

**Credential Templates,  
The Former USSR and the Russian Federation**

**International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS), Government of Alberta**

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## Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

### Credential Actual Name:

Аттестат о среднем (полном) общем  
образовании, *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom)*  
*Obshchem Obrazovanii*

### Credential English Name:

Certificate of Completion of Secondary  
Education

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

Аттестат, *Attestat*  
Аттестат зрелости, *Attestat Zrelosti*  
Аттестат о среднем образовании, *Attestat o*  
*Srednem Obrazovanii* (before 1993)

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Secondary School Certificate  
Certificate of Maturity  
Certificate of Secondary Education (before  
1993)

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the USSR:

- Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (Аттестат об основном общем  
образовании, *Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii* ) of 8 or 9 years

#### In the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (Аттестат об основном общем  
образовании, *Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii* ) of 9 years

**Program Description:**In the USSR:

- 10 or 11 years, varied historically (see table 13 in the Educational Guide)
- 11 or 12 years in the former Baltic Republics

In the Russian Federation:

- 11 years

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Higher or vocational education
- Employment

**Placement Recommendations:****UK NARIC (UK)**

Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (10 years): Is considered to be below GCSE / Standard Grade standard

Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (11 years): Is considered comparable to GCSE (grades A\*-C) / Credit Standard Grade standard

**IERF 2004 (USA)**

High school graduation

**NOOSR 1992 (Australia)**

Completion of Year 12 in Australia

**IQAS Recommendations for:  
Employment**

The Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 (regardless whether it was a 10, 11, or 12-year system)

**Post-secondary Admission**

The Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 (regardless whether it was a 10, 11, or 12-year system)

## Course Equivalencies

Russian/Regional language and literature (e.g., Ukrainian) = Language Arts Grade 12

Algebra and Geometry = Pure Math 30

English = ESL Grade 12

Physics = Physics 30

Chemistry = Chemistry 30

Biology = Biology 30

## IQAS Rationale:

**The Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education** (Аттестат о среднем (полном) общем образовании, *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii*) is awarded after the completion of the upper secondary programme and the successful passing of the State final attestation (final examinations). It entitles its holder to pursue vocational education or higher education.

In both the former USSR and Russian Federation, regardless of whether the length of studies had been 10, 11, or 12 years, students sat for the same standardized examinations to obtain the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and for the same entrance examinations at the institutions of higher learning.

## School Year in the Former USSR and the Russian Federation

In the **former USSR**, the school year ran from September 1 until the end of May for grades other than final grades or until June for final grades. Students attended school six days per week (Monday through Saturday) for the nine months in each grade. Final examinations were held in May or June.

In the **Russian Federation**, the majority of schools operate on a five-day week with a few still operating on a six-day week. The academic year generally lasts from September to May or June. Final school examinations are held in June.

The school year in both the USSR and the Russian Federation is divided into four quarters (typically for grades up to grade 8) or two semesters (for higher grades). The school day is divided into three to seven classes (the higher the grade the more classes per day). At the end of each quarter or semester a student is assigned a grade in each subject.

## Upper Secondary Education in the Former USSR

Upper secondary education in most republics of the former USSR consisted of grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11. A standard academically-oriented program was suitable to prepare students for entry to institutions of higher education offering various fields of study.

Upper secondary education could be integrated with vocational training at technical/vocational schools. Technical/vocational education including secondary level education at those institutions in the former USSR is covered in the chapter on Technical/Vocational Education.

The upper secondary curriculum was essentially academic in content. Students studied a large number of science and social science subjects. They included mathematics, Russian literature, history, geography, biology, physics, astronomy, chemistry, a foreign language, physical education and other subjects. Students studied more than ten subjects amounting to the average of 36-38 hours of weekly instruction in their final years of schooling.

**Common Curriculum for Soviet Upper Secondary Schools, 1989<sup>i</sup>**

Subject	Hours of Instruction per Grade		
	10	11	Total
Russian Literature	152	114	266
Mathematics	171	152	323
Computer science	38	76	114
History	152	114	266
Family Life	38	-	38
Soviet Society	-	38	38
Geography	57	-	57
Biology	38	57	95
Physics	152	152	304
Astronomy	-	38	38
Chemistry	76	76	152
Foreign Language	38	38	76
Physical Education	76	76	152
Labour	152	152	304
Military Training	76	76	152
Total	1216	1159	2375

The school subjects were taught by specialist teachers who were required to complete higher (university-level) pedagogical education with a specialization in a given subject. The specialist teachers might be the same ones as at the lower secondary level.

At the end of the last grade of upper secondary education students sat for standardized examinations, both oral and written, in various core subjects. The number of exams was at least five, with two compulsory written exams, one in mathematics and one in Russian composition. In the 1988-1990 period students were tested in mathematics (written), Russian (written), literature (oral), physics (oral), chemistry (oral).

If successful in all subjects students were awarded the **Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education**. Final grades were listed on the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education itself. Final exam results were generally not recorded in the certificate but reflected in the final grades. Students who received the highest grade ('5' out of '5') in every subject were usually awarded a gold medal. Students who fell short by receiving '4' in only one subject usually received a silver medal. The certificate entitled its holder to apply for admission to an institution of higher education or vocational education.

The comparison between the total hours of instruction in the former USSR and Alberta can be found in the table below. The total hours of instruction in Alberta (grades 1 to 12) and in the former USSR (grades 1 to 10 or 11) are very similar.

**Comparison of Total Hours of Instruction at USSR and Alberta Schools<sup>ii</sup>**

<b>Grades</b>	<b>Total Hours of Instruction at USSR General Schools</b>	<b>Total Hours of Instruction at Alberta Schools</b>
1-6	5,160	5,700
7-11 (7-12 in Alberta)	5,774	5,350
Total for grades 1-11 (1-12 in Alberta)	10,934	11,050

**Upper Secondary Education in the Russian Federation**

Currently, upper secondary education comprises grades 10 and 11. This stage of schooling is not compulsory.

Schools offering vocational education may offer programs which combine vocational training and upper secondary education. Technical/vocational education including secondary level education at those institutions in the Russian Federation is covered in the chapter on Technical/Vocational Education.

As at the other stages of school education, upper secondary school curricula follow the Basic Curriculum of School Education of the Russian Federation. The subjects are similar to those in lower secondary schooling. They include Russian language and literature, mathematics, foreign language, biology, physics and astronomy, chemistry, history, social science, regional options, and individual studies, among others.

**Common Curriculum for Russian Upper Secondary Schools, 2004<sup>iii</sup>**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Hours of Instruction per Grade</b>		
	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Total</b>
Russian Language and Literature	170	136	306
Foreign Language	102	102	204
Mathematics	136	136	272
Biology	68	102	170
Physics and Astronomy	102	102	204
Chemistry	68	68	136
History	68	68	136
Social Science	68	68	136
Regional Option	34	34	68

Family Studies	34	34	68
Economics	68	68	136
Labour	102	102	204
Information Technology	34	34	68
Fine Arts and Culture	34	34	68
Physical Education	68	68	136
Individual Project	68	68	136
Individual Studies	68	68	136
Total	1292	1292	2584

The optional and non-federal components of the curriculum are increasing (see also the next section on Profile education). In 2004, the local content developed by regions and individual schools comprised 12.4% of class time in five-day schools.

As in the former USSR, school subjects are taught by specialist teachers who are required to complete higher (university-level) pedagogical education with a specialization in a given subject. The specialist teachers may be the same ones as at the lower secondary level.

Final and annual examinations are a combination of one third oral and two thirds written exams. The number of disciplines in the final attestation is at least five: two federal compulsory written examinations (Russian composition and mathematics) and at least three examinations in fields selected by the student.

The **Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education** includes the results of the final examinations and a transcript listing the grades achieved by students in all the subjects taught.<sup>iv</sup>

The comparison between total hours of instruction in the Russian Federation and Alberta can be found in the table below.

#### **Comparison of Total Hours of Instruction at Russian and Alberta Schools**

<b>Grades</b>	<b>Total Hours of Instruction at Russian General Schools</b>	<b>Total Hours of Instruction at Alberta Schools</b>
1-6	5,814	5,700
7-11 (7-12 in Alberta)	6,324	5,350
Total for grades 1-11 (1-12 in Alberta)	12,138	11,050

Even though the school week has changed from six days in the former USSR to five days in the Russian Federation, the total hours of instruction for all grades have increased by approximately 1,200 hours.

### Basic Curriculum in the Russian Federation

A minimum (compulsory) content of education and workload of students required by the state is set in the Basic Curriculum for School Education. Actual school curricula may differ in the number of hours per subject and the number of years a subject is taught. The Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation sets 75% of the curriculum (the Basic Curriculum), while at least 10% of the curriculum is set by the regions and at least 10% by the schools of general education. Other institutions, such as the gymnasiums and lyceums, make individual adjustments to the general curriculum in accordance with the field of study focused on at the institution.

**Basic Curriculum for Russian School Education, Grades 1 to 11, 2000<sup>v</sup>**

Subject	Hours of Instruction per Week per Grade										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Russian language	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	-	-
Literature	4	4	4	4	8	8	6	5	5	4	4
Arts	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	-	-
Social Sciences	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	4
Natural Sciences					2	3	6	8	8	4	4
Mathematics	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	3	3
Physical Education	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3
Labour	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3
Total	19	19	19	19	26	27	28	30	30	20	20
Disciplines in Regional Options	1	3	5	5	3	3	4	2	3	12	12
Total Mandatory Load	20	22	24	24	29	30	32	32	33	32	32
Optional, Individual and Group Classes	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	6
Total	22	25	27	27	32	33	35	35	36	38	38
Weeks per Year	33	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34

**Core Subject Groups in the Basic Curriculum, Grades 1 to 11<sup>vi</sup>**

Subject Group	Subjects
Humanities	Russian Language
	Literature
	Arts
Social Sciences	Foreign Languages
	Russian History
	World History
	Economic and Social Geography
	Law



Natural Sciences	Political Science
	Economics
	Biology
	Physics
	Astronomy
	Chemistry
Mathematics	Ecology
	Algebra
Physical Education	Geometry
Labour	Various Sports
	Home Economics, Sewing, Cooking, Metal Work, Carpentry, etc.

## **Educational Reforms in the Russian Federation**

### **Profile Education**

In 2003 a new concept of what is known as ‘profile education’ was introduced in the upper secondary classes (grades 10 and 11) in general schools.<sup>vii</sup> Profile education involves the introduction of a number of study concentrations, or profiles.

### **Profile Names and Subjects of Studies, 2006<sup>viii</sup>**

<b>Profile Name</b>	<b>Subjects of Intensive Studies</b>
Mathematics	Informatics, Mathematics, Physics
Physics and Chemistry	Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry
Chemistry	Mathematics, Chemistry
Chemistry and Biology	Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology
Biology and Geography	Mathematics, Geography, Biology
Social Sciences and Economics	Mathematics, Geography, Civics, Economics, Law
Humanities	Civics, History, Russian Language, Literature, Law
Philology	Literature, Russian language, two foreign languages
Information Technology	Mathematics, Informatics
Agricultural Science	Biology, Cattle Husbandry, Agronomy, Agriculture Technology
Industrial Science	Physics, Technology
Fine Arts	Literature, Art
Physical Education	Physical Education, Health/Life Skills

### Hours of Instruction for Profile Education, 2004<sup>ix</sup>

Subjects	Compulsory and Elective Subjects (2 years of study)	
	Basic Level	Profile
Russian Language	70*	210
Literature	210*	350
Foreign Languages	210*	420
Mathematics	280*	420
History	140*	280
Physical Education	140*	280
Social Science	70*	210
Economics	35*	140
Law	35*	140
Geography	70	210
Physics	140*	350
Chemistry	70*	210
Biology	70	210
Informatics	70	280
Art	70	210
Technology	70	280
Civics	35	140
Subtotal	maximum 2100	
Subjects set by region	140	
Subjects set by school	minimum 280	
Grand total	up to 2520	

\* Non-variable part (compulsory subjects)

The profile education model is implemented in all Russian general schools at two stages, the preparatory stage (grade 9) and profile teaching stage (grades 10 and 11).

In the preparatory stage students prepare to choose profiles that will be taught for the duration of grades 10 and 11. Students study intensively one subject for 2-3 months, or one semester. The duration of a course can vary from 12 hours to 100 hours. During the preparatory stage students can explore different profiles.

In the profile teaching stage students commit to a profile (group of subjects) that will be taught at an advanced level. For every educational program only a few subjects remain mandatory. Mandatory subjects are taught at the basic level.

The complete model of profile education (both the preparatory and profile teaching stages) is being implemented across the country in 2006/2007.

### The Unified State Exam

Another recent reform in Russian general education is the Unified State Exam (USE) (Единый Государственный Экзамен (ЕГЭ), *Edinyj Gosudarstvennyj Ekzamen (EGE)*). Since 2004, the Russian Ministry of Education has been experimenting with a single, nationwide,

standardized exam. Each student taking the exam receives a Certificate of USE Results (Свидетельство о Результатах ЕГЭ, *Svidetel'stvo o Rezul'tatah EGE*). The plan is to make it a standard graduation test in Russian general schools by 2009. It is currently administered at the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and only at state-accredited institutions. As of 2009, it will also be administered for students leaving general school after the 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Summary of Rationale:

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### IQAS recommends that:

**The Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (regardless whether it was a 10, 11, or 12-year system) generally compares to the completion of Grade 12.**

### Grading:

The following grading scale has been used at all levels of school education in the former USSR and the Russian Federation.

Scale	Grade Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )

The lowest passing grade is '3'. Students must pass each course in order to enroll in the next grade or to graduate. The grade '1' also exists, but is used very rarely.

A plus (+) or a minus (-) may be added to a grade. For example, a '4+' is higher than a '4' and lower than a '5-'. A '5+' is very rare. These intermediate grades may be awarded throughout the period of study but typically not as a final grade.

## Diploma of Lower Vocational Education

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

### Credential Actual Name:

Диплом об окончании профтехучилища,  
*Diplom ob okonchanii proftehuchilishcha* (in  
the former USSR)

Диплом о начальном профессиональном  
образовании, *Diplom o nachal'nom*  
*professional'nom obrazovanii* (in the Russian  
Federation)

### Credential English Name:

Diploma of Lower Vocational Education  
[Diploma of Completion of  
Professional/Technical/Vocational Education]

Diploma of Lower Vocational Education  
[Diploma of Lower Professional Education]

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Diploma of "Skilled Worker", e.g.  
Mechanic, Cook, etc.

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the former USSR and Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (Аттестат об основном общем образовании, *Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii* ) of 8 or 9 years (typically without entrance exams) or
- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (Аттестат о среднем (полном) общем образовании, *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii*) of 10 or 11 years

(typically without entrance exams)

**Program Description:**

In the former USSR and Russian Federation:

Lower vocational education is aimed at the training of skilled workers. Programs vary according to the type of institution, the entry level (after lower secondary or upper secondary education), and the occupation for which training is provided. The type of educational institution and the entry mode determine the duration and level of the program.

