Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science «National Accreditation Agency» (NAA)

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF NAA's ACTIVITY FOR 2018

Moscow, 2018

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1. Introduction

National Accreditation Agency (hereinafter – NAA or the Agency) carried out its activities in accordance with the Federal laws of the Russian Federation, regulatory legal acts of the Government of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation (transformed into the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation (hereinafter - the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation (hereinafter - the Ministry of Education and Science)), the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science (hereinafter - Rosobrnadzor) and its Statute.

The report presents statistical information on the balance of the work for 2018, as well as an analysis of the performance results and identifies the main tasks and activities for the near future.

2. Participation in the elaboration of normative and legal acts

In order to update the current legislation in the field of education in 2018, the Agency actively participated in the development of draft normative and legal acts regulating Rosobrnadzor's activities in terms of state accreditation of educational activities.

The proposals for amendments and additions to the Decrees of the Government of the Russian Federation on the issues of state accreditation of educational activities were developed and prepared. In total, there are 8 initiatives introduced to improve the state accreditation procedure, of which 2 initiatives have been taken for implementation.

The order of Rosobrnadzor dated June 14, 2018 No. 809 "On the establishment of labor standards and coefficients taking into account changes in the complexity of work depending on the contingent of students in the organization carrying out educational activities on the basic study programs submitted for state accreditation during external review" (registered in the Ministry of Justice of Russia 05.07.2018 No. 51536) entered into force. The order establishes new standards of labor costs and coefficients that take into account changes in the complexity of work depending on the contingent of students in the organization carrying out educational activities on the basic study programs declared for state accreditation during external review.

Thus, considering the established standards for each type of work performed by an expert, the number of hours spent by an expert when carrying out external review is determined, which allows to make a reasonable payment for the provided services.

However, in case the study programs are implemented according to the standards developed and approved by educational organizations independently and (or) exclusively using e-learning, distance learning technologies, part of the work is not performed by an expert, which leads to the reduction in hours allocated to an expert to conduct external review.

Actualization of standards, as well as coefficients for calculating the payment of expert services, depending on the contingent of students on a basic study program (and not on the number of students in an educational organization) led to a change in the mechanism for calculating payment of services to experts: the number of hours allocated for the preparation of an external review report and expert conclusion, based on the external review results, and changed the hours allotted for a particular type of work, performed by an expert during external review.

With the adoption of the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of July 28, 2018 No. 885 "On Approval of the Regulations on the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science and Recognition of the Certain Acts of the Government of the Russian Federation as Invalid", the new Regulations on Rosobrnadzor came into force, which:

- specifies the scope of jurisdiction of Rosobrnadzor, which is a federal executive body that performs regulatory functions in the field of state regulation of educational activities, monitoring and supervision in education and science, recognition of education and / or qualifications obtained in a foreign state, and provides public services under the existing authority;
- confers the right to Rosobrnadzor and the Ministry of Education of Russia to jointly adopt acts regarding the form, order, and timing of the state final examination on relevant general education programs of various levels, as well as the duration of the exams;
- delegates to Rosobrnadzor a number of powers in the field of licensing and state accreditation of educational activities, control over the implementation of the powers transferred to the subjects of the Russian Federation in the field of education and science.

In addition, Rosobrnadzor has the right to independently adopt regulatory legal acts and set target forecast indicators on part of the execution of the transferred powers in the field of education and science by the state authorities of the subjects of the Russian Federation, to submit proposals to the Government of the Russian Federation on withdrawal of the delegated powers.

At the same time, the heads of these executive authorities should be appointed in coordination with the Ministry of Education of Russia and the Ministry of Education and Science of Russia.

In terms of improving the procedure of state accreditation of educational activities, proposals were prepared for the preparation of draft regulatory legal acts:

- on amending the order of the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science "On approval of qualification requirements to experts and expert organizations, procedures of their certification, inter alia the maintenance of the register of experts and expert organizations, selection of experts and expert organizations for external review".

It is necessary to supplement normative legal acts regulating the issues of state accreditation of educational activities with the possibility of carrying out state accreditation in the electronic form (as whole or partially), and also to disclose the procedure of the expert panel's work during the external

review carried out remotely by means of the information and telecommunication technologies of the Internet. The current legislation provides only the submission of documents in the e-form. The new type will reduce the burden on educational organizations directly working with the expert panel members. It will be possible to save financial resources by reducing travel and accommodation costs for the expert panel members, which are inevitable in case of the external review carried out with a site visit to establish the compliance with the requirements of federal state educational standards, as well as will allow educational organizations to reduce financial and time costs spent on documents submission, taking into account the volume and territorial distance.

It is advisable to fix in the regulatory acts that, if necessary, both the entire expert panel and its individual members headed by the leader can visit the educational organization to determine the quality of students training on basic study programs. With this aim in view, proposals were made to amend the following regulatory legal acts:

- Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation of 18.11.2013 № 1039;
- Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation of 16.09.2014 № 1227 "On approval of the administrative regulations of Rosobrnadzor's providing the state service of state accreditation";
- Procedure of work of experts and (or) expert organizations' representatives included in the expert panel to carry out external review, approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation of 9.11.2016 № 1386;
- Order of Rosobrnadzor of 12.09.2014 № 1484 "On approval of the procedure for maintaining the accreditation records of educational organizations at Rosobrnadzor".

3. Main directions of NAA's activity

NAA was established to promote Rosobrnadzor in implementing its powers, including state accreditation of educational activities of organizations, creation and maintenance of the information resources.

The subject of the Agency's main activities in accordance with the Statutes is to provide organizational, technical, information, methodological and analytical support related to the execution of Rosobrnadzor's powers.

