

**Order N99/N of**  
**The Minister of Education and Science of Georgia**  
**of October 1, 2010**  
**City of Tbilisi**

**On Approval of the Statute and Fees for the Authorization of Educational Institutions**

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

1. To approve the Statute for the Authorization of Educational Institutions as per Annex 1;
2. To approve the Fees for Authorization of Educational Institutions as per Annex 2;

2<sup>1</sup>. To approve Authorization Standards of Higher Education Institutions as per Annex 3 of this order.  
*Order №77 / N of May 5, 2017, of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia - Web site, 08.05.2017.*

- 2<sup>2</sup>. To approve Authorization Standards of Vocational Education Institutions as per Annex 4 of this order.

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

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

4. The Order shall enter into force upon promulgation.

**D. Shashkin**

*Annex №1*

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

# **The Statute on the Authorization of Educational Institutions**

## **Chapter I**

### **General provisions**

#### **Article 1. Scope of Regulation**

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

#### **Article 2. Goal and content of the Authorization of Educational Institutions**

1. The authorization of educational institutions shall aim at ensuring meeting standards necessary for implementing relevant activities.
2. A standard shall mean a requirement, set by the State, which shall be met by an institution in order to issue the State-approved educational document.
3. An institution shall have a mission compatible with the major goals of the relevant level of education in Georgia and shall demonstrate the originality and type of an institution.
4. The authorization is an external mechanism for the education quality assurance, which is implemented by the Legal Entity of Public Law - National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (hereinafter - the Center). The purpose of the authorization is an institutional assessment of the institution and determination of compliance with the authorization standards. The authorization assessment is conducted by the authorization expert panel and is based on the analysis of the information received from the institution's self-evaluation report and the authorization site visit.
5. The authorization process shall be reliable, consistent and results shall be public.

#### **Article 3. The Councils of Authorization**

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

- A) The Authorization Council of the General Educational Institutions, which makes decision on the authorization of the general educational institution;
- B) The Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institutions, which makes decisions on the authorization of the vocational education institutions and on implementation of vocational education programmes by the general education/higher education institutions;
- C) The Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions, which makes decisions on the authorization of the higher education institutions.

#### **Article 4. The Process of the Authorization**

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

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

2. Decisions on the authorization or on the denial of the authorization shall be made within 180 calendar days after recognition of an institution status seeker.

3. Authorization process can be implemented through electronic quality management system, the management and use of which is approved by individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.

4. Three months prior to the submission of the authorization application, higher education institution status seeker is authorized to address the Center in written form and request preparatory visit for the authorization process. Preparatory visit is consultative and is related to the following:

- a) Planning and implementation of the self-evaluation process;
- b) Planning and implementation of the authorization site visit;
- c) Definition of authorization standards and procedures.

5. In the case envisaged by paragraph 4 of this Article, the Director of the Center shall issue an individual administrative legal act on determination of an employee/employees of the Center authorized to provide

consultations and on implementation of the preparatory visit for the authorization process at the institution seeking to acquire an educational institution status.

6. In the case envisaged by paragraph 5 of this Article, a written protocol that reflects the information on provided consultation shall be elaborated by the authorized employee of the center as a result of the preparatory visit for the authorization process. The institution is obliged to support authorization process preparatory visit and elaboration of corresponding report. Also, the institution shall designate a person, who will be authorized to sign authorization process preparatory visit report in the name of the institution.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Authorization of Higher Education Institution**

#### **Article 63. The Authorization Standards for the Higher Education Institutions**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- c.a) Design and development of educational programmes;
- c.b) Structure and content of educational program;
- c.c) Assessment of learning outcomes;
- d) The standard related to the staff of a higher education institution includes the following components:
  - d.a) Staff management;
  - d.b) Academic/ Scientific and invited staff workload;
- e) The standard related to the students and their support services included the following components:
  - e.a) The rule for obtaining and changing student status, recognition of education, and student rights;
  - e.b) Student support services;
- f) The standard related to the research, development and/or other creative work includes the following components:
  - f.a) Research activities;
  - f.b) Research support and internationalization;
  - f.c) Evaluation of research activities;
- g) The standard related to material, information and financial resources includes the following components:
  - g.a) Material resources;
  - g.b) Library resources;
  - g.c) Information resources
  - g.d) Financial resources.

3. Authorization standards for higher education institutions are established by the Annex 3 of this Order.

4. Within the process of authorization of the higher education institutions, EU Agenda for the Modernization of Higher Education and the recommendations elaborated within the Bologna process, including the requirements of Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) shall be considered.

**Article 64. Authorization application**

1. The authorization application submitted to the Center for obtaining the status of the higher education institution shall be accompanied by:

- a) Completed self-evaluation report of the authorization seeker, and related documents;

b) Certificate of payment of the authorization application examination fee;

1<sup>1</sup>. In the case of indicating in the authorization application of the joint higher educational program envisaged by Article 49<sup>1</sup> of Law of Georgia on Higher Education, in addition to the documentations stipulated in the first paragraph of this article, the document that confirms an agreement with the center about the draft agreement to be signed with the implementer institutions and the agreement signed between the implementers of the higher educational program, considering the agreed draft shall also be submitted in order to implement a joint higher educational program.

2. The documentation envisaged in paragraph 1 of this Article may be submitted to the Center through electronic document management system or in material form, while the documents attached to the completed form of self-evaluation will be submitted to the Center via electronic data carrier.

3. During each subsequent authorization, a higher education institution shall take into consideration the terms defined by paragraph 2 of Article 4 and Article 66 of this statute during submission of authorization application to the Center for the continuity of educational institution status.

4. In order to facilitate the authorization process of the higher education institution with the support of the international expert, the Center will ensure translation of completed self-evaluation report and attached documents required by subparagraph “a” of the first paragraph of this Article submitted by higher education institution status seeker into English language. Availability of English translations is a precondition indicated in the approved form of self-evaluation report.

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

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

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

#### **Article 65. Self-evaluation of the authorization seeker**

1. The purpose of the self-evaluation is to assess the readiness of the institution to obtain authorization.

2. The self-evaluation is carried out in accordance with the authorization standards.

3. Self-evaluation results are reflected in a self-evaluation report.

4. The self-evaluation form is approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center and is public.

## **Article 66. Recognition of the authorization seeker**

1. Within three working days, the Center shall verify the compliance of the documents attached to the authorization application with the requirements provided for by paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this statute.
2. If the applicant fails to submit any of the documents listed in paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this statute, the Center shall assign at least 5 and maximum 15 days to the applicant to rectify the deficiencies.
3. In the case of rectifying the deficiencies within the term set forth by paragraph 2 of this Article, the Center issues an individual administrative legal act on recognition of the applicant as a higher education institution status seeker while in the case of failure to rectify the deficiencies within the same time frame an individual administrative legal act is issued on leaving the application without reviewing.
4. An individual administrative legal act of the Center on recognition of the applicant as a higher education institution status seeker for authorization shall be issued no later than 20 calendar days after submission of the application or rectifying the deficiencies.
  - 4<sup>1</sup>. If necessary, the institution is entitled to submit changes about the information reflected in the self- evaluation form or/and about attached documentation to the center within 20 calendar days after receiving individual administrative- legal act described in paragraph 4 of this article. In addition, if the change considers the need for substitution of any document, the institution shall submit a written description / explanation of the changes together with the mentioned document. After expiration of this deadline, changes to the information reflected in the self-evaluation form and in the attached documentation are inadmissible.
  - 4<sup>2</sup>. After expiration of the term envisaged in the paragraph 4<sup>1</sup> of this article, the changes made to the self- evaluation form and attached documentation shall not be taken into account.
5. If the authorization status-seeker does not pay an authorization fee within 15 calendar days after getting familiar with the individual administrative-legal act about recognition as the applicant, the Center shall issue an individual administrative-legal act on termination of administrative proceedings.

