year

2007-2008 to students of institutions that were refused accreditation as provided for by the above edict, shall be considered as recognised by the State.

1<sup>1</sup>. The document issued on the manner prescribed by Georgian legislation before the beginning of an academic year 2005-2006 certifying the participation in the education programme which have been issued by the higher education institutions licensed or considered as licensed under the law, has been recognized by the state, regardless of accreditation of this institution.

1<sup>2</sup>. The document certifying completion of the higher education programme issued by the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, a legal entity of public law operating in the sphere of governance of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, considered licensed by law, before the beginning of the 2007-2008 academic year, according to the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia, is recognized by the state, regardless of the accreditation of this higher educational institution.

2. (Deleted).

3. Before the accreditation of the programmes of higher education institutions, but not later than the beginning of the academic year 2013-2014, the programmes of all licensed higher education institutions as legal entities under private law and legal entities under public law which hold institutional accreditation shall be considered as accredited.

4. (Deleted).

5. (Deleted).

6. The Government of Georgia shall, from an academic year 2005-2006 shall ensure gradual transition to the system of funding of higher education defined by this law.

7. State educational scholarships and State educational scholarships for master's programmes shall be granted before 1 September 2010 to newly established licensed higher education institutions holding institutional accreditation, or determined by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law, for the remaining term of accreditation. Where accreditation of an appropriate programme is not possible at the moment of submission of applications for acquiring authorisation by such institutions, the programme shall be considered as accredited before providing appropriate conditions.

7<sup>1</sup>. Before September 1, 2010, taking into consideration the interests of the students admitted to newly-established licensed higher education institutions holding institutional accreditation or determined by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law before the expiration of the term of institutional accreditation, the Accreditation Council may make a decision to accredit educational programmes for less than five years. The legal consequences of accreditation shall apply to these students only.

8. The Government of Georgia shall determine the maximum, medium and minimum sums of full and partial amounts of a State study grant for a higher education programme starting from the 2005 – 2006 academic year through the 2022 – 2023 academic year. Higher education institutions established by the State shall ensure that tuition fees for a higher education programme for the citizens of Georgia are determined for the 2005 – 2006 academic year through the 2022 – 2023 academic year according to the full amounts of a State study grant determined by the Government of Georgia. Tuition fees for educational programmes implemented by a State-based higher educational institution as well as for joint educational programmes implemented by a State-based higher educational institution and a foreign higher educational institution recognized in accordance with the legislation of a foreign country, which are different from those provided for in this article can be determined by agreement with the Government of Georgia.

9. (Deleted).

10. (Deleted – 28.02.2012, №5718).



11. (Deleted – 28.02.2012, №5718).

12. Before the beginning of an academic year 2007-2008, legal entities under public law- higher educational institutions shall submit to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia proposals of the expediency of their formation into higher education institutions.

13. The Government of Georgia may reorganize a legal entity under public law- a higher education institution into a legal entity under private law following which, the above legal entity will be considered a legal successor of respective legal entity under public law.

14. The Government of Georgia, within a month after this provision becomes effective, shall ensure the establishment of the Council of Regents and approval of its statute.

Law of Georgia No 1443 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005წ., Art.170

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 3987 of 14 December 2006 - LHG I, No 48, 22.12.2006, Art. 354

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007წ., Art..118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009წ., Art.44

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 3436 of 20 September 2018 - website, 28.09.2018

Law of Georgia No 5709 of 5 February 2020 - website, 10.02.2020

Law of Georgia No 613 of 9 June 2021 - website, 14.06.2021

Law of Georgia No 1072 of 14 December 2021- website, 23.12.2021

### **Article 89. National Assessment and Examinations Centre, National Centre for Education Accreditation and Compatibility of Educational Programmes**

1. Before the beginning of an academic year 2006-2007, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall approve the regulation for the National Examination Centre.

2. By the beginning of an academic year 2007-2008, the Government of Georgia shall ensure the beginning of operation of the State Accreditation Service.

3. Before its establishment the functions of the National Examinations Centre shall be performed by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and the LEPL National Assessment and Examinations Centre.

3<sup>1</sup>. Legal Entity under Public Law – National Examinations Centre shall be a legal successor of the LEPL- National Examinations Centre, and the Legal Entity under Public Law- National Centre for Educational Accreditation shall be a successor of the LEPL – National Accreditation Office.

