

**The Federal Law of the Russian Federation  
of December 29, 2012 No. 273  
«On Education in the Russian Federation» (extracts)**

**Chapter 12. EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT. STATE REGULATION OF EDUCATION**

**Article 89. Governance of Educational System**

1. Governance of the national education system is based on the principles of legality, democracy and autonomy of educational institutions, information openness of the education system and consideration of public opinion. Governance is of state and public character.

2. Governance of the educational system involves the following:

- 1) establishing cooperation between the federal executive authorities, executive authorities in the subjects of the Russian Federation and local self-governing authorities in the sphere of education;
- 2) exercising strategic planning of the education system development;
- 3) adoption and implementation of state programs of the Russian Federation, federal and local programs aimed at the development of education system;
- 4) carrying out monitoring actions in an education system;
- 5) information and methodical support provided to federal state authorities, executive authorities of the Russian Federation subjects carrying out state management in the education sector as well as local self-governing authorities in education;
- 6) state regulation of education;
- 7) independent quality assurance in education, public and public-professional accreditation;
- 8) providing training and professional development of specialists employed by the federal state authorities, public authorities of the Russian Federation subjects carrying out state governance in education, local authorities governing education as well as heads and educators employed by the educational institutions.

3. State governance of education is within the powers of the federal state governmental authorities and public authorities of the subjects of the Russian Federation. In municipal areas and urban districts education is governed by appropriate local self-governing authorities.

4. The federal executive authorities governing the sphere of education are represented by the federal executive authority providing state policy development and statutory regulations in education, federal executive authority monitoring and supervising education as well as federal state authority which have educational institutions within their jurisdiction.

5. Federal executive authority developing state policy and statutory regulations in education coordinates the activity of federal state authority and executive authority of the Russian Federation subjects as well as other subjects of the education system.

### **Article 90 State Regulation of Education and Training**

1. State regulation of education and training is aimed at establishing uniform requirements of its implementation and procedures used to check the adequate implementation of these requirements by these organizations.

2. State regulation of education and training includes:

- 1) licensing of education and training;
- 2) state quality assurance of education and training;
- 3) state monitoring (supervision) in education.

### **Article 92. State accreditation of education and training**

1. State accreditation of education and training is applied to major study programmes carried out in accordance with the federal state educational standards, with the exception of study programs of pre-school education, and general study programs carried out in accordance with educational standards.

2. State accreditation of education and training is aimed at confirmation that general study programmes in educational institutions and individual entrepreneurs correspond to the national educational standards of education and training except for those individual entrepreneurs carrying out education and training directly.

3. State accreditation of education and training is carried out by an accreditation body, i.e. federal executive authority monitoring and supervising education, or executive authority of the subject of the Russian Federation, implementing the powers delegated by the Russian Federation in education, in accordance with the powers stipulated in Articles 6 and 7 of the present Federal Law, in accordance with applications on behalf of institutions providing education and training services.

4. State accreditation of education and training provided by educational institutions established by religious organisations, is carried out on application of the relevant religious organizations (should these religious organisation be constituent parts of the centralized religious organisations represented by relevant centralized religious organisations). When carrying out state accreditation in education and training of religious educational institutions there should be provided additional data on educators' qualifications having theological degrees and theological titles.

5. When carrying out state accreditation of an educational institution that has branches in other subjects of the Russian Federation, the executive authority of the Russian Federation subject, implementing powers delegated by the Russian Federation in education shall organise state accreditation of education and training in these branches by cooperating with appropriate authorities of executive power of the Russian Federation subjects.

6. When carrying out state accreditation of education and training in terms of study programmes for elementary general education, basic general education and secondary general education the accreditation body shall make the decision to approve or withdraw state accreditation certificate on education and training of the specified study programs regarding each level of general education referring to general study programs accredited.

7. When carrying out state accreditation of education and training of general study programs the accreditation body shall make the decision to approve or withdraw state accreditation certificate on education and training of the specified study programmes regarding each level of general education on every extended job cluster, education and training referring to general study programmes to be quality assured.

General vocational study programmes offered in the institutions carrying out educational activities, and belonging to extended job cluster, education and training are considered to be accredited study programmes.

8. When carrying out state accreditation of the general vocational study programmes the institutions providing

educational services submit all currently functioning general vocational study programmes and referring to the same extended job cluster, education and training on condition that there are students completing education in these study programmes in the current academic year.