Lower vocational education is usually obtained on the basis of lower secondary education. But for few occupations training is offered only after completion of upper secondary education.

In the former USSR:

<b>Admission Requirements</b>	<b>Incorporates Complete Secondary Education</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Institution Type*</b>	<b>Access to</b>
Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (typically without entrance exams)	No	2 years	PTU	Employment
	Yes	3 years	SPTU	Employment or higher education
Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (typically without entrance exams)	N/A	1-1.5 years	PTU, SPTU	Employment

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a description of the institution types.

In the Russian Federation:

<b>Admission Requirements</b>	<b>Incorporates Complete Secondary Education</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Institution Type*</b>	<b>Access to</b>
Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (typically without entrance exams)	No	1-2.5 years	PTU/PU	Employment
	Yes	3-4 years	professional lyceum/SPTU	Employment or higher education
Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (typically without entrance exams)	N/A	1-1.5 years	PTU/ professional lyceum/SPTU	Employment

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Higher education (if incorporates complete secondary education)

**Placement Recommendations:**

**UK NARIC (UK)**

Diploma of Lower Vocational Education: Is considered comparable to N/SVQ level 2/ City & Guilds level 2 standard.

Diploma of Lower Vocational Education together with completed secondary education: Is considered comparable between N/SVQ level 2/ City & Guilds level 2 and N/SVQ level 3/ City & Guilds level 3.

**IERF 2004 (USA)**

The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education on the basis of the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education is considered equivalent of high school graduation if it incorporates complete secondary education.

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a description of the institution types.

The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education on the basis of the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education represent up to 30 semester credits at the junior/community college level for each year of full-time study.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:
  - If it incorporates complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
  - If it does not incorporate complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:
  - The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.

#### For the Russian Federation only:

If vocational training is offered through a professional lyceum and the number of years and the type of training warrant it, the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education may generally compare to the completion of a 1-year post-secondary certificate with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

### **Post-secondary Admission**

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:
  - If it incorporates complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
  - If it does not incorporate complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:
  - The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.

#### For the Russian Federation only:

If vocational training is offered through a professional lyceum and the number of years and the

type of training warrant it, the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education may generally compare to a 1-year post-secondary certificate with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

### **Course Equivalencies**

If complete secondary education is part of the program use academic courses only:

Russian/Regional language and literature (e.g., Ukrainian) = Language Arts Grade 12

Algebra and Geometry = Pure Math 30

English = ESL Grade 12

Physics = Physics 30

Chemistry = Chemistry 30

Biology = Biology 30

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Lower Vocational Education in the Former USSR:**

Most lower vocational programs in the former USSR were offered by the following **types of institutions**:

- 1.) Professional Technical *Uchilishche* (PTUs) and
- 2.) Secondary Professional Technical *Uchilishche* (SPTUs).

The main distinction between PTUs and SPTUs was that PTUs did not offer complete secondary education.

**1.) Professional Technical *Uchilishche* PTU (Профессионально-Техническое Училище ПТУ, *Professional'noe Tehnicheskoe Uchilishche PTU*), may also have been called Professional *Uchilishche* PU (Профессиональное Училище ПУ, *Professional'noe Uchilishche PU*)**

PTUs were developed post World War II to train skilled workers in a wide variety of trades. For example, they trained technical personnel in carpentry, cookery, hairdressing, industrial and technical drawing, lathe operation, metalwork, machining, motor vehicle mechanics, plumbing, radio electronics, secretarial studies, sewing machine operation, welding, etc.

PTUs offered very narrow and practically oriented instruction, about 80% of which was practical and the remaining 20% theoretical. Work experience was an integral part of all programs.



PTUs did not offer complete secondary education. Individuals who entered after lower secondary education followed different curricula than those after upper secondary education. Students without upper secondary education were offered some basic courses from the upper secondary curriculum and additional courses in Soviet society and military training. Students with upper secondary education received a more advanced understanding of their craft.

## **2.) Secondary Professional Technical *Uchilishche* SPTU (Среднее Профессионально-Техническое Училище СПТУ, *Srednee Professional'noe Tehnicheskoe Uchilishche SPTU*)**

SPTUs developed from PTUs in the early 1970s as many PTUs started to incorporate complete upper secondary education in their vocational programs. Upper secondary education by SPTUs was considered to be fully equivalent to that at general secondary schools. They offered vocational education in a wide range of trades, similar to PTUs.

Programs incorporating upper secondary education usually lasted three years. Upper secondary courses were distributed throughout the duration of the program. Student took examinations in upper secondary subjects at the end of their second and third years. The exams were similar to those in general secondary schools. Only those students who completed the full three-year program obtained an equivalent of complete upper secondary education.

### **Diploma of Lower Vocational Education in the Former USSR**

**The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education** (Диплом об окончании профтехучилища, *Diplom ob okonchanii proftehuchilishcha*) was generally referred to as the Diploma of "Skilled Worker". The *Diplom* stated that the occupational qualification was awarded by decision of the State Examination Commission (also called the State Attestation or Qualification Commission). It listed the institution attended and the dates the program started and ended. If the program combined upper secondary and vocational education, the diploma attested that the person had "gained complete secondary education".

The Diploma usually also referred to a numeric category (категория, *kategoriya*) or, equivalently, level/grade (разряд, *razryad*) that was assigned to each specialization. This identified the level of vocational skill and pay grade.

The Diploma awarded in the former Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) was in Russian. The Diploma awarded in any other former Soviet Socialist Republic was bilingual – in Russian and the local language of that Republic.

## **Lower Vocational Education in the Russian Federation:**

The aim of lower vocational education is to train skilled workers. Students are usually admitted on the basis of lower secondary education. Vocational training for certain occupations may require completion of upper secondary education.

The academic year runs from September 1 to the end of June. Instruction is usually 36 hours a week. During industrial practicum, instruction is reduced to seven hours a week.

Programs vary according to the type of institution, the entry level, and the occupation for which training is provided. They may be offered at the basic (базовый, *bazovyy*) and advanced (повышенный, *povyshennyj*) levels. Generally, advanced-level lower vocational programs require one more year of study compared to basic level vocational training for that occupation. The diploma with the title of Qualified Worker may refer to the vocational level, basic or advanced. Further, each specialization of lower vocational education is also assigned a numeric category (категория, *kategoriya*) or level/grade (разряд, *razryad*). This identifies the level of vocational skill and pay grade.

In vocational education in the Russian Federation, the type of educational institution and the entry mode (after lower secondary or upper secondary education) determine the duration and level of the program. It is, therefore, very important to pay attention to the institution name and the mode of entry.

### **Types of Institutions Offering Lower Vocational Education in the Russian Federation**

Most lower vocational programs in the Russian Federation are offered by institutions of the following types:

- 1.) Professional Technical *Uchilishche* (PTUs),
- 2.) Professional Lyceums, and
- 3.) Secondary Professional Technical *Uchilishche* (SPTUs).

As evident from their names, PTUs and SPTUs are types of *uchilishche* (училище). They are not to be confused, however, with other types of *uchilishche*. Some other *uchilishche* are higher education institutions, while the majority are higher vocational institutions. Examples of higher education *uchilishche* include theatrical *uchilishche*, higher military *uchilishche*, higher marine engineering *uchilishche* (see the chapter on Higher Education). Examples of higher vocational *uchilishche* include pedagogical *uchilishche*, medical *uchilishche*, musical *uchilishche* (see the section on Higher Vocational Education).

*Uchilishche* that are lower vocational institutions are either PTUs or SPTUs. The main distinction between PTUs and SPTUs is that PTUs do not offer complete secondary education.

**1.) Professional Technical *Uchilishche* PTU (Профессионально-Техническое Училище ПТУ, *Professional'no-Tekhnicheskoe Uchilishche PTU*),** may also be called **Professional *Uchilishche* PU (Профессиональное Училище ПУ, *Professional'noe Uchilishche PU*)**

PTUs continue to operate in the post-Soviet era, although some have closed, merged, or upgraded to institutions of higher vocational education under new names. PTUs are lower vocational institutions that train skilled workers and junior technical personnel. The programs are quite narrow and applied. Eighty percent of the content is practical and 20% is theoretical.

Programs requiring lower secondary education (9 years) for admission are designed for basic crafts or trades. They also include some secondary education although it does not have the breadth or depth of complete upper secondary education (11 years). Programs requiring upper secondary education (11 years) typically provide training in a vocation at a more advanced level than those requiring lower secondary education (9 years) for admission.

After passing the State final examination, graduates of PTUs are awarded diplomas that give them the right to practice a vocation. Such a diploma also entitles its holder to course credit if they pursue higher vocational education in the same field. However, this type of vocational education on its own does not grant access to university level higher education as it does not incorporate in its curriculum complete secondary education.

**2.) Professional Lyceum (Профессиональный Лицей, *Professional'nyj Litzej*)**

Professional lyceums offer lower vocational training as well as complete upper secondary education. The secondary education provided by professional lyceums is fully equivalent to the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education.

Professional lyceum programs evolved from other types of lower vocational training that added an extra year of study for a more advanced level of vocational education. The vocational training is at a higher level than that offered by PTUs and the awarded document refers to the advanced level. Professional lyceums also offer shorter programs that are purely vocational for individuals who already hold a Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education.

After passing the State final examination, graduates of a professional lyceum are awarded diplomas that not only give them the right to exercise a vocation but also indicate that they have received complete secondary education. This diploma gives its holder the right to be admitted to university-level higher education institutions. If higher education is pursued in the same field course credit can be granted by the institution.

### **3.) Secondary Professional Technical *Uchilishche* SPTU (Среднее Профессионально-Техническое Училище СПТУ, *Srednee Professional'noe Tehnicheskoe Uchilishche SPTU*)**

SPTUs continue to operate in the post-Soviet era although some have become professional lyceums. Similarly to professional lyceum programs, SPTU programs that require the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education for admission combine lower vocational education with higher secondary education. Other SPTU programs require the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education for admission. SPTUs offer vocational education in a wide range of trades, similar to PTUs. For more information, see the description of SPTUs in the section on Lower Vocational Education in the Former USSR.

Some higher vocational institutions may offer lower vocational programs as well. See the section on Higher Vocational Education in the Russian Federation.

#### **Diploma of Lower Vocational Education in the Russian Federation**

**The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education** (Диплом о начальном профессиональном образовании, *Diplom o nachal'nom professional'nom obrazovanii*) is generally referred to as the Diploma of "Skilled Worker". The Diploma identifies the skilled worker title (electrician, etc.). It states that the occupational qualification is awarded by decision of the State Examination Commission (also called the State Attestation or Qualification Commission). It lists the institution attended and the dates the program started and ended. If the program provided upper secondary in addition to vocational education, the diploma typically attest that the person "has gained complete secondary education".

The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education in the Russian Federation is in Russian.

#### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations.

#### **IQAS recommends that:**

### **In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:**

- **Admission after incomplete secondary education:**
  - If it incorporates complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
  - If it does not incorporate complete secondary education then the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.
- **Admission after complete secondary education:**
  - The Diploma of Lower Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of vocational training in xxx/ or as xxx.

### **For the Russian Federation only:**

If vocational training is offered through a professional lyceum and the number of years and the type of training warrant it, the Diploma of Lower Vocational Education may generally compare to a 1-year post-secondary certificate with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

### **Grading:**

The following grading scale has been used in both the former USSR and the Russian Federation.

Scale	Grade Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )

The lowest passing grade is '3'. Students must pass each course in order to enroll in the next grade or to graduate. The grade '1' also exists, but is used very rarely.

A plus (+) or a minus (-) may be added to a grade. For example, a '4+' is higher than a '4' and lower than a '5-'. A '5+' is very rare. These intermediate grades may be awarded throughout the period of study but typically not as a final grade.

## Diploma of Higher Vocational Education

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

### Credential Actual Name:

Диплом об окончании среднего  
специального образования, *Diplom ob  
okonchanii srednego spetsial'nogo  
obrazovaniya* (in the former USSR)  
Диплом о среднем профессиональном  
образовании, *Diplom o srednem  
professional'nom obrazovanii* (in the Russian  
Federation)

### Credential English Name:

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education  
[Diploma of Completion of Secondary  
Vocational Education]

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education  
[Diploma of Secondary Professional  
Education]

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Diploma of Technician, Diploma of  
Nurse, Diploma of Feldscher, etc.

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (Аттестат об основном общем образовании, *Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii* ) of 8 or 9 years and entrance exams, or
- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (Аттестат о среднем (полном) общем

образовании, *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii*) of 10 or 11 years and entrance exams

### Program Description:

The objective of higher vocational education is to train higher level professionals such as pre-school/primary school teachers, nurses, bookkeepers, technicians, etc. They are trained at **institutions of various types** that offer programs of different duration and level.

In the former USSR:

Admission Requirements	Incorporates Complete Secondary Education	Duration	Institution Type*	Access to
Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education and entrance exams	Yes	3-5.5 years:		Employment or higher education
		3-5 years, typically 4 years	<i>Tehnikum/Uchilishche</i>	
		4 to 5.5 years	College	
Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams	N/A	2-4.5 years:		Employment
		2-3 years, typically 2 years	<i>Tehnikum/Uchilishche</i>	
		3 to 4.5 years	College	

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a description of the institution types.

In the Russian Federation:

Admission Requirements	Incorporates Complete Secondary Education	Duration	Institution Type*	Typical Level of Vocational Training	Access to
Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education and entrance exams	Yes	3-5 years:			Employment or higher education
		Minimum 3 years	<i>Tehnikum/Uchilishche</i>	Basic	
		4 to 5 years	College	Basic and Advanced	
Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams	N/A	2-4 years:			Employment
		2-3 years	<i>Tehnikum/Uchilishche</i>	Basic	
		3 to 4 years	College	Basic and Advanced	

It is possible to upgrade from a basic level diploma to an advanced level diploma by an additional year of full-time study.

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Higher education (if incorporates complete secondary education)

**Placement Recommendations:**

**NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education: Comparable to the level of an AQF Diploma.

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education at the Advanced Level from a College: Comparable to the level of an AQF Advanced Diploma.

**UK NARIC (UK)**

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education until 1995 (Basic Level): Is considered comparable to N/SVQ level 3/ City & Guilds level 3 standard

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education (Basic Level) from 1995: Is considered comparable to

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a description of the institution types.



Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education (AVCE)/BTEC National Diploma standard

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education (Advanced Level) from 1995: Is considered comparable to BTEC/SQA Higher National Certificate (HNC) standard

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

The first two years of study after the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education represent the equivalent of high school graduation. Any subsequent years count toward the associate's degree in the United States AA/AS/AAS with up to 30 semester credits at the junior/community college level for each year of full-time study.

