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# OVERVIEW OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

KYRGYZSTAN



УДК  
ББК

## Overview of the Higher Education System. Kyrgyzstan

ISBN:

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The publication describes the higher education system. Contains information about the National higher education policy, principles of state policy in the field of education, National qualifications system, professional standards, types of educational programs, forms and technologies of education, higher education financing, tuition fees, etc. The overview will be useful for teaching, administrative staff of universities.

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## 1. National higher education policy

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The Kyrgyz Republic is a landlocked country in Central Asia. It is located along the Silk Road, an ancient trade route between China and the Mediterranean, with a total area of 198,500 kilometers<sup>2</sup> (76,641 miles<sup>2</sup>).

The population is 6 456.5 thousand people as of January 1, 2020. In the age structure of the population, the share of disabled people is 34.3%, people of working age - 57.9%, and people over working age - 7.8% (National Statistical Committee 2020).

The gross domestic product (GDP) of the KR in 2019 amounted to 590,042.4 million KGS (569,385.6 million soms in 2018) or 8,453.3 million US dollars (8,276 million dollars in 2018) .), with an increase of 3.6% (in soms).

Education is a priority strategic field of the state policy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Education in the Kyrgyz Republic is based on the principles enshrined in international treaties and covenants, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, on democracy and humanistic values of the people of the world culture.

The central executive body in charge of developing a unified state policy in the field of education and science, and monitoring state control over the accessibility and quality of education to ensure the constitutional right to education of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic is the KR Ministry of Education and Science.

### 1.1. Principles of state policy in the field of education

The state policy in the field of education is aimed at effective use of educational opportunities for achieving well-defined strategic goals and for solving problems of national significance.

The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education" defines the following principles of state policy in the field of education:

- equality of the rights of all citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic to receive quality education;
- the opportunity to obtain free higher professional education in state educational institutions within the requirements of state educational standards;

- the opportunity to obtain education on a paid basis, including in state educational organizations;

- humanistic nature of education, the priority of universal human values in combination with national cultural wealth, the cultivation of citizenship, hard work, love for the family, homeland and the environment, patriotism and respect for human rights and freedoms;

- focus on the national and international scientific advances and international experience;

- consistency and regularity of the educational process;

- independence of education from political and religious institutions;

- a diversity of educational organizations by types and forms of education, upbringing, areas of activity, forms of ownership;

- academic freedom of educational organizations, academic integrity.

## **1.2 Strategic directions for the development of the education system**

In order to ensure sustainable operation and development of the higher education system, the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 201 "On strategic directions for the development of the education system in the Kyrgyz Republic" was approved on March 23, 2012 :

- Education Development Concept in the Kyrgyz Republic til 2020;

- Education Development Strategy in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2020;

- The Action Plan for 2012-2014 as the first three-year plan for the implementation of the EDS 2012-2020;

- Action plan for 2016-2017 as a two-year plan for the implementation of the EDS 2012-2020.

By the Resolution of the KR Government "On Amendments to the KR Government Resolution " On strategic directions for the development of the education system in the Kyrgyz Republic "dated March 23, 2012 No. 201" an Action plan for the implementation of the EDS dated June 4, 2018 No. 270, was approved for 2018-2020 as a three-year implementation plan for the EDS 2012-2020.

The Plan provides for the following general tasks in the field of professional education:

- formation of a national qualification system for all levels of professional education (the development of interaction tools for the system of professional education at all levels with national and international labor markets, development of sectoral qualifications frameworks and professional standards);

- improvement of the content of professional education at all levels (development of educational standards in accordance with professional standards);

- improvement of the quality of teaching and the educational environment in educational institutions of primary, secondary and higher professional education (attracting employers to interact with educational institutions, introducing a system for tracking the transition of university graduates (budget-funded departments) to work on a full-time basis, etc.).

The following specific tasks are also envisaged for the country's higher professional education system:

- increasing the efficiency of the HPE system (improvement of normative legal acts in the field of higher education, development of e-learning formats in the HPE system);

- changes in the structure of training specialists with higher professional education (formation of an annual plan for admission to universities for grant training based on an analysis of the labor market needs, monitoring the implementation of the state order for training personnel in pedagogical and medical areas);

- qualification improvement of management personnel and teaching staff (qualification improvement of the teaching staff of universities, ensuring the implementation of accreditation procedures and standards).

In addition, the plan includes education for adults and non-formal education (creating conditions for the adaptation of the economically active population to the rapidly changing requirements of the labor market and the quality assurance system for adult education).

### **1.3 National qualifications system**

The National qualifications system is a set of mechanisms that facilitate the interaction of education and labor market, including the national qualifications framework, industrial / sectoral qualifications frameworks, professional and state educational standards and procedures for their recognition, qualifications assessment systems, educational organizations and programs.

In order to improve the quality of education, within the framework of the National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2040, approved by the Decree of the KR President No.221 dated October 31, 2018, the Resolution of the KR Government dated September 30, 2019 No. 505, the Concept of the National Qualifications System in the Kyrgyz Republic was approved.

The aims of the Concept are:

- an increase in demand for workers' qualifications from the labor market and in the number of qualifications offered by the education system;
- the formation of approaches to the development and implementation of a national system for the recognition of learning, including development of tools and operationalization of a national policy on qualifications, institutional arrangements, processes, quality assurance, assessment and processes of awarding and recognition of skills, and other mechanisms that connect education and learning with the labor market and civil society.

The objectives of the Concept are:

- defining the framework conditions for the recognition of qualifications and learning at the national and international levels, including the promotion of lifelong learning;
- identification of key tasks and mechanisms aimed at creating conditions for sustainable development of the system of primary, secondary, higher and postgraduate professional education, and its adequate response to the requirements of consumers of educational services;
- creation of a methodological and organizational basis for the development, implementation and improvement of the national qualifications system;
- defining the role of participants in the development, implementation and improvement of components of the national qualifications system in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The main interrelated elements of a national qualifications system are:

- national qualifications framework;
- professional standards and recognition procedures;
- industry / sectoral qualifications frameworks;
- qualification assessment systems.

The main elements of the national qualifications system will be closely linked with the state educational standards of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as with internal and external systems for ensuring the quality of educational programs.

## 1.4 National qualifications framework

The central element of the national qualifications system is the national qualifications framework, which is a document containing a generalized description of qualification levels, and is intended for various groups of users (employers, their associations, education authorities, educational institutions, citizens).

In order to implement the National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2040, by the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the National Qualifications Framework" dated September 18, 2020 No. 491, the National Qualifications Framework was approved.

The National Qualifications Framework defines a unified scale of qualification levels for the development of industry / sectoral qualifications frameworks, professional standards, which ensures cross-sectoral comparability of qualifications and is the basis for a system of attestation of compliance and awarding qualifications of specialists.

The main elements of a national qualifications framework are: qualification levels, qualification level descriptors, and labor intensity to achieve a qualification level in formal education.

Qualification levels are identified based on:

- learning outcomes;
- establishing direct links between the requirements of the labor area for the performance of labor functions by employees and assessment criteria for employees' compliance with these requirements;
- establishing direct connection between the levels of qualifications in the national qualifications framework and the descriptors level of the European Qualifications Framework, the qualifications framework of the European Higher Education Area;
- transparency of methods for including qualifications in the national qualifications framework;
- the cumulative principle aimed at recognizing previous learning resulting from formal, non-formal and informal learning.

The qualification levels established and described by descriptors. Descriptors contain information about what requirements are appropriate for the student at each of the educational levels, and characterize the learning outcomes. Descriptors are designed in terms of knowledge, skills and personal competencies.



Table 1.