3<sup>2</sup>. Legal Entity under Public Law – National Centre for Educational Accreditation shall be reorganized into LEPL- National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement. LEPL- National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement shall be a legal successor of the Legal Entity under Public Law – National Centre for Educational Accreditation.

3<sup>3</sup>. The Legal Entity under Public Law- the National Examinations Center shall be reorganized into the LEPL- the National Evaluation and Examinations Center. The Legal Entity under Public Law- the National Evaluation and Examinations Center shall be a legal successor of the LEPL- the National Examinations Center.

4. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia for an academic year of 2005-2006 shall ensure the implementation of the United National Examinations in Georgian Language and Literature, General Skills, Foreign Languages (English, German, French or Russian) and Mathematics, and for an academic year of 2006-2007 – also in other subjects. The procedures for conducting examinations and their mandatory and/or optional character shall be determined by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia as provided for by this Law.

5. Before the establishment of the State Accreditation Office of higher education institutions, its functions shall be performed by the Accreditation Council of Georgian higher education institutions, established under Edict No 418 of 20 July 1998 of the President of Georgia on the Approval of the Regulations and Membership of Accreditation Councils of Higher Education Institutions.

5<sup>1</sup>. Before completing the procedures related to the reorganisation of the LEPL State Accreditation Office as the National Centre for Education Accreditation, its functions shall be performed by the LEPL State Accreditation Office, and before completing procedures related to changing the name of the LEPL National Examinations Centre, its functions shall be performed by the LEPL National Examinations Centre.

5<sup>2</sup>. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall be assigned to implement procedures related to the reorganisation of the LEPL National Centre for Education Accreditation into the LEPL National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement. Before the completion of such procedures, the functions of the LEPL National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement shall be performed by the LEPL National Centre for Education Accreditation.

5<sup>3</sup>. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall, before 1 September 2013, be tasked with carrying out the activities relating to the reorganization of LEPL- National Examinations Center into the LEPL- the National Evaluation and Examinations Center. Before the completion of such procedures, the functions of the LEPL National Assessment and Examinations Centre shall be performed by the LEPL National Examinations Centre.

6. (Deleted).

6<sup>1</sup>. Before the beginning of an academic year 2017-2018, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure the implementation of accreditation of the educational programme to teachers' training.

6<sup>2</sup>. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure that procedures under Article 7(1) (m<sup>1</sup>) and Article 54<sup>2</sup> of this Law are developed and approved before commencement of the 2017–2018 academic year. Until the appropriate procedure is approved, a person with higher education shall be admitted to a teacher education training programme and a teacher training certificate shall be issued according to the procedure approved by a higher education institution.

6<sup>3</sup>. Before 31 December 2011 the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall approve the procedures determined by Article 7(1) (f<sup>1</sup>) of this Law.

6<sup>4</sup>. Before the beginning of an academic year 2012-2013, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure the accreditation of the educational programme for training in the Georgian language. Higher education institutions are obliged to obtain accreditation of the Georgian language education training programme before the beginning of the academic year 2012-2013. Before conducting the first accreditation

of the Georgian language education training programme, the Georgian language education training programme of higher education institutions shall be considered as accredited.

7. Before the beginning of an academic year 2006-2007, higher education institutions shall ensure the transfer to the Master's 120-credit programme.

8. Before the beginning of the academic year 2005-2006, a higher education diploma obtained as a result of the completion of a one-level, and at least five-year educational programme, shall be equivalent to a Master's diploma. Before the beginning of the academic year 2005-2006 a higher education diploma obtained as a result of the completion of a one-level, and less than five-year educational programme, shall be equivalent to a Bachelor's diploma.

8<sup>1</sup>. Persons admitted before the beginning of the academic year 2007-2008 and having completed at least a five-year medical (including veterinary medicine) educational programme, shall be granted a certified medical doctor's (veterinary) diploma that is equivalent to a Master's diploma.

8<sup>2</sup>. A diploma, granted by the end of the academic years 2004-2005, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 as a result of the completion of at least a five-year educational programme shall be equivalent to a Master's diploma; a certified specialist's diploma granted as a result of the completion of a four-year educational programme shall be equivalent to a Bachelor's diploma; and a certified specialist's diploma granted as a result of the completion of at least a three-year educational programme shall be equivalent to a higher vocational education diploma.