9. The accreditation body makes a separate decision concerning state accreditation of study programmes submitted for state accreditation and implemented by the institution that carries out educational activities including its branches.

10. Application for state accreditation and support documents are directly submitted to the accreditation body or sent as first class registered mail. The application for state accreditation and support documents enclosed can be sent via Internet signed with an electronic signature. Application forms and documents to be enclosed are supplemented with the requirements for their filling and are to be approved by the federal executive authority governing state policy and statutory regulations development in the sphere of education.

11. State accreditation of education and training is based on the results of accreditation expertise well-grounded on objectivity principles and experts' responsibility for the quality of its implementation.

12. The subject of accreditation expertise is compliance between the contents and the quality of students trained in the educational institution providing educational services of the study programmes submitted for the state accreditation and the federal state educational standards (hereinafter – of accreditation expertise). When carrying out of accreditation expertise of study programmes in terms of education and training which meet education standards there is no of accreditation expertise of the training contents.

13. Experts having necessary qualifications in the field of the general study programs submitted for the state accreditation, and (or) the expert institutions conforming to established requirements participate in carrying out accreditation expertise. Experts and expert organisations cannot be in civil relations (experts cannot be in labour relations) with the institution to be accredited, when carrying out accreditation expertise of education and training in this institution.

14. Accreditation body fulfills accreditation of experts and expert institutions and compiles and stores the register of experts and expert institutions in the e-form. The register is uploaded to the accreditation body official website available in the Internet.

15. Qualification requirements to experts, requirements to expert institutions, the procedure and criteria for selecting experts and expert institutions employed in accreditation expertise, accreditation procedure (including maintaining the register of experts and expert institutions) are stipulated by the federal executive authority involved in developing state policy and statutory regulation in education.

16. Experts and the expert organisations' remuneration as well as compensation of expenses incurred by carrying out accreditation expertise is made in the order and amount stipulated by the Government of the Russian Federation.

17. Information on carrying out accreditation expertise, together with conclusion obtained as a result of accreditation expertise, is uploaded to the official website of the accreditation body.

18. Resolution made by the accreditation body on state accreditation of education and training provided by the educational institution is issued within the period not exceeding one hundred and five days after the reception of application for carrying out state accreditation and documents enclosed to this application, should these documents comply with the requirements stipulated in Clause 29 of the present article.

19. When taking a decision of state accreditation of education and training provided by the educational institution the accreditation body issues the certificate of accreditation valid for:

- 1) six years for institutions providing training in general vocational study programmes;
- 2) twelve years for institutions providing training in general study programmes.

20. Certificate on state accreditation and its annexes as well technical specification documents are stipulated by the federal executive authority functioning as developing state policy and statutory regulation in education.

21. Should an educational institution or institution providing educational services stop its functioning or should the individual person cease acting as an sole proprietor, or should the educational institution or institution providing educational services stop its functioning as a result of reorganisation as a result of merger, division or acquisition, the validity of state accreditation certificate is annulled on the day of placing an entry on liquidation of a legal entity or a sole proprietor and termination of their activity as a result of reorganization in the register.

22. Institution originated as a result of reorganization of merger or joining another institution executing educational activities is issued an interim certificate of state accreditation of educational activities for the study programmes which

have been carried out by the reorganized institution or reorganized institutions to have had state accreditation. The validity term of interim certificate on state accreditation is one year.

23. Accreditation body shall refuse state accreditation of educational activities for the study programmes submitted belonging to the corresponding educational levels or extended groups of professions, majors and specializations if one of the following grounds exists:

- 1) revealing the fact that insufficient information in the documents on the institution executing educational activities has been submitted;
- 2) negative conclusion drawn on the accreditation expertise results.

24. Accreditation body shall deprive the educational institution of its state accreditation of the study programmes submitted for state accreditation belonging to the corresponding educational levels or extended job cluster, education and training if one of the following grounds exists:

- 1) Abrogation of the license to execute educational activities completely or regarding particular study programmes under state accreditation;
- 2) Recurring breaking the educational legislation by the institution carrying out educational activities resulting in unjust issue of documents on education and (or) qualification of the standard form;
- 3) Expiration of the abeyance state accreditation validity (when grounds for revival state accreditation validity are not existent).

