



Road to Automatic Recognition of Higher Education Access Qualifications 2

HE access qualifications Country case of **Bosnia and Herzegovina**



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Road to Automatic Recognition of Higher Education Access Qualification 2 (ARAQUA 2)

Peer-learning activity

General principles of automatic recognition of HE access qualifications

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Education System in BiH

Primary Education – nine years;

General and art secondary education – four years;

Secondary vocational education – three or four years;

Religious secondary education – four or five years;

Grading system from 1 to 5; 2 less passing grade, 5 highest grade;

No state exam for access to higher education;

Three cycles of higher education.

Development of NQF in BiH

Baseline of Qualifications Framework adopted in 2011;

Still not referenced to the EQF;

But the Baseline has got the same characteristics as the any referenced NQF;

Eight referenced levels completely harmonized with the EQF levels;

Generic descriptors of levels based on the EQF descriptors;

For every referenced level knowledge, skills and competences stipulated.

Development of NQF in BiH

Based on the Framework Law on Higher Education access to higher education shall be available to all those who have completed the four-year secondary education in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

No differences between general, vocational, art or religious secondary qualifications concerning access to higher education;

NQF level four/EQF level four;

Level five already stipulated by the Framework Law but still demanding issue in Bosnia and Herzegovina – no educational providers, no accessibility to further education defined...

Questions

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HE access qualifications Country case of Georgia



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A R A Q U A 2 · D E S K S T U D Y

Higher Education Access Qualifications

Country Report · Georgia



ENIC Georgia
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Duration of learning & grading systems

DURATION OF LEARNING

6 years

Primary
Grades I-VI · mandatory

3 years

Basic
Grades VII-IX · mandatory

3 years

Secondary (general)
Grades X-XII

Varies

Secondary (vocational)
by programme · NQF 3-5

SCHOOL GRADING

10-point scale

10-9 Excellent · **8-7** Very Good
6-5 Good/Satisfactory · **4-1** Unsatisfactory

Passing mark: **5 / 10**

STATE EXAMS (UNE)

