



Central Asia Updates: Educational Systems & International Student Mobility

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

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Presenters:

Ann M. Koenig

Southwest Regional Director, Credential Evaluation Services
AACRAO International Education Services
Southwest Regional Office, Scottsdale AZ
Email: aacrao@aacraosw.org
Web: www.aacrao.org/international

Amy McGoldrick

Regional Educational Advising Coordinator (REAC)
Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Central Asia
Email: amy.mcgoldrick@gmail.com
Web: <http://educationusa.state.gov>

Chair:

Susan J. Weber

Senior Admissions Officer
Rackham Graduate School
University of Michigan
Email: sweber@umich.edu
Web: <http://www.rackham.umich.edu/>

Ann M. Koenig, Presenter

A native of Milwaukee, Ann M. Koenig has worked with AACRAO International Education Services since 2002. Her career spans over 20 years, including work in campus-based graduate and undergraduate admissions, student records management, academic advising, and professional foreign credential evaluation. Specializing in the regions of east/central Europe and Eurasia, she has done in-depth research, writing, and presentations on education in several countries, including Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Poland, Russia, and Uzbekistan, and has been a presenter at AACRAO, NAFSA, and EAIE (European Association for International Education) conferences since 1989. She also specializes in the issue of academic credential fraud. Ms. Koenig is an affiliate of the Melikian Center (Russian and East European Studies center) at Arizona State University, and is a co-author of an upcoming AACRAO publication on the educational systems of the countries of Central Asia.

Amy McGoldrick, Presenter

Amy McGoldrick is the Regional Educational Advising Coordinator for Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Central Asia. She oversees 22 advising centers in 7 countries. Before joining EducationUSA, she served as Country Director of American Councils in Turkmenistan, where she managed a diverse portfolio of US and regional educational exchange programs and educational resource centers. Prior to working in Turkmenistan, Amy worked for American Councils and served as a UN Volunteer in Tbilisi, Georgia. She also taught English as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ukraine. Amy received her bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and her master's degree from Harvard University. She is employed by IIE and is based at the Turkish-American Association in Ankara.

Susan Weber, Chair

Susan Weber is a Senior Admissions Officer in the Rackham Graduate Admissions Office. During the past 26 years, Susan has focused on the admission of international applicants. She is viewed as an expert across the country and overseas on the admission process of international applicants. Susan is a member of several professional organizations and has given presentations at state, regional and national conferences on various topics related to international education and the admission of international applicants.



Source: Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection, University of Texas, Austin
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/commonwealth/central_asian_common_2002.jpg

Central Asian Students in the United States 2007-08

	UG	Grad	Total*	% Change from 2006-07
Kazakhstan	899	413	1456	+ 20 %
Uzbekistan	260	197	539	- 7 %
Tajikistan	137	48	364	+ 122 %
Kyrgyzstan	127	103	264	+ 26 %
Turkmenistan	89	59	166	+ 16 %

*Total includes non-degree and OPT students as well as graduate and undergraduate.

Eurasian Educational Profile

	Country	Students in U.S. 07-08	Population (Millions)	Students in US per million	Per Capita GDP	Number of EdUSA Centers
1	Russia	4,906	140	35	\$5,336	14
2	Ukraine	1,714	45.7	38	\$1,761	4
3	Kazakhstan	1,456	15.4	95	\$3,772	5
4	Uzbekistan	539	27.6	20	\$533	1
5	Belarus	457	9.6	48	\$3,024	1
6	Moldova	418	4.3	97	\$694	1
7	Armenia	403	3	134	\$1,625	1
8	Georgia	378	4.6	82	\$1,429	4
9	Tajikistan	364	7.3	50	\$355	2
10	Azerbaijan	318	8.2	39	\$1,498	2
11	Kyrgyzstan	264	5.4	49	\$475	4
12	Turkmenistan	166	4.9	34	\$1,669	4

Sources: IIE Open Doors, November 2008 (www.iie.org)
United Nations Human Development Reports (<http://hdr.undp.org>)
CIA World Factbook
(<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>)

Contact Information:

Amy McGoldrick
Regional Educational Advising Coordinator
Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Central Asia
Email: amy.mcgoldrick@gmail.com

Ann Merrill
Regional Educational Advising Coordinator for Eurasia
(Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, and Moldova)
Email: reac.eurasia1@gmail.com

Bradley Gorski
Russia Country Coordinator
Email: russiacoordinator@gmail.com

EDUCATIONUSA ADVISING CENTERS IN CENTRAL ASIA

KAZAKHSTAN

ALMATY

Educational Center "BILIM-Central Asia"
Masanchi Street., 83, 1st floor
Almaty 050022, Kazakhstan
Tel.: 7 (727) 259-7620/22
Fax: 7 (727) 259-7622
E-mail: adviser@bilim.kz
Website: <http://www.bilim.kz>
Adviser: Ms. Gulnaza Issakhanova

