

L A W
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Adopted by the National Assembly on 14 April 1999

ON EDUCATION

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. **Legislation of the Republic of Armenia on education**

This Law defines the principles of state policy in the field of education and the legal organisational and financial and economic grounds of the education system.

The field of education shall be regulated by the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia, this Law and other legal acts.

Article 2. **Purposes of the legislation in the field of education**

Purposes of the legislation in the field of education shall be the following:

- (1) ensuring and protecting the right of citizens of the Republic of Armenia to education as enshrined in the Constitution;
- (2) distributing and separating competences among public administration and local self-government bodies;
- (3) creating legal guarantees and mechanisms for the functioning and development of the education system;
- (4) determining the rights, obligations and liabilities of legal and natural persons, and legal regulation of interrelations.

Article 3. Main concepts used in this Law

The following concepts shall be used in this Law:

- (1) “education” – an instruction and upbringing process in the interests of a person, society and the State, aimed at preserving the knowledge and transferring it to generations;
- (2) “state educational criterion” – a regulatory norm that establishes the mandatory minimum for the contents of educational programmes, maximum academic workload of learners and quality requirements for graduates;
- (3) “educational programme” – the content of relevant level of education and the specialisation;
- (3¹) “special education” – a system of instruction and education of persons with special educational needs, as well as of children having demonstrated anti-social conduct, which, on the basis of one or several educational programmes, may be implemented in special or common general education institutions, professional (vocational) education institutions;
- (4) “educational institution” – an organisation or a subdivision thereof with a status of a legal person that implements one or more educational programmes and ensures the instruction and upbringing of learners in accordance with the requirements of those programmes;
- (5) “kindergarten” – instructive-upbringing institution implementing a pre-school education programme;
- (6) “general education institution” – an educational institution implementing one or more basic programmes of general education;
- (7) ***(Point 7 repealed by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009);***
- (8) “educational complex” – an association of educational institutions implementing different educational programmes;
- (8¹) “vocational school” – an educational institution providing primary vocational (handicraft) education and instruction;
- (9) “college” – an educational institution providing secondary vocational education and instruction;

- (10) “university” – a higher education institution, the activities of which are aimed at organising higher, post-graduate and supplementary education, fundamental scientific research and studies in different directions of natural science, sociology, science and technology, and culture;
- (11) “institute” – a higher education institution implementing professional and post-graduate education programmes and scientific studies in a number of directions of science, economy and culture;
- (12) “academy (educational)” – a higher education institution the activities of which are aimed at developing education, science, technology and culture in a particular field; which carries out the preparation and re-qualification of highly qualified specialists in a certain branch (sector) and implementation of postgraduate education programmes;
- (13) “conservatory” – a higher education institution, the activities of which are aimed at preparation, upgrading of specialists and implementation of post-graduate education programmes in the field of music;
- (14) “branch” – a territorial separated subdivision of an educational institution, which implements one or various educational programmes;
- (15) “training centre” – an educational institution implementing primary and supplementary vocational education programmes;
- (16) “licensing” – the process of authorisation of activities of an educational institution;
- (17) “attestation” – evaluation of activities of an educational institution and quality, content and level of preparation of the graduates thereof, in accordance with the requirements of state educational criteria;
- (17¹) “qualification” – a status certifying the compliance of a person with the professional (vocational) qualification description in the result of final attestation, which is granted upon an appropriate document;
- (17²) “national framework of qualifications ” – the integrity of descriptions of qualification degrees of professional (vocational) education, which includes general descriptions of outcomes of instruction in each level of studies, and of knowledge, skills and abilities required for professional (vocational) activities;

- (18) “state accreditation” – recognition by the State of compliance of the quality of preparation of specialists with state educational criteria;
- (18¹) “craftsman” – a qualification degree of primary vocational (handicraft) education, which is granted to persons who have passed state final attestation in accordance with primary vocational (handicraft) education programme and/or qualification procedure;
- (19) “specialist” – a qualification degree of secondary vocational education, which is granted to persons who have passed final attestation in accordance with secondary vocational education programme;
- (20) “bachelor” – a qualification degree of higher professional education, which is granted to persons with secondary (full) general education and who have passed attestation in accordance with at least four-year higher professional education programmes (in case of police professions — in accordance with at least three-year programmes on the basis of secondary vocational police education);
- (21) “degreed specialist” – qualification degree of higher professional education, which is granted to persons with secondary (full) general education or professional education upon attestation result of at least five-year higher professional education programme;
- (22) “Master” – a qualification degree of higher professional education, which is granted to persons with a bachelor’s or degreed specialist’s degree, upon attestation result of at least one-year higher professional education programme;
- (23) “researcher” – a qualification degree of post-graduate professional education, which is granted to persons with Master’s or degreed specialist’s degree, upon attestation result of at least three-year post-graduate professional education programme of post-graduate studies (aspirantura);
- (24) “intern” – a qualification degree of higher medical education, which is granted to persons having completed higher medical education programmes and at least one-year post graduate studies;

(25) “resident medical practitioner” – a higher professional qualification degree which is granted to persons with higher medical education upon attestation result of two to five-year post-graduate professional education programme;

(26) “external studies” – a form of education provided in the form of self-education and final attestation of knowledge and abilities at an educational institution.

(Article 3 amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, HO-237 of 9 October 2001, supplemented, amended, edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003, amended by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004, supplemented by HO-137-N of 25 May 2005, edited, amended by HO-165-N of 8 July 2005, HO-161-N of 10 July 2009, supplemented by HO-20-N of 4 February 2010, edited by HO-153-N of 28 October 2010)

Article 4. State policy in the field of education

1. The Republic of Armenia shall proclaim and guarantee the progressive development of the field of education as a key factor of strengthening the statehood.
2. The national school shall be considered as the base for state policy in the field of education, the main purpose of which is the formation of a person with appropriate professional (vocational) preparedness, comprehensively developed and upbringing in the spirit of patriotism, statehood, and humanism.
3. The education system of the Republic of Armenia is aimed at reinforcing the spiritual and intellectual potential of the Armenian people, preserving and developing national and universal values. The Armenian Church shall contribute thereto as well.
4. The State Programme for Educational Development shall be the organisational base for state policy in the field of education, which shall be approved by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia upon submission of the Government of the Republic of Armenia.
5. The State shall ensure the maintenance and development of the field of education through targeted budgetary financing, the extent of which shall be determined in accordance with the State Programme for Educational Development.

