

# Plan of realization the Strategy of development of the Independent accreditation and rating agency (IAAR) for 2015

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Independent agency for  
accreditation and rating

Astana

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## Introduction

Independent agency for accreditation and rating was established in 2011 to create a competitive environment in the system of independent assessment of the quality of education in Kazakhstan. In June 27, 2012, IAAR was registered in the National Register of accreditation bodies.

The main objectives of the IAAR are conducting institutional and specialized accreditation that meets European standards, and independent assessment of the quality of education. To realize these objectives the base of certified national and international experts were created, who have been trained in special training workshops. Today IAAR base includes about 300 experts.

IAAR signed an agreement with the Council on Accreditation of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP, USA) in order to implement joint projects in the field of accreditation and exchange of experts. Also, in the framework of signed agreements on cooperation with the Foundation for the international accreditation of programs in Business Administration (FIBAA), the Council on Accreditation of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) and national credit center experts involved partner agencies to participate in the accreditation process.

In August 30, 2014 in Almaty on the basis of the Kazakh University of International Relations and World Languages named after Abylaikhan IAAR jointly with the international accreditation of programs in Business Administration (FIBAA) held a training seminar on the certification of external experts IAAR and FIBAA.

During 2014, the IAAR accredited 15 educational organizations and 475 educational programs within the framework of institutional and specialized accreditation

Activity position of IAAR on the international educational area also helps to ensure the quality of education in Kazakhstan. IAAR recognized a number of European, Asian and American networks and agencies for quality assurance and accreditation:

- INQAAHE - International Network of Agencies for Quality Assurance in Higher Education;
- ENQA - European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education;
- APQN - Asia-Pacific Network for Quality Assurance;
- IREG - Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence;
- AQAAIW - Association of agencies guarantee the quality of education the Islamic world;
- CHEA - International Groups of quality of the Council for accreditation of Higher Education in the United States.

Along with this in 2014 were developed the standards and criteria for institutional and specialized accreditation of medical colleges also were developed a number of specialized accreditation standards of medical education undergraduate programs, undergraduate and doctoral programs.

By these standards we have also been developed Guidelines, which are guidelines for organizing and conducting the self-assessment procedures to the standards and criteria of institutional and specialized accreditation, training and registration of the results of the self-assessment report.

In order to increase public awareness and the high level of quality and competitiveness of Kazakhstani education IAAR publishes the journal "Education / Education KZ. Quality Assurance. Accreditation. Rating. Innovations», which highlights the best international and domestic practices in the field of quality assurance. The magazine also contributes to the consolidation of education experts.

In 2014, IAAR as an experiment conducted rating research of universities of Kazakhstan and educational programs using a specially designed computer program to handle database and validation of indicators filled universities online.

This technology is unique in that it allows you to determine the ranking of universities of the Republic of Kazakhstan as a whole, and for the quality of education in areas of training specialists programs at the same time in the format of a three-leveled structure of academic degrees: Bachelor - Master - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

First time is carried out the ranking of the teaching staff as a whole in the Republic of Kazakhstan, and on each institution on the basis of their contribution to the sphere of education and science.

### **Vision**

Developed culture of quality in higher education in the Republic of Kazakhstan

### **Mission**

Improving the competitiveness of higher education institutions at the national and international levels through a process of accreditation and academic ranking

### **Objectives of IAAR**

1. Improving the IAAR activities, including development of standards and criteria for accreditation of medical education, the development of standards and criteria of institutional and specialized accreditation of additional education institutions for adults, and

harmonization of standards and criteria of institutional and specialized accreditation organization education in accordance with the revised ESG standards (Yerevan, 2015), development of new provisions for the organization of accreditation and ranking processes, development of a new strategic plan for development of the IAAR

2. The quality assurance system, including formation and regular improvement of standards and criteria of institutional and specialized accreditation, as well as work on the ranking methodology; improving the post accreditation monitoring system; developing tools to assess the quality of higher education; development and continuous improvement to ensure objective evaluation of the quality of education mechanisms.
3. Organization the process of accreditation and rating researches
4. Informing the public and all interested parties about the results of the quality assessment, including provision of open access to information on the results of accreditation and to inform the public through seminars, workshops and publication of the magazine on the results of accreditation and procedures of quality assurance.
5. Initiating the discussions on quality assurance, including seminars to discuss topical issues of quality of education and the organization of publications in general and specialized scientific press on topical issues of the quality of education.