8<sup>3</sup>. A diploma granted before the beginning of the academic year 2005-2006 as a result of the completion of a one-level, four-year educational programme for a secondary specialty, for the purposes of which the results of the completion of an educational programme for a major specialty were taken into account, and which was considered as identical to a five-year educational programme for the same specialty of the institution that delivered the educational programme, shall be equivalent to a Master's diploma.

8<sup>4</sup>. In order to continue studies at a higher education institution, a diploma certifying the secondary vocational education, which is equivalent to a higher vocational education diploma under the law, shall be considered equivalent to a State document certifying completion of the full general educational programme.

8<sup>5</sup>. Before entry of this paragraph into force a certified veterinary's academic degree, granted after the completion of a veterinary's 300-credit educational programme, shall be equivalent to a Master's academic degree. Persons admitted to a veterinary's 300-credit educational programme, may complete the programme, after which they shall be granted a certified veterinary's academic degree that is equivalent to a Master's academic degree.

8<sup>6</sup>. Before the beginning of the 2007-2008 academic year, the diploma of higher education issued as a result of the completion of the higher educational programme of the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, a legal entity of public law operating in the field of governance of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, is equated with a master's degree.

9. The academic degree of a candidate of science earned before this law enters into force is considered equivalent to a Doctoral academic degree.

10. Paragraph 9 of this article shall also apply to the persons which either will become post-graduate students (candidates) and obtain, at a higher education institution, a degree of a candidate of science, but this will happen not later than 31 December 2006.

10<sup>1</sup>. In his rights, to the person holding a Doctoral academic degree shall be equivalent the person who, before 2007, was awarded a scientific-pedagogic rank of a docent or professor in respective artistic-creative or architectural areas.

10<sup>2</sup>. Persons having completed a one-level educational programme during the implementation of which they were authorised to continue studies for post-graduate programmes, may continue studies for Doctoral Programmes.

11. LEPL higher education institutions shall move the professors, teachers and scientific personnel employed in the institution to the appropriate academic positions determined by this Law before the beginning of the academic year 2006-2007.

12. Before the beginning of an academic year 2006-2007, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure the adoption of the acts provided for by sub-paragraphs f, g, i, m and o of Article 7(1) of this law.

12<sup>1</sup>. Before 15 April 2009, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure the approval of the statute of holding Master's examinations and of procedure for allocation of the State study master's grants.

12<sup>2</sup>. Persons having acquired a document certifying an academic degree of higher education before 2013, after the Unified Master's Exams and before the examination/examinations determined by higher education institutions, and who were admitted to Master's Programmes of higher education institutions as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, shall be considered as having passed the Unified Master's Exams.

13. In the case of any conflict between the rules determined by this Law and the Law of Georgia on Education, the rules determined by this Law shall prevail.

14. The higher education institutions, which in 2006 were granted the institutional accreditation, require for the implementation of higher professional educational programmes to be subject to repeated accreditation in the section of professional higher education.

15. Before the beginning of the academic year 2008-2009 the Government of Georgia shall ensure the compliance of LEPL higher education institutions with Article 2(w, w1, z29) and Article 9(1) of this Law.

16. (Deleted).

17. In the academic year 2007-2008 the admission to higher vocational education programmes of accredited higher education institutions shall be carried out in accordance with procedures other than the procedures determined by this Law, on the basis of the Unified National Examinations as provided for by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

17<sup>1</sup>. It shall be prohibited to admit students to the educational programme of a certified specialist (professional higher education) after an academic year 2010-2011. To the persons enrolled up to present, the State study grant shall be issued in the manner applicable before 1 September 2010.

17<sup>2</sup>. If studies continue under the Bachelor's programme, certified doctor/dentist/veterinary educational programmes, a higher educational institution shall count the credits accumulated by a certified specialist, count for the purposes of the Bachelor's programme, certified medic/dentist/veterinary educational programmes. For studying for the Bachelor's programme, certified medic/dentist/veterinary educational programmes, a certified specialist shall be enrolled in a higher educational institution, in the manner prescribed by Georgian legislation.