Level <sup>1</sup>	Knowledge	Skills	Personal competencies (1 – independence, 2 – responsibility, 3 – communication)
6	Possesses a wide range of integrated general and professional knowledge, including critical understanding of theories and principles, in the field of work and learning	Possesses a wide range of methods, including innovative ones, skills of their selection and ability to solve complex problems in the field of work and learning, as well as critical thinking skills.	<p>1 – manages complex actions, processes.</p> <p>2 – is responsible for making decisions under unpredictable conditions in the field of work or training, as well as for managing professional development of individuals or groups. Participates in the work of expert groups and in the development of strategic development plans.</p> <p>3 – carries out business communication and maintains partnerships</p>
7	Possesses highly specialized knowledge and research methods in the field of work or training, as well as general and professional knowledge in related fields	Possesses specialized skills in solving strategic tasks and problems for scientific research and / or innovative professional activity, production of new knowledge, for original ideas and / or scientific research	<p>1 – manages and transforms complex, unpredictable work or learning environment with innovative approaches.</p> <p>2 – is responsible for making decisions in unpredictable conditions. Evaluates strategic group performance.</p> <p>3 – organizes the activities of expert / professional groups / organizations, presents the results of their work. Conducts professional discussions at the level of specialized</p>

<sup>1</sup> Qualification levels: 6-bachelor's degree, 7-master's degree, 8-postgraduate education (programs leading to the qualification of Candidate of Science, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD/Doctor of Science), 9-postgraduate education (Doctor of Science qualification).

			and related industries. Solves communication problems in all areas of activity
8	Possesses the most advanced knowledge in the field of work or training in related fields	Possesses the most advanced and specialized skills and methods, including synthesis and assessment, which are necessary to solve <b>critical problems</b> in the field of research and / or innovation, as well as to expand and rethink existing knowledge or professional practice	<p>1 – demonstrates independence, innovation, scientific and professional integrity, and a sustained commitment to developing new ideas or processes in cutting-edge areas of professional activity or training, including research.</p> <p>2 – is responsible for implementing the results of research at the institutional level and / or industry-wide.</p> <p>3 – manages research or professional groups in solving complex or interdisciplinary tasks</p>
9	Possesses the latest complex industry and cross-industry knowledge in research and innovation in the professional field	Possesses the skills of solving methodological, programmatic and research problems related to increasing the efficiency of production and research processes	<p>1 – demonstrates high level of independence in scientific activity.</p> <p>2 – is responsible for the result of the implementation of own research and scientific research team as well as their economic impact at the scale of the industry, country, at international level.</p> <p>3 – demonstrates the ability to strategically manage large scientific and / or production teams, as well as to train scientific personnel</p>

The national qualifications framework clarifies the labor intensity required to achieve the qualification level in formal **training**.

Table 2.

<b>Labor intensity</b>	<b>Level</b>
240 credits	6
60-180 credits	7
180-240 credits	8
Not determined	9

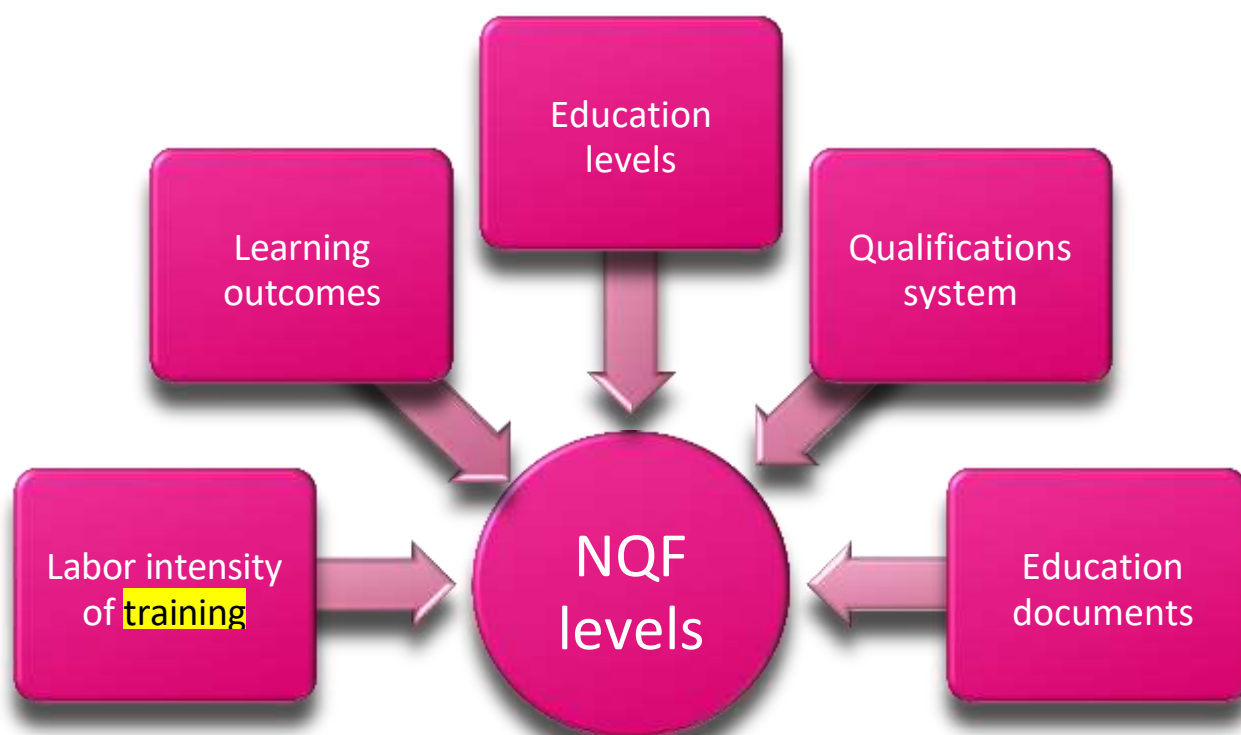
The comparability of the national qualifications framework of the Kyrgyz Republic with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the Bologna Qualifications Framework (QF-EHEA) is given in the following table:

Table 3.

<b>NQF KR</b>	<b>EQF</b>	<b>QF-EHEA</b>
9	8	Third cycle
8		
7	7	Second cycle
6	6	First cycle

Thus, when identifying the levels of a country's national qualifications framework, the following indicators were taken into account:

Figure 1.



### 1.5 Professional standards

The professional standard is an integral part of the national qualifications system. It contains a description of the quality level of employee's qualifications, which she must comply with in order to rightfully take a place among the staff of any company, regardless of its type of activity, including:

- labor functions of an employee in accordance with her qualifications and position (functional analysis);
- experience, knowledge, skills, competencies required for the successful implementation of these job functions.

On the basis of international experience and domestic pilot projects, a number of professional standards were developed.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic establishes and approves the structure, rules for the development, examination, recognition, implementation and application of professional standards, taking into account the recommendations of the working group.

## **1.6 Industrial qualifications framework**

Based on the qualifications descriptors defined in the national qualifications framework, industrial qualifications framework will be developed. The national education quality assurance system will be directly linked to the levels and descriptors of the national qualifications framework.

Industrial qualifications framework is an integral part of the national qualifications system, which is a generalized description of the established indicators of qualification levels within the industry / sector, recognized by the leading organizations in the industry.

The purpose of the sectoral qualifications framework is to formulate the requirements for existing qualifications in the industry / sector based on the national qualifications framework, taking into account the industry / sector development strategy, as well as to develop maps of professions and positions by qualification levels, and to establish cross-sectoral links through related occupations (professions and positions).

At present, the expert group of the Ministry of Labor and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic has developed the methodology of Sectoral Qualifications Framework, which is being publicly discussed.

## **1.7 Systems of qualifications assessment**

In the Kyrgyz Republic, it is necessary to establish and develop institutions that perform the functions of expert methodological centers and centers for qualifications assessment. It is necessary, on the basis of professional and educational standards, to establish rules and procedures for assessment of qualifications obtained through formal, non-formal or informal education.

## 2. Higher education system

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Higher education implies education, training, retraining of specialists of appropriate level of educational programs and standards, as well as meeting the needs of citizens in deepening and expanding education.

### 2.1. Types of educational programs, forms and technologies of education

The following types of programs are implemented in the Kyrgyz Republic:

- higher professional education (bachelor, master);
- postgraduate professional education (candidate of sciences, doctor of philosophy (PhD) / doctor in the field, doctor of sciences);
- additional professional education (professional development and retraining of personnel).

Higher professional education includes training and retraining of bachelors, specialists and masters in order to meet the needs of the individual in deepening and expanding education on the basis of secondary general, secondary and higher professional education in accordance with the national qualifications system.

Postgraduate professional education involves the implementation of programs for the preparation of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel with academic degrees of candidate and doctor of science, doctor of philosophy (PhD) / doctor in the field.

Training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel, as a rule, is carried out through postgraduate studies, postgraduate military course, doctoral studies and basic doctoral studies (PhD / by profile), established in educational institutions of higher professional education and scientific institutions.

Educational programs are provided taking into account the needs and capabilities of students in the following forms: full-time, part-time (evening and shift),.

The country's universities use the following learning technologies:

- traditional learning technology;
- information and communication technology;
- distance learning technology, etc.

Educational organizations are independent in the selection of learning technologies.

## **2.2. Educational organizations of higher professional education**

Educational organization of higher professional education (hereinafter - the university) is an educational and scientific organization created in accordance with the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education" in order to implement professional educational programs of higher, postgraduate and additional professional education, as well as programs of secondary professional and secondary general education.

Higher education institutions include institutes, academies, universities and specialized universities (conservatory, higher military educational institution, etc.).