AKTOBE

Educational Advising Center
ul. 101 Strelkovoi Brigady 6-A
Aktobe, Kazakhstan, 030000
Tel./Fax: 7 (7132) 514 331
Mobile: 7 (705) 400 5803
E-mail: talgat_ayapbergenov@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.akeac.com>
Adviser: Mr. Talgat Ayapbergenov

ASTANA

Educational Advising Center
American Councils for International Education
Ul. Beibitshilik, B. 18, Office 409
Astana, Kazakhstan 010000
Tel./Fax: 7 (7172) 91 00 68
E-mail: astana_eac@americancouncils-kz.com
Website: <http://kz.vco-edusa.net>
Adviser: Ms. Irina Shubina

KARAGANDA

Bilim Educational Advising Center
20 Bukhar Zhyrau Avenue, Rooms 228-230
Karaganda, Kazakhstan 100000
Tel./Fax: 7 (7212) 42 08 51/42 07 61
E-mail: abekishev61@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.bilim.kz>
Adviser: Mr. Askar Bekishev

SHYMKENT

Educational Center "BILIM-Central Asia"
25, Gani Ilyayev str.
Shymkent, Kazakhstan 160012
Tel./Fax: 7 (7252) 21 19 81
E-mail: aturdaliyev@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.bilim.kz>
Adviser: Mr. Arman Turdaliyev

KYRGYZSTAN

BISHKEK

Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan
Bishkek Resource Center
ul. Logvinenko 55a
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 720040
Tel.: (996 312) 66-34-75
Fax: (996 312) 66-34-48
E-mail: ajamasheva@soros.kg,
lenata@soros.kg

Website: <http://www.eac.kg>
Advisers: Ms. Anara Jamasheva
Ms. Elena Tatarkova

KARAKOL

Issyk-Kul Educational Advising Center
"Steps to Success"
Lyceum named after Toktogul
Satylganov
Esenina Street, 1
Karakol, Kyrgyzstan 722200
Tel.: (996 3922) 5-01-93
Fax: (996 3922) 5-01-93
Mobile: (996 773) 35-93-75
E-mail: ersalta@gmail.com
Adviser: Ms. Saltanat Erkimbaeva

OSH

Osh Educational Advising Center
"Education for All"
Osh Oblast Library
ul. Kurmanjan-Datka 271
Osh, Kyrgyzstan 723500
Tel.: (996 3222) 5 66 62
Fax: (996 3222) 5-54-42
Mobile: (996 550) 13-14-22
Mobile: (996 550) 11-40-88
E-mail: educforall@rambler.ru,
boumairam@yahoo.com
Adviser: Ms. Boumairam Ismailova
Ms. Ludmila Konkova

NARYN

Naryn Education Center
Naryn State University
ul. Sagynbay Oruzbak uluu 47
Naryn, Kyrgyzstan, 722600
Tel.: (996 3522) 5 04 27
Mobile: (996 555) 02-12-28
E-mail: nkaceeva@mail.ru
Adviser: Ms. Nazira Kaseeva

TAJIKISTAN

DUSHANBE

Educational Advising Center
American Councils for International
Education
86 Tolstoy St.
Tajikistan, Dushanbe 734003
Tel./Fax: (992-372) 21-17-95
(992-372) 21-21-03
Email:
EducationUSA@americancouncils-tj.org
Website: www.americancouncils-tj.org
Adviser: Ms. Zarina Muhiddinova

KHUJAND

Khujand Education Advising Center
183a Lenin Street
Khujand, Tajikistan 735700
Phone/Fax: (992 48) 7014442
E-mail: naimjon@gmail.com
Adviser: Mr. Naimjon Avezov

TURKMENISTAN

ASHGABAT

Educational Advising Center
American Councils for International Education
Gerogly Street 48a, 2nd floor
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan 744030
Tel./Fax: (99312) 33-06-96
E-mail: eacashgabat@inbox.ru
Website: <http://americancouncilstm.org>
Adviser: Mr. Eldar Hudiyev

DASHOGUZ

Dashoguz American Corner
Turkmenbashi ave.7/2
Dashoguz, Turkmenistan 746300
Tel./Fax: (993 322) 5 08 14, 5 03 81
E-mail: acdash@mail.ru
Website: <http://americancornerstm.org>
Adviser: Ms. Arzigul Kochkarova

MARY

Mary American Corner
42a Agzybirlik street, 2nd floor
Mary, Turkmenistan 745400
Tel.: (993 522) 7 38 65
Fax: (993 522) 7 39 79
E-mail: macorner@rambler.ru
Website: <http://americancornerstm.org>
Adviser: Ms. Albina Burashnikova

TURKMENABAT

Turkmenabat American Corner
Pushkin Str. 33
Turkmenabat, Turkmenistan 746100
Tel.: (993 422) 3-37-71
E-mail: ninaafanasyeva@yahoo.com
Website: <http://americancornerstm.org>
Adviser: Ms. Nina Afanasyeva