17<sup>3</sup>. Higher education institutions delivering educational programmes for craftsmanship prior to 1 September 2010 may carry out educational activities before the completion of the appropriate programme

by persons admitted to the educational programme for craftsmanship. Higher education institutions shall have the right not to admit students to educational programmes for craftsmanship after 1 September 2010.

18. In 2009 accredited higher education institutions as legal entities under private law and newly established licensed higher education institutions as legal entities under private law specified by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law, may refuse to join the Unified Master's Examination Network and may admit Master's candidates in accordance with the different procedures determined by Article 52<sup>1</sup> of this Law.

19. In the presence of respective circumstances in 2009, an accredited higher education institution shall have the right, before the unified Master's examinations, to conduct the examination(s) determined for a candidate for a Master's degree. Before 7 June 2009 accredited higher education institutions shall determine the procedures for conducting the examination/examinations for Master's candidates, determined by the higher education institutions, as provided for by Article 10(1)(h) of this Law.

20. When the Authorisation Regulations of Education Institutions determined by Article 7(1)(f) of this Law enters into force, all licensed higher education institutions, except for accredited higher education institutions or newly established licensed higher education institutions determined by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law, which operated until 1 September 2010, shall undergo the process of authorisation in order to acquire the right to grant State documents certifying higher education. Accredited higher education institutions or newly established licensed higher education institutions determined by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law, which operated until 1 September 2010, shall be considered as authorised for the remaining accreditation period. After the expiration of the said period these institutions shall obtain authorisation in order to acquire the right to grant State documents certifying higher education. After this period expires, they shall be obliged to undertake authorization in order to obtain the right to issue the document certifying the education recognized by the State.

21. The legal regime applicable before 1 September 2010 shall apply to the individuals enrolled to a higher education institution that has been licensed before 1 September 2010.

22. The legal consequences of undergoing the process of authorisation by licensed higher education institutions shall not apply to persons admitted to these institutions before undergoing the process of authorisation. They shall be subject to the legal regime established by Georgian legislation and applicable before undertaking the authorization. State recognition of the education acquired by persons admitted to licensed higher education institutions shall be carried out by the LEPL National Centre for Educational Quality Enhancement in accordance with the conditions determined by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, and in the case of admission to higher education institutions as provided for by the legislation of Georgia. The terms and cost of recognition by the State of the higher education obtained by the persons which were enrolled in the licensed higher education institutions shall be established by the normative administrative-legal act of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

23. Within 10 days from 1 September 2010, all licensed higher education institutions, except for accredited higher education institutions or newly established licensed higher education institutions determined by Article 66<sup>1</sup> (2) of this Law that operate until 1 September 2010, shall submit a list (both in printed and electronic forms) of persons admitted to these institutions to the LEPL National Centre for Education Quality Enhancement.

23<sup>1</sup>. The persons indicated in the list of persons admitted to licensed higher education institutions determined by paragraph 23 of this article, shall be authorised to continue studies at the licensed higher education institutions that have submitted the list of persons admitted to these institutions to the LEPL National Centre for Education Quality Enhancement.

24. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall ensure admission of the entrants to higher education institutions without passing the Unified National Examinations, who failed to take the Unified National Examinations in 2010 due to the fault of the authorities within the system of the Ministry. The fault shall be ascertained by appropriate proceedings. Entrants shall be admitted to higher education institutions for the term of one year, by an individual administrative act of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. During this term the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall finance the studies of such persons within the maximum amount of State educational scholarship determined by the Government of Georgia. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia shall take into consideration in the registration application a priority list of the faculty and academic higher and/or professional higher educational programme and/or higher education institute for Georgian training educational programme, as well as the number of vacant places available per the total number of the students defined for the higher education institute as a result of institutional accreditation. Such persons shall acquire the right to continue studies for academic disciplines and/or specialties only after passing the Unified National Examinations the following year. After passing the unified national examinations, a higher educational institute shall, in the manner prescribed by Georgian legislation, recognize the credits obtained by those individuals, whereas the State study grant shall be awarded in the manner prescribed by Article 54(2) of this Law.

25. Before the entry of this paragraph into force, reorganisation by an authorised body by way of merging the LEPL accredited higher education institution with the educational institution carrying out higher educational programmes not recognised by the State, shall result in the application of the legal regime prescribed for the students under the legislation of Georgia with regard to persons with complete general education admitted to such programmes.