The Diploma after the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education represents the equivalent of the associate's degree in the United States AA/AS/AAS with up to 30 semester credits at the junior/community college level for each year of full-time study.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- If vocational training is offered through a *college* (this option mainly applies to the Russian Federation):
  - At a basic level:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]
  - At an advanced level:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

### **Post-secondary Admission**

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12

plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

- Admission after complete secondary education:

The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

- If vocational training is offered through a *college* (this option mainly applies to the Russian Federation):

- At a basic level:

The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

- At an advanced level:

The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

### **Course Equivalencies**

- If complete secondary education is part of the program, use academic courses only:

Russian/Regional language and literature (e.g., Ukrainian) = Language Arts Grade 12

Algebra and Geometry = Pure Math 30

English = ESL Grade 12

Physics = Physics 30

Chemistry = Chemistry 30

Biology = Biology 30

- Otherwise (complete secondary education is obtained prior to admission), 30-level courses if no secondary documents available.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Higher Vocational Education in the Former USSR:**

The objective of higher vocational education was to train mid-level professionals such as pre-school/primary teachers, nurses, etc. Most higher vocational students - 66.7% in 1989 - were enrolled full-time, 6.6% in evening programs, and 26.6% in correspondence programs. Correspondence study generally required an additional year of study compared to the other forms of education.

## Types of Institutions Offering Higher Vocational Education in the Former USSR

Institutions of higher vocational education in the former USSR were known as Specialised Secondary Education Institutions (Средние специальные учебные заведения ССУЗ, *Srednie spetsial'nye uchebnye zavedeniya/SSUZ*). They fell into three main categories:

- 1.) *tehnikum*,
- 2.) *uchilishche*, and
- 3.) *college* (since 1989).

1.) The ***tehnikum*** (техникум) was for technical and business fields.

2.) The ***uchilishche*** (училище) offered programs for a range of skilled non-technical occupations, such as preschool and primary school teaching, nursing, etc.<sup>1</sup>

3.) The ***college*** (колледж, *kolledzh*) emerged in 1989. *Colleges* were created to educate highly trained specialists for the type of work previously entrusted to university-level graduates. As of 1990, 12 *tehnikum* were upgraded to *colleges*. (For more information on *colleges*, see the section on Higher Vocational Education in the Russian Federation.)

Admission to *SSUZ* was by entrance examinations that tested the knowledge of the curriculum of lower secondary or upper secondary education, depending on the mode of entry. Entry into a *college* was the most competitive out of all the types of *SSUZ*.

## Diploma of Higher Vocational Education in the Former USSR

Students who successfully completed their course at a *SSUZ* were awarded the **Diploma of Higher Vocational Education** (Диплом об окончании среднего специального образования, *Diplom ob okonchanii srednego spetsial'nogo obrazovaniya*, also Диплом о среднем специальном образовании, *Diplom o srednem spetsialnom obrazavanii*). This credential was also known as the Diploma of Technician, Diploma of Nurse, Diploma of Feldscher, etc. The Diploma was awarded by the Examination Commission, which was also referred to as the Attestation or Qualification Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> Some *uchilishche* are institutions of higher education. See the Chapter on Higher Education.

Diplomas awarded in the former Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) were in Russian. Diplomas awarded in another former Soviet Socialist Republic were bilingual – in Russian and the local language of that Republic.

Holders of the Diploma of Higher Vocational Education completed upper secondary education, either prior or during their study at a *SSUZ*. If upper secondary education was obtained at a *SSUZ* the Diploma may not have always attested to that. But the Supplement to the Diploma included upper secondary courses and the duration of the program was appropriately longer. *SSUZ* graduates could continue their education at a higher educational institution, but the majority entered the workforce.

In addition to the type of the Diploma issued by the *tehnikum* and *uchilishche*, the *college* may have also awarded the Diploma with the title of "Junior Engineer" (Младший инженер, *Mladshij inzhener*). The Diploma of "Junior Engineer" required an additional 1.5 years. *College* graduates with this credential may have been granted advanced standing at the third year of appropriate higher education programs.

### **Higher Vocational Education in the Russian Federation:**

In the Russian Federation, there have appeared new types of institutions of vocational education - the professional lyceum (an institution of lower vocational education) and the college (an institution of higher vocational education).

Admission to higher vocational education is competitive. Applicants take entrance exams set by educational institutions for specific specialisations. Admission to some programs and institutions is more competitive than others but the average admission ratio in 1995 was about 180 applicants per 100 vacant places. Even though it is possible to enter higher vocational education after lower secondary education, the number of applicants with incomplete secondary education has been declining. They currently account for about one-third of the total number of applicants. Some programs are offered exclusively to students who have completed upper secondary education.

The duration of programs vary according to the mode of entry, field of study, and level of program. Generally, basic programs in humanities and the arts are shorter than those in technical fields. In addition, there are two levels of program – basic (standard) and advanced. It is possible to upgrade from a basic level diploma to an advanced level diploma by an additional year of full-time study.

The curricula stipulate forty-five weeks of study per year. Academic time is equally divided between theoretical education and a practical component. The total workload of a full-

time student is fifty-four hours a week, including classwork and independent studies. The instructional hours are thirty-six hours a week. For part-time (evening) education, classwork amounts to sixteen hours per week. In the case of correspondence education, each student must be provided with at least 160 contact hours a year.

Coursework includes humanities, business administration, law, Russian language, mathematics, and informatics. Other subjects are professionally oriented and divided between general subjects within the chosen field of study and specialisation subjects. In addition, programs include compulsory external professional practicum. Programs conclude with a supervised diploma project which must be defended, and final examinations.

### **Types of Institutions Offering Higher Vocational Education in the Russian Federation**

Most higher vocational programs are offered in disciplines such as technology, agronomy, business, services, teaching, health (allied medical professions), culture and art. Institutions are usually named according to their area of specialisation.

In the Russian Federation, there are three types of institutions of higher vocational education:

- 1.) *tehnikum* (техникум),
- 2.) *uchilishche* (училище), and
- 3.) *college* (колледж, *kolledzh*).

1.) Typical *uchilishche* programs of higher vocational education provide training for occupations in services, health, teaching (pre-school or primary), and art.<sup>1</sup> Examples of higher vocational *uchilishche* are medical *uchilishche*, pedagogical *uchilishche*, etc.

2.) The *tehnikum* typically provides programs in technology and business.

3.) Educational programs of *colleges*, in addition to the educational programs for *tehnikum* and *uchilishche*, include more in-depth theoretical education and professional training for up to one additional year. *Colleges* can be independent educational institutions or constituent parts of higher education institutions. *Colleges* may also award the Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education that can be used for entry into year three of a Bachelor or Specialist program of higher education. (For more information on the Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education see the chapter on Higher Education.)

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<sup>1</sup> Note that other types of *uchilishche* are lower vocational institutions and higher education institutions.

Most programs at a *tehnikum* and an *uchilishche* are at the ‘basic’ level. A *tehnikum* and an *uchilishche* may obtain state accreditation for one or several advanced vocational programs so that they can assume the more prestigious ‘college’ name. Most *colleges* offer both basic (standard) and advanced higher vocational programs. Only *colleges* can offer advanced vocational programs.

## **Diploma of Higher Vocational Education in the Russian Federation**

On the successful completion of the coursework and State final examinations, students are awarded the **Diploma of Higher Vocational Education** (Диплом о среднем профессиональном образовании, *Diplom o srednem professional'nom obrazovanii*) and a professional title (the Diploma of Technician, Diploma of Nurse, Diploma of Feldscher, etc.). The Diploma is in Russian.

Unlike in the former USSR, the diploma format is now similar to the formats issued by university-level higher education institutions. The diploma supplement lists subjects taught during the period of studies and the grades earned. The supplement also states whether the admission credential was the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education or whether the program of study incorporated upper secondary education. The text of the diploma refers to the qualification being at the “Basic level” (базовый уровень, *bazovyy uroven'*) or “Advanced level” (повышенный уровень, *povyshennyj uroven'*). Students who complete advanced training (typically, at a *college*) may be awarded a professional title with addition of the word “senior” (старший, *starshij*), for example “senior technician” (старший техник, *starshij tehnik*).

Graduates of higher vocational programs are entitled to apply to institutions of higher education. Typically the *Diplom* at the basic level provides one year of advanced standing in a relevant Bachelor or Diploma of Specialist program, while a *Diplom* at the advanced level provides two years of advanced standing. Graduates of higher vocational education seek admission to university-level higher education on the same conditions as upper secondary school graduates. The majority of graduates, however, enter the labour market. Of those who continue their education, 70% follow evening or distance studies while working.

## **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

**IQAS recommends that:**

**In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:**

- **Admission after incomplete secondary education:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.**

- **Admission after complete secondary education:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.**

- **If vocational training is offered through a *college* (this option mainly applies to the Russian Federation):**

- **At a basic level:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]**

- **At an advanced level:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]**

**Grading:**

The following grading scale has been used in both the former USSR and the Russian Federation.

Scale	Grade Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )

The lowest passing grade is '3'. Students must pass each course in order to enroll in the next grade or to graduate. The grade '1' also exists, but is used very rarely.

A plus (+) or a minus (-) may be added to a grade. For example, a '4+' is higher than a '4' and lower than a '5-'. A '5+' is very rare. These intermediate grades may be awarded throughout the period of study but typically not as a final grade.

## **Bachelor's Degree**

### **Country:**

Russian Federation

### **Date Entered:**

### **Credential Actual Name:**

Бакалавр, *Bakalavr* (4 years)

### **Credential English Name:**

Bachelor's degree

### **Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

### **Credential Alternate English Name(s):**

Examples: Bachelor in Economics, Bachelor in Sociology, Bachelor in Physics, etc.

### **Time Period Credential Offered:**

Russian Federation (post 1991)

### **Issuing Body:**

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation

### **Admission Requirements:**

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education or other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education), and entrance exams\*

### **Program Description:**

- 4 years of full-time study (including 1.5-4 months for thesis completion)

### **Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Master or Diploma of "Specialist" program
- Employment

### **Placement Recommendations:**

### **NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Bachelor Degree.

### **UK NARIC (UK)**

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.



Is considered comparable to British Bachelor (Ordinary) degree standard.

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

Equivalent to BA/BS.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

The Bachelor's degree (4 years) generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.

### **Post-secondary Admission**

The Bachelor's degree (4 years) generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.

### **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Bachelor's degree in the Russian Federation**

The Bachelor's degree is the first degree in the Russian post-secondary system. It is offered in parallel to the traditional degree of "Specialist".

About 80% of the curriculum in a Bachelor program is based on State Educational Standards. Each Bachelor program contains a defined portion of fundamental education with courses taken from the humanities, the social sciences and economics, and the natural sciences. In senior years students receive specialized education and complete professional practicum. The Bachelor's degree is primarily an academic degree, and gives access to the Master's degree or Diploma of "Specialist". It is considered to be less professionally oriented than the traditional Diploma of "Specialist", and may be less popular with some employers. It may be awarded in all disciplines except medicine and related disciplines such as veterinary medicine and dentistry.

The Bachelor program normally requires 25-30 contact hours per week. The program also includes a compulsory 10 to 12-week professional practicum in the area of specialisation.

The State final attestation includes the defense of a final research project and State final examinations. The final research project is prepared over a period of up to four months of full-time study and defended before a State Examination Commission. State final examinations may be in individual subjects or an interdisciplinary area.

The Supplement to the Diploma (Приложение к Диплому, *Prilozhenie k Diplomu*) includes the list of subjects, number of hours, grades, professional practicum, and the results

obtained in the final state examinations and in the defence of the final research project. The Supplement to the Diploma may also be translated as the Addendum to the Diploma.

### Final Research Project Preparation

For the preparation of a final research project, a supervisor is appointed for each student. Students choose topics from a list of topics set by the institution or propose their own topics. The final research project is expected to be of independent research or scholarship. Before the defense can take place, experts in the respective fields review the work.

A final research project is defended before an examination commission, called the State Attestation Commission, set up by the rector of the institution. The members of State Attestation Commission are professors and researchers from various institutions and experts from the industry. The chairperson is invited from outside the institution and is approved by the administrative body in charge of the institution.

### Detailed Admission Requirements

Admission Requirement	Description	
Academic credential requirement	A school or vocational education credential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li><li>• A diploma of vocational education that includes complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li></ul>	
AND		
Examination requirement	Prior to the introduction of the USE in 2001	Since the introduction of the USE in 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams is three to five.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of USE results</li></ul> And/or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations as before (as set by the institution)</li></ul>

## Unified State Examination (USE)

The Unified State Examination (Единый государственный экзамен/ЕГЭ, *Edinyj gosudarstvennyj ekzamen/EGE*) has been implemented since 2001 as a standardised school graduation examination. Test takers receive the Certificate of USE Results (Свидетельство о результатах ЕГЭ, *Svidetel'stvo o Rezul'tatah EGE*).

Higher education institutions may use the USE results in place of, or in addition to, their own entrance examinations. With a Certificate of USE Results and an applicable school leaving credential, students can apply simultaneously to several institutions all over the country.

## Additional Admission Considerations

- Admission for fee-paying students may not be as competitive as for students financed from the state budget.
- Institutions of higher education may reduce the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
  - individuals who have been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
  - graduates of specialized schools.
- **Foreign students** must meet the same entrance requirements as Russian nationals, in particular, have completed school education and taken entrance exams. There is a compulsory pre-academic year for those who do not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training. Foreign applicants may not be older than 28 (35 for doctoral studies). In addition, they must have a valid Student visa and financial guarantees.

## Forms of Education

There are different forms of education: full-time, part-time (evening and correspondence programs), and so-called *externat* (a form of education that enables individuals to study independently and to take examinations). The State Education Standard specifies acceptable forms of education for each specialisation. The minimum content requirements set by the State Education Standard do not depend on the form of education.

## Academic Year

Entrance examinations are traditionally held in August. The academic year runs from September to June. It is divided into two academic semesters with examinations held at the end of each. Examinations may be oral or written and number about five per semester. In contrast to other countries, in the Russian Federation 100% of the course grade is determined by the final examination grade in that subject. Other courses may be evaluated as pass/fail. In order to qualify for the final examination, students must also complete professional practice requirements.

The university level higher education curriculum stipulates 36 weeks of study a year. Depending on the field of study (specialisation), mandatory courses in the curriculum constitute 80 to 85 percent, optional courses 15 to 20 percent. The total workload of a student should not exceed 54 hours a week, including classroom work and independent studies. For part-time evening education, classwork should be no less than 10 hours a week. In the case of correspondence education, students are offered at least 160 contact hours a year.

It is important to note that the system of higher education in the Russian Federation, as in the former USSR, emphasizes contact hours at the expense of homework and independent study. Therefore a direct conversion of instructional hours in the Russian Federation to semester hours (credits) in Western countries may be misleading.

One of the current initiatives of the Russian Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Bologna process is the introduction of credits. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) uses a standard system of 30 hours corresponding to one ECTS credit. It is envisioned that one academic year will comprise of approximately 60 credits.

### **Language of Instruction**

The principal language of higher education in the Russian Federation is Russian. Higher education may be conducted in other languages of the Russian Federation, as well as foreign languages. The language of education is set by the appropriate administrative body.

### **Curriculum Standards**

As in the former USSR, higher education programs in the Russian Federation are divided into study areas (направления, *napravleniya*), which are further subdivided into specialisations (специальности, *spetsial'nosti*). Similarly, all programs continue to be identified by a number and a name. Specialisations within the same study area may carry the same identification number but different names. The total number of specialisations has increased as traditional specialisations exist in parallel with new specialisations. New specialisations were added in study areas such as business/management, law, sociology, computer science/informatics, languages, environmental science, etc.