Article 5. Principles of state policy in the field of education

Principles of state policy in the field of education shall be:

- (1) the humanitarian nature of education, priority of universal values, human life and health, free and comprehensive development of an individual, fostering of civil consciousness, national dignity, patriotism, legality and environmental world outlook;
- (2) accessibility, continuity, consequentiality of education and its compliance with the level of development, peculiarities and level of preparedness of learners by ensuring the state mandatory minimum;
- (3) ensuring the principles of democracy in the field of education;
- (4) integration to international education system;
- (5) supporting the educational activities aimed at preserving the Armenian identity in the Diaspora;
- (6) secular nature of education in educational institutions;
- (7) reasonable autonomy of educational institutions;
- (8) guaranteeing opportunities for citizens to receive education in state and non-state education institutions;
- (9) ensuring equal status of educational institutions and the graduation documents issued thereby.

(Article 5 edited by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

Article 6. State guarantees for the right to education

1. The Republic of Armenia shall ensure the right to education, irrespective of national origin, race, gender, language, religion, political or other views, social origin, property status or other circumstances. Restrictions of the right to professional (vocational) education shall be provided for by law.

2. The State shall ensure the right to education through normal functioning of education system and creation of social and economic conditions for receiving education.

3. The State shall ensure for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia free general secondary education, as well as competition based free primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational, higher and post-graduate professional education in state education institutions. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia holding dual citizenship shall, upon their choice, be admitted to primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher education institutions as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia or foreigners.

Application of an amount of tuition fee with respect to citizens of Armenian origin learning, studying under fee-paid system of educational institutions, registered and residing in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic and Samtskhe-Javakheti and Qvemo Qartli regions of Georgia, which is higher than that prescribed for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia learning under similar conditions of the educational institution concerned, shall be prohibited. Free higher and post-graduate professional education may, on a competitive basis, be provided in non-state higher education institutions with educational programmes accredited according to professions, with full refund of tuition fee by the State in the form of student benefits.

The State shall, for the citizens of the Republic of Armenia registered and permanently residing for the last eight years in borderline and highland settlements, guarantee free primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional education, on a competitive basis, in state education institutions. In this case, the competition based admission shall be carried out upon a procedure separated from general competition, which shall be established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia only for citizens of borderline and highland settlements.

4. The State shall, at the expense of the State Budget, provide pupils of the first to third years of state general education schools with free textbooks, except for textbooks of foreign languages and music, and shall provide children from socially insecure families with textbooks provided for by elementary general education programmes.

5. The State shall support learners — having demonstrated exceptional abilities — in receiving education of respective level, as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

6. The State shall create necessary conditions for the purpose of receiving education in line with the peculiarities of development of citizens with special educational needs and for ensuring social adaptation.

7. The State shall promote the participation of the Armenian Diaspora in education activities.

(Article 6 amended by HO-107 of 20 November 2000, supplemented by HO-471-N of 11 December 2002, edited by HO-137-N of 25 May 2005, amended by HO-165-N of 8 July 2005, supplemented by HO-111-N of 23 June 2010, HO-188-N of 7 October 2009, HO-153-N of 28 October 2010, HO-50-N of 8 February 2011)

Article 7. Language of instruction

Education in the Republic of Armenia shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On language”.

CHAPTER 2

EDUCATION SYSTEM

Article 8. Education system

The education system of the Republic of Armenia shall constitute an interrelated integrity of state educational criteria, state accreditation standards, educational programmes of different levels and focuses ensuring the consequentiality of education, educational institutions and management bodies of education.

(Article 8 supplemented by HO-165-N of 8 July 2005)

Article 9. State educational criteria

State educational criteria shall be established and promulgated in the Republic of Armenia, which shall be the basis for assessment of education level and qualification of graduates, irrespective of the form of education they have received and legal organisational form of educational institutions.

Article 10. Educational programmes

1. The educational programme shall define the content of education of certain level and focus, the volume of required knowledge and skills.

Educational programmes implemented in the Republic of Armenia shall be the following:

- (1) general education programmes (basic and supplementary);
- (2) professional (vocational) education programmes (basic and supplementary).

2. General education programmes shall be aimed at comprehensive development of an individual, formation of his or her world outlook, creation of bases for the selection and mastering of appropriate vocational education programmes adequate to the preferences, inclinations and abilities thereof.

Basic general education programmes shall be the following:

- (1) pre-school;
- (2) elementary (general, specialised, special);
- (3) basic (general, specialised, special);
- (4) secondary (general, specialised, special).

3. Professional (vocational) education programmes shall be aimed at preparation of relevant qualified specialists, formation of abilities and skills, increase of knowledge and upgrading through consequentiality of general education and professional (vocational) levels of education.

Basic professional (vocational) education programmes shall be the following:

- (1) primary vocational (handicraft),

(2) secondary vocational,

(3) higher professional,

(4) post-graduate professional.

4. Time periods for the mastering of basic general education and basic professional (vocational) education programmes in educational institutions shall be determined by this Law and relevant state educational criteria.

5. Supplementary education programmes (general education and professional (vocational)) shall be aimed at — beyond basic programmes — meeting educational needs of learners and specialists and upgrading them.

(Article 10 edited by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

Article 11. General requirements for the content of education

1. The content of education shall be considered as one of the main factors of spiritual, economic and social advancement of the society and shall be aimed at upbringing young generation, formation of proper conduct and manners, creation of necessary conditions for comprehensive and harmonised development of a person, for their self-determination and self-expression aimed at establishment and development of a civil society, creation and improvement of the State governed by the rule of law.