***Institute*** is a university or a structural unit of a university, academy, which:

- 
- implements educational programs of higher education and educational programs of postgraduate education;
- performs training, retraining of specialists, advanced training of workers with higher education, training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel for a specific area of professional activity;
- performs scientific research of both fundamental and applied nature within the profile of training specialists.

***Academy*** is a university that:

- implements educational programs of higher and postgraduate education in the fields of scientific activity;
- performs basic and applied research in the fields of science or culture;
- provides training, retraining of specialists, advanced training of employees with higher education, as well as training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel;
- it is a scientific and methodological center for the divisions of its activity.

***University*** is a an educational institution that:

- implements programs of higher and postgraduate education in a wide range of areas (specialties) of training;
- performs basic and applied research in a wide range of sciences;

- provides training, retraining of specialists, professional development of employees with higher education, as well as training of scientific and scientific-pedagogical workers (candidates and doctors of sciences);

- it is a scientific and methodological center for the profile of its activities.

**A specialized university** (conservatory, higher military school, etc.) is a narrow-profile university, which:

- implements educational programs of higher education and educational programs of postgraduate professional education;

- provides training, retraining and advanced training of employees with higher education, scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel for a specific field of professional activity;

- performs applied scientific research.

According to the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, in 2019, the number of educational organizations of higher professional education was 55, including 38 state universities and 17 private ones.

According to departmental affiliation, state universities are subordinate to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Defense of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Transport and Roads of the Kyrgyz Republic, etc.

The following interstate universities operate in the Republic: Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University named after the first President of the Russian Federation B. N. Yeltsin; Kyrgyz-Uzbek University; Kyrgyz-Turkish University "Manas".

Private universities include: International University of Kyrgyzstan, S. Tentishev Asian Medical Institute, Kyrgyz-Russian Academy of Education; Medical and Social Research Institute, the Eastern University named after Mahmud Kashgari-Barskani, Ala-Too International University, etc.

### **2.3. Learners**

Access to higher professional education is based on a certificate of secondary general education, a diploma of secondary professional education or a diploma of higher professional education (upon receiving a second, third, and so on higher education).



Persons with secondary professional education of the corresponding profile can receive higher professional education in accelerated programs.

Persons with higher professional education can receive a second and third higher professional education in accelerated programs.

According to the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, in 2019, the number of students of higher professional education organizations was 183 778 people.

The distribution of students by regions is shown in the table below.

Table 4.

<b>№</b>	<b>Territory</b>	<b>Students</b>
1	Batken region	5 843
2	Jalal-Abadregion	9 474
3	Issyk-Kul region	2 824
4	Naryn region	3 197
5	Osh region	0
6	Talas region	1 651
7	Chui region	3 719
8	Bishkek city	108 174
9	Osh city	48 896

Universities, regardless of their organizational and legal forms, forms of ownership and departmental subordination, independently develop, approve and agree with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic annual admission rules based on the Procedure for admission to higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on May 27, 2011 No. 256.

Persons with secondary general and secondary professional education are admitted to the first year in universities of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Persons who have a state diploma of higher professional education at various levels are admitted to subsequent courses.

Persons who have a state diploma on secondary professional education of the corresponding profile are admitted to subsequent courses in relevant specialties.

Persons with a state diploma of higher professional education "bachelor" or "specialist" are admitted to study under the master's training program.

Education of citizens of other states in universities of the Kyrgyz Republic is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, on the basis of international treaties that have entered into force in accordance with the established procedure, to which the Kyrgyz Republic is a party, as well as on the basis of agreements between educational organizations or with individual citizens. Agreements between universities and partners providing intermediary services in different countries of the world for the selection of foreign citizens to universities of the Kyrgyz Republic must be agreed with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic before the announcement of admission to the university.

The main criteria for admission to universities of the Kyrgyz Republic, regardless of their organizational and legal forms, for full-time, part-time (evening) and extramural forms, including the use of distance educational technologies, are the level of knowledge and ability of the applicant.

Universities, regardless of their organizational and legal forms, announce admission after agreeing with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic of the list of training areas and specialties and their admission plan.

#### **2.4. Social protection of students**

The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education" establishes that the state creates conditions for education by providing students, in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, with classrooms, equipment, hostels, benefits, material assistance, food and travel benefits, medical care and health improvement, textbooks (students studying at the expense of the republican and local budgets are paid scholarships in the manner and amount determined by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic).

Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic have the right to receive, on a competitive basis, free higher education in state universities within the state educational standards, if they receive education of this level for the first time.

For social support of students studying in educational institutions of higher vocational education and postgraduate vocational education, social educational loans can be provided.

Students in educational institutions using distance learning technologies within the framework of higher professional education are entitled to additional benefits provided in the manner prescribed by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic on labor.

Students of higher educational institutions that are licensed or state accredited are entitled to a deferment from being drafted into active military service.

Champions and prize-winners of the Olympic Games, world championships and champions of the Asian Games are admitted without entrance examinations (exams, testing and interviews) to state and municipal educational organizations of secondary and higher professional education for training in areas of training (bachelor's, master's) and specialties in the field of physical culture and sports.

Athletes with the sports titles "Master of Sports of the Kyrgyz Republic", "Master of Sports of the Kyrgyz Republic of international class" enjoy priority rights when entering state and municipal educational institutions of higher professional education. Athletes with the sports category "Candidate for Master of Sports", sports titles "Master of Sports of the Kyrgyz Republic", "Master of Sports of the Kyrgyz Republic of international class" enjoy priority rights when entering state and municipal educational organizations of secondary professional education.

Universities independently provide benefits to orphans and people with disabilities.

## **2.5. Areas of training**

In order to integrate higher professional education into international educational space, the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the establishment of a two-tier structure of higher professional education in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated August 23, 2011 No. 496 was adopted, which established the transition to a two-tier structure of higher professional education from the 2012-2013 academic year, with the conferment of academic degrees "bachelor" and "master", with the exception of some disciplines.

This resolution approved:

- Model of the State educational standard of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic in the area of training "bachelor";
- Model of the State educational standard of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic in the area of training "master";
- Model of the State educational standard of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic in disciplines;
- The list of areas for the preparation of higher professional education, confirmed by the awarding of the graduate with the academic degree "bachelor";

- The list of areas for the preparation of higher professional education, confirmed by the awarding of the graduate with the academic degree "master";

- The list of areas of higher professional education, confirmed by the assignment of the graduate qualification "specialist".

In the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Amendments to the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic" On education dated June 14, 2019 No. 71, the concepts of "bachelor", "master" and "specialist" are defined in the new edition:

Bachelor - the level of qualifications of higher professional education, which gives the right to enter the magistracy and carry out professional activities;

Master - the level of qualifications of higher professional education, which gives the right to enroll in graduate school and (or) in basic doctoral studies (PhD / profile) and carry out professional activities.

### **2.5.1 “Bachelor’s” and “master’s” levels of qualification**

In order to integrate higher professional education into international educational space and increase the efficiency of budgetary funds, by the decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the establishment of a two-tier structure of higher professional education in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated August 23, 2011 N 496 from the 2012-2013 academic year, a two-tier structure has been established in higher professional education (bachelor-master), with the exception of some disciplines.

At present, the following list of areas for the preparation of higher professional education, confirmed by the assignment of the qualifications "bachelor" and "master" to the graduate, has been approved by the said decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic:

- physical and mathematical sciences and fundamental informatics;
- natural sciences;
- humanities;
- social sciences;
- teacher education;
- healthcare;
- culture and art;
- economics and management;
- information security;

- service sector;
- agriculture and agricultural sciences;
- geodesy and land management;
- geology, exploration and development of mineral deposits;
- energy and electric power industry;
- materials science, metallurgy and mechanical engineering;
- weapons and weapon systems;
- transport equipment and technologies;
- instrument making;
- electronics, radio engineering and communications;
- automation and control;
- computing and information technology
- chemical technology and biotechnology;
- reproduction and processing of forest resources;
- technology and production of food products and consumer goods;
- architecture and construction;
- technosphere safety, environmental management and hydrometeorology;
- military education.

For admission to the bachelor's program, candidates must have a state certificate of general secondary education or a diploma of secondary vocational (or higher professional) education. The master's program requires candidates to have a state diploma with a bachelor's degree or higher professional education.

University graduates who have fully mastered the educational program for the bachelor's and master's degrees and have successfully passed the state final certification, receive a diploma of higher education and receive the qualifications "bachelor" and "master", respectively. The final state certification includes state examinations and defence of the final qualifying work, and for the "master's" qualification - a dissertation work.

### **2.5.2 Specialist qualification level**

Specialist is the level of qualifications of higher professional education, which gives the right to enter postgraduate studies and (or) doctoral studies (PhD / profile) and carry out professional activities.

The Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the establishment of a two-tier structure of higher professional education in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated August 23, 2011 N 496 also established the following list of disciplines of higher professional education, confirmed by assigning a graduate the qualification "specialist":

- Humanitarian sciences (Clinical Psychology, Forensic examination, Translation and Translation Studies, Customs, Pedagogical Education, State language in educational institutions with a non-Kyrgyz language of instruction);

- Healthcare (General Medicine, Pediatrics, Preventive Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing);

- Culture and art (Art history, Theater criticism, History and theory of choreographic art, Musicology, Film studies, Cinematography, History and theory of fine arts, Instrumental performance (by type of instrument), Vocal art (by type of vocal art), Conducting (by type of performing groups ), Composition, Variety music (by type), Sound engineering (in application fields), Acting art, Directing (by area of application), Theatrical and decorative arts, Choreographic art, Directing choreographer, Choreography pedagogy, Design, Interiors and equipment, Decorative-Applied arts and folk crafts, Monumental and decorative art, Painting, Graphics, Sculpture, Literary creativity, Folk art, Social and cultural activities, Book business, Museum business and protection of monuments);

- Engineering Sciences (Information Security);

- Agriculture (Veterinary);

- Geodesy and land management (Applied Geodesy);

- Geology, exploration and development of mineral deposits (Applied geology, Geological exploration technology, Mining, Physical processes of mining or oil and gas production);

- Architecture and construction (Construction and operation of railways, bridges and transport tunnels);

- Technosphere safety (Fire safety);

- Interdisciplinary specialties (Sectoral Economics);

- Materials science, metallurgy and mechanical engineering (metallurgy of non-ferrous metals);

- Transport equipment and technologies (Rolling stock of railways).

Students have the right to choose several courses during the study allotted for the elective disciplines provided in the curriculum.

For the training program, candidates must have a state certificate of general secondary education or a diploma of secondary vocational (or higher professional) education, basically the same requirements are imposed as for admission to a bachelor's program.

University graduates who have fully mastered the educational program for training specialists and have successfully passed the final state certification, receive a diploma of higher education and an academic degree "specialist".

### **2.5.3 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD / Doctor by profile) Level of qualification**

Doctoral studies (PhD / by profile) is a postgraduate professional scientific and educational program that ensures the integration of educational activities and scientific research, and training a highly qualified specialist with the award of a Ph.D. / Doctor qualification according to the results of the public defence of the thesis.

In 2013, within the framework of pilot projects in 7 universities of the KR, pilot doctoral programs were launched.

In 2020, a group of experts on the reform of higher education developed a procedure for the implementation of training programs for doctors of philosophy (PhD) / doctors by profile by educational organizations of higher professional education and scientific institutions. In these institutions the procedure for admission, training, qualification and issuance of diplomas, as well as requirements to PhD dissertation, its defense and learning outcomes and implementation conditions ?.

Complexity of the program ranges from 180 to 240 credits, depending on the program features , of which at least 60 credits are allocated for academic disciplines. Complexity of research work is at least 120 credits, including internships, as well as all types of attestations, including public defense of a PhD thesis.

Main requirements for doctoral students are:

- during the training, a doctoral student is obliged to publish at least two academic publications reflecting results of the dissertation research in peer-reviewed journals with a non-zero impact factor, indexed by the international systems: WEB of Science and Scopus.
- a doctoral student must undergo a international research internship for a period of at least one month.

The authorized state body of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of education develops licensing, minimum accreditation requirements for training programs for doctors of

philosophy (PhD) / doctors in the PhD profile, carries out the licensing procedure, approves the form of the diploma of the doctor of philosophy (PhD) / doctor in the state profile, and also conducts international activities for the recognition and comparability of this qualification.

A doctoral student who has successfully defended a PhD thesis, as well as fully completed the curriculum will be awarded the qualification of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) / Doctor of the profile by members of the jury established at universities.

## 2.6. Basic educational program

The basic educational program (hereinafter referred to as BEP PLO) is a set of educational and methodological documentation that regulates the goals, expected results, content and organization of educational process in corresponding area of training.

The requirements for the structure of the basic educational program, established in the state educational standards are presented in the tables below. Based on these requirements, universities develop their curricula, taking into account the needs of the labor market.

Table 5.

The structure of BEP for bachelors		The volume of BEP for bachelors and its blocks in credits
Block 1	I. Humanitarian, social and economic cycle II. Mathematical and natural science cycle III. Professional cycle	165-215
Block 2	Internship	15-60
Block 3	State certification	10-15
The scope of OOP for the preparation of bachelors		240



<b>The structure of BEP for masters</b>		<b>The volume of BEP training for masters? and its blocks in credits</b>
Block 1	I. Humanitarian, social and economic cycle II. Mathematical and natural science cycle III. Professional cycle	165-215
Block 2	Internship	15-60
Block 3	State certification	10-15
The scope of OOP training for masters		240

<b>BEP structure by discipline</b>		<b>The volume of BEP in the discipline and its blocks in credits</b>
Block 1	I. Humanitarian, social and economic cycle II. Mathematical and natural science cycle III. Professional cycle	185-260
Block 2	Internship	25-90
Block 3	State certification	10-25
The volume of OOP by specialty		300

Each university determines independently the set of modules and their labor intensity, within the amount established for the block, taking into account the requirements for the development results in the form of a set of learning outcomes provided for by the national qualifications framework.

## **2.7. Assessment of students' knowledge**

Assessment of the quality of training of students and graduates should include their current, intermediate and final state certification. Evaluation bases are developed and approved by the university.

Requirements for attestation of students and graduates for the content, volume and structure of final qualifying works are determined by the university, taking into account the Regulations on the final state attestation of university graduates.

### 3. Faculty

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The Decree of Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "Regulations on the educational organization of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated February 3, 2004 N 53, approved the positions of the scientific and pedagogical staff (faculty, researchers), engineering, technical, administrative, educational, auxiliary, service, and other personnel of universities.

The faculty of the university includes: assistants, teachers, senior teachers, associate professors, professors, heads of departments, and deans of faculties.

Admission and dismissal of faculty in state universities is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Regulation on the procedure for replacing teaching staff positions at higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated May 29, 2012 No. 346.

To fill vacant positions of teaching staff of a university, such as faculty deans, department heads, professors, associate professors - university teachers without appropriate scientific degrees, having at least 10 years of scientific and pedagogical work experience can be admitted (for universities of art, physical culture, military educational institutions and departments of foreign languages and physical culture); for a professor, and 5 years - for an assistant professor, published scientific works, teaching aids and leading lectures at proper academic, theoretical and methodological level are required

In private universities, the criteria for admission to work are determined by local acts. Hiring is carried out on the basis of an employment contract.

Quantitative and qualitative indicators of the teaching staff of the university are regulated by state educational standards for educational programs of higher professional education and licensing requirements. The number of teaching staff for programs is determined according to the teacher / student ratio.

### **3.1. Right to engage in teaching activities**

According to the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education", persons who have received necessary education and have relevant pedagogical qualifications have the right to engage in teaching activities.

Persons without pedagogical education and qualifications have the right to perform pedagogical (teaching) activities in the following cases:

- undergoing retraining;
- teaching the skills of the activity.

Persons with education, as a rule, not less than a master's degree, are allowed to pedagogical activity in organizations of higher professional education.

Persons with a criminal record or medical contraindications, the list of which is determined by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, are not allowed to teaching.

Deprivation of the right to engage in teaching activities is carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

### **3.2. Rights and obligations of teachers**

Teachers have the right to:

- free choice of methods and forms of organization of pedagogical activity;
- introduction of advanced teaching experience into practice;
- to defend their dignity and professional honor;
- to demand appropriate conditions for professional activity;
- to improve their professional level and qualifications at the expense of the state in the manner determined by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

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Teachers are required to:

- to comply with the norms of pedagogical ethics;
- to ensure the assimilation of educational programs by students at a level not lower than the requirements of state educational standards;
- to develop independence, creative attitude to learning, to form high moral standards of behavior of students;
- to constantly improve their professional level and their qualifications at least once every 5 years;
- to prevent the use of emotional, mental, physical violence against children.

### **3.3. Social protection of educational system workers**

Employees of educational organizations are obliged to annually undergo free outpatient medical examination in state medical and preventive institutions.

An additional payment must be established for pedagogical workers for work in educational institutions located in rural areas.

An educational organization, within the limits of the available funds for labor remuneration, may establish bonuses for employees, other types of material incentives and compensation, as well as allocate funds for the acquisition of educational, methodological and scientific literature.

### **3.4. Professional development and retraining of the teaching staff**

Professional development and retraining of the teaching staff is regulated by the Regulations on Additional Professional Education in the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic of February 3, 2004 N 53.