Foundation studies, in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study, now integrate compulsory teaching in humanities and social sciences for natural science programs, and vice versa. Also in a shift from the Soviet system, some subjects, such as the history of the Communist Party of the USSR, scientific communism, and political economy, which were previously part of foundation studies within all specialisations, have been renamed, revised or eliminated. Despite a broader general character of studies in the first two years of study, many Bachelor and "Specialist" programs continue to represent a high degree of professional specialisation.

The division of the course content into foundation studies, basic professional courses and specialised courses are similar to that in the Soviet system of education. However, now institutions of higher education have some autonomy with regard to determining the course

content. Institutions may define 15 to 20% of the curriculum based on regional requirements and specialisation. As well, in addition to compulsory courses, students may choose among a certain number of electives.

### Summary of Rationale:

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### IQAS recommends that:

**The Bachelor's degree (4 years) in the Russian Federation generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.**

### Grading:

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *зачет (zachet)*, which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining courses of the term are marked *зачет (zachet)*, if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

## **Diploma of "Specialist"**

### **Country:**

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### **Date Entered:**

### **Credential Actual Name:**

Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetsialista*

### **Credential English Name:**

Diploma of "Specialist"

### **Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

### **Credential Alternate English Name(s):**

Examples: Diploma of "Mathematician",  
Diploma of "Biologist", Diploma of "Teacher  
of History", Diploma of "Mechanical  
Engineer", etc.

### **Time Period Credential Offered:**

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### **Issuing Body:**

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### **Admission Requirements:**

#### In the former USSR:

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education or other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education), and entrance exams\*

#### In the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education or other credential incorporating

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.

secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education), and entrance exams\*, or

- a Bachelor's degree (Бакалавр, *Bakalavr*)

### **Program Description:**

#### In the former USSR:

- 5 to 6 years (4 for some teaching qualifications) of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion)

#### In the Russian Federation:

- 5 to 6 years (4 years in a few specialisations) of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion) after secondary education, or
- 1 to 1.5 years of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion) after a Bachelor's degree

### **Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

#### In the USSR:

- Candidate of Sciences program
- Employment

#### In the Russian Federation:

- Candidate of Sciences or Master program
- Employment

### **Placement Recommendations:**

#### **NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Bachelor Degree. Some Diploma of Specialist programs may be regarded as comparable to Australian Honours Bachelor degrees, based on a comparison of academic transcripts. NOOSR regards the Diploma of Specialist similar to a longer Australian first Bachelor degree and recognizes that it includes additional requirements which may contain elements at postgraduate level. NOOSR recognizes that "the university curriculum was longer than most current undergraduate programs in Australia, and the work load was heavy".

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.

## **UK NARIC (UK)**

Is considered comparable to British Bachelor degree standard. "Holders of this award possess the formal requirements for postgraduate study (including PhD) in the UK, at institutional discretion."

## **IERF 2004 (USA)**

BA/BS.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

- The Diploma of "Specialist" of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:
  - 4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate level work in xxx, or
  - 5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc., or
  - assessed individually.
- The Diploma of "Specialist" of 4 years generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree in xxx.

### **Post-secondary Admission**

- The Diploma of "Specialist" of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:
  - 4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate level work in xxx, or
  - 5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc., or
  - assessed individually.
- The Diploma of "Specialist" of 4 years generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree in xxx.

### **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Diploma of "Specialist" in the Former USSR:**

The first degree of higher education in the former USSR was commonly referred to as the First Diploma or the Diploma of "Specialist". The credential itself, however, did not use these terms. It was normally entitled Diploma of Completion of Higher Education (Диплом об окончании высшего учебного заведения, *Diplom ob okonchanii vysshego uchebnogo*



*zavedeniya*) or just "Diploma" (Диплом, *Diplom*). A specialisation appeared in the diploma as a professional title such as Engineer, Teacher, etc.

The Diploma of "Specialist" required five years of full-time study for most majors. Only a small number of programs required four years of study, such as some teaching qualifications. Programs in architecture required five-and-a-half years of study. The program in medicine required six years; in addition students undertook one year of specialisation practice (the *internatura*) in a selected field of medicine. Other disciplines, such as geology and certain branches of engineering, technology, and fine arts also required six years of study. A typical Diploma of "Specialist" program represented 4,500 to 5,500 hours of instruction in approximately 20 to 34 subjects depending on the specialisation.

### State Final Examination

The State Final Examination stage consisted of the state final examinations and defence of a final research project. The final research project was expected to be of independent research or scholarship. It was defended before the State Examination Commission. The chairman of the commission was appointed by the State Committee for Public Education on the recommendation of the rector of the institution. Members of the Commission were appointed by the rector and included faculty and industry representatives. Additionally, the State Examination Commission examined each student in the field of specialisation.

### Detailed Admission Requirements<sup>1</sup>

Admission Requirement	Description
Academic credential requirement	<p>A school or vocational education credential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li> <li>• A diploma of vocational education that includes complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li> </ul>
AND	
Examination requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams is three to five.</li> </ul>

### Additional Admission Considerations

<sup>1</sup> If entering on the basis of completed secondary education. Students may also be admitted directly into the program on the basis of a Bachelor's degree. However, that route is not as common.

- For full-time study the age limit of 35 years was typically enforced. There was no age limit for part-time, evening and correspondence studies.
- Institutions typically reduced the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
  - individuals who had been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
  - graduates of specialized schools.
- Students from certain regions (rural regions or certain republics) who intended to study in subject areas that would directly benefit the development of their regions, such as agriculture and pedagogy, might have been granted priority in admission.
- The former USSR supported students from developing countries. However, **foreign students** were expected to meet the same entrance requirements as Soviet nationals, in particular, had completed school education and taken entrance exams. There was a compulsory pre-academic year for those who did not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training.

## Forms of Education

Different forms of education were offered in the former USSR: full-time, part-time (evening and correspondence programs), and so-called *externat* (a form of education that enabled individuals to study independently and to take examinations). A limited number of specialisations (medicine, arts, and some technical disciplines) could only be completed through full-time study.

Unlike in western countries, a large number of students in the former USSR enrolled in evening and correspondence programs. Out of 5,147,000 students in 1985-86, 54% were enrolled on a full-time basis, 12% studied in the evening, and 34% registered through correspondence. Part-time students followed the same curricula and received diplomas of the same format as full-time students.

## Academic Year

Applications for admission were generally accepted in June. Entrance examinations were held in July and August. Registration for enrollment took place at the end of August.

The academic year ran from September to June and was divided into two semesters, September to January and February to June. Student contact hours throughout the year amounted to 34 to 40 hours a week, including lectures, seminars, and labs. At least 20% of time was assigned to practical exercises and laboratory work in technical and science curricula. Independent work and background reading occupied a less significant amount of time than in western countries.

Each semester culminated in a final exam session, which included oral and written exams in about five core subjects. Other courses taken in the term were marked pass/fail on the basis of oral exams. The final mark "fail" was very rare as students were allowed to repeat a failed exam up to two times. Students who failed more than two courses were required to withdraw from their program.

### **Language of Instruction**

Russian was overwhelmingly the language of instruction throughout the former USSR.

### **Curriculum Standards**

Under the Soviet system, the central control by the state resulted in a high degree of uniformity in course and program contents. Higher education programs followed highly specialized curricula that provided theoretical and practical fundamentals for their fields of specialization. Based on specialty groupings, specializations were numbered and provided by the State Committee for Public Education.

Students chose their fields of specialization before their entrance to an institution of higher education. The first two years of undergraduate study were devoted to the study of foundation courses, mainly in social and natural sciences. Specialization courses generally began in the third year. Foundation studies and core subjects typically represented 50% of a program, general profile courses 35%, and specialization courses 15%.

Pure theoretical sciences, such as Mathematics and Physics, were highly emphasized in Soviet education. Even students specializing in humanities took compulsory courses in these areas. Compulsory courses in all specializations also included foreign language studies, the history of the Communist Party, Marxist-Leninist philosophy, military training, and civil defense.

### **Diploma of "Specialist" in the Russian Federation:**

The traditional first degree from the Soviet system, the Diploma of "Specialist", continues to be offered in parallel with the new Bachelor's degree. The document is titled "Diploma" and does not state "Specialist" although it is commonly known as the Diploma of "Specialist". A specialisation appears in the document as "qualification" with a specialist title such as Economist, Teacher, Engineer, Doctor, etc. The "Specialist" is for students who choose to pursue advanced study in their specialisation. It is primarily oriented toward professional practice but also gives access to the Candidate of Sciences.

A "Specialist" program may be undertaken as a first degree following the completion of school education, or as a second undergraduate degree following a Bachelor's degree. As a first degree, it typically requires five years of full-time study although programs in different specialisations may vary from four to six years in length. Only a small number of programs require four years of study, such as pedagogy or finance. Medicine requires six years of study, as do some engineering and technology disciplines. Following a Bachelor's degree, the Diploma of "Specialist" normally requires one to one and a half years of full-time study.

The State final attestation for the Diploma of "Specialist" includes the defence of a final research project and State final examinations. The State final attestation procedures and the format of the Diploma and the supplement are the same as for the Bachelor's degree.

Foreign students who successfully complete a "Specialist" program receive a diploma format that is different from the typical Diploma of "Specialist". Foreign students are typically required to study Russian for at least one year prior to enrolling into a "Specialist" program. Their Diploma of "Specialist" is often translated as "Master".

## Final Research Project Preparation

For the preparation of a final research project, a supervisor is appointed for each student. Students choose topics from a list of topics set by the institution or propose their own topics. The final research project is expected to be of independent research or scholarship. Before the defense can take place, experts in the respective fields review the work.

A final research project is defended before an examination commission, called the State Attestation Commission, set up by the rector of the institution. The members of State Attestation Commission are professors and researchers from various institutions and experts from the industry. The chairperson is invited from outside the institution and is approved by the administrative body in charge of the institution.

## Detailed Admission Requirements

Admission Requirement	Description	
Academic credential requirement	A school or vocational education credential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li><li>• A diploma of vocational education that includes complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li></ul>	
AND		
Examination requirement	Prior to the introduction of the USE in 2001	Since the introduction of the USE in 2001

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams is three to five.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate of USE results</li> </ul> <p>And/or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral and written entrance examinations as before (as set by the institution)</li> </ul>
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### Unified State Examination (USE)

The Unified State Examination (Единый государственный экзамен/ЕГЭ, *Edinyj gosudarstvennyj ekzamen/EGE*) has been implemented since 2001 as a standardised school graduation examination. Test takers receive the Certificate of USE Results (Свидетельство о результатах ЕГЭ, *Svidetel'stvo o Rezul'tatah EGE*).

Higher education institutions may use the USE results in place of, or in addition to, their own entrance examinations. With a Certificate of USE Results and an applicable school leaving credential, students can apply simultaneously to several institutions all over the country.

### Additional Admission Considerations

- Admission for fee-paying students may not be as competitive as for students financed from the state budget.
- Institutions of higher education may reduce the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
- individuals who have been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
- graduates of specialized schools.
- **Foreign students** must meet the same entrance requirements as Russian nationals, in particular, have completed school education and taken entrance exams. There is a compulsory pre-academic year for those who do not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training. Foreign applicants may not be older than 28 (35 for doctoral studies). In addition, they must have a valid Student visa and financial guarantees.

### Forms of Education

There are different forms of education: full-time, part-time (evening and correspondence programs), and so-called *externat* (a form of education that enables individuals to study independently and to take examinations). The State Education Standard specifies acceptable

forms of education for each specialisation. The minimum content requirements set by the State Education Standard do not depend on the form of education.

### **Academic Year**

Entrance examinations are traditionally held in August. The academic year runs from September to June. It is divided into two academic semesters with examinations held at the end of each. Examinations may be oral or written and number about five per semester. In contrast to other countries, in the Russian Federation 100% of the course grade is determined by the final examination grade in that subject. Other courses may be evaluated as pass/fail. In order to qualify for the final examination, students must also complete professional practice requirements.

The university level higher education curriculum stipulates 36 weeks of study a year. Depending on the field of study (specialisation), mandatory courses in the curriculum constitute 80 to 85 percent, optional courses 15 to 20 percent. The total workload of a student should not exceed 54 hours a week, including classroom work and independent studies. For part-time evening education, classwork should be no less than 10 hours a week. In the case of correspondence education, students are offered at least 160 contact hours a year.

It is important to note that the system of higher education in the Russian Federation, as in the former USSR, emphasizes contact hours at the expense of homework and independent study. Therefore a direct conversion of instructional hours in the Russian Federation to semester hours (credits) in Western countries may be misleading.

One of the current initiatives of the Russian Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Bologna process is the introduction of credits. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) uses a standard system of 30 hours corresponding to one ECTS credit. It is envisioned that one academic year will comprise of approximately 60 credits.

### **Language of Instruction**

The principal language of higher education in the Russian Federation is Russian. Higher education may be conducted in other languages of the Russian Federation, as well as foreign languages. The language of education is set by the appropriate administrative body.

### **Curriculum Standards**

As in the former USSR, higher education programs in the Russian Federation are divided into study areas (направления, *napravleniya*), which are further subdivided into specialisations (специальности, *spetsial'nosti*). Similarly, all programs continue to be identified by a number and a name. Specialisations within the same study area may carry the same identification number but different names. The total number of specialisations has increased as traditional specialisations exist in parallel with new specialisations. New specialisations were added in study

areas such as business/management, law, sociology, computer science/informatics, languages, environmental science, etc.

Foundation studies, in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study, now integrate compulsory teaching in humanities and social sciences for natural science programs, and vice versa. Also in a shift from the Soviet system, some subjects, such as the history of the Communist Party of the USSR, scientific communism, and political economy, which were previously part of foundation studies within all specialisations, have been renamed, revised or eliminated. Despite a broader general character of studies in the first two years of study, many Bachelor and "Specialist" programs continue to represent a high degree of professional specialisation.

The division of the course content into foundation studies, basic professional courses and specialised courses are similar to that in the Soviet system of education. However, now institutions of higher education have some autonomy with regard to determining the course content. Institutions may define 15 to 20% of the curriculum based on regional requirements and specialisation. As well, in addition to compulsory courses, students may choose among a certain number of electives.

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

- **The Diploma of "Specialist" of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:**
  - 4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate level work in xxx, or
  - 5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc., or
  - assessed individually.
- **The Diploma of "Specialist" of 4 years generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree in xxx.**

### **Grading:**

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *zachet* (*zachet*), which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining

courses of the term are marked *зачет (zachet)*, if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )



**Master's degree****Country:**

Russian Federation

**Date Entered:****Credential Actual Name:**

Магистр, *Magistr*

**Credential English Name:**

Master's degree

In the former USSR, a Master's degree was given to foreign students when they completed a Diploma of "Specialist" program. Apply the credential template of the Diploma of "Specialist".

**Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):****Credential Alternate English Name(s):**

Examples: Master in Economics, Master in Mathematics, Master in Sociology, Master in Psychology, etc.

**Time Period Credential Offered:**

Russian Federation (post 1991)

**Issuing Body:**

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation

**Admission Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree (Бакалавр, *Bakalavr*) of 4 years and entrance exams, or
- Diploma of "Specialist" (Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetsialista*) of 4 to 6 years and entrance exams

**Program Description:**

- 2 years of full-time study (including 0.5-1 years for thesis completion) after a Bachelor's degree or
- 1 to 1.5 years of full-time study (including 0.5-1 years for thesis completion) after a Diploma of "Specialist"

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Candidate of Sciences program
- Employment

**Placement Recommendations:**

NOOSR 2005 (Australia)

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Master Degree.

### **UK NARIC (UK)**

Is considered comparable to British Bachelor (Honours) degree standard. "Holders of this award possess the formal requirements for postgraduate study (including PhD) in the UK, at institutional discretion."

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

MA/MS.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

The Master's degree generally compares to the completion of a 2-year Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

### **Post-secondary Admission**

The Master's degree generally compares to the completion of a 2-year Master's degree with a focus in xxx.

### **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Master's degree in the Russian Federation**

The Master's degree is obtained upon the completion of a minimum two years of study following a Bachelor 's degree or a minimum of one year following a Diploma of "Specialist".

For holders of a Bachelor's degree in the same field, admission procedures may consist of examinations, interviews, etc. as determined individually by educational institutions. Holders of a Bachelor's degree wishing to pursue a Master program in another discipline must pass additional tests that reflect the curriculum of the Bachelor program in the chosen discipline. Master's degrees give access to Candidate of Sciences study.

The Master is primarily an academic program leading to the defense of a thesis. Each Master program consists of two equally weighted components: the *course* component and the *independent research* component. In addition to core area courses it usually includes some pedagogy courses. Professional practice may also be required.

The final State attestation includes the defence of a thesis and State final examinations. The thesis is based on original research under the guidance of a supervisor. The document of a Master's degree indicates both the discipline and the research area and follows the general format of the document of a Bachelor's degree.

The State educational standard defines only general requirements for Master programs and not specific requirements for the content of education. Institutions of higher education make their own decisions regarding the program content.

### **Language of Instruction**

The principal language of higher education in the Russian Federation is Russian. Higher education may be conducted in other languages of the Russian Federation, as well as foreign languages. The language of education is set by the appropriate administrative body.

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

**The Master's degree in the Russian Federation generally compares to the completion of a 2-year Master's degree with a focus in xxx.**

### **Grading:**

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *зачет (zachet)*, which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining courses of the term are marked *зачет (zachet)*, if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )

<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

## Candidate of Sciences

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

### Credential Actual Name:

Кандидат наук, *Kandidat Nauk*

### Credential English Name:

Candidate of Sciences

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Candidate of Technical Sciences,  
Candidate of Economic Sciences, Candidate of  
Mathematics Sciences, Candidate of Biological  
Sciences, etc.

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the USSR:

- Diploma of "Specialist" (Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetzialista*) of 4 to 6 years, entrance exams, and research qualifications

#### In the Russian Federation:

- Diploma of "Specialist" (Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetzialista*) of 4 to 6 years, entrance exams, and research qualifications, or
- Master's degree (Магистр, *Magistr*) (5 to 6.5 years of post-secondary study), entrance exams, and research qualifications

**Program Description:**In the USSR and Russian Federation:

- Minimum 3 years including original research and optional coursework (including at least 2.5 years for thesis completion)

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**In the USSR and Russian Federation:

- Doctor of Sciences program
- Employment (e.g., Associate Professor position)

**Placement Recommendations:****NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Doctoral Degree.

**UK NARIC (UK)**

Is considered comparable to British Doctor of Philosophy degree (PhD) standard.

**IERF 2004 (USA)**

PhD.

**IQAS Recommendations for:  
Employment**

Compares to the completion of an advanced research-based graduate degree. The general level of study may be compared to the PhD level. The scope and quality of research can only be determined by an expert in the field.

**Post-secondary Admission**

Compares to the completion of an advanced research-based graduate degree. The general level of study may be compared to the PhD level. The scope and quality of research can only be determined by an expert in the field.

## **IQAS Rationale:**

### **Candidate of Sciences in the Former USSR:**

The Candidate of Sciences was the first graduate degree in the former USSR. It was awarded across a broad range of academic disciplines. The discipline might be stated in the title, for example the Candidate of Economic Sciences.

Students were admitted to the Candidate of Sciences after completing the first diploma, or the Diploma of "Specialist", with an overall grade of 'excellent' or 'good'. They must have also passed qualifying examinations, in their proposed field of specialisation, in a foreign language, and in philosophy.

Students undertook supervised research and prepared a thesis during at least three years. Coursework was voluntary but common. The thesis was critically reviewed by at least two official reviewers (opponents). It was typically about 150 pages in length. An extended abstract of the thesis was sent out to approximately 100 other institutions for review. The thesis was publicly defended before the Dissertation Council of the institution.

### **Candidate of Sciences in the Russian Federation:**

The Candidate of Sciences is the first doctoral degree in the Russian educational system and is awarded in all disciplines. It is focused on research and university teaching.

Admission is competitive and institutions set quotas for the number of students admitted each year. The quotas are based on the available funds and facilities, research staff, as well as federal guidelines for the needs in science and economy. Institutions usually set an age limit of 35 years for full-time *aspirants* and 45 years for part-time *aspirants*.

Admission is based on a five or six-year Diploma of "Specialist", or since 1996, a Master's degree. The overall level of achievement required in these degrees is at least 'Good'. Application requirements include a research proposal, research and academic track record, and entrance examinations. Additionally, preliminary discussions of proposed research with prospective supervisor(s) are usually required. Applicants take competitive entrance examinations in the subject of specialization, in one foreign language, and in philosophy. Admission is awarded based on the results of the entrance examinations and evaluation by prospective supervisor(s).

A Doctor of Sciences, or a Professor, specializing in the research area is appointed as a supervisor for each *aspirant* as soon as he or she joins an *aspirantura*. Aspirants may be required or encouraged to teach in their subject areas, usually seminar classes. In that case they hold a position of an assistant (*assistent*). Full-time Candidate students receive a stipend from the state and any salary as an assistant.

Programs include both graduate courses and research. The theoretical coursework component of the program comprises 20%.

The courses consist of lectures and seminars. During graduate studies, students study pedagogy and teaching methods, psychology, economics, information technology, mathematical simulation, and other subjects.

In addition to course examinations, *aspirants* must pass qualifying (Candidate) examinations in the given specialization, in philosophy, and in a foreign language. The Academic Council of the institution determines the content of these exams. Qualifying examinations are usually completed within the first year of study.

The thesis is expected to make a significant original contribution to the field of knowledge. The thesis defence is public before a Dissertation Council. A Dissertation Council is comprised of holders of the Doctor of Sciences and the Candidate of Sciences degrees. Dissertation Councils are appointed by the Supreme Certifying Committee (*Vysshiy Attestatsionnyj Komitet, VAK*) of the Russian Federation.

The Candidate of Sciences is a preferred credential for the position of Associate Professor (*dotzent*). It grants its holder a competitive advantage in applying for teaching and research positions at educational and research institutions and leads to a higher salary.

The Candidate of Sciences awarded to foreign nationals may be translated into English as a PhD degree.

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

**The Candidate of Sciences compares to the completion of an advanced research-based graduate degree. The general level of study may be compared to the PhD level. The scope and quality of research can only be determined by an expert in the field.**

### **Grading:**

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *zachet* (*zachet*), which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining courses of the term are marked *zachet* (*zachet*), if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.



Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

## **Doctor of Sciences**

### **Country:**

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### **Date Entered:**

### **Credential Actual Name:**

Доктор наук, *Doktor Nauk*

### **Credential English Name:**

Doctor of Sciences

### **Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

### **Credential Alternate English Name(s):**

Examples: Doctor of Technical Sciences,  
Doctor of Economic Sciences, Doctor of  
Mathematics Sciences, Doctor of Biological  
Sciences, etc.

### **Time Period Credential Offered:**

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### **Issuing Body:**

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### **Admission Requirements:**

- Candidate of Sciences (Кандидат наук, *Kandidat Nauk*), academic position, and research qualifications

### **Program Description:**

- 5 to 15 years of advanced academic research and publications after the Candidate of Sciences

### **Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment (e.g., Full-Professor position)

## **Placement Recommendations:**

### **NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Doctoral Degree.

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

Postdoctoral study.

## **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

The Doctor of Sciences represents post-doctoral advanced research that includes refereed publications. The research represents a significant contribution to the field of study and can only be assessed by an expert in the field.

## **Post-secondary Admission**

The Doctor of Sciences represents post-doctoral advanced research that includes refereed publications. The research represents a significant contribution to the field of study and can only be assessed by an expert in the field.

## **IQAS Rationale:**

### **Doctor of Sciences in the Former USSR:**

The Doctor of Sciences was the highest academic credential in the former USSR. Highly research oriented, it was obtained by senior scholars. The primary objective of the *doktorantura* was to develop a publication track record and facilitate faculty promotion. The Doctor of Science entitled its holder to obtain the position of a full Professor or department head at an institution of higher education. The Doctor of Sciences is determined by a secret ballot by peers and approved by the Supreme Certifying Commission (VAK).

To be eligible for admission, a candidate must have held the Candidate of Sciences, met research requirements, and been under 40 years of age. The Doctor of Sciences required the submission of another thesis after the Candidate of Sciences. The Doctor of Sciences thesis must have represented a piece of original research with results of fundamental scientific or applied significance. Publication of 10 to 20 scientific papers was required.

Although extremely rarely, the Doctor of Sciences could have been awarded immediately after the Candidate of Sciences if the research was of appropriately high standard.

### **Doctor of Sciences in the Russian Federation:**

The second level of doctoral studies and highest academic degree in the Russian Federation, as in the former USSR, is the degree of Doctor of Sciences. Similarly to the Candidate of Sciences, it is awarded in all disciplines. In architecture and fine arts, the degrees awarded are the Doctor of Architecture and the Doctor of Fine Arts, respectively. In technical sciences, the degree is called the Doctor of Technical Sciences.

It requires a period of study following the Candidate of Sciences and the writing of another doctoral thesis leading to a public defence. Although the program has no fixed duration, in practice it generally requires five to 15 years of full-time study. Doctoral theses are prepared either on a full-time basis during doctoral studies in *doktorantura* or independently, outside *doktorantura*.

Doctor of Sciences programs are offered at leading educational and research institutions. The qualifying requirements for a Doctor of Sciences thesis are higher than those for a Candidate thesis. The thesis for the degree of Doctor of Sciences must be an advanced work that solves an important problem of social, scientific, or technological significance. It must also serve as a basis for several referred publications. Similarly to the Candidate of Sciences, the Doctor of Sciences is awarded by resolution of the Supreme Certifying Committee of the Russian Federation.

Admission to *doktorantura* is competitive and available to holders of Candidate of Sciences degrees known for their contributions in their respective fields. Candidates must hold teaching and/or research positions at recognized educational or research institutions. The standard age limit for *doktorantura* is 40 years. In some cases it may be 45 years. Outside of *doktorantura*, no age limit is applied to those seeking the Doctor of Sciences degree through independent research.

The main admission requirements are research achievements in a chosen area. Applicants must submit a complete outline for a thesis, a list of research publications, and reviews of the applicant's research. The Academic Council of the institution makes admission decisions and approves individual research programs.

Doctoral programs have no course component; they consist only of research. A research consultant, who must be a holder of the Doctor of Sciences degree, is appointed to advise a *doktorant*. As well, *doktorants* may visit other leading research centres in the country or abroad for their research. *Doktorants* present an annual progress report to the Academic Council. The Academic Council monitors the progress against their individual programs and decides as to their continuation in *doktorantura*.

The *doktorant* submits the thesis to the Dissertation Council. The Dissertation Council for the Doctor of Sciences degree is designated by the Supreme Certifying Committee and consists of Doctors of Sciences. The general defence procedure for the degree of Doctor of Sciences is the same as for the Candidate of Sciences degree. The final decision for the award of a Doctor of Science degree is after the Supreme Certifying Committee.

The degree of Doctor of Sciences serves as a prerequisite for appointment to the post of a full Professor (Профессор, *Professor*) at a higher education institution.

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

**The Doctor of Sciences represents post-doctoral advanced research that includes refereed publications. The research represents a significant contribution to the field of study and can only be assessed by an expert in the field.**

## **Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education**

### **Country:**

Russian Federation

### **Date Entered:**

### **Credential Actual Name:**

Диплом о неполном высшем образовании,  
*Diplom o Nepochnom Vysshem Obrazovanii*

### **Credential English Name:**

Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education

### **Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):**

### **Credential Alternate English Name(s):**

Incomplete Diploma, Intermediate Diploma

### **Time Period Credential Offered:**

Russian Federation (post 1991)

### **Issuing Body:**

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation

### **Admission Requirements:**

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams\*, or
- Other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education) and entrance exams\*

### **Program Description:**

- 2 years of full-time university study

### **Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Third year of a Bachelor or Diploma of "Specialist" program
- Employment

### **Placement Recommendations:**

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

AA/AS/AAS with up to 60 semester credits of lower division undergraduate studies.

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.

\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.

## **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

The Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education generally compares to the completion of:

- 2 years of undergraduate study in xxx, or
- a 2-year undergraduate Diploma with a focus in xxx (if appropriate).

## **Post-secondary Admission**

The Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education generally compares to the completion of:

- 2 years of undergraduate study in xxx, or
- a 2-year undergraduate Diploma with a focus in xxx (if appropriate).

## **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

## **IQAS Rationale:**

### **Detailed Admission Requirements**

Admission Requirement	Description	
Academic credential requirement	A school or vocational education credential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li><li>• A diploma of vocational education that includes complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li></ul>	
AND		
Examination requirement	Prior to the introduction of the USE in 2001	Since the introduction of the USE in 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams is three to five.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of USE results</li></ul> And/or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations as before (as set by the institution)</li></ul>

## Unified State Examination (USE)

The Unified State Examination (Единый государственный экзамен/ЕГЭ, *Edinyj gosudarstvennyj ekzamen/EGE*) has been implemented since 2001 as a standardised school graduation examination. Test takers receive the Certificate of USE Results (Свидетельство о результатах ЕГЭ, *Svidetel'stvo o Rezul'tatach EGE*).

Higher education institutions may use the USE results in place of, or in addition to, their own entrance examinations. With a Certificate of USE Results and an applicable school leaving credential, students can apply simultaneously to several institutions all over the country.

## Additional Admission Considerations

- Admission for fee-paying students may not be as competitive as for students financed from the state budget.
- Institutions of higher education may reduce the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
  - individuals who have been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
  - graduates of specialized schools.
- **Foreign students** must meet the same entrance requirements as Russian nationals, in particular, have completed school education and taken entrance exams. There is a compulsory pre-academic year for those who do not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training. Foreign applicants may not be older than 28 (35 for doctoral studies). In addition, they must have a valid Student visa and financial guarantees.

## Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education

The Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education is not considered a degree; it is only an intermediate qualification. It is issued at the student's request or to students who cease study part-way through a Bachelor or "Specialist" program. It may be issued after at least two years in a Bachelor or "Specialist" program and later be used for reentry into a relevant program. After the first two years of studies students would have usually covered the compulsory fundamental courses in a given study area.

The Diploma gives direct access to the labour market and facilitates mobility among education institutions and/or different specialisation programs. It often states that it gives the right to carry out the professional activity at the level it represents or to continue higher education.



## Forms of Education

There are different forms of education: full-time, part-time (evening and correspondence programs), and so-called *externat* (a form of education that enables individuals to study independently and to take examinations). The State Education Standard specifies acceptable forms of education for each specialisation. The minimum content requirements set by the State Education Standard do not depend on the form of education.

## Academic Year

Entrance examinations are traditionally held in August. The academic year runs from September to June. It is divided into two academic semesters with examinations held at the end of each. Examinations may be oral or written and number about five per semester. In contrast to other countries, in the Russian Federation 100% of the course grade is determined by the final examination grade in that subject. Other courses may be evaluated as pass/fail. In order to qualify for the final examination, students must also complete professional practice requirements.

The university level higher education curriculum stipulates 36 weeks of study a year. Depending on the field of study (specialisation), mandatory courses in the curriculum constitute 80 to 85 percent, optional courses 15 to 20 percent. The total workload of a student should not exceed 54 hours a week, including classroom work and independent studies. For part-time evening education, classwork should be no less than 10 hours a week. In the case of correspondence education, students are offered at least 160 contact hours a year.

It is important to note that the system of higher education in the Russian Federation, as in the former USSR, emphasizes contact hours at the expense of homework and independent study. Therefore a direct conversion of instructional hours in the Russian Federation to semester hours (credits) in Western countries may be misleading.

One of the current initiatives of the Russian Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Bologna process is the introduction of credits. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) uses a standard system of 30 hours corresponding to one ECTS credit. It is envisioned that one academic year will comprise of approximately 60 credits.

## Language of Instruction

The principal language of higher education in the Russian Federation is Russian. Higher education may be conducted in other languages of the Russian Federation, as well as foreign languages. The language of education is set by the appropriate administrative body.

## Curriculum Standards

As in the former USSR, higher education programs in the Russian Federation are divided into study areas (направления, *napravleniya*), which are further subdivided into specialisations

(специальности, *spetsial'nosti*). Similarly, all programs continue to be identified by a number and a name. Specialisations within the same study area may carry the same identification number but different names. The total number of specialisations has increased as traditional specialisations exist in parallel with new specialisations. New specialisations were added in study areas such as business/management, law, sociology, computer science/informatics, languages, environmental science, etc.

Foundation studies, in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study, now integrate compulsory teaching in humanities and social sciences for natural science programs, and vice versa. Also in a shift from the Soviet system, some subjects, such as the history of the Communist Party of the USSR, scientific communism, and political economy, which were previously part of foundation studies within all specialisations, have been renamed, revised or eliminated.

The division of the course content into foundation studies, basic professional courses and specialised courses are similar to that in the Soviet system of education. However, now institutions of higher education have some autonomy with regard to determining the course content. Institutions may define 15 to 20% of the curriculum based on regional requirements and specialisation. As well, in addition to compulsory courses, students may choose among a certain number of electives.

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

**The Diploma of Incomplete Higher Education in the Russian Federation generally compares to the completion of:**

- **2 years of undergraduate university study in xxx, or**
- **a 2-year undergraduate Diploma with a focus in xxx (if appropriate).**

### **Grading:**

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *zachet* (*zachet*), which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining courses of the term are marked *zachet* (*zachet*), if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

## Non-University Teaching Credentials

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

## NON-UNIVERSITY TEACHING CREDENTIALS

### Credential Actual Name:

Диплом об окончании среднего  
специального образования, *Diplom ob  
okonchanii srednego spetsial'nogo  
obrazovaniya*) (in the former USSR)  
Диплом о среднем профессиональном  
образовании, *Diplom o srednem  
professional'nom obrazovanii* (in the Russian  
Federation)

### Credential English Name:

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education  
[literal translation: Diploma of Completion of  
Secondary Vocational Education]

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education  
[literal translation: Diploma of Secondary  
Professional Education]

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Diploma of Pre-School Teacher,  
Diploma of Primary School Teacher, Diploma  
of Lower Secondary School Teacher

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education (Аттестат об основном общем

образовании, *Attestat ob Osnovnom Obshchem Obrazovanii* ) of 8 or 9 years and entrance exams, or

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (Аттестат о среднем (полном) общем образовании, *Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii*) of 10 or 11 years and entrance exams

### **Program Description:**

The objective of higher vocational pedagogical education is to train pre-school teachers, primary school teachers, and lower secondary school teachers. They are trained at pedagogical *uchilishche* and, since 1989, pedagogical *colleges*.

#### In the former USSR:

Pedagogical *uchilishche* trained mainly pre-school and primary school teachers, as well as some lower secondary school teachers. At a pedagogical *uchilishche*, holders of the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education completed a two-year program. Holders of the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education trained for three-and-a-half years for pre-school teaching or four years for primary or lower secondary school teaching.

#### In the Russian Federation:

Higher vocational institutions include pedagogical *uchilishche* and pedagogical *colleges*. They mainly train pre-school and primary teachers although they may also train lower secondary school teachers. Pre-school and primary school teachers are trained in programs that require either 3-4 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education or 2-3 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education. Lower secondary school teachers are trained in programs that require either 5 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education or 3 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education.

### **Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

- Employment
- Higher education (if the program incorporates complete secondary education)

### **Placement Recommendations:**

#### **NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education: Comparable to the level of an AQF Diploma.

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education at the Advanced Level from a College: Comparable to the level of an AQF Advanced Diploma.

#### **UK NARIC (UK)**

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education until 1995 (Basic Level): Is considered comparable to N/SVQ level 3/ City & Guilds level 3 standard

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education (Basic Level) from 1995: Is considered comparable to Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education (AVCE)/BTEC National Diploma standard

Diploma of Higher Vocational Education (Advanced Level) from 1995: Is considered comparable to BTEC/SQA Higher National Certificate (HNC) standard

### **IERF 2004 (USA)**

The first two years of study after the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education represent the equivalent of high school graduation. Any subsequent years count toward the associate's degree in the United States AA/AS/AAS with up to 30 semester credits at the junior/community college level for each year of full-time study.

The Diploma after the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education represents the equivalent of the associate's degree in the United States AA/AS/AAS with up to 30 semester credits at the junior/community college level for each year of full-time study.

### **IQAS Recommendations for:**

#### **Employment**

##### In the former USSR:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

##### In the Russian Federation:

##### Training for pre-school and primary school teachers:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

#### Training for lower secondary school teachers:

- The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for lower secondary school teachers] generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

#### **Post-secondary Admission**

##### In the former USSR:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

##### In the Russian Federation:

#### Training for pre-school and primary school teachers:

- Admission after incomplete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.
- Admission after complete secondary education:  
The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

#### Training for lower secondary school teachers:

- The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for lower secondary school teachers] generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]

## Course Equivalencies

- If complete secondary education is part of the program, use academic courses only:

Russian/Regional language and literature (e.g., Ukrainian) = Language Arts Grade 12

Algebra and Geometry = Pure Math 30

English = ESL Grade 12

Physics = Physics 30

Chemistry = Chemistry 30

Biology = Biology 30

- Otherwise (complete secondary education is obtained prior to admission), 30-level courses if no secondary documents available.

## IQAS Rationale:

### Teacher Education in the Former USSR

In the former USSR there was no professional certification requirement for teachers. The professional title of teacher was awarded on academic credentials and could be listed as педагог (*pedagog*), учитель (*uchitel'*), or преподаватель (*prepodavatel'*) - these terms were synonymous.

Pre-school and primary school teachers did not receive a specialization in a particular subject. They taught all subjects to a respective class of students, pre-school or primary. In contrast, lower secondary and upper secondary teachers specialized in one or two subjects. They generally taught these subjects to different classes of students, lower secondary and upper secondary.

### Higher Vocational Institutions (Pedagogical *Uchilishche*)

Pedagogical *uchilishche* trained mainly pre-school and primary school teachers, as well as some lower secondary school teachers. At a pedagogical *uchilishche*, holders of the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education completed a two-year program. Holders of the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education trained for three-and-a-half years for pre-school teaching or four years for primary or lower secondary school teaching. The curriculum included foundation studies, education subjects, practice teaching, as well as secondary education subjects for students without completed secondary education. The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education was awarded as a *Diplom* with a relevant professional title.



### Higher Vocational Teacher Education in the Former USSR

Professional Title Awarded	Title in Russian	Transliteration	Typical Length of Study		Taught Children
			After CCSE <sup>1</sup>	After CISE <sup>2</sup>	
<b>pre-school teacher</b>	педагог дошкольного образования	<i>pedagog doshkol'nogo obrazovaniya</i>	2 years	3.5 years	3-6 years of age
<b>primary school teacher</b>	учитель начальных классов	<i>uchitel' nachal'nyh klassov</i>	2 years	4 years	primary school grades 1-3 (1-4)
lower secondary school teacher	учитель средних классов	<i>uchitel' srednih klassov</i>	2 years	4 years	lower secondary grades 4-8 (5-9)

### Two-Year Program of Pre-School Teacher (following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education), Ufa Pedagogical *Uchilishche* #1, 1983<sup>x</sup>

Subject	Hours
History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union	134
Foundations of Scientific Atheism	16
Foundations of Marxist-Leninist Ethics and Aesthetics	38
State and Law	40
Anatomy	136
Psychology	137
Pre-School Pedagogy	286
Russian	114
Methods of Speech Development, Correctness and Instruction of Alphabet	249
Literature for Children, Reciting	156
Natural Sciences for Children, Practicum	116
Development of Elementary Mathematical Concepts	117
Drawing, History of the Arts	92
Methods of Teaching Art to Children	116
Music, Singing, Rhythm	72
Methods of Musical Education	108
Methods of Physical Education	135
Workplace Safety	32
Subject of Narrow Specialty	38

<sup>1</sup> CCSE stands for Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education.

<sup>2</sup> CISE stands for Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education.

Physical Education	134
Labour Education	116
Subtotal	2382
Pedagogical Practice	340
Total	2722

### **Teacher Education in the Russian Federation**

In the Russian Federation there is no professional certification requirement for teachers. The professional title of teacher is awarded on academic credentials and can be listed as педагог (*pedagog*), учитель (*uchitel'*), or преподаватель (*prepodavatel'*) - these terms are synonymous.

Pre-school and primary school teachers do not receive a specialization in a particular subject. They teach all subjects to a respective class of students, pre-school or primary. In contrast, lower secondary and upper secondary teachers specialize in one or two subjects. They generally teach these subjects to different classes of students, lower secondary and upper secondary.

Since the Soviet era, there has appeared a new type of higher vocational education, the *college* (see the chapter on Technical/Vocational Education).

#### **Higher Vocational Institutions (Pedagogical *Uchilishche* and Pedagogical Colleges)**

Higher vocational institutions include pedagogical *uchilishche* and pedagogical *colleges*. **They mainly train pre-school and primary teachers although they may also train lower secondary school teachers.** Pre-school and primary school teachers are trained in programs that require either 3-4 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education or 2-3 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education. Lower secondary school teachers are trained in programs that require either 5 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education or 3 years of full-time study following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education. The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education is awarded as a *Diplom* with a relevant professional title. It generally provides 1 – 2 years of advanced standing in a degree program at a university-level institution.

### Higher Vocational Teacher Education in the Russian Federation

Professional Title Awarded	Title in Russian	Transliteration	Typical Length of Study		Taught Children
			After CCSE <sup>1</sup>	After CISE <sup>2</sup>	
<b>pre-school teacher</b>	педагог дошкольного образования	<i>pedagog doshkol'nogo obrazovaniya</i>	2-3 years	3-4 years	3-6 years of age
<b>primary school teacher</b>	учитель начальных классов	<i>uchitel' nachal'nyh klassov</i>	2-3 years	3-4 years	primary school grades 1-4
lower secondary school teacher	учитель средних классов	<i>uchitel' srednih klassov</i>	3 years	5 years	lower secondary grades 5-9

### Three-Year Program of Pre-School Teacher (following the Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education), Moscow Pedagogical College #4, 2000<sup>xi</sup>

Subject	Hours
Homeland History	172
History of Pedagogy	125
Pre-School Education	272
Cultural Studies	112
Ethics	20
Russian	112
Mathematics	115
Foreign Language	105
Pre-School Psychology	100
Pedagogy	100
Anatomy of the Central Nervous System	103
Physiology	100
Political Sciences	82
Sociology	103
History of Psychology	105
Experimental Psychology	65
Law	72
Psychology in Age Development	103
History of Pedagogy	105
Comparative Pedagogy	60
Economics	62
Pedagogical Psychology	103
Psychology of Personality	110
Logic	68

<sup>1</sup> CCSE stands for Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education.

<sup>2</sup> CISE stands for Certificate of Incomplete Secondary Education.

Psychological Preparedness for School	50
Fundamentals of General Psychology	120
Methods of Teaching Pre-School Math	196
Methods of Teaching Pre-School Russian	196
Methods of Teaching Pre-School Reading	196
Methods of Teaching Pre-School Work Skills	92
Methods of Teaching Pre-School Music	196
Study of Defective Speech	90
Correctional Pedagogy	50
Psychology of Communication	50
Drawing	120
Preparation for School	100
Educational and Correctional Games	90
Culture of Speech	120
Fundamentals of Computer Knowledge	100
Physical Education	120
Total	4360

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

#### **In the former USSR:**

- **Admission after incomplete secondary education:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.**

- **Admission after complete secondary education:**

**The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for a teaching credential] generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.**

#### **In the Russian Federation:**

#### **Training for pre-school and primary school teachers:**

- **Admission after incomplete secondary education:**

The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of Grade 12 plus a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

- **Admission after complete secondary education:**

The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education generally compares to the completion of a post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx.

#### **Training for lower secondary school teachers:**

- **The Diploma of Higher Vocational Education [for lower secondary school teachers] generally compares to the completion of a 3-year post-secondary Diploma with a focus in xxx. [If the training incorporates complete secondary education, acknowledge the completion of Grade 12.]**

#### **Grading:**

The following grading scale has been used in both the former USSR and the Russian Federation.

<b>Scale</b>	<b>Grade Description</b>
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )

The lowest passing grade is '3'. Students must pass each course in order to enroll in the next grade or to graduate. The grade '1' also exists, but is used very rarely.

A plus (+) or a minus (-) may be added to a grade. For example, a '4+' is higher than a '4' and lower than a '5-'. A '5+' is very rare. These intermediate grades may be awarded throughout the period of study but typically not as a final grade.