2. The content of education shall ensure:

(1) formation of world outlook of learners in line with the contemporary level (degree) of knowledge and educational programmes;

(2) mastering by learners of national and universal cultural values;

(3) improvement of society and formation of a modern individual and citizen that ensures new level of development of the nation;

(4) reproduction and enhancement of the intellectual potential and labour force of the society.

Article 12. Forms of education

1. Educational programmes shall, in accordance with abilities and needs of learners, be implemented through the forms of on-site education, off-site education, distance learning, and external studies (family and self-education).

2. A uniform state educational criterion shall be applicable for all forms of education within the framework of the same educational programmes.

(Article 12 supplemented by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

Article 13. Types of educational institutions

1. Types of educational institutions shall be the following:

(1) preschool,

(2) general education,

(2¹) primary vocational (handicraft),

(3) secondary vocational,

(4) higher professional,

(5) supplementary education, including extracurricular upbringing,

(6) post-graduate professional education.

2. Educational programmes may also be implemented in non-educational institutions in accordance with this Law, upon the permission of the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 13 supplemented by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, HO-58-N of 1 December 2003, amended by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

Article 14. Organising the process of education

1. The process of education shall be organised in accordance with this Law and shall be regulated by curricula, syllabuses, academic timetables and class times.
2. In general education institutions the process of education shall be regulated by model curricula and syllabuses. They shall be developed and approved by the authorised public administration body for education.
3. The curricula and syllabuses for primary vocational (handicraft) and secondary vocational education, as agreed by the authorised public administration body of the relevant field (fields) and adapted to the criteria approved by the authorised public administration body for education, shall be approved by the educational institutions implementing primary vocational (handicraft) and secondary vocational education programmes.
4. The curricula and syllabuses for higher education shall be developed and approved by the higher education institution. They shall be submitted to the authorised public administration body for education.
- 4¹. The authorised public administration body for education shall supervise the compliance of curricula and syllabuses with state educational criteria.
5. The beginning and duration of academic year at educational institutions shall be defined by the state educational criterion.
6. Mastering of basic, secondary and professional (vocational) education programmes shall be completed with a mandatory final attestation of knowledge, abilities and skills of graduates, the procedure for holding whereof shall be established by the authorised public administration body for education.
7. Organisation of general education, primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional education in the form of external studies shall be carried out as prescribed by the authorised public administration body for education, whereas the list of professions shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.
8. Organisation of secondary vocational and higher professional education in the form of off-site education, distance learning shall be carried out as prescribed by the authorised public

administration body for education, whereas the list of professions shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 14 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, edited, amended, supplemented by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003, amended by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004, HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

Article 15. General requirements for admission to an educational institution

1. In accordance with this Law, the requirements for admission to pre-school, general education, primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational education institutions shall be established by the founder, taking into account the peculiarities of the educational institution, whereas the requirements for admission to state and non-state higher education institutions — by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

2. An educational institution shall be obliged to introduce the Statute of the educational institution and other documents regulating the process of education to the applicants and their parents (or legal representatives thereof).

3. General education shall commence for the children from the age of six (which is attained by the end of December of the academic year concerned).

4. Admission to state secondary vocational education institutions and to state and non-state higher professional education institutions shall be carried out on a competitive basis.

The matriculation of students in higher professional education institutions shall be completed within a period of 20 days after the end of admission examinations.

(Paragraph repealed by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

The privileges on admission for applicants to state secondary vocational education institutions shall be established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

5. The list of professions and admission examinations of higher education institutions for the year concerned shall, upon the submission of the authorised public administration body for education, be approved and published by 1 December of the year concerned by the Government of the

Republic of Armenia. Making amendments and supplements to the approved list shall be prohibited.

The list of professions and admission examinations of the year concerned of higher education institutions shall include:

- (1) the form of education (on-site, off-site, distance learning, external studies);
- (2) professions, according to higher education institutions;
- (3) the names of subjects of admission examinations provided for each profession;
- (4) the form of the examination (competitive, non-competitive);
- (5) the type of the examination: written (dictation, essay, test), oral, interview, etc.

The examination papers (questionnaires, exam questions, tasks and other assignments) prepared for the conduct of final examinations to state general education schools, as well as of admission examinations to state or accredited non-state higher education institutions, shall be drawn up exclusively according to textbooks, manuals, problem books and collections provided for by the educational programmes of state general education schools (of 1-12th years), guaranteed for the use at state general education schools by the authorised public administration body for education and used (taught) at state general education schools during at least one academic year.

(Article 15 edited by HO-36 of 21 February 2000, supplemented by HO-114 Of 4 December 2000, amended, supplemented, edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-237 of 9 October 2001, edited, supplemented by HO-338 of 7 May 2002, amended, supplemented HO-63-N of 14 December 2004, edited, amended by HO-139-N of 13 June 2006, supplemented, amended by HO-153-N of 28 October 2010)

Article 16. Implementation of basic general education programmes

(Heading edited by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

1. Basic general education programmes shall be implemented in general education institutions, and as prescribed by law — in vocational education institutions and organisations implementing general education programmes.

2. Special programmes of general education shall be developed on the basis of common programmes of general education taking into account the age, psychological, physical development peculiarities and abilities of children with special educational needs.

3. Specialised general education programmes shall be developed on the basis of general education programmes aimed at ensuring extended general education of learners in the military field, fields of sport, science and crafts or in any field of art.

4. Primary, basic and secondary general education programmes shall be built upon the principle of consequentiality.

In case of failing to master the basic general education programme (except for pre-school programme), the learner shall not be allowed to pass to the next level of general education instruction.