26. All legal consequences specified for the use of a real certificate shall apply to persons, who were admitted to higher education institutions as a result of Unified National Examinations before the entry of this paragraph into force, but were not granted a document certifying complete general education, a School Leaving Certificate, due to criminal or administrative legal proceedings.

27. Persons admitted conditionally to the first year of a Bachelor's Programme of a higher military education institution in 2011, without acquiring the status of a cadet as provided for by the legislation of Georgia, shall be granted the status of a cadet and the right to continue studies for an appropriate educational programme of the higher military education institution only after overcoming the minimum threshold limit in the Unified National Examinations in 2012.

28. Aliens, having acquired the right to continue studies at Georgian higher education institutions before the entry of this law into force and who hold a document issued in Georgia certifying State higher education, may study at higher education institutions without passing the Unified Master's Examinations in accordance with the procedures and within the periods established by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

29. A Georgian higher education institution that has concluded a student exchange agreement with a foreign education institution before the entry of this paragraph into force, shall request written information from the National Centre for Education Quality Enhancement on the recognition of the foreign education institution by the legislation of the corresponding foreign country.

Law of Georgia No 1444 of 13 May 2005 - LHG I, №25, 02.06.2005წ., Art.171

Law of Georgia No 2795 of 17 March 2006 - LHG I, No 9, 31.03.2006, Art, 67

Law of Georgia No 4529 of 28 March 2007- LHG I, №15, 23.04.2007წ., Art.118

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 1161 of 7 April 2009 - LHG I, №9, 13.04.2009წ., Art.44  
Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148  
Law of Georgia №2078 of 17 November 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009  
Law of Georgia No 3376 of 6 July 2010, Art. 253 - LHG I, №40, 20.07.2010  
Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299  
Law of Georgia No 4040 from December 15, 2010, Art. 464 - LHG I, №75, 27.12.2010  
Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012  
Law of Georgia No 6177 of 15 May 2012 -website, 29.05.2012  
Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013  
Law of Georgia No 518 of 5 April 2013 - website, 24.04.2013  
Law of Georgia No 927 of 6 August 2013 - website, 20.08.2013  
Law of Georgia No 1081 of 6 September 2013 - website, 20.09.2013  
Law of Georgia No 2690 of 17 October 2014- website, 27.10.2014  
Law of Georgia No 2725 of 30 October 2014 - website. 06.11.2014  
Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015  
Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2011  
Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021  
Law of Georgia No 613 of 9 June 2021 - website, 14.06.2021

**Article 89<sup>1</sup>. Measures for Supporting Students in Acquiring Higher Education during Hostilities in Georgia**

1. Higher education acquired in the occupied territories shall be recognised in accordance with the procedures determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. After the recognition of the education acquired in the occupied territories the citizens of Georgia, persons holding neutral ID cards or neutral travel documents may continue studies at Georgian higher education institutions without passing the Unified National Examinations in accordance with the procedures determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

2. The amount of scholarships allocated under the social programme for financing the acquisition of higher education on the accredited educational programmes of Georgian higher education institutions by victims of the armed attack of the Russian Federation on Georgia on 7 August 2008, may exceed the maximum amount of scholarships to be allocated under the social programme determined by this Law. The amount of and terms and conditions for financing such persons from State educational scholarships shall be determined by the Government of Georgia upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

3. Citizens of Georgia who lived in the Russian Federation until 7 August 2008 and were admitted to higher education institutions recognised by the Russian Federation may continue studies at Georgian higher education institutions without passing the Unified National Examinations, in accordance with the procedures determined by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 673 of 10 December 2008 - LHG I, No 38, 19.12.2008, Art. 241

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4999 of 1 July 2011 - website, 15.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 3041 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 89<sup>2</sup>. Measures for Supporting Students Affected by Natural Disasters in Acquiring Higher Education in Georgia**

The amount of scholarships allocated under the social programme for financing the acquisition of higher education on the accredited educational programmes of Georgian higher education institutions by the students affected by natural disasters in 2012, may exceed the maximum amount of scholarships to be allocated under the social programme determined by this Law. The amount of and terms and conditions for financing such persons from State educational scholarships and State educational scholarship for Master's Programmes shall be determined by the Government of Georgia upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia NO 141 of 21 December 2012 - website 27.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 89<sup>3</sup>. Recognition of Documents Certifying Education issued by Education Institutions of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church from 2005 to 1 January 2015**

1. The Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia and the Patriarchate of Georgia shall ensure that the issue of recognising documents certifying higher education issued by educational institutions of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church from 2005 to 1 January 2015 are jointly studied, the procedure for recognising documents certifying education issued by education institutions of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church from 2005 to 1 January 2015 is elaborated and it is approved by the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia.