## **Article 67. Authorization Experts Pool of the higher education institutions**

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

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

1. Within 60 calendar days after payment of authorization fees, the Center issues individual administrative legal act on creation of authorization expert panel and implementation of the authorization site visit at the higher education institution status-seeker.

2. In case of the higher education institution status seeker, during formation of expert panel, the recommendations elaborated in the framework of Bologna process including the requirements of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) shall be taken into consideration; the expert panel includes the following members of the experts pool: administrative/academic personnel and a student of other higher education institutions, an international expert, as well as employers and other persons with relevant qualification.
3. If the higher education institution status-seeker indicates the regulated higher education academic programme in Medicine, the expert panel shall be chaired by an international expert who has field-specific competence.
4. The authorization expert panel is led by the Chair.
5. An authorization expert is obliged to declare the self-recusal, if he/she has a conflict of interest with the authorization seeker institution where the site visit shall be implemented.
6. The authorization seeker higher education institution is entitled to submit a recusal of the authorization expert(s) within 2 working days after receiving the individual administrative legal act indicated in paragraph 1 of this article.
7. The institution is obliged to provide the evidence for the recusal of the authorization expert(s). The basis for the recusal can be a conflict of interest of the chair of the panel and/or panel member.
8. For the purposes of this Statute, a conflict of interest is considered the circumstances described in the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Expert Pool and/or in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.
9. The Center shall review the claim on recusal within 3 working days. In case of satisfying the claim, the Center shall make a decision on changing the composition of the expert panel.
10. In case of not satisfying the claim on recusal of expert/experts, the authorization expert panel continues its activities in the same composition.
11. Duration of the visit, number of experts in the panel as well as volume and specifics of work to be undertaken is determined by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center described in paragraph 1 of this Article according to the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Experts Pool.
12. The Center sends its representative to the authorization site visit in order to effectively implement the work of the expert panel within the framework of the law and ensure the use of unified approaches of the assessment.

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

1. The Center shall send the documentation envisaged by subparagraph "a" of paragraph 1 of Article 64 of this Statute to each member of the authorization expert panel within 7 working days upon expiration of the term defined in paragraph 8 of Article 68 of this statute, while in the case envisaged by paragraph 4 of Article 64 of this Statute it shall send within 30 calendar days.



2. Chair of the authorization expert panel divides responsibilities among the members of the panel based on their competencies in order to ensure the review of self-evaluation report and additional documents and determination of compliance with the authorization standards.
3. Before the authorization site visit, the panel of experts reviews completed self-evaluation report and attached documentation, determines agenda of the site visit based on this information and agrees it with the Center. The Center takes into account the argumentative opinions of the institution in the process of agreeing on the site visit agenda. The Center sends the final version of the agenda to the higher education institution.
4. Within the scope of a preparatory meeting held before the authorization visit, the authorization expert panel draws up additional issues to be studied during the visit in order to compose a report.

#### **Article 70. Authorization site visit**

1. Chair of the expert panel is responsible for distributing duties between experts during the authorization site visit.
2. Member of the authorization expert panel participates in the work of the panel, ensures implementation of functions described in the Rule of Authorization and Accreditation Experts' Selection and Activities and Termination of Membership of Experts Pool.
3. During the authorization site visit based on the agreed agenda, an authorization expert is obliged to thoroughly review all issues for elaborating a report, including, conduct interviews with stakeholders, request additional documents as needed, conduct visual inspection and if necessary, carry out activities not covered by the agenda.
4. The paragraph 4 was removed.
5. The higher education institution shall support the authorization experts during implementation of the authorization site visit and preparation of the respective report, present them additional documentation necessary for the aims of authorization and ensure interviews with the persons requested by the expert panel.
6. In the case of international expert's participation in the authorization expert panel, the Center takes responsibility to provide required translation services during the authorization site visit.
7. Authorization expert panel presents main findings to the authorization seeker institution on the last day of the site visit.
8. If the institution interrupts the authorization experts panel to implement its activities, the center is entitled to issue an individual administrative legal act about termination of the administrative proceedings.

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

1. Compliance with the authorization standards of a higher education institution is assessed by a four-level scale: “complies with standard requirements,” "substantially complies with standard requirements", “partially complies with standard requirements,” and "does not comply with the standard requirements”
2. A higher education institution "complies with standard requirements" if the institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard as "substantially complies with standard requirement” and is evaluated as “complies with standard requirements” in terms of remaining components.
3. A higher education institution “substantially complies with standard requirements" if the institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard as "partially complies with standard requirements and no other component is evaluated as “does not comply with standard requirements”.
4. A higher education institution “partially complies with the standard requirements” in the following two cases:
  - a) The institution is evaluated in relation to more than one component of this standard as "partially complies with standard requirements" and is not evaluated in respect of any other component as "does not comply with standard requirements”;
  - b) The institution is evaluated in relation to no more than one component of this standard (except for the components of the standard(s) under the sub-paragraphs "c" and/or "d” of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Statute) as "does not comply with standard requirements”.
5. A higher education institution "does not complies with standard requirements" if it is evaluated in relation to more than one component of this standard as "does not comply with standard requirements”.
6. Paragraph 5 of this Article does not apply to the standards under the sub-paragraphs "c" and/or "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Statute, which implies that the HEI “does not comply with standard requirements" if it is evaluated in relation to at least one of the components of this standard as "does not comply with standard requirements”.

## **Article 72. Definition of the four-level assessment scale**

1. A higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as “complies with standard requirements” if the resources at the institution, established practice/system and achieved outcomes (in the case of a new higher education institution - estimated achievable outcomes) fully satisfy the requirements of the standard component.
2. A higher education institution status seeker shall be evaluated against the standard component as “substantially complies with standard requirements”, if the resources at the institutions, established practice/system mostly provides compliance with the standard component requirements and the institution is able to demonstrate the relevant outcomes. However, the institution has areas for improvement and demonstrates readiness and has plan with respective resources in order to overcome them in short term period (no more than 1 year).

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

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

### **Article 73. Elaboration of the report**

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

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

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

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

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

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

6<sup>1</sup>. In case of submission of an argumentative position provided for in paragraph 5 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel of experts or not.

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

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

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

## **Article 74. Oral (Public) Hearing**

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

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

1. The term of office of the Authorization Council of Higher Education Institutions is two year. Permanent and invited members of the council shall be paid for their work (are given honorarium) from the Center's own revenues. Rules and amount of remuneration for the council members (for honorarium)

shall be determined by an individual administrative legal act of the center's director. The members of the Authorization Council are appointed and dismissed by the Prime-Minister of Georgia upon nomination of the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia.