Advanced training is carried out as needed, but at least once every 5 years during the entire labor activity of employees. The frequency of continuing education is determined by the employer. It is carried out as necessary, but at least once every 5 years during the entire labor activity of employees. The frequency of continuing education is determined by the employer.

Advanced training and professional retraining of specialists is carried out out-of-service , in-service , partially in-service and in individual forms of training. Terms and form of advanced training and professional retraining are established by educational organizations in accordance with customer needs based on a concluded agreement.

Additional educational programs for advanced training are implemented in the amount of 72 to 100 hours in order to update knowledge and skills in accordance with constantly increasing requirements of educational standards through short-term thematic training courses or participation in thematic and problematic seminars.

Advanced training programs for longer training in the amount of more than 100 hours are implemented with the aim of in-depth study of urgent problems or the acquisition of professional skills.

Additional educational programs for professional retraining are implemented in the amount of more than 500 hours of study programs that provide necessary knowledge, skills

and abilities to a specialist to perform new type of professional activity within existing professional education.

In order to expand qualifications and implement new type of professional activity, educational programs are being implemented in addition to higher education with the assignment of additional qualifications on the basis of received specialty in the amount of more than 1000 hours.

Additional educational programs can be implemented both according to individual study programs and in the form of self-study.

Usually, teachers improve their qualifications through courses, seminars and trainings within and between universities. Trainings and seminars organized within the framework of international projects play a special role.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, the following types of documents have been established, which certify the completion of training of additional professional education: certificate, certificate, certificate, diploma.

#### **4. Management of a higher education institution**

The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education" establishes the following principles of university management: democratization, decentralization, independence and self-government.

Co-management bodies of the university are the general meeting, the board of trustees, and academic councils.

Direct management is carried out by the rector (director, president).

The rector of a state university, with the exception of the heads of specialized state universities of the authorized state bodies of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of internal affairs, foreign affairs and defence, is elected at a general staff meeting on an alternative basis, from among specialists with an academic degree and title, as well as appropriate qualifications, secretly by a simple majority vote for a period of five years.

The rector of a private university is appointed by the founder(s).

Heads of structural subdivision of the university for implementation of educational programs (dean of the faculty, head of the department) are appointed based on the results of the relevant competitive elections, and heads of programs and departments are appointed by the rector.

## 5. Material and technical base

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In order to ensure the activities provided for by the charter, a state university is assigned the right of operational management of buildings, structures, equipment. The development of the material and technical base is carried out within the budgetary limits and own funds of the university. The amount of expenses for the purchase of equipment and overhaul are determined by the university independently, without setting limits, based on needs and availability of financial resources within the limits of income and expense estimates approved in the prescribed manner.

The material and technical base of state universities used in educational, research, production activities and for solving other problems in the field of education is not transferred to private individuals and organizations for free ownership and use.

The property of a state university is not subject to seizure for purposes other than education.

The founder (founders) transfers to a private university or secures buildings, structures, equipment on the basis of the right of operational management. The material and technical base of a private university develops at the expense of the founder and the university's own funds.



## 6. Financing of higher education

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### 6.1. The procedure for financing universities

State universities are financed from the republican budget through the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Transport and Roads of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Financing of public universities is carried out on the basis of typical standards per student, according to the principle of a consistent increase in actual costs per student.

Currently, the funding standard per student (basic level of the state educational grant) of state universities in accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the Procedure for financing organizations of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic from the republican budget on the basis of the size of the state educational grant" dated July 1, 2016 No. 370 is 26,360 soms per year.

The same decree established correction factors for the basic level of the state educational grant for groups of training (specialties) areas according to the table.

Table 6.

<b>№</b>	<b>Groups of training (specialties) areas</b>	<b>Correction factor</b>
1	Education	1,00
2	Construction, economics and management, ecology, tourism	1,00
3	Energy	1,15
4	Mining industry, transport, agriculture	1,10
5	Public health	1,50

6	Musical art	5,80
6-1	Art	3,85
7	Culture, art ( excluding music and art)	2,70
8	Computer technology, telecommunications and communications	1,20
9	Equipment, technological disciplines	1,30

Along with funds from the budget, the sources of funding for the university are:

- funds of individuals and legal entities, foreign states and citizens acting as founders;

- own funds of the university, including foreign currency, from advisory, research, publishing, industrial and other income-generating activities not prohibited by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as from extra-budgetary educational activities for all types of basic and additional educational programs, including number within the requirements of state educational standards;

- voluntarily deposited funds of individuals and legal entities, voluntary donations and targeted contributions from other individuals and legal entities, including foreign ones;

- loans;

- other sources that do not contradict the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The main source of funding for universities, along with budgetary funds, is funds from training personnel on a contract (paid) basis, which amounts to 80% within the total volume of university expenses.

The main source of funding for private universities is funds from training personnel on a contract (paid) basis, as well as funds from founders.

The funding standards for private universities cannot be lower than the funding standards for state educational organizations.

Attraction of additional sources does not entail a decrease in standards or absolute amounts of funding from the state budget

The use various educational methods and technologies, including distance educational technologies, does not entail an increase in their funding standards.

The funds allocated to the educational organization from the state budget are controlled by the treasury. All other funds earned by the educational organization are controlled by the board of trustees and public institutions.

## **6.2. University staff**

The staff of state universities at the expense of the budget are recruited according to the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the standard staffs of organizations of secondary and higher professional education of the system of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated November 20, 2015 No. 788.

With the parallel introduction of individual positions, both funded from the state budgetary and special funds, the number of staff units maintained from the budget is determined in proportion to the number of students studying at the expense of budgetary funds to the total reduced contingent of students of an educational organization.

The principle of determining the number of staff positions to be funded from the state budget, depending on the percentage of students studying at the expense of budgetary funds, to the total number of students is applied in educational organizations when determining the number of employees for a number of positions defined by the specified resolution.

The states of private universities are determined by the university with the consent of the founders.

## **6.3. Salary**

Conditions for remuneration of state university employees are determined by the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the conditions of remuneration of certain categories of employees in the education system" dated September 30, 2019 No. 511.

In addition, according to Article 44 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education," state universities, with the consent of the Boards of Trustees, can establish additional payments for their employees from special funds.

The terms of private universities, remuneration amounts are determined by an employment contract, but, according to article 155 of the Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, they cannot be lower than remuneration at public universities.

Salaries of an educational organization employees are paid for the performance of their functional duties and work stipulated by the labor agreement (contract).

An additional payment is established for educational workers:

- for the academic degree of Doctor or Candidate of Science, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) / Doctor in the field - in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic;

- for 5 years of experience in teaching - at least ten percent, 10 years - at least twenty percent, 15 and more years - at least thirty percent of the salary.

For employees of universities, stipulated by the current legislation, allowances are established for work in high mountains and remote areas, as well as for the titles "Honored" and "People's".

#### **6.4. Tuition fees**

When determining the amount of tuition fees for contract basis training in universities, including private ones, the Regulation on the formation and application of tariffs for paid educational services in the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated May 18, 2009 No. 300, is applied.

According to clause 5 of the said Regulation, the list of tariffs for paid educational services provided by the university, as well as its structural units, is approved by the head of what?.

State control over the correctness of the formation and application of tariffs for paid educational services and over compliance with the requirements of the said Regulation is carried out by the state antimonopoly body of the Kyrgyz Republic.

#### **6.5. Financial support for students**

A student of a state university has the right to receive free higher education at the expense of a state grant.

Every year, 5,705 people are admitted to universities in the country at the expense of the state budget in accordance with Article 26 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education".

Students of public universities studying on a budgetary basis with excellent academic performance, in accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On establishing the size of scholarships for students of state educational organizations of primary, secondary and higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated June 27, 2005 No. 261 receive scholarships in the amount of 800 soms per month, for pedagogical specialties 1600 soms per month.

In certain cases, scholarships are introduced for students of private universities according to the decisions of the founders, , the size of scholarships is also determined by the founders.

For full-time students enrolled in the 3rd year under the bachelor's program and the 4th year under the program of 5 or more years of study a one-time Presidential scholarship was established by the Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the Regulation on the appointment of the Presidential scholarship for full-time students of higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated June 27, 2017 No. 124 .

## 7. Ensuring the quality of education

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Main tools for ensuring the quality of education are licensing and accreditation of educational activities.

### 7.1. Licensing

By the laws of the Kyrgyz Republic "On licensing and permissive system in the Kyrgyz Republic" and "On education", educational activity on the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic is a licensed type of activity.

The main purpose of licensing is to issue a permit for educational activities and ensure the guaranteed quality of education at the level of state standards.