5. In the framework of basic general education programmes the further study of the learner who has not mastered the programme of the academic year concerned, shall be regulated as prescribed by the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 16 edited by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

Article 17. Pre-school education

1. The purposes of pre-school education shall be as follows:

(1) creating basis for physical, moral and mental development of the child;

(2) ensuring preconditions for communicating in the native language and studying foreign languages on that basis;

(3) developing accountable elementary abilities;

(4) familiarising with elementary rules of conduct, features of mother nature and environmental protection, history and national culture;

(5) developing sense of love and devotion towards homeland;

(6) obtaining elementary abilities and skills;

(7) preparing for school instruction.

2. The key role shall belong to the family in implementing educational programmes. The State shall create conditions for organising children's upbringing in the family.

3. For the purpose of assisting families, the State shall establish pre-school institutions: day nurseries and kindergartens with diversified programmes.

Article 18. General education

(Heading amended by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

1. The general education is aimed at comprehensive and harmonious development of mental, spiritual, physical and social qualities of learners, formation of a person as a future citizen, professional orientation, preparing him or her for independent life and professional (vocational) education.

2. Main purposes of general education shall be as follows:

(1) mastering of basic knowledge by learners on nature, society, technique, production and environmental protection, creation of conditions necessary for their self-education and self-development in the continuous education system;

(2) formation of an individual and a citizen who communicates to universal and national values, bears national cultural and moral and psychological heritage and has active civil position;

(3) implementation of complex programmes on military and patriotic upbringing and preliminary military training of learners.

3. Secondary education shall be provided in three-level secondary general education schools for twelve years of total duration, with the following successive levels:

(1) elementary school (1-4th years),

(2) middle school (5-9th years),

(3) high school (10-12th years).

4. The instruction in an elementary school shall be aimed at formation of linguistic thinking and bases of logic, instruction skills and preliminary work skills, preliminary communication to national and universal values.

5. The instruction in a middle school shall be aimed at formation of scientific understanding of learners about healthy life style, world and nature, ensuring the minimum volume of knowledge required for independent work, education and independent social activities.

The first two levels of secondary general education school shall constitute the basic school.

6. The instruction in a high school shall be aimed at mastering of knowledge of basic general education background. Differentiated (stream) instruction may be provided through supplementary education programmes in accordance with inclinations, abilities and capacities of learners in a high school.

The instruction of the Armenian language and Armenian literature, Armenian history in middle and high schools shall be considered completed upon mandatory final attestation of knowledge.

7. The basic general education shall be mandatory. The requirement of being compulsory for basic general education shall be retained until the learner attains the age of sixteen, if it has not been met at an earlier age. A learner may, after attaining the age of sixteen, leave the school upon consent of the parents (adopters or curator).

The requirement of compulsory basic general education shall not extend to certain categories of children with special educational needs, which are defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 18 amended, edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-48-N of 13 April 2006, edited by HO-139-N of 13 June 2006, amended, edited by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

Article 19. Special education

(Heading amended by HO-161-N of 10 July 2009)

1. *(Part 1 repealed by HO-57-N of 16 March 2004)*

2. The State shall establish special institutions (including after-school clubs and boarding schools) in order to organise the education of children with special educational needs. The types of special institutions shall be determined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

3. The education of children with special educational needs may be provided by the choice of parents both at general education institutions and special institutions through special programmes.

4. *(Part 4 deleted by HO-137-N of 25 May 2005)*

5. The instruction and re-upbringing of minors with deviation of behaviour shall be carried out by general education schools, taking into account psychological peculiarities of learners.

(Article 19 amended by HO-57-N of 16 March 2004, HO-137-N of 25 May 2005, HO-161-N of 10 July 2009).

Article 20. Extracurricular upbringing

1. Extracurricular upbringing shall be aimed at creating conditions for development of interests of learners through organisation of leisure thereof, and shall be aimed at their spiritual, artistic, physical development, military and patriotic upbringing, acquisition of environmental and applied knowledge.

2. Extracurricular upbringing shall be carried out through child and youth creative and artistic centres, musical, drawing and art schools, clubs, centres of young patriots, technicians, philologists and tourists, sports schools, recreation camps and other organisations carrying out extracurricular upbringing.

Article 21. Implementation of professional (vocational) education programmes

(Heading edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

1. Professional (vocational) education institutions shall implement educational programmes referred to in this Law, which meet the requirements of different educational levels, aimed at

preparing specialists with primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional qualification.

2. The list of educational professions of state and accredited non-state education institutions implementing professional (vocational) education programmes, as well as the duration of instruction for relevant professional (vocational) qualifications according to professions, the ground for education shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia upon the proposal of the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 21 edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

Article 22. Primary vocational (handicraft) education

(Heading edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

1. The primary vocational (handicraft) education is aimed at preparing specialists with primary vocational (handicraft) qualification.

2. The primary vocational (handicraft) education shall be provided in vocational schools, other vocational education institutions, training centres and penitentiary institutions.

3. In case of existence of a corresponding licence, primary vocational (handicraft) education may be provided also in the form of individual vocational instruction (apprenticeship), the procedure for the provision whereof shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

4. The ground for primary vocational (handicraft) education, according to professions, shall be defined by the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 22 amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

Article 23. Secondary vocational education

1. The secondary vocational education is aimed at preparing specialists with secondary vocational qualification at least on the basis of basic general education.

2. The list of professions in respect of which the organisation of secondary vocational education shall be allowed on the basis of basic general education, shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

3. Secondary vocational education shall be provided in secondary vocational education institutions: colleges and training schools which may also implement general education programmes and handicraft education programmes.

4. Graduates of secondary vocational education institutions, who have passed the graduation attestation, shall be granted with secondary vocational qualification. The procedure for continuing instruction — by graduates showing high performance — in higher education institutions, shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, upon proposal of the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 23 amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, edited by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

Article 24. Higher professional education

1. The higher professional education is aimed at preparing and re-qualifying specialists of high qualification, satisfying education development needs of a person on the basis of secondary general and secondary vocational education.

2. The following types of higher education institutions shall operate in the Republic of Armenia: university, institute, academy, and conservatory.

3. The status of a higher education institution shall be determined on the basis of its educational programmes, legal organisational form, and existence of state accreditation.