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

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

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

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

a) Based on a personal statement;

b) Upon the entry into force of court conviction related to him/her;

c) In case of recognition as an entity with limited legal capacity or as a support recipient by a court, unless otherwise provided by the court's decision;

d) In case of systematic absence from the sessions, if this hinders the work of the Council;

e) In case of violation of the norms envisaged by Article 76 of this Statute.

f) Based on the request of the center or/and the ministry.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5<sup>1</sup>. In the event of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the council meeting.

5<sup>2</sup>. The member of the council is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party - the institution- at the council meeting.

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

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

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

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

#### **Article 77. Decisions regarding authorization**

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

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

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

higher education institution or examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the higher education institution.

2<sup>1</sup>. If the decision envisaged in the paragraph “b” and “c” of the first paragraph of this article is made during an academic year, the authorization council of the higher education institutions is authorized, with mediation of respective educational institution and considering the lawful interests of the students, in order to maintain continuity of the academic process, despite the remaining term of the authorization, to allow students to complete the ongoing academic year at respective educational institution upon proper decision and indicate no later than the end of the ongoing academic year as the date of entering the decision on cancellation of authorization or refusal to re-authorization into force.

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

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

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

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

6. The Council is obliged to substantiate its decision.

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

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

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

1. University, which intends to continue activities with a status of a Teaching University or a College and, in accordance with the exiting law, implements educational programme/programmes compatible with the appropriate type of the institution of higher education - the Teaching University/College, for the remaining authorization term, is authorized to apply to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions with an argumentative solicitation on the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the decision on the authorization.

2. Teaching University, which intends to continue activities with a status of a College and, in accordance with the exiting law, implements educational programme/programmes compatible with the appropriate type of the institution of higher education - a College, for the remaining authorization term, is authorized to apply to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions with an argumentative solicitation on the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the decision on the authorization.

3. In the cases of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article, the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions shall make a positive/negative decision with regard to the amendment of the type of the higher education institution in the authorization decision considering the solicitation of the University/Teaching University and the students' interests in accordance with Article 77 of this Statute. In case of a positive decision of the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions, the educational institution is obliged to bring the documentation regulating its activities in full compliance with the amended type of the higher education institution.

#### **Article 79. Decision on granting or refusing the authorization**

1. The Council shall make a decision on granting authorization if the applying institution meets all the standards.

2. All standards shall be deemed to be satisfied if the Council considers that, in accordance with the rule defined by Articles 71 and 72 of this Statute, according to the four-level scale, a higher education institution status seeker “complies with the standard requirements”, “substantially complies with the standard requirements” or “partially complies with the standard requirements”.

3. Authorization is valid for 6 years.

4. In case of making a decision on authorization, the Council defines the marginal number of students allowed during the authorization term for the institution.

5. While being evaluated by the Council in compliance with the authorization standards, if the higher education institution status seeker:

a) is evaluated against all standards as “complies with standard requirements” or is evaluated against one of the standards as “substantially complies with standard requirements” and as “complies with standard requirements” with all other standards, the Council shall make a decision on the authorization of the institution.

b) is evaluated against more than one standard as "substantially complies with standard requirements" and against all other standards as "complies with standard requirements" or is evaluated against one of the standards as "partially complies with standard requirements" (except the standard(s) under the sub-paragraphs "c" or/and "d" of paragraph 1 of Article 63 of this Statute) according to the subparagraph "a" of paragraph 4 of Article 71 of this Statute, and is not evaluated against any of the standards as "does not comply with standard requirements", the Council shall make a decision on authorization of the institution and shall define the time-frame for submitting a report on fulfillment of the given recommendations, which is reflected in the minutes of the Council session;

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

d) is evaluated against one of the standards as “partially complies with standard requirements” based on subparagraph “b” of paragraph 4 of Article 71 of this Statute and is not evaluated against any of the standards as “does not comply with standard requirements”, the Council shall make a decision on the



authorization of the higher education institution and on restricting the right of the admission of the students (including vocational students if the institution has the right to implement vocational education programmes).

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

6. The paragraph 6 was removed.

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

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

#### **Article 79<sup>1</sup>. The decision on submission of the report (one year report) about fulfillment of the recommendations provided for the higher education institution**

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

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

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

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

5. In order to examine the report submitted by the institution according to the rule provided for by the paragraph 2 of this article, the center shall issue an individual administrative legal act on creation of the authorization expert panel.

6. The authorization expert panel shall be composed by the members of the expert pool - administrative / academic staff and student of other higher education institutions, the composition may also include a student, an employer and other persons with relevant qualifications .

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

8. Upon request from the expert panel envisaged by the paragraph 5 of this article, the center is authorized to request respective documentation from the institution.
9. As a result of the examination of the report, as well as, of the documentation referred to in paragraph 8 of this Article, if necessary, a panel of experts shall draw up a draft report.
10. A form of the report on fulfillment of the recommendations submitted by the institution shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.
11. The center shall establish formal compliance of the report drawn up by the expert panel with the form envisaged by the paragraph 10 of this article. If necessary, in order to ensure formal compliance, the report is returned back to the authorization expert panel.
12. The report drawn up by the authorization expert panel shall be submitted to the council and also to the respective educational institution for introduction.
13. The report submitted by the educational institution and report of the authorization expert panel shall be reviewed at the council meeting. The Council is authorized to take a report as a note or address the Center for examination of the authorization conditions, with a motion on the implementation of monitoring at the educational institution, which will be reflected in the minutes of the session.
14. The decision envisaged by the paragraph 13 of this article shall be made within 90 calendar days after the individual administrative legal act of the center envisaged by the paragraph 5 of this article is issued.

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

1. The Council is authorized within the authorization process of higher education institution or in the process of inspecting (monitoring) of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions(s) by higher education institution, to make the decision on restricting the right to the higher education institution of admission of the students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) for at least 1 year as one time manner and for no more than 3 years, in the case of evaluations envisaged by subparagraphs “d” and “e” of paragraph 5 of Article 79 and paragraph 7 of the same Article of this Statute.
2. The higher education institution, which was restricted to admit students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) according to this Article, shall be authorized to submit a report on fulfilling the recommendations stipulated in the expert panel report and in the minutes of the Council to the Center in 4 months after the restriction enters into force. Based on this report, the Center shall implement monitoring within the term envisaged by the legislation.
3. If the higher education institution does not submit a report on fulfilling the recommendations stipulated in the expert panel report and in the minutes of the Council no later than established 4 month term, the Center shall implement a monitoring upon its own initiation.
4. As a result of the monitoring provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, the Council shall make the following decisions:

- a) Terminate restriction of admission of the students for the higher education institution (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes);
- b) Continue validity of the decision on restricting the admission of students for a higher education institution (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes);
- c) Reinstate restriction on admission of students (including vocational students as well if the institution has right to implement vocational education programmes) for the higher education institution;
- d) Cancel the authorization of a higher education institution.

5. The form of the report referred to in the paragraph 2 of this article shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.

### **Article 81. Legal Consequences of the Authorization of the Higher Education Institution**

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

### **Article 82. The Specifics of the Authorization**

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

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

that already implements the programme provided for in this paragraph when submitting an authorization application to the Center.