UZBEKISTAN

TASHKENT

Educational Advising Center
US Embassy - Tashkent
3 Moyqorqon Street, 5th Block
Yunusobod District
Tashkent, Uzbekistan 100093
Tel.: (998 71) 120-5450
E-mail: DjurabaevaSh@state.gov
Website: <http://uzbekistan.usembassy.gov>
Adviser: Ms. Sharifa Djurabaeva

New Trends in Central Asian Student Mobility

- **Increasing number of US institutions** actively seeking Central Asian students
- **New technologies** such as Facebook and SMS are reaching new audiences
- **Opportunity Grants (OG)** program continues to transform advising
 - OG funds available to students in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan
 - Partnership between REAC, Advising Centers, and US Embassy/State Department
 - New funds approved for 2010
 - Designed to: Provide help to talented students who have strong financial need; Be flexible, quick and responsive to student needs; Encourage more applicants from Central Asia to US institutions.
 - Items eligible for funding: Testing fees, extra score report fees, and travel to testing sites; US university application fees; Fees for translation/certification/notarization of educational credentials; Visa/SEVIS fees; Travel to US Embassy or Consulate for visa interview; Postage/courier fees; Travel to US institution; Settling-in money for first month(s) in US
- **Opportunity Grants (OG) Details:**
 - <http://www.educationusa.state.gov/home/education-usa/global-left-nav/information-for-u/how-can-u/opportunity-grants>
 - Contact the EducationUSA advisors in the countries in which you wish to recruit

Central Asian Educational Systems and Student Advising Resources

Educational Systems, Higher Education Institutions, Sample Documents:

AACRAO EDGE (Electronic Database for Global Education): <http://aacraoedge.aacrao.org/>
AACRAO book on educational systems of Central Asia, planned for publication – www.aacrao.org/publications
Central Asia Updates, NAFSA Region XII 2005 Presentation by Ann M. Koenig, AACRAO IES:
http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/ihec/regions/Uzbekistan_Central_Asia.pdf
Countries of the Caucasus Central Asia, EAIE 2004 Presentation by E. Johansson, Swedish National Agency for Higher Education, and K. Witek of NOKUT, Norway: <http://www.eaie.org/pdf/torino/902.pdf>
World Higher Education Databases, International Association of Universities:
http://www.unesco.org/iau/online_databases/
German “Anabin” (Information System for the Recognition of Foreign Educational Credentials), German Cultural Ministers’ Conference (in German): <http://www.ifos.de/anabin/>
NAFSA Online Guide to Educational Systems: http://www.nafsa.org/publication.sec/epublications/online_guide_to/

Advising Centers and Partnership Organizations:

EducationUSA, US Department of State Advising Centers: <http://educationusa.state.gov/>
American Councils, Overseas Advising Offices: <http://www.americancouncils.org/countries.asp?PageID=6>
The Fulbright Program: <http://fulbright.state.gov/fulbright/regions/countries/whereare/south-and-central-asia>
IREX (International Research & Exchanges Board): <http://www.irex.org/>
TEMPUS (Trans-European Mobility Scheme for University Studies), for European institutions/students:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus/participating_countries/index_en.php

International Development Organizations:

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Central Asia Region: <http://www.osce.org/regions/13003.html>
United Nations Development Programme, List of Countries: <http://www.undp.org/countries/>

News Services and Periodicals:

EurasiaNet.org: <http://www.eurasianet.org/index.shtml>
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: <http://www.rferl.org/> - see “Buying Ignorance” Series, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 4-part series on corruption in Central Asian education
The Chronicle of Higher Education: <http://chronicle.com>
Boston College Center for International Higher Education: http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/
– see *Private Higher Education in Central Asia*, International Higher Education, Winter 2005:
http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/newsletter/News38/text007.htm

Soviet Model: Basic Structure of Educational System

Level /Type	Russian / Cyrillic	Russian/Transliteration	English	Length
Sec. Academic	Аттестат о Среднем Образовании	Attestat o Srednem Obrazovanii	Certificate of Secondary Education	10 years
Sec. Vocational	Диплом	Diplom	Diploma with work qualification	8 + 2, 3 or 4; OR 10 + 1, 2 or 3; depending on occupation
Higher Ed. – First Level	Диплом Специалиста	Diplom Spetsialista	Diploma of Specialist with work qualification	4, 5 or 6 depending on field of study
Higher Ed. - Advanced	Диплом Кандидата Наук	Diplom Kandidata Nauk	Diploma of Candidate of Sciences	3 years by research
Higher Ed.– Advanced	Диплом Доктора Наук	Diplom Doktora Nauk	Diploma of Doctor of Sciences	Varies by research and publication