2. The Patriarchate of Georgia shall ensure compliance of documents certifying education, recognised under paragraph 1 of this article, with the template of a diploma determined by Article 47<sup>5</sup> (2) of this Law

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

**Article 89<sup>4</sup>. Authorisation of Orthodox Theological Higher Education Institutions**

Orthodox theological higher educational institutions, established by the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church as provided for by this Law, shall be considered authorised under this Law until 1 January 2015. From 1 January 2015 Orthodox theological higher education institutions shall be subject to authorisation as provided for by the legislation of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

**Article 89<sup>5</sup>. Granting of Academic Degrees by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia**

1. Before 1 January 2015 the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia shall be authorised to define procedures for granting of academic degrees, other than procedures determined by the legislation of Georgia, and to grant academic degrees in accordance with such procedures in the field of Orthodox theological higher education.



2. Documents certifying education, diplomas, granted under paragraph 1 of this article shall be recognised by the State.

Law of Georgia No 187 of 28 December 2012 - website, 29.12.2012

**Article 89<sup>6</sup>. Students Enrolled in a Higher Education Institution of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church/Orthodox Theological Higher Education Institution**

1. Students enrolled in an Orthodox theological higher education institution before 1 January 2016 shall be considered as enrolled under the legislation of Georgia. The recognition of their education obtained before being enrolled in that institution and calculation of credits shall be performed by respective institute.

2. The students enrolled in the higher education institutions of Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church before 1 January 2013 shall be considered enrolled according to Georgian legislation. The recognition of their education obtained before being enrolled in that institution and calculation of credits shall be performed by respective institute.

Law of Georgia No 388 of 22 March 2013 - website, 08.04.2013

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

**Article 89<sup>7</sup>. Measures for Supporting Students in Acquiring Higher Education Who have been Affected in the Villages Near the Demarcation Line of the Occupied Territories of Georgia**

To fund the obtaining of higher education by the students suffered in the rural areas along the borderline which separates from the occupied territories of Georgia, the amount of allocation of funds within the social programme for the accredited educational programmes of Georgia's higher educational programmes in 2013 and 2014 may exceed the maximum amount to be allocated within the social programme provided for by this Law. The amount of and terms and conditions for financing such persons from State educational scholarships and State educational scholarship for Master's Programmes shall be determined by the Government of Georgia upon the recommendation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

Law of Georgia No 1882 of 26 December 2013 - website, 27.12.2013

Law of Georgia No 3026 of 5 July 2018 - website, 11.07.2018

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

**Article 89<sup>8</sup>. Measures to be Implemented for the Fulfilment of Obligations Determined by the International Agreements of Georgia Ratified by the Parliament of Georgia**

1. For the fulfilment of the obligations determined by the Millennium Challenge Agreement ('Compact') ratified by resolution of 4 October 2013 of the Parliament of Georgia on the Ratification of the Millennium Challenge Agreement ('Compact') between the United States of America, acting on behalf of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and Georgia, the Government of Georgia shall be authorised to determine:

a) the procedure and conditions which are different from those established by Georgian legislation concerning the implementation of the higher education programmes to be implemented in cooperation between the higher education institute of Georgia and San Diego State University;

- b) the procedure and conditions which are different from those established by Georgian legislation which concern the enrollment in the higher education programmes to be implemented in cooperation between the higher education institute of Georgia and San Diego State University;
  - c) the procedure and conditions which are different from those established by Georgian legislation concerning the funding of students enrolled in the higher education programmes to be implemented in cooperation between the higher education institute of Georgia and San Diego State University;
  - d) the procedure and conditions which are different from those established by Georgian legislation concerning the issuance and recognition of the documents which certify qualification and granting of qualification to the students upon graduation of the higher education programmes to be implemented in cooperation between the higher education institute of Georgia and San Diego State University;
2. The higher education programmes provided for by paragraph one of this article and to be implemented in cooperation between the higher education institute of Georgia and San Diego State University shall be considered accredited for the period that is deemed recognized/accredited according to the legislation of the United States of America.