25. Educational institution shall be deprived of state accreditation for educational activities for the study programmes regarding extended job clusters, education and training submitted for state accreditation when grounds for withdrawing state accreditation in one or several professional study programmes exist.

26. Educational institution has a right to apply for state accreditation not earlier than in one year after refusal of or withdrawal its state accreditation.

27. State due in the amount and order stated by the legislation of the Russian Federation on dues and taxes is to be paid for issue, reissue of certificate of state accreditation, and interim certificate of state accreditation.

28. Regulation on state accreditation of educational activities is affirmed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

29. The following procedures are set by the Regulation on State Accreditation:

- 1) Application requirement on state accreditation, the list of data to be given, documentation requirements for state accreditation attached to the application on state accreditation and list of documents;
- 2) Procedure of application and documents required for state accreditation submitting, order of their acceptance by the accreditation body;
- 3) Procedure of accreditation expertise execution including the order of inviting experts and (or) expert institutions to execute the accreditation expertise;
- 4) specificity of accreditation expertise while carrying out state accreditation of educational institutions activities, founders being religious organisations to confirm educational qualification of teachers of those organisations and also educational activities of foreign institutions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation;
- 5) order of taking decision on state accreditation or refusal of state accreditation;
- 6) order of submitting of a duplicate of state accreditation certificate by the accreditation body;
- 7) grounds and order of reissuing certificate of state accreditation;
- 8) order of abeyance, revival, cessation and deprivation of state accreditation;
- 9) specificity of accreditation expertise when executing state accreditation of:
  - a) higher educational institutions offering study programmes of higher education in accordance with independently set educational standards;
  - b) educational activities of professional study programmes containing information being state secret and information security study programmes.

## **Article 95. Independent Education Quality Evaluation**

1. Independent education quality evaluation is carried out regarding educational institutions and study programmes offered by them to assess the compliance of training with the natural person and juridical person's demands whose interests are taken into account. Independent education quality evaluation is executed to render those persons assistance in selecting the educational institution and the study programme, to enhance competitiveness of the educational institutions and their study programmes in the Russian and international markets.

2. Independent education quality evaluation is carried out by the juridical person or sole proprietor (hereinafter referred to an institution executing quality evaluation).

3. An institution carrying out quality evaluation sets types of education, groups of educational institutions and study programmes offered by them regarding which independent education quality evaluation is executed and also conditions, ways and techniques of evaluation and payment.

4. Independent education quality evaluation is carried out by the initiative of natural or juridical persons. While executing Independent education quality evaluation available to all information on educational institutions and study programmes offered by them is used.

5. Independent education quality evaluation is carried out within international comparative researches in the sphere of education.

6. The results of Independent education quality evaluation shall not cause abeyance or abrogation of the license for educational activities, abeyance of state accreditation or abrogation of state accreditation regarding an educational institution.

**Article 96. Public accreditation of educational institutions. Professional-public accreditation of study programmes.**

1. Educational institutions can acquire public accreditation in various Russian, foreign and international institutions.

2. Public accreditation is to be understood as recognition of the level of educational institution's activities conforming to the criteria and requirements of Russian, foreign and international institutions. The procedure of public accreditation, ways and techniques of evaluation and also rights given to the accredited educational institution is set by the public institution to be executing public accreditation.

3. Employers, their associations and also authorised by them institutions have a right to carry out professional-public accreditation of professional study programmes offered by the educational institution.

4. Professional-public accreditation of professional study programmes is the recognition of quality and standard of graduates training having mastered such a study programme at a particular educational institution meeting the professional standard requirements, labour market demands for workers and employees of the corresponding specialization.

5. Based on professional-public accreditation results of the study programmes rating lists of accredited professional study programmes and educational institutions can be compiled by employers or authorised by them institutions.
6. The procedure of professional-public accreditation of professional study programmes, ways and techniques of the accreditation and also rights granted to the educational institutions offering the accredited study programmes and (or) to the graduates having mastered such programmes are set by the employers, the association of employers or by the authorised by them institution executing this accreditation.
7. Institutions executing public and professional-public accreditation provide openness and availability of information on the procedure of execution of the corresponding accreditation.
8. Information on public or professional-public accreditation acquired by the educational institution is submitted into the accreditation body and taken into consideration when executing state accreditation.
9. Public and professional-public accreditation is carried out on a voluntary basis and does not result in additional financial obligations of the state.