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

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

In case of refusing authorization or cancellation of authorization:

If authorization is refused or cancelled the consequences are as follows:

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

### **Article 84. Reorganization Consequences of a Higher Education Institution**

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

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

## **Article 85. Submission of a self-evaluation report (Three Year Report) of a higher education institution**

1. For the purpose of monitoring the authorization conditions, a higher educational institution is obliged to submit a self- evaluation report to the Center at least once in three years. Terms for submission of the self-evaluation report shall be determined by an individual administrative- legal act of the Center Director, which will be published publicly.
2. The self-evaluation report can be submitted through the electronic document management system or in material form, at which time the accreditation self-evaluation report and the accompanying documentation are submitted to the Center via the electronic information carrier.
3. Submission of a self-evaluation report envisaged by this article shall not be obligatory for the following educational institutions:
  - a) the higher education institution which was granted with authorization based on the decision envisaged by Article 79(5)(c) of this provision;
  - b) the higher education institution which was granted with authorization and where authorization conditions were examined based on the motion of the council according to the article 88 of this provision.
  - c) the higher education institution which was granted with the authorization based on the HEI authorization standards that existed before the Authorization Standards of the Higher Education Institutions envisaged by the order N77/n of 5 May 2017 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on making amendments to the order N99/n of October 1 2010 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia on Approval of the Authorization Provision and Fee of Educational Institutions entered into force;
  - d) the higher education institution, which is subject of an administrative proceedings about an authorization application during the period of submission of the self-evaluation report envisaged by the individual administrative-legal act of the Center’s director referred to in the first paragraph if this article.
4. The form of self-evaluation report is approved by the individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center, which is published publicly.
5. Within 3 business days, the center shall examine compliance of the self-evaluation report submitted by the institution with the requirements envisaged by the paragraphs 2 and 4 of this article.
6. In order to examine a self-evaluation report, the center shall issue an individual administrative legal act on creation of an authorization expert panel and on evaluation of the self-evaluation report.
7. Composition of authorization expert panel created for the purposes of examination of the self-evaluation report includes members of the expert pool- administrative/academic/scientific/invited stuff of other higher educational institutions, also composition may include a student, employers. If HEI carries out a regulated educational program the composition may include- also representatives of relevant regulatory body or/and professional association and other persons having relevant qualification.
8. Panel of authorization experts is headed by the Chair.
9. Based on the request from the authorization expert panel, the center is authorized to request respective documentation from an institution.

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

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

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

13. Within 10 calendar days upon familiarization with the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the higher education institution may submit reasoned position related to factual circumstances stated in the draft report to the Center. The reasoned position is sent to the expert panel.

14. In case of submission of the reasoned position provided in paragraph 13 of this article, after its examination or in case of non- submission of the reasoned position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 13 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the center.

15. In case of submission of a reasoned position provided for in paragraph 13 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the reasoned position is shared by the panel of experts or not.

16. The Center shall send the report of the authorization expert panel to the higher education institution within 90 calendar days after the issuance of the individual administrative-legal act of the Center provided for in the paragraph 6 of this Article.

17. The results of the assessment of the self-evaluation report provided for in this Article shall be used by the Center to facilitate the establishment of systematic self-evaluation process within the higher education institutions to facilitate the development of internal quality assurance mechanisms and planning of evaluative and supportive activities based on the needs of higher education institutions.

18. Failure to submit the self-evaluation report within the prescribed time-frame provided for in this article may serve as a basis for examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the higher education institution according to Article 77 of this provision.

19. The Form of report of the Authorization Expert Panel and the requirements set by it shall be approved by the individual administrative- legal act of the Director of the Center.

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

1. Higher education institution is authorized to add academic higher education programme/programmes with written application (aimed at adding educational programme) submitted to the Center, except the regulated educational programmes, teacher training programme, Georgian language training and PhD programmes.

2. The application form to be submitted to the Center for the addition of the educational programme is approved by an individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center, which shall be public.
3. An application to be submitted for addition of an educational program shall include information on educational program implementing personnel and relevant resources, also the information on internal mechanisms of quality assurance of the educational program. Educational program/programs and syllabi shall be attached to the application as well.
4. In order to identify educational programme/programmes compliance with the authorization standards, the Director of the Center issues an individual administrative legal act on establishment of authorization expert panel and the site visit to educational institution.
5. The authorization expert panel elaborates a draft report and presents it to the Center based on the examination of the application and the documentation attached submitted to the Center for adding the educational programme and according to the authorization site visit.
6. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative legal acts of the Director of the Center envisaged by paragraph 3 of Article 67 and paragraph 9 of Article 73 of this Statute. Upon determination of the compliance, the draft report is sent to the institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel, it is sent back to the authorization expert panel.
7. Within 10 calendar days upon reviewing the draft report of the authorization expert panel, the institution that desires to add an educational programme submits an argumentative position to the Center in written form related to the factual circumstances in the draft report. Then, it is sent to the expert panel and to the Authorization Council of the Higher Education Institutions.
8. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 7 of this article, after its examination or in case of non-submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 7 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits it to the Center.
9. The Center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.
10. If the educational programme meets the authorization standards, the Council by at least 3/4 of the members present at the session shall make a decision on adding the educational programme, in accordance with the rules of procedure provided for by this Statute.
11. Decision on granting or refusing to grant a right to add educational programme shall be made within 90 calendar days after the application for the purpose of adding an educational programme is submitted to the Center.

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Article 88. Examination of authorization conditions via monitoring (Planned and Case-Based)**

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

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

3. The methodology for drawing up the plan for Planned monitoring, the criteria for selection of educational institutions, are approved by the individual administrative legal act of the center's director.

4. Annual plan for Planned monitoring of the higher education institutions shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the director of the center, which shall be sent to the respective higher education institution within 10 business days after its publication.

5. Case-based monitoring is implemented by the mediation of the council, based on the complaint submitted to the center about fulfillment of the authorization standards of the HEI and/or by the initiative of the center.

6. The complaint referred to in the paragraph 5 of this article may be submitted to the center by the interested person (a student, academic, scientific, invited or/and administrative staff and others) who believes that the authorization standards of HEI defined by this provision are breached. In addition, the form of the complaint, the methodology for drawing up and reviewing the complaint shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the center's director.

7. For the purpose of examination of fulfillment of authorization conditions, during implementation of the Planned or/and Case-based monitoring, the Center is authorized to request relevant documentation from the institution and/or issue relevant individual administrative-legal act on the creation of Authorization Expert Panel and/or on planned or/and case-based monitoring visit to the institution.

8. In the case of the Center's request of relevant documentation/information from the institution, if as a result of examination of the documentation/information an additional need for examination of fulfillment of authorization conditions is identified, the Center shall issue an individual administrative- legal act on the creation of Authorization Expert Panel and on Planned or/and Case-based monitoring at the institution by visiting or/and examining the documentation, while otherwise, the council terminates the administrative proceedings started about the monitoring based on the motion of the center.

9. In the case of examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions via Planned or/and Case-based monitoring, the authorization expert panel shall include the members of the expert pool - the



administrative/academic/scientific/invited staff of other higher education institutions, also it may include a student and employer. If HEI carries out a regulated educational program the composition may include also representatives of relevant regulatory body or/and professional association and other persons having relevant qualification.

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

11. An individual administrative legal act of the center's director on creation of the authorization expert panel and implementation of planned monitoring at the institution via visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at least 10 business days prior to the commencement of the process of visit/evaluation.