Law of Georgia No 2992 of 26 December 2014 of Georgia - website, 31.12.2014

**Article 89<sup>9</sup>. Recognition of the Education Acquired at a Higher Education Institution of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church which was Liquidated or Whose Educational Activities Were Terminated**

1. The Patriarchate of Georgia shall, according to the procedure established by the Catholicos-Patriarch of all Georgia, recognise the education of persons that acquired education at an institution of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church which was liquidated or whose educational activities were terminated before 2005, and that are not able to certify their education or qualification.
2. The Patriarch of Georgia shall be authorized, in the manner prescribed by the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia, issue a document certifying the recognition of education as provided for by paragraph one of this article- a diploma/copy thereof.
3. A person who studied at a higher education institution of the Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church which was liquidated or whose educational activities were terminated before 1 January 2013 shall have the right to obtain the status of a student under the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia.
4. The Orthodox theological higher education institute shall be authorized, in the manner prescribed by the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia, recognize the education obtained before a student provided for by paragraph 3 of this article has gained relevant status.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

**Article 89<sup>10</sup>. (removed)**

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 2148 of 18 April 2018 – website, 01.05.2018

Law of Georgia No 2320 of 4 May 2018 -website, 21.05.2018

**Article 89<sup>11</sup>. (removed)**

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

**Article 89<sup>12</sup>. Education of a Teacher (educational programmes that expire soon)**

1. A higher education institute shall be authorized to admit the entrants for the teacher's training Bachelor's higher educational programme including 2017.

2. A higher education institution is authorized to carry out a teacher Bachelor's higher educational training programme before commencement of the 2022-2023 academic year. A higher education institution shall, starting from an academic year 2022-2023, ensure the transfer of the students enrolled, including the year 2017, in a Bachelor's higher educational programme for teacher's training, to the integrated Bachelor's and Master's educational programme which, before the beginning of an academic year 2022-2023, have not been awarded a qualification as a result of graduation from the Bachelor's educational programme for teacher's training.

Law of Georgia No 4582 of 27 November 2015- website, 10.12.2015

Law of Georgia No 105 of 16 December 2016- website, 05.01.2017

**Article 89<sup>13</sup>. Veterinary Education (educational programmes in the decreasing mode)**

1. A higher education institution shall be authorized to implement a 240-credit veterinary's bachelor's higher educational programme before the beginning of an academic year 2018-2019 and admit the entrants to this programme including the year 2017.

2. A higher education institution shall be obliged, before the beginning of an academic year 2018-2019, ensure the transfer to the students enrolled in the veterinary bachelor's 240-credit higher education programme, including the year 2017, to the integrated master's programme in veterinary which, before the beginning of an academic year 2018-2019, will not be awarded the qualification as a result of graduation of the veterinary bachelor's 240-credit higher educational programme.

3. In the case provided for by paragraph 2 of this article, if the students enrolled in the veterinary bachelor's 240-credit higher educational programme, including the year 2017, will be transferred to the integrated master's programme in veterinary, the student's study under the integrated master's programme in veterinary will be funded taking into consideration the amount of the State study grant obtained for funding the study under the original higher education programme, and the years remaining, for not more than 5 years.

Law of Georgia No 1367 of 15 November 2017 - website, 27.11.2017

**Article 89<sup>14</sup>. The Grounds for Enrolling in Higher Education Institutions of Georgia for Persons Registered for the Unified National Exams/Unified Master's Exams in 2019, Living in the Territories Provided for in Article 2, Subparagraphs "a" and "b" of the Law on "Occupied Territories" of Georgia, who could not Participate in the Mentioned Exams**

1. Persons living in the territories provided for in Article 2, subparagraphs "a" and "b" of the Law on "Occupied Territories" of Georgia, who registered for the unified national exams/unified master's exams in 2019, but could not participate in said exams or participated in these exams, but could not have obtained the right to enroll in a higher educational institution of Georgia, have the right to enroll in an accredited educational programme of a bachelor's degree, an integrated bachelor's master's degree in teacher training, a veterinary training, a certified medical doctor/dentist or a master's degree, respectively, without passing the unified national exams/unified master's exams.