4. The following degrees of higher professional education qualification shall be established in the Republic of Armenia:

(1) Bachelor,

(2) degreed specialist,

(3) Master.

5. The list of professions of higher education institutions preparing degreed specialists shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, upon proposal of the authorised public administration body for education.

6. A higher education institution may, according to its nature and as prescribed by law, also implement general education programmes and secondary vocational education programmes in respect of the professions agreed with the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 24 edited by HO-153-N of 28 October 2010)

Article 25. Post-graduate professional education

1. The post-graduate professional education is aimed at increasing the education level and upgrading the scientific and pedagogical qualification of persons with higher professional education.

2. Post-graduate professional education shall be provided in post-doctoral studies (aspirantura), medical internship (internatura) and residency medical training (ordinatura) of higher education institutions and scientific organisations by educational programmes of a researcher and resident medical practitioner.

(Article 25 amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

Article 26. Supplementary education

1. Supplementary education programmes shall be implemented in order to meet educational needs of citizens and the society. The main purpose of supplementary education in the framework of each level of professional (vocational) education shall be the continuous professional (vocational) upgrading of a person.

2. Supplementary education shall be implemented in general education institutions, professional (vocational) education institutions and supplementary education institutions, as well as by means of individual pedagogical activities, the procedure for which shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 3

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Article 27. Status of educational institutions

1. A state education institution shall be an organisation with a status of a legal person, which shall, in compliance with this Law, laws and other legal acts, acquire rights and obligations required for implementation of the tasks thereof.

2. A state education institution may, in compliance with the aim of its activities, provide fee-paid educational, research and scientific production services and fee-paid instruction, in accordance with the procedure defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

3. A state education institution shall have a balance-sheet, estimate and a bank account.

4. *(Point 4 repealed by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)*

5. Non-state education institutions may have any legal organisational form provided for by law.

(Article 27 edited, amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, amended by HO-165-N of 8 July 2005)

Article 28. Autonomy and academic freedoms of higher education institutions

(Heading edited by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

1. The academic and teaching staff, research workers and students of higher education institutions shall enjoy academic freedoms. They shall have the right to participate in the discussion of all issues related to the activities of the university and in the works of elective bodies.

2. The academic and teaching staff shall, in accordance with state educational criteria, be free in choosing the presentation and teaching methods in delivering the study material.

3. Research workers of a higher education institution shall be free in selecting or developing research topics on their own initiative.

4. Students shall be free in receiving knowledge and engaging in research works according to their preferences. They may participate in carrying out of functions ensuring the quality of instruction and evaluate the performance efficiency of academic and teaching staff.

5. The elective positions of a higher education institution shall be as follows: the rector, the branch (educational complex) director, the dean of a faculty (head of an educational subdivision), the head of a Chair, the professor, the associate professor, the assistant and the lecturer. These positions shall be held after the discussion of candidacies and election thereof — by secret ballot — in the management bodies of higher education institution, *i.e.* the council, academic council, the faculty (educational subdivision) council of higher education institution (branch).

6. The Government of the Republic of Armenia shall establish a state-funded scholarship programme for each year according to professions, educational institutions and borderline and highland settlements. A higher education institution may, within the framework of total number of admission places allocated to it by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, specify amounts of free and fee-paid places for total composition of students, by providing — to the extent of at least ten per cent — free places for instruction for each profession.

Higher education institutions shall, on the basis of performance of students, refund annual tuition fees for at least ten per cent of total composition of students studying within the framework of amounts of fee-paid places.

Learners studying on a fee-paid basis may pay their tuition fees per semesters.

7. A higher education institution shall be entitled to dispose its own financial means, ensuring independence of financial activities of the branch, faculty (educational subdivision), in accordance with the Statute of the higher education institution.

The draft of the expenditures estimate of a higher education institution, after being drawn up, shall be approved by the council of higher education institution at the end of each calendar year and submitted to the authorised public administration body for education.

8. Yerevan State University is an autonomous educational and scientific and cultural establishment, the peculiarities of the status whereof shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

9. The applicants having failed in the competition for places in respect of which tuition fees are fully refunded (free) by the State in the form of student benefit, may, as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, participate in competitions for fee-paid places allocated by the authorised public administration body for education, on the basis of applications submitted by state and non-state higher education institutions. Students matriculated under this procedure may not avail of privileges specified in subpoint (a) of point 1 of Article 14 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On conscription”.

10. At least 25% of the total number of members in the management bodies of higher education institutions shall comprise students who shall be nominated and elected by the elective self-management student representative body of the relevant level, *i.e.* by the Student council.

The Statute of the Student council of a higher education institution shall be approved by the authorised public administration body for education.

(Article 28 supplemented by HO-114 of 4 December 2000, amended, supplemented by HO-174 of 18 April 2001, amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, edited, amended by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004, amended by HO-210-N of 2 October 2007, edited by HO-162-N of 10 September 2008, edited, amended by HO-153-N of 28 October 2010, edited by HO-50-N of 8 February 2011)

Article 29. Founder(s) of an educational institution

1. The founder of a state education institution shall be the Republic of Armenia represented by the Government of the Republic of Armenia or the respective public authorised body.

2. The founder of a community (district) education institution shall be the community (district) represented by the self-government bodies of the community.

3. The founder of a non-state education institution may be any natural and/or legal person.

4. Educational institutions implementing military professional education programmes may be founded only by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 30. Establishment of an educational institution

(Heading edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

1. An educational institution shall be established upon decision of the founder(s).
2. An educational institution shall be considered as established from the moment of approval of its Statute by the founder(s) and acquisition of state registration, as prescribed by law.

(Article 30 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

Article 31. Name and location of an educational institution

1. An educational institution shall have a name indicating the legal organisational form, nature of the activities and the location thereof.
2. The location of an educational institution shall be the location of permanently functioning body thereof.
3. Names and locations of an educational institution and branches thereof shall be indicated in the Statute of the institution.