12. An individual administrative legal act of the center's director on creation of the authorization expert panel and implementation of case-based monitoring at the institution via visit or/and examination of the documentation, shall be submitted to the institution at the time of commencement of the visit/evaluation process or at least 5 calendar days prior to commencement of the visit/evaluation process.

13. The matters of self-recusal or/and recusal of the expert/experts shall be regulated according to the paragraphs 5-10 of Article 68 of this provision. Using the right to recusal by the higher education institution does not hinder the implementation of the visit.

14. In case of establishment of authorization expert panel, authorization expert panel's draft report is elaborated and submitted to the Center.

15. The Center defines formal compliance of the draft report of the authorization expert panel with the requirements established by the individual administrative legal acts of the center's director envisaged by the Article 67(3) and Article 73(9) of this statute. In case of defining the compliance, the draft report is sent to the higher education institution. If necessary, in order to ensure the formal compliance of the authorization expert panel's draft report, the draft report is sent back to the authorization experts panel.

16. Within 10 calendar days upon familiarization with the draft report of the authorization experts panel, the higher education institution may submit reasoned position related to factual circumstances stated in the draft report to the Center. The reasoned position is sent to the experts panel and to Authorization Council.

17. In case of submission of the argumentative position provided in paragraph 16 of this article, after its examination or in case of non- submission of the argumentative position, after the expiration of the period envisaged in paragraph 16 of this Article, the authorization expert panel prepares the final version of the report and submits to the center.

18. In case of submission of a argumentative position provided for in paragraph 16 of this Article, the report drawn up by the panel of experts shall include information on whether the argumentative position is shared by the panel of experts or not.

19. The center sends the authorization expert panel report to the institution.

20. As a result of examination of the fulfillment of authorization conditions, the council is authorized to make a decision on cancellation of the authorization if the institution is assessed in relation to one of the standards as "not in compliance with the requirements of the standard", or the institution violates the norms of the education legislation in Georgia regarding the origin, suspension or termination of the student status of the higher education institution.

21. In the case of identification of a violation, the council is authorized to provide higher educational institution with reasonable period of no more than 60 days for resolution of the shortcoming, except for the case, when it is apparent that it may not have actual results.

22. In the case of failure of the higher education institution to fulfill respective recommendations within the terms defined under the paragraph 21 of this article, the council shall be entitled to make a decision on cancellation of the authorization in accordance with the rules of procedure envisaged by this document.

23. As a result of examination of fulfillment of the authorization conditions by the HEI, in the case of the evaluation envisaged by the sub-paragraphs “d” and “e” of Article 79(5) of this provision, also by the paragraph 7 of the same article, the council is authorized to make a decision envisaged by the article 80 of this provision.

24. If the HEI manages to resolve respective shortcoming by more than 50% within the terms defined by the paragraph 21 of this article, and provided that none of the standards are evaluated as “not in compliance with the standard requirements”, the council shall be authorized to set a term for the institution for submission of the report on fulfillment of the remaining recommendations or address the center with motion on implementation of the monitoring. The rules of procedure for submission and review of the report envisaged by this paragraph shall be determined according to the Article 79<sup>1</sup> of this provision.

25. If the examination of the authorization conditions establishes that the institution has fulfilled all the recommendations, the council shall make a decision to terminate the administrative proceedings related to the monitoring.

26. In the case of addressing the center via motion on examination of the fulfillment of the authorization conditions, the council shall define the period for implementation of the monitoring, the form of the implementation of such monitoring and the scope of the monitoring.

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

#### **Article 89. General basis for determining the marginal number of student quotas**

1. Marginal number of student quotas shall be determined by the Authorization Council according to this rule.

2. Marginal number of student quotas shall be defined as follows:

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

b) If the number of student quotas is increased - for the remaining term of authorization;

3. Within the limits of the number of student quotas designated by the Authorization Council, the higher education institution is authorized to accept students for the educational programme.

4. Student quota determined by the Authorization Council for a higher education institution also includes the quantity of the persons enrolled on Educational Programmes of Teacher Training and Veterinary.

5. Exceeding student quotas set for a higher education institution shall be construed as the basis for the cancelation of authorization, except cases explicitly provided by law when the student quotas are exceeded in case of restitution of the student status or enrollment to a higher education institution through student mobility procedures.

#### **Article 90. Determination of the maximum number of the student quotas**

1. The basis for determining the number of student quotas is the number of places indicated in the authorization application submitted by the higher education institution to the Center or in the application for increasing the number of students.

2. The marginal number of students specified by a higher education institution in the application provided for in paragraph 1 of this Article, shall be based on the methodology for determining the marginal number of students in the institution, taking into account the specifics of the programmes and the resources of the institution.

3. The Council reviews the application described in paragraph 1 of this Article, and considering the report of the authorization experts panel and opinions of other stakeholders, makes respective decision by the votes of no less than 3/4 of the members attending the session. The Council is authorized to either agree with the request of the institution, or reduce number of requested student quotas. The Council shall substantiate its decision.

#### **Article 91. Increasing the number of student quotas**

1. A higher education institution is authorized to submit written application to the Center on increasing the number of student quotas.

2. Written application form on increasing the number of student quotas to be presented to the Center, is approved based on individual administrative-legal act of the Director of the Center and is public.

3. The Director of the Center issues an individual administrative legal act on establishment of authorization expert panel and on the site visit to the higher education institution for the administrative proceedings described in this Article.

4. A draft report of the authorization expert panel is prepared and submitted to the Center after reviewing the application and the attached documentation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, considering the methodology for determining the maximum number of students in a higher education institution which is based on the specifics of the programmes and the resources of the institution and as a result of the authorization site visit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Chapter V**

## **Authority and rules of operation of the Appeals Council**

### **Article 95. Composition of the Appeals Council**

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

### **Article 96. Rule of activities of the Appeals Council**

1. Member of the Appeals Council shall be independent, objective and impartial in fulfilling his/her functions.
2. A member of the Appeals Council shall maintain neutrality in any situation and shall not be subject to the influence of interested parties, regardless of their status.
3. Member of the Appeals Council shall not disclose and use in personal interest the information and / or documentation obtained during the performance of his/her official duties.

4. Member of the Appeal Council should be focused on cooperation and should not try to portray himself/herself in a privileged position; he/she should not publicly doubt competence of an expert, member of the Authorization Council or other member of the Appeals Council, regardless he/she agrees with their position or not.

5. A member of the Appeals Council is obliged to declare about a conflict of interest with an institution and on self-recusal before the review of the case starts. Conflict of interest is existence of circumstances described in Article 92 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.

5<sup>1</sup>. In the event of a conflict of interest referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, the member of the appeals council shall not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting processes of the issue to be reviewed at the appeals council meeting.

5<sup>2</sup>. The member of the appeals council is not authorized to represent a position of the interested party- educational institution- at the appeals council meeting.

6. The secretariat of the Appeals Council is responsible for the organizational and financial support of the Appeals Council activities. Function of the secretariat is fulfilled by the Center. Composition of the Secretariat is defined according to the individual administrative legal act of the Director of the Center.

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

- a) Appeal claim and attached documents;
- b) Authorization documents;
- c) A report of the authorization expert panel and argumentative position of the status seeker (if available);
- d) Appealed decision.