Universities start implementing educational programs only after obtaining appropriate licenses. The readiness of the university to implement educational programs, including formats facilitated by distance learning technologies, is established when issuing a license for the right to conduct educational activities.

When issuing a license, universities are subject to the following requirements approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the temporary regulation on the procedure for licensing educational activities in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated July 23, 2018 No. 334:

- the applicant has, on the basis of ownership, operational management or economic management, equipped buildings, premises and territories (equipped classrooms, facilities for practical training, physical culture and sports facilities, food and medical services) necessary for the implementation of educational activities according to declared programs, corresponding to sanitary norms and rules, fire safety requirements.

- the applicant has educational and methodological documentation, educational and methodological literature and other reference and information resources, as well as funds to ensure the educational process according to declared educational programs;

- full-time employment or involvement by the applicant on another legal basis of teaching staff, the number and qualifications of which ensure the implementation of educational activities according to the declared educational programs;

- the applicant for educational programs who plans to use distance educational technologies have conditions for the functioning of an electronic information and educational

environment, which includes electronic educational resources, a set of information, telecommunication technologies and appropriate technological means and ensures complete implementation of educational programs and development of students regardless of their location;

- availability of developed and approved curricula of educational programs;
- availability of special conditions for receiving education by students with disabilities (except for disciplines and areas of training with specific requirements for students' state of health, which do not allow training for persons with disabilities);

- availability of a clinical base for the implementation of medical educational programs.

Licenses for educational activities are unlimited, issued by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, indicating specific programs, terms and form of training.

Compliance with licensing requirements by universities is periodically monitored through licensing control.

## **7.2. Accreditation**

In order to confirm the quality of educational services provided, universities undergo institutional and (or) program accreditation.

Accreditation objectives:

- assistance in improving the quality of education;
- an independent assessment of educational institutions and educational programs for compliance with approved criteria and procedures (not lower than the requirements of State educational standards);

- informing citizens about the results of an independent assessment of the quality of educational organizations and educational programs, as well as about the possibility of obtaining a quality education;

- promoting the recognition of educational documents and qualifications of the Kyrgyz Republic in the global educational space;

- stimulating the development of educational organizations and improving educational programs through continuous self-assessment and improvement.

Universities are accredited through recognized accreditation agencies in the form of non-governmental, non-profit organizations. Accreditation agencies are funded primarily through accreditation fees collected from universities and other sources not prohibited by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Recognition of accreditation agencies is carried out by the National Accreditation Council in accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "Procedure for the recognition of accreditation agencies in the field of education" dated September 29, 2015 No. 670.

The National Accreditation Council is an advisory body functioning on a voluntary basis for collective and public consideration of recognition of accreditation agencies' activity.

The tasks of the National Accreditation Council are:

- review of applications from organizations and non-biased decision-making on recognition / refusal to recognize them as accreditation agencies;
- monitoring compliance by accreditation agencies with requirements for their activities.

For accreditation, accredited universities are subject to the following minimum requirements:

- the policy of ensuring the quality of education;
- development, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of educational programs;
- student-centered learning and assessment of students' progress;
- admission of students, recognition of educational results and graduation of students ;
- teaching staff;
- material and technical base and information resources;
- information management and public awareness raising;
- planning and managing the financial resources of an educational organization.

Based on the results of accreditation, the agency makes one of the following decisions:

- accreditation for 5 years;
- accreditation with comments (conditional accreditation);
- to refuse accreditation.



In case of accreditation with comments (conditional accreditation), the university must re-accredit not earlier than one year later in the same agency.

Accreditation with remarks (conditional accreditation) or refusal of accreditation entails a license control.

In state of emergency or force majeure circumstances that prevent the accreditation procedure, the agency is allowed to make the following decisions:

- to extend the validity period of the previous accreditation by 6 months maximum;
- postponement of the terms of the accreditation procedure by 6 months maximum;
- on - online accreditation procedure using remote technologies in the manner determined by the agency.

## 8. Internationalization of higher education institutions

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### 8.1. Academic mobility

Academic mobility of undergraduate, masters, graduate students, and teachers is an important areas of international and educational activities of universities. It is carried out in order to:

- improve the quality of higher education;
  - increase the efficiency of scientific research;
  - hone the management system;
  - increase the competitiveness of graduates in labor markets of near and far abroad;
  - strengthen the list of professional competencies by studying and mastering the experience of leading international universities;
  - achieve international comparability of educational standards;
  - attract international intellectual potential on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements with partner-universities;
  - establish external and internal integration ties.

In recent years, there have been high rates of academic mobility of teachers and students in Kyrgyzstan in the framework of cooperation in the field of education between Kyrgyzstan and the European Union, Japan (JICA), Germany (GIZ and DAAD) as well as cooperation with China (student exchange programs through the Confucius Institute).

Many universities in Kyrgyzstan are implementing joint educational programs within the framework of intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements with universities in Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, etc., as well as with a network of universities of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Shanghai Cooperation Agreement.

Forms of academic mobility for university students are:

- training under student exchange programs at partner-universities;
- training under joint educational programs implemented by universities in Kyrgyzstan and a partner- university;
- language and scientific internships;
- educational (research, industrial, pedagogical) internship (for magistracy);
- participation in summer schools;
- participation in conferences, seminars, etc.

-internships for students and graduates in the framework of programs (agreements) of bilateral cooperation;

-educational, industrial, pre-qualification internship (for bachelor's degree).

For teachers, forms of academic mobility are:

-participation in joint educational programs;

-participation in seminars, scientific schools, conferences, etc .;

-participation in joint projects;

-professional retraining;

- participation in educational activities of the host country;

-provision of consulting and expert services in the field of education.

A huge and invaluable contribution to the internationalization of education is being made by Erasmus projects within the framework of an EU-funded program. According to the report "Erasmus + for higher education in Kyrgyzstan" (source: kyrgyzstan\_erasmusplus\_2020), for more than 30 years, students and staff have been moving between European universities under the Erasmus program. Since 2015, Erasmus + has allowed short-term student mobility of three to twelve months. Also, grants are allocated for employee mobility from five to sixty days.

Joint Master's programs provide EU-funded scholarships that cover tuition, travel and accommodation costs. Programs last from one to two years, during which students study in at least two different European countries and receive a joint, double degree.

Also the report indicates that for the period from 2015 – 2020, 279 projects have been implemented in Kyrgyzstan. The mobility number of students and staff during this period was: to Europe - 800 people, to Kyrgyzstan - 341 people. At the same time, the regional budget of Kyrgyzstan amounted to 15% of the total financing of mobility from Central Asian countries.

## 9. Legislation

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Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/1505>

Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Education"

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/1216?cl=ru-ru>

Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the licensing and permitting system in the Kyrgyz Republic"

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/205058>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On strategic areas for the development of the education system in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated March 23, 2012 No. 201

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/92984>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Approval of the National Qualifications Framework" dated September 18, 2020 No. 491

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98203>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Approval of the Concept of the National Qualifications System in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated September 30, 2019 No. 505

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/157130?cl=ru-ru>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the standard staffs of organizations of secondary and higher professional education of the system of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated November 20, 2015 No. 788

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98203>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the establishment of a two-tier structure of higher professional education in the Kyrgyz Republic" dated August 23, 2011 No. 496

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/92802>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On approval of the standard staffs of organizations of secondary and higher professional education of the system of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic" dated November 20, 2015 No. 788

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98203>

Resolution of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the conditions of remuneration of certain categories of workers in the education system" dated September 30, 2019 No. 511

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/157168>

Regulations on the educational organization of higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/55077?cl=ru-ru>

Regulations on the final state certification of graduates of higher educational institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/96042>

Regulations on the National Accreditation Council under the authorized state body in the field of education

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/96715>

The procedure for the recognition of accreditation agencies in the field of education

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98207?cl=ru-ru>

The procedure for the accreditation of educational organizations and programs

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98208?cl=ru-ru>

Minimum requirements for accredited educational institutions of primary, secondary and higher professional education of the Kyrgyz Republic

<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/98206>

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at Delegations in non-EU countries ([http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/index_en.htm))

by contacting EuropeDirect ([http://europa.eu/europedirect/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/europedirect/index_en.htm)) or by phone:

0080067891011 (a number for free of charge calls from any location within the EU) (\*).

(\*). Information is provided free, like most calls (however, some operators, telephone booths or hotels may charge you a fee).

### **Paid publications:**

- via EUBookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>).