General Trends in Educational Development in Central Asia Since Independence

	Kazakh.	Kyrgyz.	Tajik.	Turk.	Uzbek.
Educational system evolved from Soviet model	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reforms based on new education laws	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Soviet ideology subjects replaced with national subjects	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
National language used in documentation (with other/s)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goal to increase preschool enrollment	✓	✓	✓		✓
Elem./sec. ed. expansion to 12 years in process	✓				✓
Reforms in secondary education curricula	✓	✓	✓		✓
National higher ed. admission exams introduced	✓	✓	✓		✓
Increase in internationalization	✓	✓	✓		✓
Increase in interest in study in other countries	✓	✓	✓		✓
View to western Europe, interest in Bologna process	✓				
Introduction of “bachelor + master” structure	✓	✓			✓
Introduction of credit system in higher education	✓	(✓)	(✓)		
Introduction of new grade system(s) in higher education	(✓)	(✓)	(✓)		✓
Private education allowed	✓	✓			
Foreign institutions allowed	✓	✓	✓		✓
Development of accreditation system in process	✓				
Problems with corruption, fraud, bribery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

KAZAKHSTAN

Secondary education:

Complete secondary education = 11 years, since 1996; extension to 12 years planned for 2008/09 academic year
 Орта білім туралы аттестат / аттестат о среднем общем образовании / *Attestat o Srednem Obshchem Obrazovanii* (Certificate of Secondary General Education)

Vocational schools: колледж / *Kolledzh* ("college"), upgraded from училище / *uchilishche*,
 2-, 3- and 4-year programs, graduates earn Кәсіби орта білім дипломы / диплом среднем профессиональном образовании / *Diplom o Srednem Professional'nom Obrazovanii* (Diploma of Secondary Professional Education),
 some programs yield advanced standing in higher ed.

Higher education:

- Admission: Based on Unified National Testing exam introduced in 2008.
- Institutions: National universities, state institutions, private institutions -
 List of HEIs, see link under "Higher Education" on Ministry of Education and Science Web site:
http://www.edu.gov.kz/en/obrazovanie_v_kazakhstane/nacionalnyi_doklad_o_sostojanii_i_razviti_i_obrazovanija/
- Credentials (in Kazakh and Russian terminology) – Bachelor + Master introduced in 1995-96:
 Анықтама справка / академическая справка / *Akademicheskaya spravka* (Academic certificate) – transcript issued for partial completion of a program
 Бакалавр дипломы / диплом бакалавра / *Diplom Bakalavra* (Diploma of Bachelor) – 4 years
 Мамаң дипломы / диплом специалиста / *Diplom Spetsialista* (Diploma of Specialist) – 5 years
 Магистр дипломы / диплом магистра / *Diplom Magistra* (Diploma of Master) – 2 years after bachelor or 1 year after specialist
 Приложение к Диплому (Prilozhenie k Diplomu) – Supplement to the Diploma – Academic certificate that accompanies a bachelor, master or specialist diploma; invalid without the diploma
 Ғылым кандидаты / диплом кандидата наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Candidate of Sciences) – 2-3 yrs.
 Ғылым докторы / диплом доктора наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Doctor of Sciences) – based on significant publication and contributions to the discipline

International influences:

- Bologna process: KZ signed Lisbon Convention in 1998; applied for Bologna Process membership in Dec. 2004.
- Developments in the context of European and US systems and standards, at various stages of implementation:
 - bachelor + master structure in place (as of 1995-96), US-style Ph.D. to be introduced
 - improvement of quality of programs to meet international standards;
 - easily-readable computer-generated transcripts;
 - credit and grade system based on US system (pilot since 2002, to be used at all HEIs by 2012);
 - national system of institutional and program accreditation (some institutions and programs have been accredited by accreditors in other countries)
- "New University of Astana" being created as "knowledge city": <http://artu.kz/?lng=eng&m=article&cid=8>

Grading systems: US-based credit and grading system to be used at all HEIs by 2012. Traditional grading system:

Num.	Russian	Kazakh	English
5	отлично / <i>otlichno</i>	оте жаксы / <i>ote zhaksy</i> [very good] or уздiк / <i>uzdik</i> [excellent]	excellent
4	хорошо / <i>khorosho</i>	жаксы / <i>zhaksy</i>	good
3	удовлетворительно / <i>udovletvoritel'no</i>	канагатанарлык / <i>kanagatanarlyk</i>	satisfactory
	зачет / <i>zachet</i> (used only in higher ed.)	сынак / <i>synak</i>	ungraded pass

Additional Kazakhstan Resources

EducationUSA Advising Centers: <http://eca.state.gov/educationusa/centers/index.cfm?region=SCA#KAZAKHSTAN>

Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (in Russian): <http://www.edu.gov.kz/ru/>

(English version under construction: <http://www.edu.gov.kz/en/>)

Center for International Programs, administers the Boloshak scholarship program: <http://www.edu-cip.kz/eng/index.php>

National Accreditation Center, Kazakhstan: <http://nac.edu.kz/>

Kazakhstan and the Bologna Process, Ministry of Education and Science: http://www.edu.gov.kz/en/bolonskii_process/

UZBEKISTAN

Education Authority: Ministry of Public Education (education through year 9)
 Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education (upper secondary and higher education).
 Many other ministries administer education institutions for their own sectors.