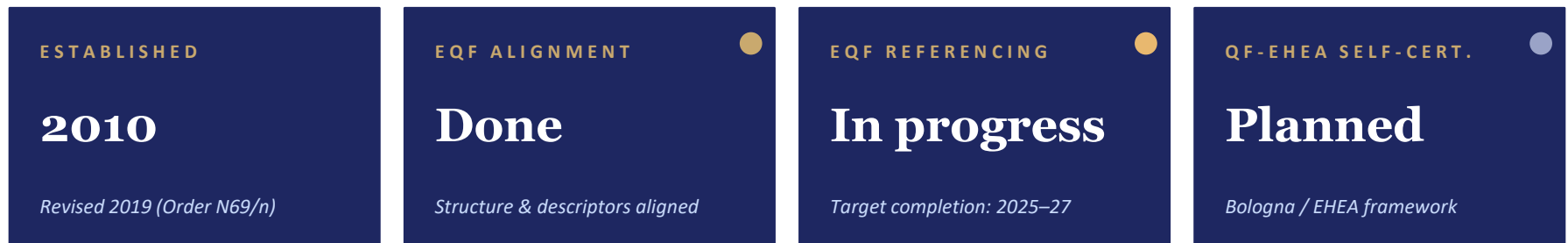
Scaled score, % threshold

Mandatory subjects: **>40%**
Elective subjects: **>25%**

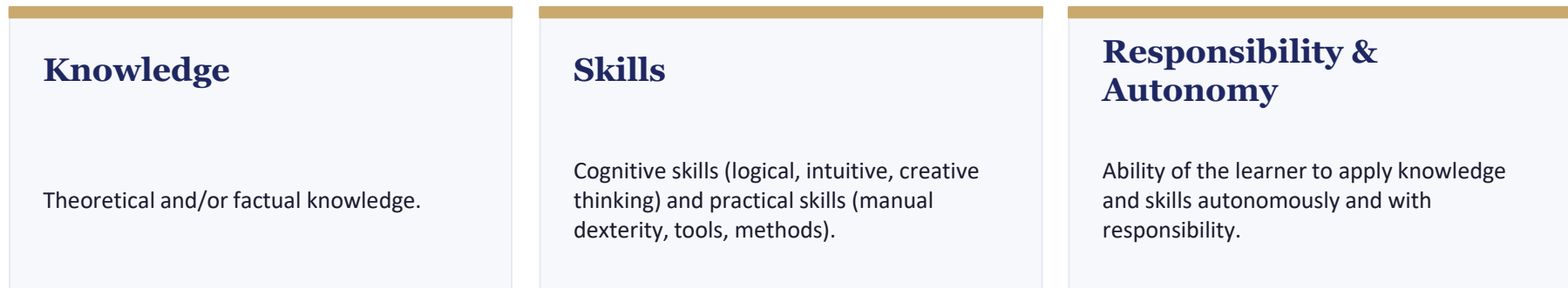
Subjects to pass: **2 mandatory + 1 or more electives**

Mandatory UNE subjects: Georgian language & literature + foreign language. Electives depend on the chosen field of study.

The NQF - Georgia's qualifications architecture



DIMENSIONS OF LEARNING OUTCOMES



8 NQF levels · general education (1-4) · vocational education (3-5) · higher education (6-8)

Two qualifications, multiple entry points

2

HE access qualifications in Georgia

One general qualification · one vocational diploma (Level 4 or 5)

GENERAL EDUCATION

Full General Education Certificate

Awarded on completion of 12 years of general education. Confers the right to continue studies at a higher education institution.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Vocational Education Diplomas

4

NQF Level 4 - Secondary Vocational Education

only if the programme integrates the general-education component

5

NQF Level 5 - Higher Vocational Education (short-cycle)

Both routes confer the right to continue into HE.

ARAQUA 2 · COUNTRY REPORT · GEORGIA

Thank you.

ENIC Georgia

National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement



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HE access qualifications Country case of **Kazakhstan**



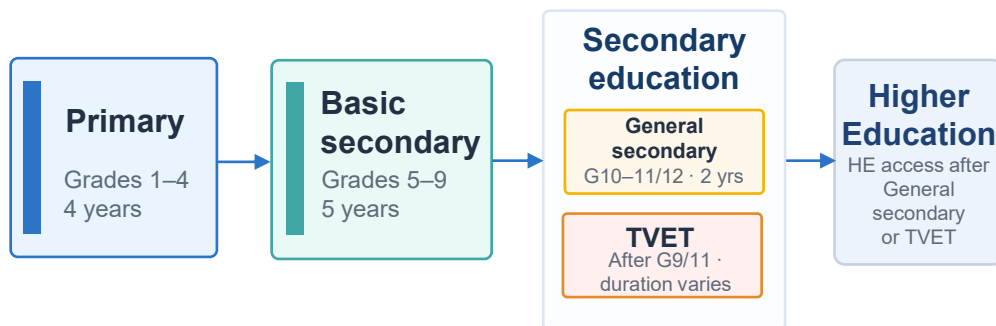
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Kazakhstan: Education System, Assessment & Final Examinations



School system

Main school pathway: 11(12) years



Key progression points

- After Grade 9, learners may continue to **general secondary education** or to **TVET**.
- **TVET** may be entered after basic secondary education and/or after general secondary education.

Assessment system

- Criteria-based assessment
- Formative + summative assessment
- Marks: 2 unsatisfactory; 3 pass; 4 good; 5 excellent
- Grade 1: no annual mark

Final state exams

Passing mark: 3/5

Grade 9 — 4 exams

- Mathematics (Algebra)
- 1 elective subject
- Language of instruction (essay/written work)
- Kazakh/Russian language and literature

Grade 11 — 5 exams

- History of Kazakhstan (oral)
- Algebra and Beginnings of Analysis
- Language of instruction
- 1 elective + Kazakh/Russian lang. & lit.