The main objectives of IAAR in 2014 is to improve the procedures and mechanisms for independent accreditation and rating researches, training of experts for accreditation, assessments and assigning universities certificates of accreditation, development of research and communication activities in the field of accreditation and ranking, developing a new strategic plan for development of the IAAR, preparation for the ENQA Audit and WFME.

## **Aims and objectives for 2015**

### **Improving the IAAR activities**

Aims	Purposes
Development of standards and criteria of accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing standards of institutional accreditation of additional education institutions for adults;</li> <li>• Developing the standards of the institutional accreditation of medical education institutions Standards (postgraduate education).</li> </ul>
Revision and harmonization of standards and accreditation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• harmonization of standards of institutional accreditation of higher educational institutions implementing higher and postgraduate education programs in accordance with the</li> </ul>

	<p>revised ESG standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• harmonization of standards of specialized accreditation of educational programs of higher education institutions in accordance with the revised ESG standards</li> <li>• revision and improvement of standards of institutional accreditation of technical and vocational education institutions</li> <li>• review and perfection of specialized accreditation standards (educational programs), technical and vocational education institutions</li> <li>• review and improvement of the institutional accreditation standards of medical colleges</li> <li>• review and perfection of specialized accreditation standards of medical colleges.</li> </ul>
<p>Development the instructions for the external evaluation of the quality of higher education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the Instruction for carrying out self-assessment for institutional accreditation of high educational institutions, realizing program of high and post graduate education (ESG-2015)</li> <li>• Developing the Instruction for self-assessment for specialized accreditation of high educational institutions' academic program (ESG-2015)</li> <li>• Developing the Instruction for carrying out self-assessment for institutional accreditation of technical and professional education organization</li> <li>• Developing the Instruction for self-assessment for carrying out specialized accreditation of technical and professional education organization</li> <li>• Developing the Instruction for carrying out self-assessment for institutional accreditation of additional education organization for adult</li> <li>• Developing the Instruction for carrying out self-assessment for specialized accreditation of educational academic program of additional education for adult</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the Instruction for carrying out institutional self-assessment of medical educational organizations (post diploma education)</li> <li>• Developing of Instruction for self-assessment of institutional accreditation of medical colleges</li> <li>• Developing of Instruction for self-assessment of institutional accreditation of medical colleges</li> </ul>
Development of provisions on procedures for the organization of accreditation processes and ranging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing of the threshold requirements for organization of additional education for adult, presented by Independent Agency of accreditation and rating to pass procedure of institutional and specialized accreditation</li> <li>• developing of Commission Provision for consideration of appeal and complaint Independent Agency of accreditation and rating</li> <li>• Developing of new strategic plan of development of IAAR for 2016-2020</li> </ul>

### Quality Assurance System

Aims	Purposes
Formation and regular improvement of standards and criteria of institutional and specialized accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• verifying and validating standards for institutional accreditation;</li> <li>• verifying and validating standards of specialized accreditation.</li> </ul>
The formation and regular improvement of rating methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the methodology of rating by levels of educational programs and in areas of training specialists for the organizations of technical and professional education;</li> <li>• Developing the methodology of teachers for in organizations of technical and professional education.</li> </ul>
Formation of the adequacy of the mechanism for ensuring, transparency and objectivity of the accreditation procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development of a system of measures to ensure the internal quality assurance system;</li> <li>• Conducting the meeting of an Expert Council of IAAR</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formation of appellate Commission of IAAR;</li> <li>• preparation for the procedure, re-recognition of MES of RK, audit ENQA and WFME.</li> </ul>
Development and continuous improvement to ensure objective evaluation of the quality of education mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing mechanisms to attract representatives of the parties to the accreditation procedure;</li> <li>• Developing mechanisms of formation of the Expert Council and the development of competence of experts through training seminars;</li> <li>• training of certified experts for external evaluation of the quality of education by levels (institutional and specialized accreditation) together with members of the Expert Council;</li> <li>• an expert visits for monitoring post accreditation accredited education and training programs;</li> <li>• providing IAAR experts to participate in the accreditation procedure conducted by foreign agencies;</li> <li>• the signing of memorandums of cooperation with foreign quality assurance agencies;</li> <li>• Membership in international networks to ensure quality of education.</li> </ul>