### **Paid subscriptions:**

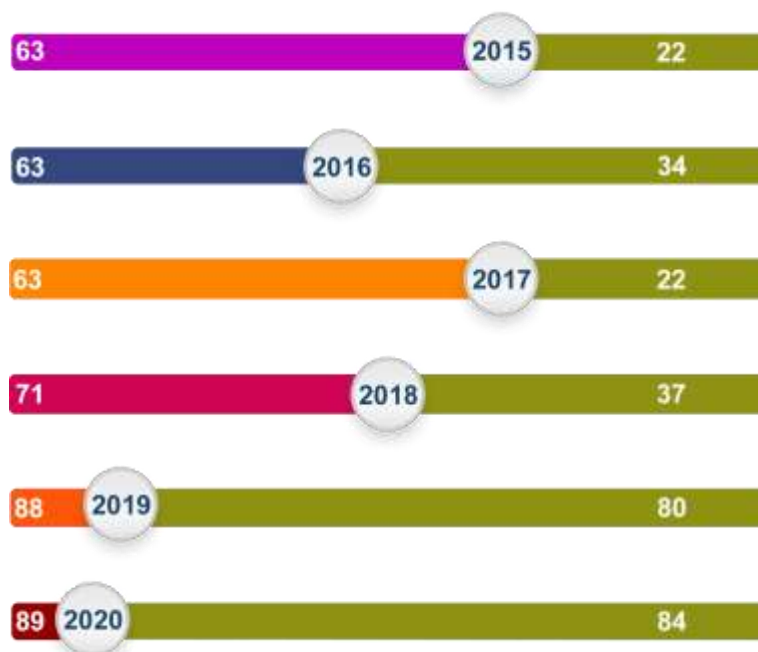
- through one of the sales agents of the European Union Publishing Office ([http://publications.europa.eu/others/agents/index\\_en.htm](http://publications.europa.eu/others/agents/index_en.htm)).

10. Statistics of participation of universities of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Erasmus + program

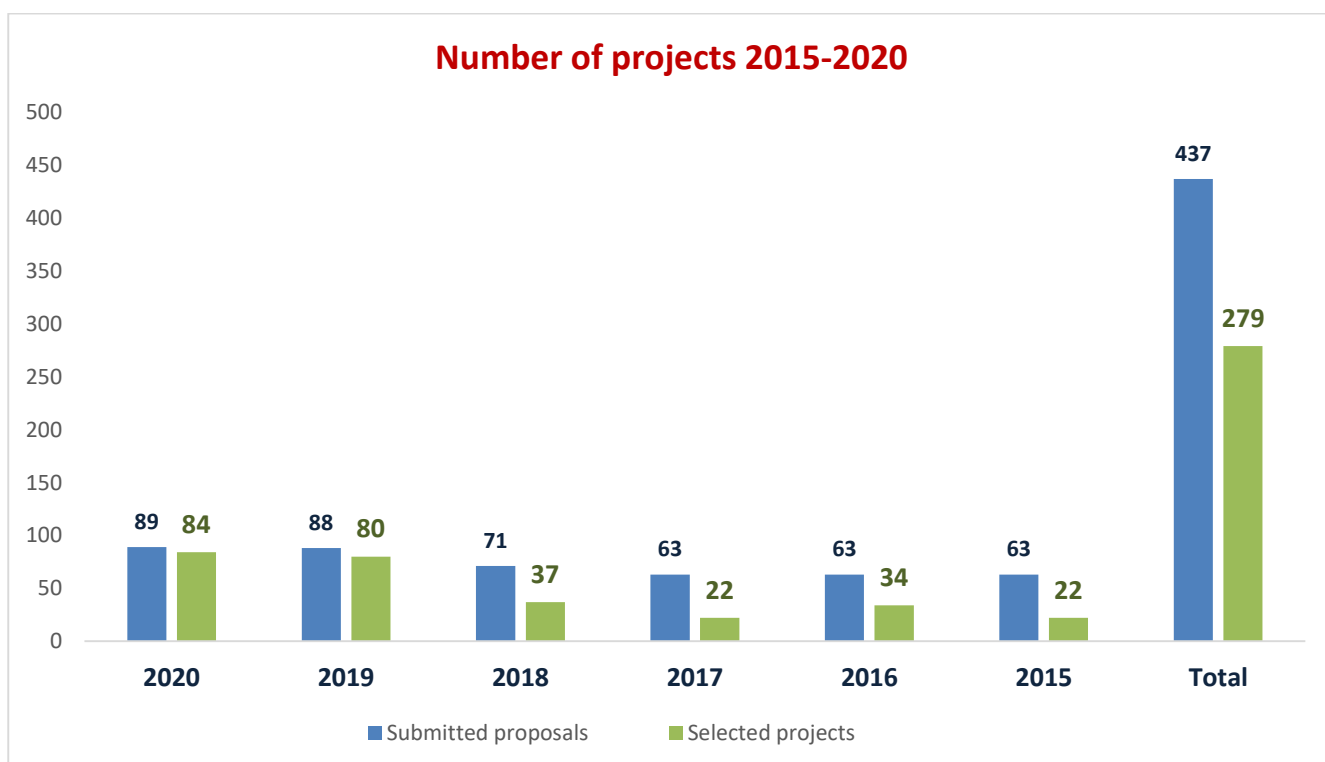
Action: International credit mobility (ICM)