8. Before the oral hearing, with the purpose of full examination and evaluation of all substantial circumstances regarding the case, each member of the Appeals Council is responsible for preliminary examination of documents listed in paragraph 7 of this Article. Member of the Appeals Council is entitled to request additional documents for better examination of the case.

#### **Article 97. The appeal**

1. Appeal should be drawn up in written form and it shall indicate the following:

- a) Reference to the Appeals Council;
- b) Identity/Name, address and contact information of the person presenting the appeal;
- c) Name of the Council decision of which is under appellatation;
- d) The title of the appealed resolution;
- e) A request;
- f) Circumstances on which the request is based on;

- g) List of documents attached to the claim, if any;
2. Appeals Council does not review the appeal, if:
    - a) The appealed resolution is under a court proceeding;
    - b) The appeal is submitted by an unauthorized person;
    - c) The term laid down in paragraph 1 of Article 95 of this Statute for submission of the appeal has expired;
    - d) The claimed issue is beyond the scope of the Appeals Council authority.
  3. The Appeals Council makes its decision on accepting or refusing the review of the claim within 10 days after submission of the claim. The decision of the Appeals Council shall be signed by the Chair of the Appeals Council.

#### **Article 98. Term for review of an appeal**

The Appeals Council is obliged to review the appeal and make a relevant decision within 60 calendar days from receiving the appeal.

#### **Article 99. Oral hearing and decision-making**

1. The Appeals council makes its decision on the basis of review of the appeal, the authorization documentation, the report of authorization expert panel, the argumentative position of the authorization seeker on the report (if available), appealed decision and based on oral hearing.
2. The session of the Appeals Council is convened by Chair of the Council.
3. Interested parties are informed on the oral hearing no less than 7 days before the date of oral hearing. Interested parties are authorized to participate in oral hearings.
4. The session is led by the Chair of the Council, in case of his/her absence it is led by the deputy Chair, while in case of absence of both the Chair and the deputy it is led by a member of the Council selected through majority of attendees' votes. If the secretary of the Council is unable to perform his/her duties, such duties are carried out by one of the members of the Appeals Council, as requested by the Chair.
5. The session is authorized, if it is attended by more than half of the members of the list of Appeals Council, but no less than by 3 members. This number does not include member of the Appeals Council, which has self-recusal and/or recusal towards the issue to be discussed.
6. Sessions of Appeals Council are public. The Chair of the session is authorized to declare session as closed in the cases envisaged by the legislation.
7. Experts of the authorization expert panel as well as representatives of the Center are entitled to attend oral hearing, and participate in oral hearing as well upon decision of the Chair of the session.
8. It is possible to invite other person to the oral hearing by the decision of the Appeals Council;
9. Depending on the specifics of the field, a person designated by the Appeals Council can participate in the process of decision-making by the Appeals Council with a right to deliberative vote.

10. The Chair of the session is obliged to ensure the examination of the circumstances relevant to the case at the oral hearing.

11. The interested party has the right to declare a petition to investigate the circumstances relevant to the case, to provide oral or written explanations to the Appeals Council, to present additional evidence, to substantiate its claim or to reject the data, opinions or evidence on which the appealed decision was based.

12. The Appeals Council discusses only the documentation that was prepared prior to the appealed decision was made at the oral hearing.

13. The minutes of the Appeals Council is signed within 10 working days after the session by the signatures of the Chair and Secretary of the Appeals Council. Based on the minutes of the Appeals Council session an individual administrative legal act shall be issued, which is signed by the Chair and Secretary of the Appeals Council.

**Article 100. Participation of the Authorization Council that made the appealed decisions in the proceedings related to the appeal**

1. If the Appeals Council receives an appeal, the appeal and copies of the attached documents shall be sent via secretary to the Authorization Council that made the appealed decision.

2. The Authorization Council that made the appealed decision shall be authorized to submit its own written opinion on the appeal to the Appeals Council within 10 working days after receipt of the copy of the appeal.

3. The Authorization Council that made the appealed decision exercises the same rights in the administrative proceedings related to the appeal as those that were granted to the interested parties that participate in the administrative proceedings.

4. The Authorization Council that made the appealed decision shall be represented in the administrative proceedings, including at the oral hearing, by the chair of the Council or by other member of the Council upon consent of the chair.

**Article 101. Decisions of the Appeals Council**

1. The Appeals Council shall examine the appealed decision in respect of legality and expediency.

2. Appeals Council shall make one of the following decisions by a majority of the members present at the hearing:

a) On sharing the decision of the Authorization Council;

b) On returning the issue to the Authorization Council for re-consideration.

2<sup>1</sup>. The decision referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be taken by the appeals council on the basis of secret ballot. Furthermore, the minutes of the appeals council meeting ensure publicity of the ballot results.

3. A member of the Appeals Council is not authorized to refrain from voting.

4. The Appeals Council is obliged to substantiate its decision.



5. A decision of the Appeals Council is published on the web-page of the Center within 10 working days upon making it.
6. Appealing the decision of the Authorization Council at the Appeals Council does not result in suspension of that decision.

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

1. If the Appeals Council decides to support the decision of the Authorization Council, the interested party is entitled to appeal that decision in court in accordance with the rules and within the term established by law.
2. If the Appeals Council decides to return the issue for reconsideration to the Authorization Council, the respective Authorization Council shall review the issue according to the rules established by this Statute and make a decision within the term established by legislation.
3. If the Appeals Council makes a decision to return the issue for reconsideration to the Authorization Council, respective Authorization Council shall make a decision based on the documentation envisaged by paragraph 1 of Article 17, paragraph 1 of article 42 or paragraph 1 of Article 74 of this Statute, based on the appealed decision of the Authorization Council, based on review of the decision of The Appeals Council and based on oral hearing.
4. Authorization seeker/educational institution can appeal the decision related to the authorization according to the rules of procedure provided by this chapter only once.

### **Article 102<sup>1</sup>. The rules of procedure for review of complaints related to the authorization process**

1. An authorization seeker educational institution or/and other stakeholder that participates in the authorization process shall be authorized to submit a complaint to the center about the authorization process within 10 calendar days after occurrence of a specific circumstance during the authorization process or after its completion, if the employee/employees of the center or/and the member/members of the expert panel violate the requirements established by this provision, by Article 12(3) and Article 35(3) and by the individual administrative legal act of the center's director envisaged by Article 67(3) of this provision, by the Code of Ethics of Authorization and Accreditation Experts approved by the individual administrative legal act of the center's director or/and by the internal regulations of the center.
2. A complaint which is submitted against the member/members of the authorization expert panel, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established individual administrative legal act of the center's director envisaged by the Article 12(3), Article 35(3) and the article 67(3) of this provision.
3. A complaint which is submitted against the employee/employees of the center, shall be reviewed according to the rules of procedure established by the center's internal regulations.
4. The form of the complaint envisaged by this article, the methodology for drawing up and reviewing the complaint shall be approved by the individual administrative legal act of the center's director.

## Chapter VI

### Transitional Provisions

*Order №36/M issued on March 18, 2020 by the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, - website, 19.03.2020.*

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

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

1<sup>1</sup>. During the transitional period, within the administrative proceedings related to the implementation of regulated academic higher educational program (MD programme) envisaged by Article 75(2)(b) of Law of Georgia "On Higher Education, the functions and duties of the authorization experts of the higher education institutions provided for by this provision may be implemented in a partially remote manner, which implies evaluation of the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories by the authorization experts (except for the international expert) through a site visit. In addition, this implies that an international expert/experts will evaluate the HEI's material resources, clinical bases and laboratories remotely via modern electronic communication means, which shall be technically ensured by the authorization seeker.