National Qualifications Framework (NQF / HE-NQF)



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Milestones



2012 First national qualifications framework approved



2016 Major update / approval of the NQF (8 level)



2020 HE-NQF approved for higher education



HE NQF-EHEA Self-certification work completed

8 levels in the NQF

8 Doctoral

7 Master's

6 Bachelor's

5 Post-secondary / applied bachelor

4 Upper secondary & TVET access qualifications

3 Basic secondary

2 Primary / lower stages

1 Initial stage

HE-NQF

8 Doctoral

7 Master's

6 Bachelor's

Learning outcomes dimensions

Knowledge

Skills

Responsibility / autonomy

- Descriptors are expressed through learning outcomes, not just curriculum input
- The report highlights four recurring dimensions: knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy
- Level 4 is the bridge between secondary education / TVET and bachelor level (Level 6)

HE access qualifications in Kazakhstan



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1. Certificate of General Secondary Education

General

Level

NQF 4 • comparable to EQF 4

- Awarded after general upper secondary school
- Main school route to bachelor admission
- In practice, university entry usually also requires UNT

2. TVET diploma (and related post-secondary route)

Vocational / post-secondary

Level

Main access route: NQF 4

- College graduates can enter bachelor programmes
- Often linked to related fields, credit transfer or shorter study routes
- Some post-secondary programmes continue beyond Level 4

3. International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

International general upper secondary

Level

Recognised as Level 4 / EQF-comparable in the report

- Used for admission in Kazakhstan and abroad
- Recognition of the international document may be required
- Some cases may be considered without standard UNT route

How many?

3

main types

Mix

- 1** general
- 1** vocational
- 1** IB / intl.

Common level

Level 4

NQF / EQF-comparable

Bottom line for the joint partner deck: Kazakhstan presents 3 main HE access qualifications in the report — general, vocational and international — all centered on Level 4 access logic.



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HE access qualifications Country case of **Serbia**



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REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
Qualifications Agency

National Education System and HE Access Qualifications – SERBIA

Qualifications Agency

22/04/2026 Yerevan, Armenia



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- **Types of qualifications** in the whole education system:
 - General
 - Vocational
 - Academic
 - Applied

- **Formal rights:** to enrol in higher education institutions (usually requires passing an entrance examination, according to conditions determined by the HEI); to continue education; to access the labour market

- **NQFS Level 4** provide access to HE:
 1. Gymnasium diplomas (general, socio-linguistic, natural sciences and mathematics, or specialized tracks)
 2. Secondary vocational school diplomas (various technical and vocational profiles)
 3. Secondary art school diplomas (music, ballet and fine arts schools)

- 232 qualifications provide access to HE – 212 vocational and 20 general qualifications

- ***Duration of education:*** primary education — 8 years; secondary education — 3 or 4 years; school year usually includes approximately 36 teaching weeks
- ***Education institutions:*** gymnasiums, secondary vocational schools and secondary art schools; they may be public or private, but must be accredited by the Ministry of Education
- ***Grading system in schools*** – a scale from 1 to 5:
 - 1 – *insufficient;*
 - 2 – *sufficient;*
 - 3 – *good;*
 - 4 – *very good;*
 - 5 – *excellent.*

Minimum passing grade is 2 and the grading system is the same for the final exam. Formative evaluation is also an important part of grading system.

- ***Grading system for state exams:*** a final examination or *Matura* examination (*general/artistic/vocational*)

- **NQFS – 2018**; Referencing to **EQF – February, 2020**
- **8 NQF levels** with **two sub-levels** on levels 6 and 7
- *Law on the National Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Serbia, 2023*
- *Rulebook on the Methodology for the Development of Qualification Standards, 2020*
- **Competences** – knowledge + skills + abilities and attitudes:

"an integrated set of knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes that enables an individual to act effectively in accordance with the qualification standard"

- **Learning outcomes:**

"clear statements of what an individual is expected to know, understand, and be able to demonstrate or perform after completing the learning process. They enable the verification of the level of competence development, that is, the attainment of knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes"



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