

QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY OF JSC “SOUTH KAZAKHSTAN MEDICAL ACADEMY”

JSC “South Kazakhstan Medical Academy” (JSC “SKMA”) is a leading specialized medical university that trains highly qualified medical and pharmaceutical personnel for government institutions, as well as national and foreign healthcare and pharmaceutical organizations. This Policy was developed as part of the implementation of the current Concept for the Development of Healthcare in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2022–2029 and the Development Plan of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2026–2030, focusing on the advanced development of human capital and the digitalization of the healthcare sector.

The academy’s activities are aimed at creating synergy between high-quality higher and postgraduate education, fundamental and applied scientific research, and innovative clinical practice. The policy is based on the principles of social responsibility, academic integrity, management transparency, and environmental and social sustainability, which align with modern global sustainable development values (ESG) and the criteria of the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME).

Quality management at JSC “SKMA” is implemented through the end-to-end integration of international requirements of IAAR, ESG and WFME into SKMA’s internal quality assurance standards.

The Academy designs and implements practice-oriented educational programmes based on a competency-based approach, balanced with the needs of practical healthcare. The programmes fully comply with ESG Standards in terms of student-centred learning, flexible educational trajectories and transparency of assessment procedures. The programmes comply with WFME Standards in terms of the mandatory definition of clear learning outcomes for each level of medical training. The Academy enforces mandatory annual review, updating and expert review of the programmes, involving employers, medical associations and students, to ensure compliance with changing clinical protocols.

The university’s system for attracting talented applicants is based on a transparent competitive selection process, assessment of basic motivation, and the research potential of young people. A comprehensive trajectory of academic, social, and psychological support for students is provided throughout the entire study cycle. The Academy operates in accordance with WFME standards for protecting students’ rights and creating a safe, inclusive educational environment.

The academy’s personnel policy is based on meritocracy, competitive recruitment, and the involvement of leading global experts and authoritative practitioners from the realms of healthcare. The programmes for the continuous professional development of the teaching staff and the innovative system of motivation for teaching personnel guarantee the continuous growth of the university’s academic and scientific-clinical potential.

The Academy fosters a seamless integration of fundamental and applied science and clinical practice, ensuring a high level of citation and patent activity. The university encourages students at all levels to participate in research projects, the commercialization of technologies, and the integration of research results into curricula.

The Academy ensures the functioning of a unified digital ecosystem for collecting, verifying, and analyzing data on the quality of all processes (academic performance, KPI for teaching staff, stakeholder satisfaction). Continuous monitoring of graduates’ career growth and assessment of their demand in the labor market are being implemented to flexibly adjust the development strategy.

The university undertakes to regularly, openly, and impartially publish information about its activities, including the programs it offers, the assessment criteria, the qualifications awarded, and the results of external institutional and programmatic accreditations.

The academy's financial policy is aimed at diversifying income sources (grants, clinical services, commercialization of science) and ensuring transparent, targeted allocation of resources. The funding vector is focused on the continuous development of the internal quality system, the modernization of the material and technical base, and academic mobility.

The Academy purposefully develops an innovative medical ecosystem that includes a university clinic, advanced clinical and production facilities in the region, simulation centers, and modern research laboratories. The resource base is being modernized in accordance with environmental safety and resource-saving standards (E-component of ESG), ensuring a comfortable and digital educational environment for all participants in the process.

The management of JSC "SKMA" is a recognized leader in the processes of implementing this Policy, ensuring the development of an internal quality culture at all levels of institutional management. The system of management decision-making is based on the principles of collegiality, inclusivity, risk management, and regular collection of feedback from internal and external stakeholders (students, employers, graduates, professional associations) within the framework of Deming's continuous improvement cycle (PDCA). The full involvement of academic, management, and administrative-support staff in raising the standards of their professional activities is the main criterion for commitment to the Quality Assurance Policy.

JSC "SKMA" undertakes to strictly adhere to this Policy in order to strengthen the academy's status as a recognized leader in the field of training competitive healthcare professionals in Kazakhstan at the national and global levels.

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