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

*Annex №2*

### **Fees for the Authorization of Educational Institutions**

#### **Article 1. General Provisions**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Article 1<sup>1</sup>. Fee for the Review of Authorization application**

Fee for the review of authorization application is 500 GEL.

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

## **Article 1<sup>2</sup>. Returning back of the authorization fee**

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

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

## **Article 1<sup>3</sup>. Authorization fee for a higher education institution status seeker**

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

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

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

a.a) College=30%;

a.b) Teaching university=50%;

a.c) University =100%;

### **B) Condition (Existing/New) - 1/20 share, from which:**

b.a) new=70%;

b.b) existing=100%;

### **C) Requested marginal student quotas - 1/4 share, from which:**

c.a) 1-500 = 60%;

c.b) 501-1500 = 70%;

c.c) 1501-4500 = 80%;

c.d) 4501-13500 = 90%;

c.e) 13501 and more=100%;

### **D) The number of higher education programmes specified - 1/4 share, from which:**

- d.a) 1-20 = 60%;
- d.b) 21-50 = 70%;
- d.c) 51-100 = 80%;
- d.d) 101-150 = 90%;
- d.e) 151 and more=100%;

**E) Number of academic staff – 1/5 share, from which:**

- e.a) 1-50 = 45%;
- e.b) 51-100 = 60%;
- e.c) 101-150 = 70%;
- e.d) 151-200 = 80%;
- e.e) 201 and more=100%

**F) Space - 1/20 share, from which:**

- f.a) 1-5000sq.m=50%;
- f.b) 5001-15000 sq.m = 60%;
- f.c) 15001-40000 sq.m = 70%;
- f.d) 40001-80000 sq.m = 80%;
- f.e) 80001 and more sq.m = 100%;

**g) The number of the addresses and location - 1/10 of the share, from which:**

- g.a) at one address =0%;
- g.b) at different addresses in one municipality=70%;
- g.c) at different municipalities=100%.

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

a) for College status seeker:

People/Day	Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip	Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
20	23340	27441
21	23858	28378
22	24376	29315
23	24893	30252

24	25411	31189
25	25929	32126
26	26447	33063
27	26965	34000
28	27483	34937
29	28001	35874
30	28519	36811
31	29037	37748
32	29555	38685
33	30073	39622
34	30591	40559
35	31109	41496
36	31627	42433
37	32145	43370
38	32663	44307
39	33180	45244
40	33698	46181
41	34216	47118
42	34734	48055

b) For Teaching University status seeker:

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

c) For University status seeker:

<b>People/Day</b>	<b>Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip</b>	<b>Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip</b>
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20	32624	36725
21	33142	37662
22	33660	38599
23	34178	39536
24	34695	40473
25	35213	41410
26	35731	42347
27	36249	43284
28	36767	44221
29	37285	45158
30	37803	46095
31	38321	47032
32	38839	47969
33	39357	48906
34	39875	49843
35	40393	50780
36	40911	51717
37	41429	52654
38	41947	53591
39	42465	54528
40	42982	55465
41	43500	56402
42	44018	57339

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

<b>People/Day</b>	<b>Coefficient (without a business trip)</b>	<b>Coefficient (In case of a business trip)</b>
20	913. 90	964.00
21	875. 2857	927. 4761
22	840. 1818	894. 3181
23	808. 1304	864. 00
24	778. 7916	836. 2083
25	751. 76	810. 64
26	726. 8461	787. 0384
27	703. 7407	765. 2222
28	682. 2857	744. 9285
29	662. 3103	726. 0344
30	643. 6666	708. 40
31	626. 2258	691. 9032
32	609. 9062	676. 4687
33	594. 5454	661. 9393
34	580. 0882	648. 2647
35	566. 4571	635. 3714
36	553. 5833	623. 2222
37	541. 4054	611. 7027
38	529. 8684	600. 7894
39	518. 9487	590. 4358
40	508. 575	580. 60

41	498. 6829	571. 2682
42	498. 2619	562. 3571

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

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

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

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) In case of a business trip
1	8	10.449. 00	14.030. 00
2	10	10.722. 00	14.550. 00
3	12	10.995. 00	15.070. 00
4	14	11.268. 00	15.591. 00
5	16	11.540. 00	16.111. 00
6	18	11.813. 00	16.632. 00
7	20	12.086. 00	17.152. 00
8	22	12.359. 00	17.672. 00
9	24	12.632. 00	18.193. 00
10	26	12.905. 00	18.713. 00
11	28	13.178. 00	19.234. 00
12	30	13.451. 00	19.754. 00
13	32	13.724. 00	20.274. 00
14	34	13.997. 00	20.795. 00
15	36	14.270. 00	21.315. 00

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

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

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

#### **Article 1<sup>4</sup>. Authorization fee for the vocational education institution status seeker**

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

2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes. The one and the same programme implemented by one legal entity in different municipalities or in different languages is considered as an independent programme for the purpose of determining the fee.

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

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) In case of a business trip
1	6	8.658. 00	13.745. 00
2	8	8.931. 00	14.265. 00
3	10	9.204. 00	14.786. 00
4	12	9.477. 00	15.306. 00
5	14	9.750. 00	15.826. 00
6	16	10.022. 00	16.347. 00
7	18	10.295. 00	16.867. 00
8	20	10.568. 00	17.388. 00
9	22	10.841. 00	17.908. 00
10	24	11.114. 00	18.428. 00
11	26	11.387. 00	18.949. 00
12	28	11.660. 00	19.469. 00
13	30	11.933. 00	19.990. 00
14	32	12.206. 00	20.510. 00
15	34	12.479. 00	21.030. 00

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

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

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

### **Article 1<sup>5</sup> Authorization fee for the general education institution status seeker**

1. In case of recognition as an authorization seeker, the general education institution pays the authorization fee and the amount shall be calculated according to the volume of the workload of the expert panel that is the number of people/days.

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

#### **A) Condition (Existing/New) - 1/20 share, from which:**

a.a) new=70%;

a.b) existing=100%;

#### **B) The required marginal number of school students - 1/3.33 share from which:**

b.a) 1-50 = 50%;

b.b) 51-150 = 60%;

b.c) 151-300 = 70%;

b.d) 301-500 = 80%;

b.e) 501-1000 = 90%;

b.f) 1001 and more = 100%



**C) The number of general education levels for which the institution intends to implement the relevant educational programmes - ½.5 share, from which:**

c.a) 1 = 30%;

c.b) 2= 70%;

c.c) 3 = 100%;

**D) Number of personnel conducting educational programmes - 1/20 share, from which:**

d.a) 1-20 = 50%;

d.b) 21-50 = 60%;

d.c) 51-100 = 70%;

d.d) 101-150 = 80%;

d.e) 151 and more=100%;

**E) Space - 1/10 share, from which:**

**e.a) 1-5000sq.m=45%;**

e.b) 251-500 sq.m = 60%;

e.c) 501-2000 sq.m = 70%;

e.d) 2001-5000 sq.m = 80%;

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

**f) The number of the addresses and location - 1/10 of the share, from which:**

f.a) At one address =0%;

f.b) Different addresses in one municipality = 70%;

f.c) In different municipalities = 100%.