Article 32. Founding document of an educational institution

1. The founding document of an educational institution shall be the Statute approved by the founder(s) thereof.
2. The requirements of the Statute shall be binding for the educational institution and the founders thereof.
3. The Statute of an educational institution shall include the name of the institution, the legal organisational form, location, scope and purpose of the activities, rules of management of the institution, information on branches, the sources of formation of the property of educational institution, the procedure for making amendments and supplements to the Statute, the procedure for disposing the property of the educational institution in case of liquidation thereof.

The Statute of an educational institution may contain other provisions not conflicting with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 33. Reorganisation of an educational institution

(Heading amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

1. An educational institution may be reorganised in accordance with the Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia and other laws.
2. An educational institution may be reorganised by merger, accession, division, spin-off and transformation.

Article 34. Branches of an educational institution

1. An educational institution may establish branches.
2. A branch shall not be a legal person and shall operate in accordance with the Statute approved by the educational institution.

Establishment of branches of foreign education institutions and the activities thereof shall be regulated by this Law or interstate agreements.

Heads of the branch shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure defined by the Statute of the educational institution.

3. Branches shall act on behalf of the educational institutions having established them. Educational institutions shall be responsible for the activities of their branches.

Article 35. Liquidation of an educational institution

1. An educational institution shall be liquidated:
 - (1) upon the decision of founders or the body of a legal person authorised by the Statute for that purpose;

- (2) upon declaring the registration of the legal person as invalid by the court, in respect of violations of law or legal acts having taken place at the time of establishment thereof;
 - (3) upon a court judgment, in case of engagement in the activities without authorisation (licence) or in the activities prohibited by law;
 - (4) as a result of bankruptcy of the educational institution;
 - (5) in other cases provided for by the law.
2. In case of liquidation of an educational institution, the claims of creditors thereof shall be satisfied as prescribed by the Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia.
 3. After satisfying the claims of creditors, the rest of property of the educational institution shall be delivered to its founders, unless otherwise provided for by the law, other legal acts or the Statute of the educational institution.
 4. Liquidation of an educational institution shall be considered as completed, and the existence thereof shall be considered as terminated from the moment of making a respective entry thereon in the State Register of Legal Entities.
 5. The procedure for further instruction of learners of liquidated educational institution shall be established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 35 amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

CHAPTER 4

MANAGEMENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Article 36. Competence of the Government of the Republic of Armenia in the field of education

The Government of the Republic of Armenia shall:

- (1) ensure the implementation of state policy on education;
- (2) approve the procedure for developing and approving state educational criteria;

- (2¹) define the national framework of qualifications and approve the generalised descriptions of qualification degrees of education;
- (3) approve the list of professions instructed;
- (4) approve the state-funded scholarship programme for general education, primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional education;
- (5) approve the model Statutes of state education institutions;
- (6) approve the state-recognised graduation document forms;
- (7) exercise other powers prescribed by law.

(Article 36 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003, HO-20-N of 4 February 2010)

Article 37. Competence of the authorised public administration body for education

The authorised public administration body for education shall:

- (1) develop the State Programme for Educational Development and the procedure for developing and approving the state educational criteria;
- (2) exercise supervision over the implementation of the State Programme for Educational Development and the application of state educational criteria;
- (3) ensure the development and publication of model general education programmes, curricula, syllabuses, textbooks and training manuals;
- (4) carry out the licensing of educational institutions;
- (5) develop the model Statutes of state education institutions;
- (6) approve the procedure for qualification of pedagogical and administration staff of educational institutions;
- (6¹) approve qualification descriptions according to professions and educational grades;
- (7) compile the lists of professions;

- (8) develop the state-funded scholarship programme for general education, primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional education institutions;
- (9) approve and supervise the implementation of the rules for admission to state and accredited non-state primary vocational (handicraft), secondary and higher education institutions;
- (10) approve the procedure for grade-completion and final testing of the knowledge of learners of educational institutions;
- (11) approve, in the prescribed manner, the honorary ranks and titles awarded by academic councils of accredited higher education institutions;
- (12) develop the forms of state-recognised graduation documents in respect of all educational degrees;
- (13) establish the procedure for identification and recognition of equivalence of educational documents of foreign states;
- (14) ensure the formation, implementation and supervision over the development programmes for state education institutions;
- (15) give consent, as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, to the appointment and removal of the heads of departments (divisions) for education of marzpetarans [regional governor's office] and communities and directors of general education institutions;
- (15¹) give consent in respect of reorganisation and liquidation of educational institutions by the respective public authorised body;
- (16) exercise other powers prescribed by the laws of the Republic of Armenia and decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 37 edited by HO-187 of 15 May 2001, edited, supplemented by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003, HO-20-N of 4 February 2010, amended by HO-151-N 11 May 2011)

Article 37¹. State Inspectorate for Education

The implementation of the State Programme for Educational Development, application of state educational criteria, the right to education, social guarantees in the educational system, the increase in the quality of education and mastering of educational programmes shall be ensured by the State Inspectorate for Education of the authorised public administration body for education of the Republic of Armenia, through supervisory functions, the activities whereof shall be regulated by the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On State Inspectorate for Education”.

(Article 37¹ supplemented by HO-234-N of 15 November 2005)

Article 38. Competence of the marzpet [regional governor] in the field of general education

The marzpet shall:

- (1) ensure the implementation of state policy on education throughout the territory of a marz;
- (2) supervise the compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia on education and with regulatory acts adopted by the authorised public administration body for education — by pre-school and general education institutions; ensure the implementation of education and upbringing programmes in accordance with state educational criteria;
- (3) co-ordinate and supervise the registration of school-age children, ensure their enrolment in educational institutions;
- (4) ensure the construction, operation and maintenance of buildings delivered to state education institutions by the right of use;
- (5) exercise powers prescribed by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 38 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

Article 39. Competence of the head of community in the field of general education

The head of community shall, as a mandatory power:

- (1) assist the implementation of state policy on education throughout the territory of the community in accordance with the principle of self-management of educational institutions, as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia;
- (2) carry out the registration of pre-school and school-age children; ensure their enrolment in educational institutions;
- (3) exercise other powers prescribed by laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 40. Competence of an educational institution and management thereof

1. An educational institution shall, within the scope of its competence, organise and carry out the methodical support, arrangement and implementation of admissions and academic process, selection and allocation of staff, scientific, financial and other activities in accordance with this Law, other laws, legal acts of the Republic of Armenia and the Statute of the educational institution concerned.