### Organization processes of accreditation and rating research

Aims	Purposes
Institutional accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conclusion of contracts with educational organizations to carry out institutional accreditation;</li> <li>• analysis of the self-checking, educational organizations</li> <li>• organization of the external expert committee to conduct an external evaluation of educational organizations;</li> <li>• Decision-making on accreditation at the meeting of the Accreditation Board on the basis of external examination and self-examination.</li> </ul>

Specialized accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conclusion of contracts with educational organizations to conduct specialized accreditation;</li> <li>• analysis of the results of self-education organizations;</li> <li>• organization of the external expert committee to conduct an external evaluation of educational organizations;</li> <li>• Decision-making on accreditation at the meeting of the Accreditation Board on the basis of external examination and self-examination.</li> </ul>
Ranging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• collection of information on higher education institutions participating in the ranging;</li> <li>• analysis of received information;</li> <li>• checking information provided on its adequacy universities;</li> <li>• ranging of universities and educational programs;</li> <li>• rating the teaching staff of high education;</li> <li>• conducting ratings of college in regions of Kazakhstan;</li> <li>• rating colleges teaching staff in engineering</li> <li>• Publication the results of ranging.</li> </ul>

### Informing the public and all interested people about the results of the quality assessment

<b>Aims</b>	<b>Purposes</b>
Ensuring public access to information on the results of accreditation and ranking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• placement of information on the results of accreditation and rating research on the site;</li> <li>• Publication of the results of the ranking and accreditation in the press;</li> <li>• publication of a report on the activities of the IAAR.</li> </ul>
Public awareness through seminars, training and issue of the magazine on the results of accreditation and ranking and quality assurance procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• holding seminars, training for accreditation and ranking of EP and quality assurance;</li> <li>• participation in seminars, forums and conferences held in the Republic of Kazakhstan and abroad;</li> <li>• issue of the magazine IAAR;</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• publication of the results of rating research in the areas and levels of training in the republican newspaper "Kazakhstanskaya Pravda" ;</li> <li>• edition of the brochure "Independent Ranking - 2015";</li> <li>• giving certifications on the results of rating research.</li> </ul>
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### Initiating discussions of problems education quality assurance

Aims	Purposes
Holding seminars to discuss topical problems of education quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• holding workshop dedicated to discussion of the issues of quality of education;</li> <li>• holding round tables on issues of quality within the framework of conferences held by the universities involved in the accreditation process.</li> </ul>
Organization of publications in general and specialized scientific press on topical issues of the quality of education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publication of 5 articles.</li> </ul>

### Measuring the results of operations

In 2014, the IAAR plans the further develop of the system of independent national quality assessment system.

#### Results of activity:

1. Formation of the Commission for Appeals and Complaints.
2. Development and improvement of standards and guidelines for institutional and specialized accreditation of educational levels.
3. Harmonization of standards of institutional and specialized accreditation of higher education institutions in accordance with the revised ESG standards.
4. Development of the Strategic Development Plan of IAAR for 2016-2020.
5. Holding institutional accreditation procedures (at least 10 educational organizations) and specialized accreditation (not less than 200 educational programs).
6. Development of provisions on the organization of accreditation processes

7. Conducting training seminars for experts.
8. Publication the reports of external expert committee (EEC) and IAAR activities.
9. Publication the journal of IAAR.
10. Improvement of the methodology of ranking by levels of educational programs of higher education.
14. Conducting the rating research of colleges in regions of RK and rating engineering-pedagogical college workers.

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