Elementary/Secondary Education:

Pre-Reform Structure: 9 + 2 structure (Soviet-based system); completion of year 9 is compulsory.

Reform Structure: Reform plan begun in 1999. Class of 2012 will be the first cohort completing the new 9 + 3 sequence.

9 (general ed) + 3 ("academic" or "professional" ed); completion of year 12 is compulsory.

Primary Education: 4 years, beginning at age 6 or 7

General Secondary: 5 years

Specialized / Prof. Secondary: 3 years

New School Types: *Litsei* (Uzbek and Russian) – "Academic Lyceum" - Streams: Academic, technical, agricultural
Kolej (Uzbek), *Kolledzh* (Russian) – "Professional College" - Streams: Industry, skilled trades;
 pedagogical/social; computers/information technology; business; land/forestry management;
 nursing; culture and arts; socio-economic; commerce, hospitality and service.

Grading:

English	Num.	Russian	Uzbek
excellent	5	отлично / <i>otlichno</i>	<i>a'lo</i>
good	4	хорошо / <i>khorosho</i>	<i>yahshi</i>
satisfactory	3	удовлетворительно / <i>udovletvoritel'no</i>	<i>qoniqarli</i>

Completion Doc: *O'rta Ma'lumot To'g'risida Shahodatnoma* / *Attestat o Srednem Obrazovanii* /
 Certificate of Secondary Education (from a secondary school)
Diplom / Diploma (from an academic lyceum or professional college)

Higher Education:

Admission: National admissions test given Aug. 1; institutions autonomous in admission policy vis-à-vis the test scores.

Institutions: Universities and institutes, plus 6 authorized foreign institutions whose awards are recognized in UZ.
 3 branches of Russian HEIs: Moscow State University named for Lomonosov, Russian Academy of
 Economics named for Plehanov, Russian State University of Oil and Gas named for Gubkin;
 Westminster International University in Tashkent [UK]; Management Development Institute of
 Singapore in Tashkent [Singapore]; Turin Polytechnic in Tashkent [Italy]
 Ministry of Education, State Higher Education Institution Directory (names in Uzbek, English or Russian):
http://www.edu.uz/modules/pasport/index.php?sel_lang=english
 (Click on "Universities", then click on each institution name for a profile and Web link.)
 TEMPUS List of universities (May 2008, English): <http://www.tempus.europahouse.uz/uzbekuni.htm>

Degree Structure (per 1997 law):

Bakalavr (Bachelor): 4 years. First awarded in 2000.

Magistr (Master): 2 years. Admission only open to holders of bachelor's degree in the same field of study.

Fanlari Nomzodi (Candidate of Sciences): Research degree

Fanlari Doktori (Doctor of Sciences): Research degree

Other First Degrees:

Nursing: 3-year Bachelor's program (established in 1999), for graduates of secondary specialized nursing program
 (general nurses); first Bachelor graduates from Tashkent Medical Institute I in 2001.

Dentistry: 5-year program leading to Diploma with qualification of Stomatologist

Medicine: 6- or 7-year program leading to Diploma with qualification of Physician (6 for preventive medicine; 7 for
 general, pediatric, or medical pedagogy); master's degree in specialization after additional 2-3 year program

Grading: *Reyting* ("Rating") Scores or Points: Based on maximum number of scores or points per subject. May show as a % grade (University of World Economy and Diplomacy) or the % may have to be calculated.

To calculate:

1. Hours of instruction per subject = maximum *bal* ("points") = 100% of grade
2. Number of points achieved by the student in that subject is the *reyting*
3. Divide *reyting* into maximum number of *bal* to arrive at %
4. Compare % to verbal descriptor grade

*Generic Concordance of Reyting Scores and Corresponding Verbal Grades **

Reyting %	Uzbek	English
85-100	<i>a'lo</i>	excellent
75-84	<i>yahshi</i>	good
55-74	<i>qoniqarli</i>	satisfactory
Below 55	<i>qoniqarsiz</i>	fail
ungraded pass	<i>sinov</i>	ungraded pass

* **Notes:** (1) Check this concordance against information provided by the institution. There may be some variation on the % ranges for excellent, good and satisfactory, but in all cases, 55% is the lowest passing mark. There is discussion about changing this system, as it is very complex and confusing, even within Uzbekistan. (2) The Faculty of Business Management of Tashkent State Technical University was created in 1994 and offers two degrees, BBA and MBA, in Financial Management and Marketing Management. This faculty uses a U.S.-style system of grading and credits; see sample document. The other faculties of the University use the *reyting* system. (3) Foreign institutions use other grading systems.

