

---

The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan aims to announce the educational priorities for each upcoming year beforehand in order to aware public on the implementation of key targets defined within the “State Strategy for the Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan”. At the end of last year the Ministry presented its reform action plan driven for solution of topical problems existing in general education.

As a next step, action plan has been prepared for higher education. Main objective of the mentioned actions is to provide transparent and efficient education environment, improve education quality and manage higher education establishments according to the up-to-date requirements.

To this end, the Ministry of Education plans the implementation of the following activities in the upcoming academic year:

1. Organize “SABAH” groups (the abbreviation from Azerbaijani which stands for “educated, capable, prepared”) in state higher education institutions in order to provide a new educational environment and high quality capacity building in higher educational system;
2. Work out the indicators system defining the effectiveness of activities of higher education institutions;
3. Considering the priorities of specialties for the country’s social-economic development, improve the approaches of students admission plan compilation;
4. Prepare selection criteria of the universities which will take part in state offer for improving capacity preparation standards with state offer;
5. Review the education programs (standards) for bachelor’s and master’s degrees in order to provide advanced capacity preparation meeting the country’s economic development level and current requirements of labor market as well as make the higher education programs (standards) compliant with the relevant ones applied in European region;
6. Establish interuniversity commission for application of Bologna process in order to provide the integration of higher education institutions with the European education;
7. Attach the secondary schools, first vocational and secondary special education establishments to the appropriate higher education institutions considering their special profile in order to form profession-oriented specialty selection by undergraduates and provide legacy and continuity principles among different education stages;
8. Start pilot academic credits to increase higher education opportunities for youth from low income families;
9. Guided by the idea of establishing advanced and transparent management model, improve the normative base regulating the activities of higher education institutions and application of corporate management principles;
10. Enhance the application of financial reporting system at state higher educational institutions in order to improve the efficiency and transparency in use of financial resources;
11. Establish accreditation system of educational establishments in order to protect learners’ rights and define the compliance of teaching with state standards.