2. The list of persons provided for in the first paragraph of this article, who have the right to enroll in higher educational institutions of Georgia and be financed, accordingly, with a State grant or a State master's grant, is determined by an individual administrative-legal act of the Minister.

3. The person provided for in the first paragraph of this article is enrolled in the higher educational institution of Georgia based on the application and the individual administrative-legal act of the Minister provided for in the second paragraph of the same article.

4. A student enrolled in a higher educational institution of Georgia in accordance with this article will receive funding within 1 year of enrollment in the said institution. Funding for a student at a higher education institution will continue annually (Bachelors will receive funding for a total of 4 academic years, and Master's students - for a total of 2 academic years), if the student in the 2019-2020 academic year (Bachelors - also for the next 3 academic years, and Master's students - also for the next 1 academic year) will collect the number of credits provided by the individual administrative-legal act of the Minister.

Law of Georgia No 5091 of 3 October 2019 - website, 04.10.2019

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 89<sup>15</sup>. The Basis for Enrolling Convicts Who Successfully Passed their Master's Exams in 2019 in Higher Education Institutions of Georgia**

1. Those convicts who successfully passed the master's exams in 2019, but did not get the right to enroll in the higher education institutions of Georgia, have the right to enroll in the higher education institutions of Georgia in the 2019-2020 academic year in the master's educational programme approved by the Minister.

2. The list of persons provided by the first paragraph of this article, who have the right to enroll in the master's degree programme in higher educational institutions of Georgia, is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Minister.

3. The persons provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article are enrolled in the higher educational institutions of Georgia based on the application and the individual administrative-legal act of the Minister provided for in paragraph 2 of the same article.

Law of Georgia No 5279 of 1 November 2019 - website, 04.11.2019

Law of Georgia No 339 of 16 March 2021 - website, 18.03.2021

#### **Article 89<sup>16</sup>. In 2020, the Basis for Enrollment in a Higher Education Institution Implementing an Artistic-Creative or Sports Educational Programme**

1. An applicant who wants to enroll in a higher education institution implementing an artistic-creative or sports educational programme on the basis of the unified national exams of 2020, passes the relevant competition to receive an artistic-creative or sports higher education in the manner established by the higher education institution implementing an artistic-creative or sports educational programme.

2. The effect of Article 52, Paragraph 2, Subparagraph "a" of this Law does not apply to the entrant provided for in the first paragraph of this Article.

Law of Georgia of June 25 2020 №6498 – website 01.07.2020

### **Chapter XVI. Final Provision**

#### **Article 90. Entry of Law into Force**

1. The age limit provided for the academic position determined by Article 36(2), also Article 38(e) and Article 39(2-3) of this Law shall enter into force from the beginning of the academic year 2009-2010.
2. Article 8(1) of this Law shall enter into force from the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic year.
21. Article 6(1) (c<sup>1</sup>) and Article 7(1) (n<sup>2</sup>) of this law shall enter into force upon approval of the procedure under Article 7(1) (n<sup>1</sup>) and 54<sup>2</sup> of this law.
22. Enrollment of entrants in the Georgian language preparation educational programme at a higher education institution based on the results of the tests provided for by Article 52(12) of this Law is a temporary measure and it shall be effective including the academic year 2023-2024.
23. (Deleted - 06.06.2018, №2480).
24. (Deleted - 06.06.2018, №2480).
3. This Law shall come into force upon promulgation.

Law of Georgia No 1611 of 10 August 2009 - LHG I, №25, 20.08.2009, Art.148

Law of Georgia №2078 from November 17, 2009 Art.281- LHG I, №38, 01.12.2009

Law of Georgia No 3528 of 21 July 2010 - LHG I, No 48, 05.08.2010, Art, 299

Law of Georgia No 4792 of 17 June 2011 - website, 06.07.2011

Law of Georgia No 5718 of 28 February 2012 -website, 09.03.2012

Law of Georgia No 3742 of 24 June 2015 - website, 03.07.2015

Law of Georgia No 2480 of 6 June 2018 – website, 21.06.2018

President of Georgia M. Saakashvili

Tbilisi,

21 December, 2004

№688-ES