2. The educational institution shall be managed in accordance with this Law, other legal acts and the Statute of the educational institution.

3. An educational institution shall be managed in conjunction with the principles of single-handed management and autonomy.

4. Management bodies of educational institutions shall be the Board of Trustees, Council of the Educational Institution, General Meeting, Academic Council, Pedagogical Council, and Executive Body. Management bodies of educational institutions, the formation procedure and powers thereof shall be defined by the Statute of the educational institution.

5. An educational institution shall be managed by a director, rector (head), who shall be appointed (selected) and removed in accordance with the Statute of the educational institution.

The director, rector (head) of a state educational institution may not simultaneously hold other state office or perform other paid work, except for scientific and pedagogical and creative work.

6. The powers between top management and executive bodies of an educational institution shall be distinguished by the Statute of the educational institution.

(Article 40 supplemented by HO-36 of 21 February 2000, amended by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-165-N of 8 July 2005)

Article 41. Licensing of educational activities

(Heading edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

1. Educational programmes, provided for by law, may be implemented only in case of availability of a licence. A licence shall be issued to an educational institution in case of fulfilment of the following requirements:

- (1) existence of the main pedagogical and academic and teaching staff;
- (2) laboratory facilities and study area;
- (3) teaching and methodical support;
- (4) library and information system;
- (5) facilities for educational internship and practical internship in enterprises.

2. The licence for educational activities shall be issued by the authorised public administration body for education.

3. The licensing of educational programmes shall be carried as prescribed by law and by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

(Article 41 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

Article 42. State accreditation

1. State accreditation in respect of secondary vocational and higher professional education shall be carried out according to educational institutions and their professions.

2. The procedure, standards and time periods for validity of accreditation shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia upon proposal of the authorised public administration body for education.

3. State accreditation shall be carried out as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia irrespective of departmental subordination and legal organisational form of a professional educational institution.

4. Conditions for state accreditation shall be as follows:

(1) ensuring the instruction quality in compliance with state educational criteria;

(2) ***(Subpoint repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011);***

(3) in respect of an educational institution — availability of state accreditation of at least 75% of professions provided by that institution.

5. In case of opening new places for new professions, an educational institution shall preserve its state accredited status, provided the requirements of subpoint 3 of point 4 of Article 42 of this Law are fulfilled.

6. State education institutions and the professions provided thereby, as well as medical professions provided by non-state education institutions shall undergo mandatory accreditation process.

7. Accreditation of educational institutions, professions provided thereby shall be carried out in separate stages, based on educational programmes.

8. Educational activities of separated structural subdivisions of an educational institution (educational complexes, branches) shall be licensed, and those subdivisions and the professions provided thereby shall be accredited under general grounds, as prescribed by this Law.

9. State accreditation certificate shall verify the level of the educational programmes implemented by an educational institution, the compliance of the content thereof and the quality of graduates with the requirements of state educational criteria.

10. In case of granting a licence and state accreditation certificate or making amendments to those documents a state duty shall be charged under the procedure and in the amounts established by the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On state duty”.

(Article 42 amended and edited by HO-151 of 11 May 2011)

Article 43. State supervision over the quality of instruction

1. The authorised public administration body for education shall create a licensing service for the purpose of rendering a conclusion on licensing of educational institutions.

2. *(Point 2 repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011)*

3. *(Point 3 repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011)*

4. *(Point 4 repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011)*

5. *(Point 5 repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011)*

6. *(Point 6 repealed by HO-151-N of 11 May 2011)*

7. For the purpose of evaluating the efficiency of implementation of educational programmes, exercise of state supervision over the quality assurance of education in educational institutions and other organisations implementing general education programmes and primary vocational (handicraft) education programmes, the Government of the Republic of Armenia shall establish a state inspectorate for education.

(Article 43 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-234-N of 15 November 2005, edited and amended by Ho-151-N of 11 May 2011)

Article 44. The graduation document of an educational institution

1. An educational institution shall grant a relevant document (certificate, academic certificate, and diploma) to the persons who have completed studies by educational programmes and have passed final attestation.

2. Educational institutions shall grant a graduation document to the persons who have passed final attestation in respect of accredited professions (a graduation document for military education and civic education corresponding thereto — to graduates of military education institutions).

3. Non-state general education institutions shall acquire the right to grant a state-recognised graduation document upon the moment of licensing.

4. The graduation document shall be a mandatory condition for receiving education of successive degree at educational institutions in respect of accredited professions.
5. The document certifying about a higher education for state bodies and state non-commercial organisations shall be the graduation document issued by a state or accredited non-state higher education institution, unless otherwise stipulated by law.
6. A relevant statement of information shall be issued to the person who has not completed the level of education concerned.

(Article 44 supplemented by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented, amended, edited by HO-63-N of 14 December 2004)

CHAPTER 5

ECONOMIC BASES FOR THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Article 45. Property relationships in the education system

1. For the purpose of ensuring the activities of a state education institution, the buildings, premises, equipments, as well as types of state property of consumptive, social, cultural and other nature delivered to the latter by the right of ownership or use (gratuitous or non-gratuitous) shall be approved by the Government.
2. A state education institution shall be responsible for maintenance and efficient use of the owner's property.
3. Non-state education institutions may own any property, except for restrictions, provided for by law, with regard to individual types of property.
4. The property of state education institutions may, in case of expropriation, be used only for academic purposes.