Applications and selected projects

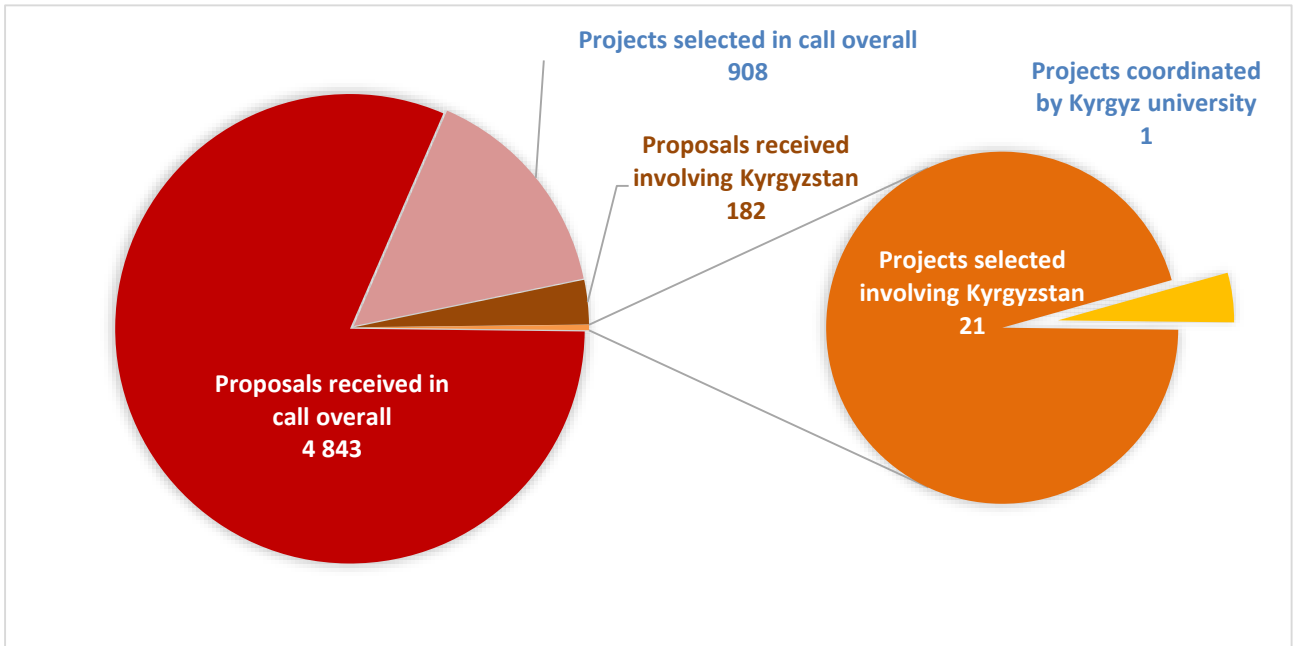


Number of projects 2015-2020

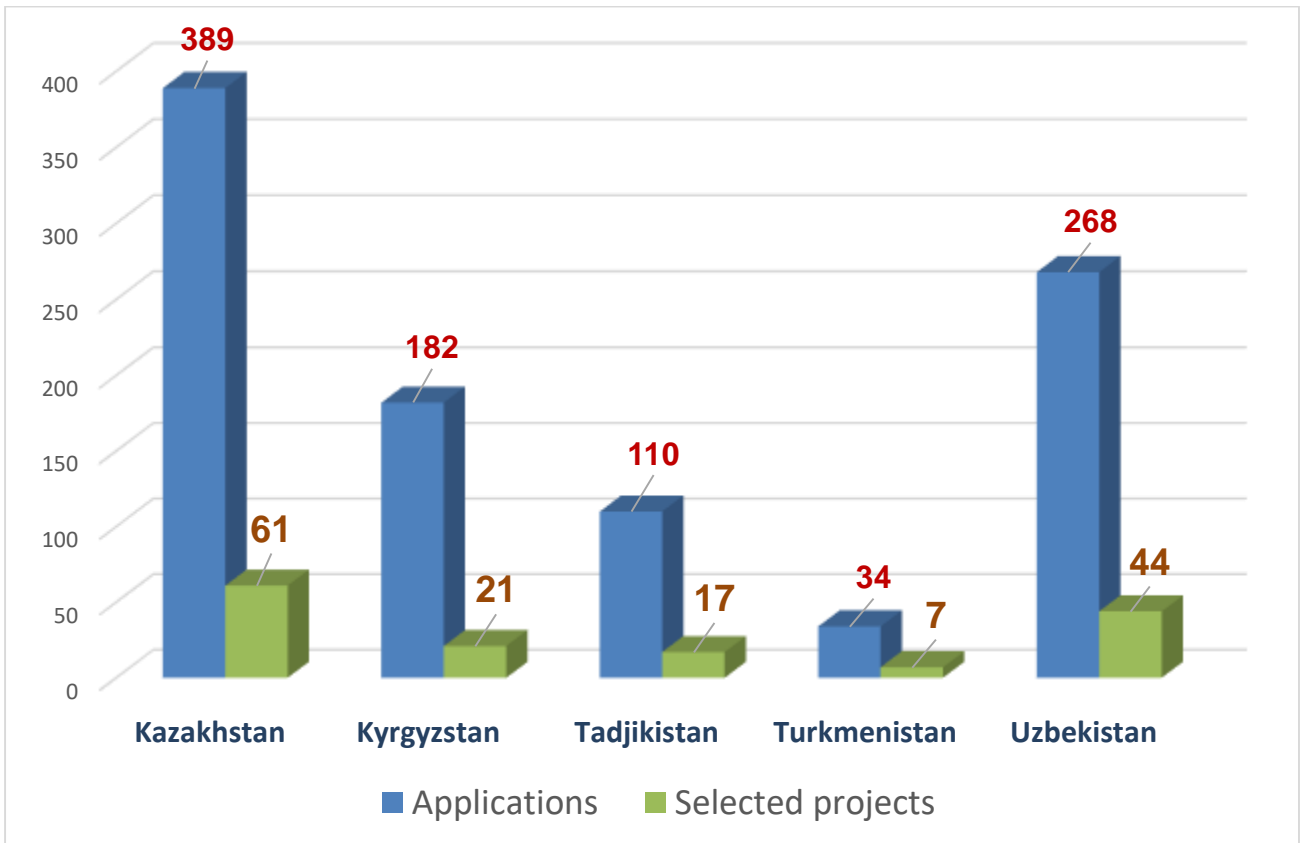


## Action: Capacity Building in Higher education (CBHE)

Participation of Kyrgyz universities in projects from 2015 to 2020.

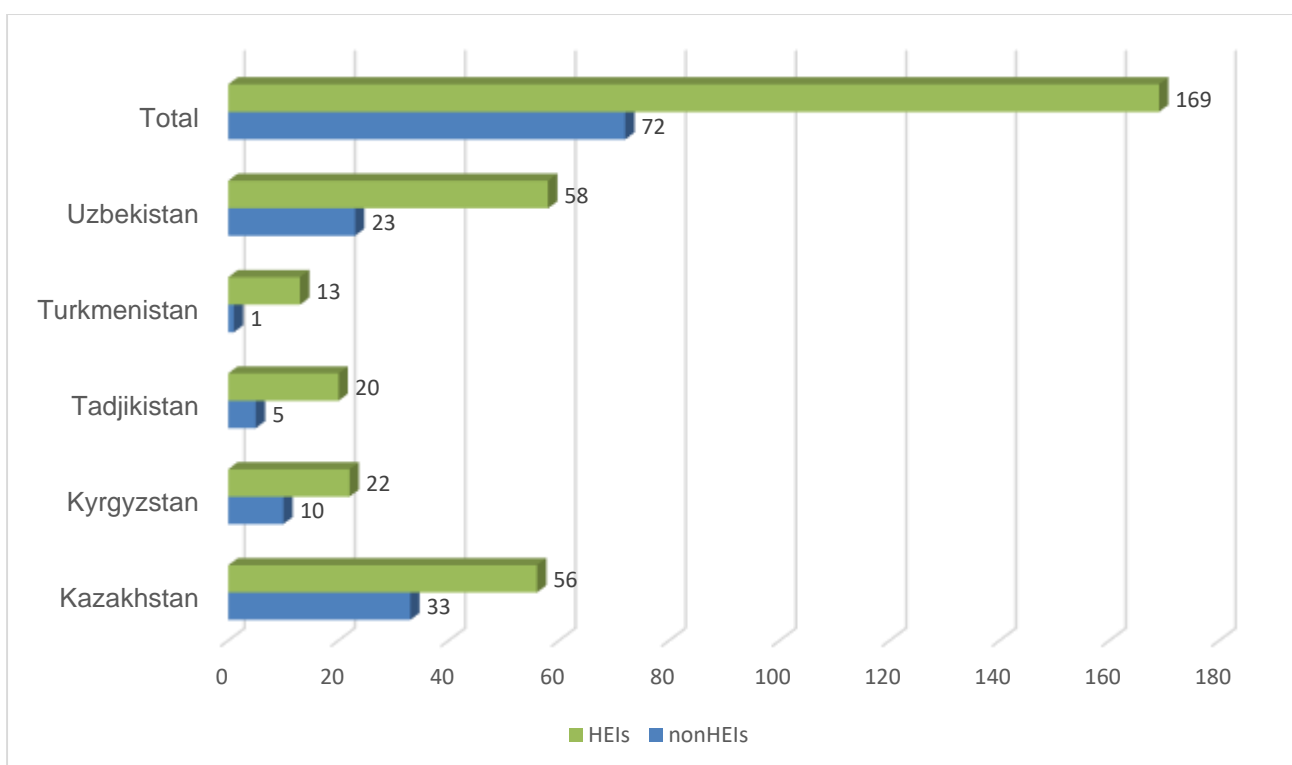


Involvement of Central Asian countries in CBHE projects.



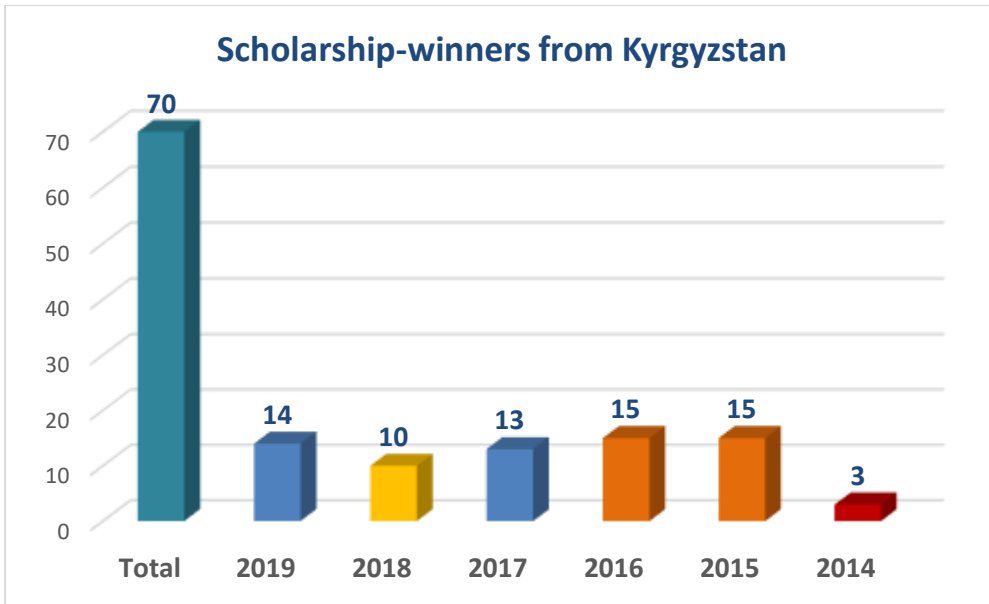
Number of HEIs and Non-HEIs involved in CBHE projects by country





### Action: Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

	Total	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Scholarship-winners from Kyrgyzstan	70	14	10	13	15	15	3
from global budget	22	6	7	3	1	2	3
From additional regional budget	48	8	3	10	14	13	0
Scholarships worldwide	9389	2130	1669	1556	1347	1308	1379
EM programmes offering scholarships		103	86	100	87	120	149



Erasmus Mundus scholarships awarded to Master students, 2014-2019, by country