## University-Level Teaching Credentials

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

## UNIVERSITY-LEVEL TEACHING CREDENTIALS

### Credential Actual Name:

Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetsialista*  
Бакалавр, *Bakalavr*

### Credential English Name:

Diploma of "Specialist"  
Bachelor's degree

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Diploma of "Pre-School Teacher",  
Diploma of "Primary School Teacher",  
Diploma of "Biologist and Teacher of  
Biology", Diploma of "Mathematician and  
Teacher of Mathematics", etc.

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate  
Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian  
Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the former USSR:

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams, or
- Other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education) and entrance exams

In the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams, or
- Other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education) and entrance exams, or
- a Bachelor's degree (Бакалавр, *Bakalavr*)

**Program Description:**

In the former USSR:

- 4 to 5 years (sometimes 6) of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion)

In the Russian Federation:

- 4 to 5 years (sometimes 6) of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion) after secondary education, or
- 1 to 1.5 years of full-time study (including 3-4 months for thesis completion) after a Bachelor's degree

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**

In the former USSR:

- Candidate of Sciences program
- Employment

In the Russian Federation:

- Candidate of Sciences or Master program
- Employment

**Placement Recommendations:**

**(for the Diploma of “Specialist” in any area of study)**

**NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Bachelor Degree. Some Diploma of Specialist programs may be regarded as comparable to Australian Honours Bachelor degrees, based on a comparison of academic transcripts. NOOSR regards the Diploma of Specialist similar to a longer Australian first Bachelor degree and recognizes that it includes additional requirements which may contain elements at postgraduate level. NOOSR recognizes that "the university curriculum was longer than most current undergraduate programs in Australia, and the work load was heavy".

## **UK NARIC (UK)**

Is considered comparable to British Bachelor degree standard. "Holders of this award possess the formal requirements for postgraduate study (including PhD) in the UK, at institutional discretion."

## **IERF 2004 (USA)**

BA/BS.

### **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

#### In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 4 years or a Bachelor's degree generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.
- The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:
  - 4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate-level coursework with a focus in xxx, or
  - 5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc. (Bachelor of Education/Bachelor of Science), or
  - assessed individually.

Note to assessors: The transcripts must be reviewed in order to determine the proportion of Education courses. This analysis will be reflected in a comparative statement such as “generally compares to the completion of a B.Ed.(Bachelor of Education)/ or a Bachelor's degree with a focus in education/ or a Bachelor's degree with a coursework in xxx and education”.

### **Post-secondary Admission**

#### In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 4 years or a Bachelor's degree generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.
- The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:
  - 4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate-level coursework with a focus in xxx, or
  - 5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc. (Bachelor of Education/Bachelor of Science), or
  - assessed individually.

Note to assessors: The transcripts must be reviewed in order to determine the proportion of



Education courses. This analysis will be reflected in a comparative statement such as “generally compares to the completion of a B.Ed.(Bachelor of Education)/ or a Bachelor’s degree with a focus in education/ or a Bachelor’s degree with a coursework in xxx and education”.

### **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

### **IQAS Rationale:**

#### **Teacher Education in the Former USSR**

In the former USSR there was no professional certification requirement for teachers. The professional title of teacher was awarded on academic credentials and could be listed as педагог (*pedagog*), учитель (*uchitel'*), or преподаватель (*prepodavatel'*) - these terms were synonymous.

Pre-school and primary school teachers did not receive a specialization in a particular subject. They taught all subjects to a respective class of students, pre-school or primary. In contrast, lower secondary and upper secondary teachers specialized in one or two subjects. They generally taught these subjects to different classes of students, lower secondary and upper secondary.

#### **University-Level Institutions (Pedagogical and Other Institutes, Universities, Academies)**

**The majority of lower and upper secondary school teachers** in the former USSR were trained at university-level educational institutions (pedagogical and other institutes, universities, and academies). Graduates of these institutions received the Diploma of "Specialist". The title of teacher on the Diploma of "Specialist" was followed by a subject specialization such as teacher of the French language (учитель французского языка, *uchitel' francuzskogo yazyka*). Students preparing to teach one subject typically completed a four-year program. Those preparing to specialize in two subjects typically completed a five-year program. Few "Specialist" programs were up to six years in length. In addition, **some** university-level institutions (typically pedagogical institutes) also offered four-year programs for **pre-school or primary school teaching**.

### University-Level Teacher Education in the Former USSR

Professional Title Awarded	Title in Russian	Transliteration	Typical Length of Study	Taught Children
pre-school teacher	педагог дошкольного образования	<i>pedagog doshkol'nogo obrazovaniya</i>	4 years	3-6 years of age
primary school teacher	учитель начальных классов	<i>uchitel' nachal'nyh klassov</i>	4 years	primary school grades 1-3 (1-4)
<b>teacher (specialization in specific subject(s))</b>	учитель	<i>uchitel'</i>	4-6 years	lower secondary grades 4-8 (5-9) and/or upper secondary grades 9-10 (10-11)

Approximately two hundred **pedagogical institutes** (university-level educational institutions) trained specifically pre-school, primary, and secondary school teachers. Study of the subject(s) to be taught occupied a central part of the curriculum. Education-related courses included psychology, educational theory and methodology, history of education, and school hygiene. During the last two years of the program, practice teaching and summer work at a pioneer (youth) camp was required. Final examinations at pedagogical institutes typically included an exam in philosophy/history of the Communist Party of the USSR and three exams related to the area of concentration.

Compared to students at pedagogical institutes, students at universities received narrower, more specialized training in a specific subject area. General education subjects (psychology, educational theory, school hygiene, etc.) and practice teaching were given less importance. Universities granted the title of teacher generally in addition to another title such as "chemist and teacher of chemistry".

### Five-Year Program of Teacher of English and German, Astrahan' Pedagogical Institute, 1986<sup>xii</sup>

Subject	Hours
History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union	170
Political Economy	140
Aspects of Modern Socialism	130
Fundamentals of Scientific Atheism	40
Physical Education	140
Developmental Physiology and Student Health	54
General Psychology	100
Developmental and Pedagogical Psychology	40
History of Pedagogy	90
School Pedagogy	90
Methods of Teaching Foreign Language	300
Practical Training in Spoken and Written Language	1322

Practical Phonetics	288
Practical Grammar	286
Theory and Practice of Translation	60
Language History	70
Theoretical Phonetics	40
Theoretical Grammar	70
Lexicology	70
Stylistics	40
History of British Literature	100
Introduction to Linguistics	70
Latin Language	70
Regional Studies	70
Technical Aids for Instruction	40
Comparative Typology of Native and Foreign Languages	40
Second Foreign Language	750
Special Course on Pedagogy	18
Special Course on Methodology	18
General Linguistics	80
Logic	40
Fundamentals of Ethics and Aesthetics	60
Methods of Teaching Second Foreign Language	120
Modern Russian Language	160
Total	5176

Term papers: Linguistics, Methodology of teaching foreign languages, Psychology

Additional practical training (not included in the total number of hours): Summer pedagogical practice 2 weeks, Summer children program facilitator 3 weeks, Teaching practice 6 weeks, Teaching practice 8 weeks

Final state examinations and final diploma paper in specialization

### **Teacher Education in the Russian Federation**

In the Russian Federation there is no professional certification requirement for teachers. The professional title of teacher is awarded on academic credentials and can be listed as педагог (*pedagog*), учитель (*uchitel'*), or преподаватель (*prepodavatel'*) - these terms are synonymous.

Pre-school and primary school teachers do not receive a specialization in a particular subject. They teach all subjects to a respective class of students, pre-school or primary. In contrast, lower secondary and upper secondary teachers specialize in one or two subjects. They generally teach these subjects to different classes of students, lower secondary and upper secondary.

## University-Level Institutions (Pedagogical and Other Institutes, Universities, Academies)

**Most lower and higher secondary school teachers** as well as **some pre-school and primary school teachers** in the Russian Federation are trained at university-level institutions (pedagogical and other institutes, universities, and academies). Diploma of "Specialist" programs train teachers for the particular levels of the school education system. The majority of Diploma of "Specialist" programs are five years in length. Four-year programs are offered in a limited number of single-subject disciplines (primary school education with no sub-specialization; foreign languages, where only one language is studied; and, in rare cases, Russian language and literature). Few Diploma of "Specialist" programs are six years in length.

### University-Level Teacher Education in the Russian Federation

Professional Title Awarded	Title in Russian	Transliteration	Typical Length of Study	Taught Children
pre-school teacher	педагог дошкольного образования	<i>pedagog doshkol'nogo obrazovaniya</i>	4 years	3-6 years of age
primary school teacher	учитель начальных классов	<i>uchitel' nachal'nyh klassov</i>	4 years	primary school grades 1-4
<b>teacher (specialization in specific subject(s))</b>	учитель	<i>uchitel'</i>	4-6 years	lower secondary grades 5-9 and/or upper secondary grades 10-11

There are over 100 pedagogical institutions in the Russian Federation. Many pedagogical institutes of the Soviet era have upgraded to pedagogical universities and pedagogical academies. Teaching qualifications may be obtained at pedagogical institutes and pedagogical universities as well as institutes, universities, and academies within other study areas.

University-level pedagogical education includes foundation studies/core courses in humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, subject specialisation, studies in biology and medicine, studies in pedagogy and psychology, and an introduction to pedagogical profession (in-service teacher training).

University-level graduates may specialize in one or two subjects, i.e. mathematics, biology, language, etc. The qualification of teacher may be added to a professional title or subject title when pedagogical requirements are fulfilled.

**Five-Year Program of Teacher of French and German, Samara State Pedagogical University, 1994<sup>xiii</sup>**

Course title	Hours
History of Russia	200
Philosophy	144
Economics	200
Political Science	120
Latin Language	144
Modern Russian Language	144
General Linguistics	148
Fundamentals of Information Science and Computing	72
World Art Culture	144
Cultural Studies	108
Age-Specific Physiology	36
School Hygiene	36
Physical Education	220
General Psychology	72
Age-Specific Psychology	72
Teaching Psychology	64
History of Pedagogy	72
Pedagogy	216
Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages	196
Practical Course of the Primary Foreign Language (French)	3140
Stylistics	72
Theoretical Phonetics	72
Theoretical Grammar	120
Typology	60
Lexicology	72
History of the Language	72
Regional Geography	112
Literature of the Country of the Studied Language	144
Practical Course of the Second Foreign Language (German)	960
Theory of the Second Foreign Language	40
Special Courses: Management	40
Pedagogical Systems	40
Methods of Educational Work	40
Imperialism, Symbolism in French Art	40
Special Seminars: Language of Mass Media	40
Education In Modern World	40
Total	7512

Term papers: Pedagogy, Teaching methods, Philology

Practice (not included in the total number of hours): Summer pedagogical 4 weeks, Methodical in primary language 6 weeks, Pedagogical 8 weeks

Final state examinations: Second foreign language, Pedagogy, psychology and methods of teaching foreign languages, Fundamentals of medical knowledge

Final diploma paper

### **Summary of Rationale:**

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### **IQAS recommends that:**

#### **In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:**

- **The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 4 years or a Bachelor's degree generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor's degree with a focus in xxx.**
- **The Diploma of "Specialist"-Teacher of 5 years generally compares to the completion of:**
  - **4-year Bachelor's degree plus 1 year of graduate-level coursework with a focus in xxx, or**
  - **5-year combined Bachelor degrees, e.g. B.Ed./B.Sc. (Bachelor of Education/Bachelor of Science), or**
  - **assessed individually.**

**Note to assessors:** The transcripts must be reviewed in order to determine the proportion of education courses. This analysis will be reflected in a comparative statement such as “generally compares to the completion of a B.Ed. (Bachelor of Education)/ or a Bachelor’s degree with a focus in education/ or a Bachelor’s degree with a coursework in xxx and education”.

### **Grading:**

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *zачет* (*zachet*), which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining

courses of the term are marked *зачет* (*zachet*), if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

## University-Level Credentials In Medicine/Dentistry

### Country:

Former USSR and  
Russian Federation

### Date Entered:

## UNIVERSITY-LEVEL CREDENTIALS IN MEDICINE/DENTISTRY

### Credential Actual Name:

Диплом Специалиста, *Diplom Spetsialista*

### Credential English Name:

Diploma of "Specialist"

### Credential Alternate Actual Name(s):

### Credential Alternate English Name(s):

Examples: Diploma of "Physician", Diploma of "Paediatrician", Diploma of "Stomatologist", Diploma of "Physician-Biochemist", Diploma of "Physician-Biophysicist", etc.

### Time Period Credential Offered:

Former USSR (pre 1991) and  
Russian Federation (post 1991)

### Issuing Body:

#### In the former USSR:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the appropriate Republic

#### In the Russian Federation:

Issued by an institution under the authority of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation

### Admission Requirements:

#### In the former USSR and the Russian Federation:

- Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education and entrance exams\*, or
- Other credential incorporating secondary education (Diploma of Lower Vocational Education or Diploma of Higher Vocational Education) and entrance exams\*

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\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.

\* See the IQAS Rational section for a detailed description of the admission requirements.



**Program Description:**In the former USSR:

- 5 to 6 years of full-time study depending on specialisation (see the IQAS Rationale section for details)

In the Russian Federation:

- 4 to 6 years of full-time study depending on specialisation (see the IQAS Rationale section for details)

**Provides Access to in the Home Country:**In the former USSR:

- Candidate of Sciences program
- Employment in a professional field

In the Russian Federation:

- Candidate of Sciences or Master program
- Employment in a professional field

**Placement Recommendations:**

**(for the Diploma of “Specialist” in any area of study)**

**NOOSR 2005 (Australia)**

Comparable to the educational level of an Australian Bachelor Degree. Some Diploma of Specialist programs may be regarded as comparable to Australian Honours Bachelor degrees, based on a comparison of academic transcripts. NOOSR regards the Diploma of Specialist similar to a longer Australian first Bachelor degree and recognizes that it includes additional requirements which may contain elements at postgraduate level. NOOSR recognizes that "the university curriculum was longer than most current undergraduate programs in Australia, and the work load was heavy".

**UK NARIC (UK)**

Is considered comparable to British Bachelor degree standard. "Holders of this award possess the formal requirements for postgraduate study (including PhD) in the UK, at institutional discretion."

**IERF 2004 (USA)**

BA/BS.

## **IQAS Recommendations for: Employment**

### In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:

The Diploma of a Physician/ Stomatologist/ Paediatrician/ Hygienist/etc generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine, dentistry, etc. preceded by prerequisite undergraduate study in science.

### In the Russian Federation:

The Diploma of a Nursing Supervisor generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor of Science with a focus in Nursing.

## **Post-secondary Admission**

### In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:

The Diploma of a Physician/ Stomatologist/ Paediatrician/ Hygienist/etc generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine, dentistry, etc. preceded by prerequisite undergraduate study in science.

### In the Russian Federation:

The Diploma of a Nursing Supervisor generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor of Science with a focus in Nursing.

## **Course Equivalencies**

30-level courses if no secondary documents are available.

