

Quality Assurance Policy at Yerevan State Medical University

The following are the goals of Yerevan State Medical University's Quality Assurance policy, which is intended to improve the quality and productivity of institutional management, education, and research:

1. Ensure that the institution, educational programs and awards are in compliance with nationally-mandated quality assurance standards
2. Ensure a high level of learning, teaching, and research that is monitored by an outcomes-based system of educational analysis
3. Maintain the university's accountability by creating transparent policies and evaluation criteria which are accessible by students and employers
4. Ensure the satisfaction of the university's stakeholders (the students, employees, alumni, and state)
5. Prepare the university's educational programs for the process of external assessment and accreditation
6. Establish and promote the development of a culture of quality assurance in higher education at the university

Tasks designed to improve quality assurance and accomplish the above-stated goals:

1. Create a program for the monitoring, periodic review, and improvement of educational functions
2. Ensure the self-assessment, external assessment and accreditation processes of educational programs.
3. Increase the university's accountability by ensuring the reportability of quality assurance procedures
4. Undertake high level research on the university's accountability and quality assurance processes
5. Ensure the transparency of internal information transfer policies and research procedures
6. Include the participation of students, graduates, and employers in the internal evaluation process
7. Establish the appropriate terms and conditions of high quality pedagogy and promote mechanisms for continuous improvement

The long term strategic plan of Internal Quality Assurance system of YSMU:

1. Develop internal quality assurance procedures and assessment criteria, which comply with external quality assessment and accreditation criteria.
2. Develop institutional self-assessment criteria for each of its educational programs
3. Develop and publish the guidelines for the monitoring of quality assurance and revising of university policy.
4. Implement quality assurance procedures, which will ensure regular discussions, monitoring and evaluation of educational programs.
5. Ensure the participation of faculty and students in the planning, development, and implementation of quality assurance processes.
6. Develop quality assurance criteria and which clearly establish the administrative processes of educational program development, monitoring, and revision
7. With the participation of students, develop and publish students learning outcome assessment quality assurance criteria and procedures.
8. Develop teaching staff quality assurance criteria, procedures, and tools
9. Develop criteria, processes and tools to research and assess the quality, usefulness, and necessity of learning resources and students support services, which are being used in the educational programs of YSMU.
10. Improve the YSMU information system and assure an assessment and monitoring processes of different stages of it.
11. Ensure the widespread accessibility of information on university processes and academic programs to the general public through the distribution of information on quality assurance mechanisms and criteria
12. Ensure the participation of alumni, employers, prospective students and high school students, and the general public in the assessment and improvement processes
13. Develop a quality assurance policy based which incorporates the feedback of alumni and employers

The short term strategic plan of the Internal Quality Assurance system of YSMU

1. Organize the further development and equipping of the quality assessment and assurance center
2. Create a center for education quality assessment and assurance with strategic plans accompanied by lists employees, affiliated persons and their responsibilities, and an organogram of internal structure
3. Organize and encourage the professional development of specialists through international programs organized by TEMPUS and World Bank
4. Encourage collaborative meetings and training sessions with the participation of European colleagues and national experts which include online trainings
5. Organize periodic assessment and consultation of YSMU internal quality assurance system by external experts
6. Develop quality assurance policies regarding the design, approval, and periodic review of outcomes-based learning programs and the awarding of degrees
7. Develop criteria, regulations, and procedures for the comprehensive assessment of student skills, knowledge, and abilities
8. Establish criteria for teaching staff quality assurance which evaluates faculty competence and expertise
9. Develop mechanisms for assessing the learning resources and services which are available to student and which incorporates reflexive assessments of the observed practical use of these tools directly into their structure
10. Implement an identification card system which will allow to identify the users of the university's learning resources and services such that the frequency of use and accessibility of these resources and services can be assessed
11. Create a continually updated central database which will act as the university's main information collection tool and will allow the administration to assess student information as well as faculty credentials and productivity
12. Develop mechanisms for feedback on student performance from alumni and the labor market.
13. Develop and publish guidelines for assessing the effectiveness and accuracy of the public information: university's published information on academic programs, admission, student life, and degree requirements.