Official Higher Education Documentation:

Diplomas: *Bakalavr Diplomi* (Bachelor Diploma); *Bakalavr Diplomi Imtiyozli* (with Honours)
Magistr Diplomi (Master Diploma); *Magistr Diplomi Imtiyozli* (with Honours)
Diploma (Diploma) with professional qualification in Medicine or Stomatology
Fanlari Nomzodi (Candidate of Sciences)
Fanlari Doktori (Doctor of Sciences)

Transcripts: *Bakalvr Diplomiga Ilova* (Bachelor Diploma Supplement), official transcript of Bachelor's degree program listing subjects and grades. Invalid without the diploma.
Magistr Diplomiga Ilova (Master Diploma Supplement), official transcript of Master's degree program listing subjects and grades. Invalid without the diploma.
Akademik Ma'lumotnoma (Academic Certificate) official transcript of incomplete higher education toward the bachelor's or master's degree.
Reyting Daftarchasi ("Rating" Booklet), student booklet in which subjects, examinations and grades are recorded during the course of bachelor's and master's study; internal document for the use of the current HEI only; not official.

Verification: Send request to Rector's office by postal or courier service, or contact EducationUSA advisor for help.

Additional Uzbekistan Resources

EducationUSA Advising Center: <http://uzbekistan.usembassy.gov>

Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education: <http://www.edu.uz/index.php>

TEMPUS in Uzbekistan: <http://tempus.europahouse.uz/>

Educational Developments in Uzbekistan, OSEAS Europe, by Fazilat Khalilova: <http://www.bibl.u-szeged.hu/oseas/uzbek.html>

Education in Uzbekistan, by Minister of Education of Uzbekistan: <http://www.tashkent.org/uzland/educate.html>

News agencies: Uzbekistan National News Agency, English version (<http://www.uza.uz/eng/>), Press Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan (<http://www.press-service.uz/en/>), Eurasia.net Uzbekistan Resource Page (<http://www.eurasianet.org/resource/uzbekistan/index.shtml>); RFE/RL Uzbek service (<http://www.rferl.org/section/Uzbekistan/165.html>)

TURKMENISTAN

	Soviet Era	1996 to 2007	Starting 2007-08
Elem./Secondary Ed.	10 years (8 + 2)	Total of 9 years	10 years (5 + 5)
Higher Education	5 years	2 yrs classroom + 2 yrs work	5 years
Research degrees	<i>Kandidat Nauk</i> and <i>Doktor Nauk</i>	Not available	Restored as of 2008-09

- Elementary/Secondary Education: Children start school at age 7
Secondary completion document: *Şahadatnama Orta Bilim Hakynda* (Certificate of Secondary Education)
No graduating class of 2007; instead, 9th-year graduates entered 10th year in fall 2007.
- Higher education completion document: *Ýokary bilim hakynda şahadatnama* (Diploma of Higher Education).
From 1996 to 2007, the diploma was not awarded until the 2-year work requirement was fulfilled.
- Education deteriorated, Turkmenistan isolated, under late President Niyazov, 1991-2007
 - "Complete education" shortened to 9 yrs.; higher education shortened to 2 yrs. of instruction followed by 2 yrs. of work
 - The *Rukhnama* (book written by the President Niyazov) became "the curriculum" at all levels in 2001.
 - Teaching in Russian and English eliminated; instruction almost exclusively in Turkmen
 - Ban on recognition of foreign degrees effective on June 1, 2004.
 - Effective 2003, higher education fees no longer free, feeding culture of corruption
- Reforms beginning in the academic year 2007-08 thus far appear to be quantitative, not qualitative
 - Return to Soviet-era standards and materials (10-year elem./sec. ed. + 5-year higher ed.)
 - Access to higher education very limited; corruption rampant in education sector
 - Re-establishment of graduate-level education, Candidate and Doctor of Sciences (beginning 2008-09)
 - August 2009: Hundreds of Turkmen students not allowed to leave for their studies abroad
 - 2008 discovery of larger-than-expected reserves of natural gas and oil put Turkmenistan on world stage, but younger generation is under-educated, ill-prepared for future leadership.

Grading system

Russian	Turkmen 1	Turkmen 2	English
5, отлично / <i>otlichno</i>	<i>örän govy, örän yagşy</i>	<i>bäs</i>	excellent
4, хорошо / <i>khorosho</i>	<i>yagşy</i>	<i>dört</i>	good
3, удовлетворительно / <i>udovletvoritel'no</i>	<i>kanagatlanarly</i>	<i>uç</i>	satisfactory
зачет / <i>zachet</i> (used only in higher ed.)	<i>zaçyot</i>	<i>hasap</i>	ungraded pass

Scale 1 used on school certificates and in higher education.

Scale 2 mostly used in secondary schools.

International Turkmen-Turkish University grade scale based on Turkish system:

85 - 100% (very good), 65 - 84% (good), 50 - 64% (satisfactory), below 50% (fail).