## **IQAS Rationale:**

## **Diploma of "Specialist" in Medicine in the Former USSR:**

### **Detailed Admission Requirements**

<b>Admission Requirement</b>	<b>Description</b>
Academic credential requirement	A school or vocational education credential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li><li>• A diploma of vocational education that included complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li></ul>
AND	
Examination requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams was three to five.</li></ul>

### **Additional Admission Considerations**

- For full-time study the age limit of 35 years was typically enforced. There was no age limit for part-time, evening and correspondence studies.
- Institutions typically reduced the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
  - individuals who had been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
  - graduates of specialized schools.
- Students from certain regions (rural regions or certain republics) who intended to study in subject areas that would directly benefit the development of their regions, such as agriculture and pedagogy, might have been granted priority in admission.
- The former USSR supported students from developing countries. However, **foreign students** were expected to meet the same entrance requirements as Soviet nationals, in particular, had completed school education and taken entrance exams. There was a compulsory pre-academic year for those who did not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training.

## Diploma of "Specialist" in Medicine

In medicine, there were four major types of Diploma of "Specialist" programs: the therapist (primary-care physician), the hygienist (sanitarian-epidemiologist- hygienist), the paediatrician (children's primary care physician), and the stomatologist (dentist). The Diploma of "Specialist" listed the title of physician (врач, *vrach*).

Primary-care physicians were trained in a faculty of curative medicine. The training of general practitioners, surgeons, and obstetricians/gynaecologists took six years, five of which were devoted to general medical training and the sixth is one of specialisation (subordinatura).

In a faculty of paediatrics, the training of paediatricians and paediatric surgeons took six years, five in general medical training and the sixth in a specialisation.

In a faculty of dentistry, the training of dental physicians, dental surgeons, children's dental physicians and other dental specialists took five years, 4.5 in general medical training followed by a six month period of specialisation.

In a faculty of hygiene, the training of physicians in community health, nutritional hygiene, occupational health, and children's and adolescents' health, as well as that of physicians specialising in epidemiology, took six years, 5.5 in general medical training followed by a six-month period of specialisation.<sup>xiv</sup>

## Further Clinical Study

After graduation, students undertook an internship (*internatura*) of minimum one year in their specialisation at the end of which they started to practise. Secondary specialisation in narrower specialties took place during a clinical residency (*ordinatura*) period of minimum two years. Following this, physicians underwent general further training in their specialty once every five years.

## Academic Year

Applications for admission were generally accepted in June. Entrance examinations were held in July and August. Registration for enrollment took place at the end of August.

The academic year ran from September to June and was divided into two semesters, September to January and February to June. Student contact hours throughout the year amounted to 34 to 40 hours a week, including lectures, seminars, and labs. At least 20% of time was assigned to practical exercises and laboratory work in technical and science curricula. Independent work and background reading occupied a less significant amount of time than in western countries.

Each semester culminated in a final exam session, which included oral and written exams in about five core subjects. Other courses taken in the term were marked pass/fail on the basis of oral exams. The final mark "fail" was very rare as students were allowed to repeat a failed exam up to two times. Students who failed more than two courses were required to withdraw from their program.

### Language of Instruction

Russian was overwhelmingly the language of instruction throughout the former USSR.

### Diploma of "Specialist" in Medicine in the Russian Federation:

#### Detailed Admission Requirements

Admission Requirement	Description	
Academic credential requirement	A school or vocational education credential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (<i>Attestat o Srednem (Polnom) Obshchem Obrazovanii</i>), or</li><li>• A diploma of vocational education that includes complete secondary education (for further details see the chapter on Vocational/Technical Education)</li></ul>	
AND		
Examination requirement	Prior to the introduction of the USE in 2001	Since the introduction of the USE in 2001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations set by individual institutions for entry into different specialisations or areas of study. The typical number of exams is three to five.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of USE results</li></ul> And/or <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral and written entrance examinations as before (as set by the institution)</li></ul>

### Unified State Examination (USE)

The Unified State Examination (Единый государственный экзамен/ЕГЭ, *Edinyj gosudarstvennyj ekzamen/EGE*) has been implemented since 2001 as a standardised school graduation examination. Test takers receive the Certificate of USE Results (Свидетельство о результатах ЕГЭ, *Svidetel'stvo o Rezul'tatah EGE*).

Higher education institutions may use the USE results in place of, or in addition to, their own entrance examinations. With a Certificate of USE Results and an applicable school leaving credential, students can apply simultaneously to several institutions all over the country.

### **Additional Admission Considerations**

- Admission for fee-paying students may not be as competitive as for students financed from the state budget.
- Institutions of higher education may reduce the number of examinations for certain categories of applicants. For example:
- individuals who have been awarded a medal (at the completion of school education) or a diploma with honors/distinction (at the completion of vocational education) or some other awards,
- graduates of specialized schools.
- **Foreign students** must meet the same entrance requirements as Russian nationals, in particular, have completed school education and taken entrance exams. There is a compulsory pre-academic year for those who do not know Russian or/and for those with weak pre-university training. Foreign applicants may not be older than 28 (35 for doctoral studies). In addition, they must have a valid Student visa and financial guarantees.

### **Diploma of "Specialist" in Medicine**

In Diploma of "Specialist" programs in medicine there are now nine areas of study. They can be studied not only at medical institutes but also at medical academies and regular universities.

#### **Areas of Study in "Specialist" Programs in Medicine in the Russian Federation, 2000**

<b>Area of Study Number</b>	<b>Area of Study</b>	<b>Years of Full Time Study</b>	<b>Specialist Title</b>
040100	Medicine	6	Physician
040200	Pediatrics	6	Physician
040300	Prophylactic medicine	6	Physician
040400	Dentistry	5	Physician
040500	Pharmacy	5	Pharmacist
040600	Nursing	4	Nursing Supervisor
040800	Medical biochemistry	6	Physician - Biochemical
040900	Medical biophysics	6	Physician - Biophysics
041000	Medical cybernetics	6	Physician- Cybernetics

## Further Clinical Study

After graduation, students undertake an internship (*internatura*) of minimum one year in their specialisation at the end of which they start to practise. Secondary specialisation in narrower specialties takes place during a clinical residency (*ordinatura*) period of minimum two years. Following this, physicians undergo general further training in their specialty once every five years.

## Clinical Study Areas at the Russian State Medical University<sup>xv</sup>

- \* Allergology and Immunology
- \* Anesthesiology and Reanimatology
- \* Cardiology
- \* Cardiovascular Surgery
- \* Children's Endocrinology
- \* Children's Surgery
- \* Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics
- \* Clinical Pharmacology
- \* Dermatovenereology
- \* Dietology
- \* Domestic Medicine (General Medical Practice)
- \* Endocrinology
- \* Endomorphism
- \* Epidemiology
- \* Forensic Medical Examination
- \* Functional Diagnostics
- \* Gastroenterology
- \* Genetics
- \* Haematology
- \* Infectious Diseases
- \* Laboratory Genetics
- \* Manual Therapy
- \* Maxillofacial Surgery
- \* Neonatology
- \* Nephrology
- \* Neurology
- \* Obstetrics and Gynecology
- \* Occupational Pathology
- \* Oncology
- \* Ophthalmology
- \* Otorhinolaryngology
- \* Pathological Anatomy
- \* Pediatrics
- \* Phthisiology
- \* Physiotherapy
- \* Psychiatry

- \* Psychiatry and Narcology
- \* Pulmonology
- \* Radiology
- \* Reflex Therapy
- \* Rentgenology
- \* Rheumatology
- \* Social Medicine and Management in Public Health
- \* Stomatology
- \* Surgery
- \* Therapeutic Physical Training and Sport Medicine
- \* Therapy
- \* Traumatology and Orthopedics
- \* Urology

## **Academic Year**

Entrance examinations are traditionally held in August. The academic year runs from September to June. It is divided into two academic semesters with examinations held at the end of each. Examinations may be oral or written and number about five per semester. In contrast to other countries, in the Russian Federation 100% of the course grade is determined by the final examination grade in that subject. Other courses may be evaluated as pass/fail. In order to qualify for the final examination, students must also complete professional practice requirements.

The university level higher education curriculum stipulates 36 weeks of study a year. Depending on the field of study (specialisation), mandatory courses in the curriculum constitute 80 to 85 percent, optional courses 15 to 20 percent. The total workload of a student should not exceed 54 hours a week, including classroom work and independent studies. For part-time evening education, classwork should be no less than 10 hours a week. In the case of correspondence education, students are offered at least 160 contact hours a year.

It is important to note that the system of higher education in the Russian Federation, as in the former USSR, emphasizes contact hours at the expense of homework and independent study. Therefore a direct conversion of instructional hours in the Russian Federation to semester hours (credits) in Western countries may be misleading.

One of the current initiatives of the Russian Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Bologna process is the introduction of credits. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) uses a standard system of 30 hours corresponding to one ECTS credit. It is envisioned that one academic year will comprise of approximately 60 credits.

## **Language of Instruction**

The principal language of higher education in the Russian Federation is Russian. Higher education may be conducted in other languages of the Russian Federation, as well as foreign languages. The language of education is set by the appropriate administrative body.



## Sample Curriculum

### Six-Year "Specialist" Program in Medicine (Specialization number 1901, Therapist), Moscow Medical Academy, 1991

Subject	Lecture	Lab/Practice/ Seminar	Total
History of the Communist Party of the USSR	60	60	120
Marxist-Leninist Philosophy	80	60	140
Principles of Scientific Atheism	18	6	24
Political Economy	50	50	100
Scientific Communism	40	40	80
Special Training	68	186	254
Civil Defence	20	30	50
Physical Education, including Medical Gymnastics & Medical Control	11	174	190
Latin & Medical Terminology		72	72
Foreign Language		350	350
Medical Biology & Genetics	28	120	148
Medical & Biological Physics, with Information Science & Medical Equipment	36	132	168
General & Bio-Organic Chemistry	48	140	188
Biochemistry	46	144	190
Human Anatomy	54	222	276
Histology, Embryology & Cytology	34	134	168
Normal Physiology	50	186	236
Microbiology, with Virology & Immunology	38	146	184
Pharmacology	36	130	166
Clinical Pharmacology	4	52	56
Pathological Anatomy, with Dissection	38	148	186
Pathological Physiology	38	128	166
General Hygiene, with Ecology	36	94	130
Social Hygiene & Organization of Health Services	56	96	152
General Patient Care (Therapy)		40	40
Introduction to Internal Diseases	36	168	204
Internal Disease & General Physical Therapy	76	256	332
Endocrinology	18	38	56
Tuberculosis	18	78	96
Polyclinic Training	18	52	70
Occupational Diseases	8	30	38
Roentgenology & Radiation Medicine	18	58	76
General Patient Care (Surgery)		32	32
General Surgery & Anesthesiology	46	120	166
Reanimation & Intensive Therapy	4	34	38

Operative Surgery & Topographical Anatomy	18	112	130
Surgical Diseases	70	210	280
Urology	8	30	38
Stomatology	8	30	38
Traumatology & Orthopedics	40	94	134
Oncology	12	50	62
Infectious Diseases & Epidemiology	42	120	162
Dermatology & Venereal Diseases	26	70	96
Neurology, Neurosurgery & Medical Genetics	38	112	150
Psychiatry	26	66	92
General & Medical Psychology	4	32	36
Otorhinolaryngology	18	56	74
Pulmonology	18	56	74
Forensic Medicine	16	70	86
Soviet Law	30	18	48
Obstetrics & Gynecology	50	182	232
Pediatrics	36	130	166
Pediatric Surgery	8	58	66
Subtotal number of hours			6,906
Specialisation:			
Internal Diseases	70	1,106	1,176
Surgical Diseases	70	1,106	1,176
Obstetrics & Gynecology	70	1,106	1,176
Total Hours			8,082

State Examinations were required at the end of second, fifth, and sixth years as follows:

Second year:

- Human Anatomy
- Normal Physiology
- Histology
- Biochemistry

Fifth Year:

- Internal Diseases
- Surgical Diseases
- Obstetrics & Gynecology

Sixth Year:

- Specialization
- Marxism-Leninism
- Social Hygiene & Organization of Health Services

### Summary of Rationale:

The IQAS placement recommendation takes into account the following factors as outlined above:

- admission requirements
- length of the study
- outcome of the study
- general content
- other placement recommendations

### IQAS recommends that:

#### In the Former USSR and the Russian Federation:

**The Diploma of a Physician/ Stomatologist/ Paediatrician/ Hygienist/etc generally compares to the completion of a first professional university degree in medicine, dentistry, etc. preceded by prerequisite undergraduate study in science.**

#### In the Russian Federation:

**The Diploma of a Nursing Supervisor generally compares to the completion of a 4-year Bachelor of Science with a focus in Nursing.**

### Grading:

The grading system in higher education in the Russian Federation is the same as that in the former USSR. It includes the same grading scale as at the other levels of education. Additionally, some courses are marked *зачет (zachet)*, which is usually translated as pass or credit. No more than five set examinations are typically graded each semester. The remaining courses of the term are marked *зачет (zachet)*, if passed. Students can continue their programs and graduate only if they pass each subject of the curriculum. Students are only allowed to resit a failed exam two times.

Scale	Description
5	Excellent (Отлично, <i>Otlichno</i> )
4	Good (Хорошо, <i>Horosho</i> )
3	Satisfactory (Удовлетворительно, <i>Udovletvoritel'no</i> )
2	Fail (Неудовлетворительно, <i>Neudovletvoritel'no</i> )
<i>Zachet</i>	Pass (Зачет, <i>Zachet</i> )
<i>Nezachet</i>	Fail (Незачет, <i>Nezachet</i> )

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- <sup>i</sup> Adapted from *Informatsionnyi Sbornik Ministerstva Narodnogo Obrazovaniya RSFSR*, no. 14 May 1989 pp18-19.
- <sup>ii</sup> Alberta Advanced Education, International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS). *Issue: Determining an Appropriate Alberta Equivalency for Elementary and Secondary Education in the Former USSR*.
- <sup>iii</sup> Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation, National Information Centre on Academic Recognition and Mobility.
- <sup>iv</sup> Sample documents are made available by the National Information Centre on Academic Recognition and Mobility of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.
- <sup>v</sup> UNESCO. *Mutual Recognition of Qualifications: The Russian Federation and the Other European Countries*. Second Edition. 2000. (Compiled by Kouptsov Oleg Dr.)
- <sup>vi</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>vii</sup> Ministry of Education Order Number 334 “*Program of the Ministry of Education and Russian Academy of Education concerning mutual activities towards implementation of profile education at the third level of secondary education*” of 9 June 2003
- <sup>viii</sup> For more information see [www.profile-edu.ru](http://www.profile-edu.ru)
- <sup>ix</sup> Nordic Recognition Network (NORRIC). *The System of Education in Russia*. 2005
- <sup>x</sup> An IQAS file.
- <sup>xi</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>xii</sup> An IQAS file.
- <sup>xiii</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>xiv</sup> IQAS resources.
- <sup>xv</sup> <http://old.rsmu.ru/eng/postfac.htm>