**3. In accordance with the paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, according to the number of people/days, the authorization fee consists of:**

People/Day	Authorization fee (GEL) without a business trip	Authorization fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
6	5730	7056
9	6567	8378
12	7405	10651
15	8243	12925

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

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

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

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	8	10.091. 00	12.716. 00
2	10	10.364. 00	13.237. 00
3	12	10.636. 00	13.757. 00
4	14	10.909. 00	14.278. 00
5	16	11.182. 00	14.798. 00
6	18	11.455. 00	15.318. 00
7	20	11.728. 00	15.839. 00
8	22	12.001. 00	16.359. 00
9	24	12.274. 00	16.880. 00
10	26	12.547. 00	17.400. 00
11	28	12.820. 00	17.920. 00
12	30	13.093. 00	18.441. 00
13	32	13.366. 00	18.961. 00
14	34	13.638. 00	19.482. 00
15	36	13.911. 00	20.002. 00

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

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

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

### **Article 1<sup>6</sup> Fee for obtaining the right to implement a vocational education programme**

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

2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of vocational education programmes; The amount of fee for the higher education institutions shall be defined according to paragraphs 6 and 7 of Article 1<sup>3</sup>, while for general education institutions shall be defined according to paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 1<sup>5</sup>.

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

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

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

### **Article 1<sup>7</sup> Fee for adding an educational programme**

1. The higher education institution intending to add the relevant academic higher education programme/programmes, pays a fee, the amount of which is calculated according to the volume of workload of the expert panel that is the number of people/days.
2. The number of people/days referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be determined by the number of academic higher education programmes and the fee equals to the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Article 1<sup>8</sup>. Fee for Increasing the number of school students/vocational students/student quotas**

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

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

**a) The required number of students by which the institution intends to increase the marginal number of quotas - 1/3.33 share, from which:**

a.a) 1-50 = 60%;

a.b) 51-100 = 70%;

a.c) 101-200 = 80%;

a.d) 201-500 = 90%;

a.e) 501 and more = 100%

**b) The existing marginal number of students - 1/3.33 share from which:**

b.a) 1-50 = 50%;

b.b) 51-150 = 60%;

b.c) 151-300 = 70%;

b.d) 301-500 = 80%;

b.e) 501-1000 = 90%;

b.f) 1001 and more = 100%

**c) Number of personnel conducting educational programmes - 1/5 share, from which:**

c.a) 1-20 = 40%;

c.b) 21-50 = 60%;

c.c) 51-100 = 70%;

c.d) 101-150 = 80%;

c.e) 151 and more=100%;

**d) The number of the addresses and location - 1/10 of the share, from which:**

d.a) At one address =30%;

d.b) Different addresses in one municipality = 70%;

d.c) In different municipalities = 100%;

**E) Space - 1/10 share, from which:**

e.a) 0-5000sq.m=40%;

e.b) 251-500 sq.m = 60%;

e.c) 501-2000 sq.m = 70%;

e.d) 2001-5000 sq.m = 80%;

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

3. In accordance with the paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, according to the number of people/ days, the authorization fee consists of the following:

People/Day	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
4	2493	3062

6	2831	3861
8	3169	4660

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

5. The number of people/days provided for in paragraph 4 of this Article shall be determined according to the following criteria, which have a corresponding share in the overall assessment (100%) and are broken down by content/quantitative indicators:

**A) The required number of students by which the institution intends to increase the marginal number of quotas - 1/3.33 share, from which:**

a.a) 1-100 = 60%;

a.b) 101-150 = 70%;

a.c) 151-500 = 80%;

a.d) 501-1000 = 90%;

a.e) 1001 and more = 100%

**b) The number of staff implementing educational programmes, 1/3.33 share, from which:**

b.a) 1-20 = 45%;

b.b) 21-50 = 60%;

b.c) 51-100 = 70%;

b.d) 101-150 = 80%;

b.e) 151 and more = 100%

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

c.a) At one address = 35%;

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

c.c) In different municipalities = 100%;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

a) 2,229.00 GEL without a business trip and 3,272.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the vocational education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each programme;

b) 2570.00 GEL without a business trip and 4122.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the higher education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each programme;

c) 2,502.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip is required by the general education institution to increase the number of vocational student quotas on each program;

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

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

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

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

**Article 1<sup>9</sup>. Fee for submitting a report on the removal of the restrictions on the right of admission of the students (including vocational students if a higher education institution has the right to implement vocational programmes) for the higher education institution**

The fee for submission of a report on the removal of the restriction on the right of admission of the students (including vocational students if a higher education institution has the right to implement vocational programmes) for the higher education institution, based on which the process of examination (monitoring) of the fulfillment of authorization conditions shall be implemented is calculated according to the number of people/days and equals:

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

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

### **Article 1<sup>10</sup>. Fee for changing the place/space for the implementation of a vocational education programme**

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

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

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

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

**Article 1<sup>11</sup> Fee for changing the place/space for implementation of a general education program**

The fee for changing a place/space for the implementation of a general education programme in each municipality is 2,502.00 GEL without a business trip and 4,054.00 GEL in case of a business trip.

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

**Article 1<sup>12</sup>. Fee for examination of the conditions of authorization through monitoring initiated by an educational institution**

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

2. The amount of the fee shall be determined according to the type of the institution and number of programmes in amount determined by the paragraphs 6-7 of Article 1<sup>3</sup>, paragraphs 2-3 of Article 1<sup>4</sup> and paragraphs 5-6 of Article 1<sup>5</sup> of this Annex.

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

**Article 1<sup>13</sup>. Fee for monitoring the authorization conditions, based on the petition of the Council**

1. The education institution where the monitoring is being conducted based on the petition of the Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institutions shall pay the fee and the amount shall be calculated by the workload of the expert panel - people/day number.

2. Fee for monitoring the authorization conditions in a general education institution, based on the petition of the Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institutions in each municipality, shall consist as follows:

The Number of Vocational Education Programmes	Number of people/days	Fee (GEL) without a business trip	Fee (GEL) in case of a business trip
1	6	2.321.00	3.365.00
2	10	2.594.00	3.885.00
3	12	2.867.00	4.405.00
4	14	3.140.00	4.925.00
5	16	3.413.00	5.446.00
6	18	3.686.00	5.966.00
7	20	3.959.00	6.487.00
8	22	4.232.00	7.007.00



9	24	4,505.00	7,527.00
10	26	4,777.00	8,048.00

3. Fee for conducting a monitoring at vocational education institution based on the petition of the Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institutions for each municipalities shall consist as follows:

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

4. Fee for conducting a monitoring at the higher education institution based on the petition of the Authorization Council of the Vocational Education Institutions for each municipalities shall consist as follows:

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

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

**Article 1<sup>14</sup>. Fee for obtaining the right to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme**

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

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

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

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

**Article 1<sup>15</sup>. Fee for expedited services for adding a vocational education programme, for increasing the marginal number of vocational student quotas, for changing the place/space of programme implementation, for obtaining the right to integrate learning outcomes of general secondary education level in the secondary vocational education programme**

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

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