(Article 45 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, supplemented by HO-58-N of 1 December 2003)

Article 46. Financing of state and community education institutions

1. An educational institution shall be financed by the founder.
2. The State shall, in each new academic year, guarantee the allocation of means for educational needs in the amounts ensuring the progressiveness thereof. A percentage ratio of financing of education within the current expenses of the State Budget must not be lower than the relevant indicator of the previous budget year.
3. Financing of an educational institution from the State Budget shall be carried out in the form of state-funded scholarship, subsidy, state property maintenance payment and other forms. Financing criteria of an educational institution by state-funded scholarship shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, per one learner according to the type of the educational institution, and in individual cases (highland and borderline areas) — by special amounts.
4. Involvement of additional sources of financing may not cause reduction in the amounts of financing from the State Budget.
5. An educational institution may not implement fee-paid instruction activities instead of educational activities financed from the budget.
6. The main sources of financing of an educational institution shall be the State Budget and the community budget.

Additional sources of financing shall be as follows:

- (1) investments made by legal and natural persons of the Republic of Armenia and foreign states;
 - (2) own funds deriving from fee-paid instruction, research, scientific and production, advisory, publishing activities and other forms of activities not prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (3) other sources, without prejudice to the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.
7. The State shall ensure a favourable tax policy in the field of education.

(Article 46 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001)

Article 47. Funds of non-state education institutions

1. Financing of the activities of non-state education institutions shall be carried out as prescribed by law.
2. Financing criteria of a non-state education institution may not, per one learner, be lower than the financing criteria established by the state criteria for similar state education institutions.

Article 48. Logistics base of educational institutions

The logistics base of educational institutions, which is required for solving the issues related to the education, research, scientific and production activities and other issues in the field of education, shall be created and developed at the expense of budgetary funds, as well as own funds, based on the State Programme for Educational Development and development programmes of educational institutions.

CHAPTER 6

SOCIAL GUARANTEES FOR THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Article 49. Rights and social protection of learners

1. An educational institution shall contribute to the creation of conditions necessary for everyday life, food, health maintenance, leisure, physical and psychological development of learners.
2. Involvement of learners in work without their and/or their parents' (adopters or curator) consent shall be prohibited. Application of methods of physical or psychological pressure in respect of learners shall be prohibited.
3. Relevant general education institutions may be established, as prescribed by the authorised public administration body for education, for children having demonstrated exceptional abilities.
4. The State shall ensure the instruction of children deprived of parental care and those without parental care at state general education institutions.

5. Financing of general education institutions for learners with special educational needs shall be carried out in increased amounts.

6. Learners at state primary vocational (handicraft), secondary vocational and higher professional education institutions shall receive scholarship under the procedure and in the amounts established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

7. Learners at military education institutions shall be provided with pecuniary satisfaction, uniforms, food and accommodation, as prescribed by the law of the Republic of Armenia.

8. Learners at secondary vocational and higher professional education institutions shall have the right to receive a second profession on a fee-paid basis at the institution concerned or in another institution, as prescribed by the authorised public administration body for education.

9. Learners shall, in case of successfully passing the attestation, have the right to be transferred to another educational institution implementing educational programmes of a relevant level, as prescribed by the authorised public administration body for education.

10. The graduates of previous years at non-state higher education institutions shall have the right to receive a state-recognised diploma by taking final attestation examinations according to professions at state and non-state accredited higher education institutions by the end of 2012/2013 academic year, in accordance with the professional syllabuses established by the authorised public administration body for education. The procedure for organisation of state exams shall be defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia until 1 February 2011.

(Article 49 supplemented by HO-467-N of 19 November 2002, HO-165-N of 8 July 2005, amended, supplemented by HO-153-N of 28 October 2010)

Article 50. Social guarantees for the employees at educational institutions

1. Labour relationships between an educational institution and the employees thereof shall be governed in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

2. The remuneration rate for the work carried out by the administrative and pedagogical (academic and teaching) staff at state education institutions shall not be lower than the average salary of employees at budgetary institutions.

3. The Government of the Republic of Armenia shall establish an additional pay for teachers of general education schools at highland and mountainous settlements.

4. An educational institution shall ensure the processes of upgrading and training of employees.

(Article 50 supplemented by HO-107 of 20 November 2000)

CHAPTER 7

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Article 51. International cooperation in the field of education

1. International cooperation in the field of education shall be carried out in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia and international treaties of the Republic of Armenia. Where international treaties of the Republic of Armenia provide for norms other than those provided for by this Law, the norms of the international treaties shall apply.

2. Educational institutions shall have the right to co-operate with foreign educational, scientific and other organisations in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia and international treaties of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 8

FINAL PROVISION

Article 52. Entry into force of the Law

This Law shall enter into force from the moment of its promulgation.

CHAPTER 9

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 53. *(Article 53 edited by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, repealed by HO-338 of 7 May 2002)*

Article 54. Point 2 of Article 50 of this Law shall enter into force from 1 January 2000.

Article 55. Part 3 of Article 18 of this Law shall, only in accordance with part 3 of Article 15 of this Law, extend to persons admitted to general education institutions in 2006 and thereafter.

Learners admitted to general education institutions before 2001 shall continue their education by educational programmes approved for ten-year general education secondary schools.

Learners aged 6,5 years and older admitted to the first year of general education schools from 2001 to 2005 inclusive, as well as in 2006, shall continue their education by educational programmes approved for the eleven-year general education secondary school.

The procedure for instruction and transfer of learners of the first year set up by age groups at schools in 2006/2007 academic year shall be established by the authorised public administration body for education.

The second year (learners aged 6,5 years and older admitted to the first year in 2006/2007 academic year), third year and the years above shall be renumbered by one number higher starting from 1 September of 2007/2008 academic year.

A transition to a three-year high school shall be made starting from 2009/2010 academic year.

(Article 55 supplemented by HO-209 of 26 July 2001, edited by HO-139-N of 13 June 2006)

President

of the Republic of Armenia

R. Kocharyan

Yerevan

8 May 1999

HO-297