Additional Turkmenistan Resources

- Turkmenistan in NAFSA Online Guides to Educational Systems, 2008:
http://www.nafsa.org/File/_ges/Turkmenistan%2008.pdf
- EducationUSA Advising Centers: <http://eca.state.gov/educationusa/centers/index.cfm?region=SCA#TURKMENISTAN>
- Higher education institution list, including some institutional profiles: <http://www.tacism.org/tempus/list.htm>
- Portal of the Supreme Council on Science and Technology, Turkmen and International Postgraduate Education and Standards: <http://science.gov.tm/projects/pes/en/turkmenistan.htm>
- Several articles on education in Turkmenistan since President Niyazov's death in Dec. 2006:
Education System Proves Stubbornly Resistant to Reform, EurasiaNet.org, 10/23/07:
<http://www.eurasianet.org/departments/insight/articles/eav102307a.shtml>
Turkmenistan: Doors Opening, Doors Slamming, Chalkboard, 05/20/08: <http://chalkboard.tol.org/turkmenistan>
Turkmenistan: Fixing Decades of Damage, Boston College Center for International Higher Education, Summer 2009:
http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/newsletter/Number56/p23_Merrill.htm
- Turkish education in Turkmenistan: <http://www.tmrepublican.org/content.php?t=news&id=219>

KYRGYZSTAN

Secondary education:

- Complete general (academic) secondary education = 11 years, expanded during 1992-94; no plans for expansion to 12 years
 жалпы орто билим туралуу аттестат / аттестат о среднем (рольном) общем образовании / *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii* [Certificate of Secondary (Complete) General Education]
- Vocational secondary education (9+4 or 11+2); credential given: диплом / *Diplom* (Diploma)

Higher education:

- Admission: National testing begun in 2002 with National Scholarship Test, now called Unified National Test. Education sector extremely corrupt; goal is to curb corruption in award of scholarships.
- Higher education institutions (HEIs):
 State institutions, non-state institutions, and branches of foreign universities. HEIs must be licensed to operate.
 TEMPUS Kyrgyzstan, higher education list and contact info: <http://www.tempus.kg/universities.php>
- Credentials (in Kyrgyz and Russian terminology); documents are bilingual Kyrgyz-Russian:
 академическая справка / *Akademicheskaya spravka* (Academic certificate) – transcript issued for partial completion of a program
 диплом о неполном высшем образовании / *Diplom o Nepolnom Vysshem Obrazovanii* (Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education) – 2 years or more of higher education
 бакалавр диплому / диплом бакалавра / *Diplom Bakalavra* (Diploma of Bachelor) – 4 years
 адистик диплому / диплом специалиста / *Diplom Spetsialista* (Diploma of Specialist) – 5-6 years
 магистр диплому / диплом магистра / *Diplom Magistra* (Diploma of Master) – 2 years after bachelor or 1 year after specialist
 Дипломуна Тиркеме / Приложение к Диплому (Prilozhenie k Diplomu) - Supplement to the Diploma – Academic certificate that accompanies a bachelor, master or specialist diploma; invalid without the diploma
 илимдин кандидаты / диплом кандидата наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Candidate of Sciences) – 3 yrs.
 илимдин доктору / диплом доктора наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Doctor of Sciences) – based on significant publication and contributions to the discipline

Grading system:

Num.	Russian	Kyrgyz	English
5	отлично / <i>otlichno</i>	эң жакшы / <i>en zhakzhy</i>	excellent
4	хорошо / <i>khorocho</i>	Жакшы / <i>zhakzhy</i>	good
3	удовлетворительно / <i>udovletvoritel'no</i>	Канаатандырарлык / <i>kanaatandyrarlyk</i>	satisfactory
	зачет / <i>zachet</i> (used only in higher ed.)	зачет / <i>zachet</i>	ungraded pass

Other grading systems:

The American University of Central Asia uses a US-based letter grade and credit system.

International Ataturk-Alatoo University and Kyrgyzstan-Turkey Manas University use a letter grade system.

- Verification of documents: The Bishkek Resource Center, EducationUSA network, can assist in this process.

Additional Kyrgyzstan Resources

The Educational System of Kyrgyzstan, AACRAO, 2003

EducationUSA Advising Centers: <http://eca.state.gov/educationusa/centers/index.cfm?region=SCA#KYRGYZ%20REPUBLIC>

Ministry of Education (in Russian): <http://www.moik.gov.kg/> (problematic connection)

TEMPUS Kyrgyzstan: <http://www.tempus.kg/higher-education-national-system-world-tendencies.php>

The Internationalization of Higher Education in Kyrgyzstan, N. Djanaeva, International University of Kyrgyzstan:

<http://condor.depaul.edu/~rrotenbe/aer/v17n2/Djanaeva.pdf>

Kyrgyzstan: Officials Strive to Curb Corruption in Education System, 2009:

<http://www.eurasianet.org/departments/insightb/articles/eav012209b.shtml>

Fraud and Academic Integrity: Putting Them Into Context: 2006 NAFSA Conference presentation by

Anara Jamsheva of the Bishkek Resource Center (EducationUSA) and Chris Foley, IUPUI

TAJIKISTAN

Secondary education:

- Complete secondary education = 11 years, no movement toward expansion to 12 years at this time.
Academic secondary credential (in Tajik and Russian terminology):
Гувоҳнома дар маълумоти миёнаи умумӣ / аттестат о среднем общем образовании /
Attestat o Srednem Obshchem Obrazovanii (Certificate of Secondary General Education)
- Vocational secondary education (9+3 or 11+2); credential given: дипломи / диплом / *Diplom* (Diploma)

Higher education:

- Admission: Higher education institutions (HEIs) give their own entrance examinations.
- Diploma of Specialist (5 years); reform to establish bachelor + master system expected, but no movement yet.
- HEI List: Public institutions, compiled by the American Councils office in Tajikistan: www.americancouncils-tj.org
 - Tajik National University www.tsnu.tojikiston.com
 - Tajik State Pedagogical University named after S. Ayni
 - Tajik Technical University www.tj-techuni.narod.ru
 - Tajik State Medical University named after Abu Ali Sino
 - Russian-Tajik (Slavonic) University www.rtsu.narod.ru
 - Tajik Agrarian University www.tau.tojikiston.com
 - Tajik State Commerce University www.tjuktj.narod.ru
 - Tajik Technological University www.tut.tajnet.com
 - Tajik Institute of Physical Training
 - Tajik State Institute of Languages
 - Institute of Entrepreneurship and Services
 - Institute of Economics (prev. Tax and Law Tajik Institute)
 - Tajik Institute of Arts named after Tursun-Zade
www.art.tojikiston.com
 - University of Central Asia www.ucentralasia.org
 - Kurgan-Tube State University named after N.Khusrav
 - Kulob State University
 - Khujand State University named after B. Gafurov
www.khgu.boom.ru
 - Khorog State University named after Nazarshoev
www.khogu.boom.ru
 - Tajik State Institute of Law, Business and Politics
 - Tajik – Russian Modern Humanitarian University
 - Tajik Institute of Innovation and Technologies
 - Police Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic Tajikistan
 - Military Institute of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic Tajikistan
 - Graduate School of Security of the Ministry of Security of the Republic Tajikistan
 - Graduate School of Committee of Border troops of the Government of Tajikistan
- Two private HEIs lost their licenses in 2008 and the last one was ordered to close in summer 2009. See reference below.
- Credentials (in Tajik and Russian terminology):
академическая справка / *Akademicheskaya spravka* (Academic certificate) – transcript of partial completion
дипломи / диплом специалиста / *Diplom Spetsialista* (Diploma of Specialist) – 5 years
Приложение к Диплому (Prilozhenie k Diplomu) - Supplement to the Diploma – Academic certificate that
accompanies a bachelor, master or specialist diploma; invalid without the diploma
дипломи номзоди шлм / диплом кандидата наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Candidate
of Sciences) – 2 or 3 years
дипломи доктори шлм / диплом доктора наук / *Diplom Kandidata Nauk* (Diploma of Doctor of Sciences) –
based on significant publication and contributions to the discipline
- Verification of documents: The EducationUSA advising offices can assist in this process.

Grading system:

Num.	Russian	Tajik	English
5	отлично / <i>otlichno</i>	аъло / <i>a'lo</i>	excellent
4	хорошо / <i>khorocho</i>	хуб / <i>khub</i>	good
3	удовлетворительно / <i>udovletvoritel'no</i>	каноатбахш / <i>kanoatbakhsh</i>	satisfactory
	зачет / <i>zachet</i> (used only in higher ed.)	комёб / <i>kom'eb</i>	ungraded pass

- New credit and grade systems: US-style credit system, and 10-point grade system, piloted by 2 HEIs (Tajik Tech U, Khujand branch, and Tajik State Commerce U). All HEIs must switch to credit system by 2010.

Additional Tajikistan Resources:

EducationUSA Advising Centers: <http://eca.state.gov/educationusa/centers/index.cfm?region=SCA#TAJIKISTAN>
UNDP, Tajikistan Human Development Report 1996, Education: <http://www.undp.org/rbec/nhdr/1996/tajikistan/chapter11.htm>
Tajikistan Development Gateway: <http://www.tajik-gateway.org/index.phtml?lang=en&id=1185>
Educational Reform in the Republic of Tajikistan, with HEI list: http://ersu-pulse.by.ru/index_en.shtml?doc/en/krinformocpop_en
Tajikistan's Lone Private University, RFE/RL, September 2009:
http://www.rferl.org/content/Tajikistans_Lone_Private_University_Defies_Order/1812474.html