According to the subject of the main activities within the subsidy allocated to the Agency for reimbursement of legal costs associated with the provision of state services (works) under the state task, the Agency performs the following activities:

organizational, technical, information and analytical support of the external review procedure in terms of the compliance of the content and quality of students' training on study programs declared for state accreditation with the requirements of federal state educational standards, including the procedure of state accreditation of study programs;

organizational, technical, information and analytical support of the procedure of certification of experts and (or) expert organizations for carrying out external review;

organizational and technical support of the collection, processing and accumulation of accounting and (or) other documented information in relation to educational organizations invo lved in licensing and state accreditation of educational activities;

organizational, technical, informational and analytical support of Rosobrnadzor in carrying out supervision (monitoring) activities in the field of education in relation to organizations carrying out educational activities on study programs;

preparation of draft methodological and other documents on analysis of the content and quality of students' training in organizations engaged in educational activities;

monitoring studies in the education system of the Russian Federation to ensure the powers executed by Rosobrnadzor;

organizational support of the activities on implementing the powers of Rosobrnadzor associated with the use of interagency electronic interaction system;

organizational and technical support in generation and maintainence of the information resources related to the execution of Rosobrnadzor's powers.

3.1. Organizational, technical, information and analytical support of the external review procedure

NAA's support of the state accreditation procedure includes 3 main stages:

I. Analysis of the documents submitted by educational organizations and data input into the information system of state accreditation of Rosobrnadzor;

- II. Organization and support of external reviews;
- III. Analysis of external review results and preparation of documents to be delivered to Rosobrnadzor for making an accreditation decision.

I. Analysis of the documents submitted by educational organizations and data input into the information system of state accreditation of Rosobrnadzor

The Agency analyzes the documents submitted by educational and scientific organizations in paper and electronic form for state accreditation of educational activities / for renewal of the state accreditation certificate, as well as enters the data into the information system of state accreditation (hereinafter referred to as IS SA); posts the documents attached to the application on the IS SA; verifies documents and based on the results prepares draft notifications of receipt of the application and the attached documents for consideration on the merits or their non-compliance.

Check-in of the correctness of filling and completeness of the submitted documents is carried out in accordance with the Regulations on State Accreditation of Educational Activities, approved by the Government of the Russian Federation dated November 18, 2013 No. 1039 (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations) and the Administrative Regulations on the Provision of State Services on State Accreditation of Educational Institutions and Scientific Organizations by the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science.

In 2018, 780 applications were submitted by educational and scientific organizations, which is 3.4% less compared to 2017 (in 2017, 807 applications were submitted), of which:

- 441 applications (56.6%) with 162 branches for full accreditation;
- 221 applications (28.3%) with 57 branches for renewal of the state accreditation certificate in connection with the accreditation of previously not accredited study programs;
- 118 applications (15.1%) for renewal in connection with the change of the name, location, change of the codes of IGSFT, reorganization.

Moreover, 648 applications (83%) were received from state organizations carrying out educational activities and 132 applications (17%) from non-state organizations carrying out educational activities.

In addition, 295 applications were submitted electronically (about 38% of the total number of applications submitted), which is 4 times more than in 2017.

This fact demonstrates a more active use of the electronic form for submitting applications for state accreditation, which is ensured by the Agency's systematic work in providing information and methodological support in the context of translating the state accreditation procedure into the electronic form.

A total of 61 applications were withdrawn, which constitutes 7.8% of the total number of applications submitted in 2018.

The main reasons for withdrawal of applications prior to the receipt of documents for consideration on the merits are: the decision of the organization to apply for state accreditation of educational activities, or submission of documents in violation of the established requirements for documents necessary for the provision of public services.

According to the applications submitted for state accreditation and accreditation of study programs, 1054 draft notifications were prepared, of which: 553 (52.5%) draft notifications of receipt of the application and the attached documents for consideration on the merits; 88 (8.3%) of draft notifications of refusal to accept documents for consideration on the merits, 413 (39.2%) of draft non-compliance notifications (Fig. 1).

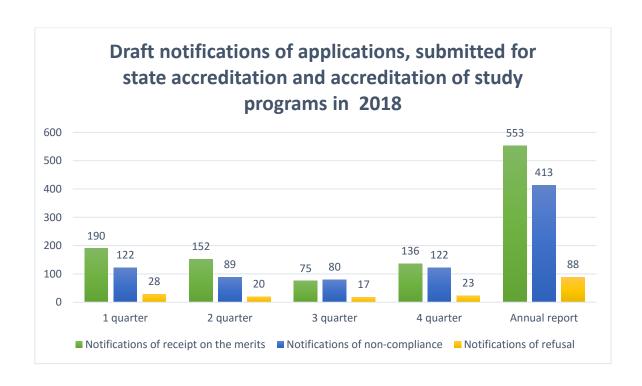
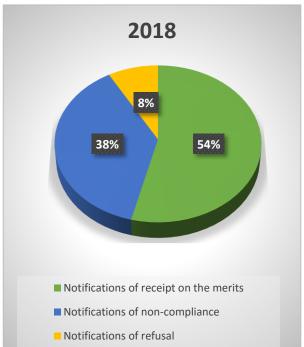


Fig. 1. Draft notifications prepared in 2018 according to the applications, submitted for state accreditation and accreditation of study programs





According to the applications for renewal of state accreditation certificates, 151 draft notifications were prepared, of which: 97 (64.2%) draft notifications of receipt of the application and the attached documents for consideration on the merits; 12 (8%) draft notifications of refusal to accept documents for consideration on the merits, 42 (27.8%) draft notifications of non-compliance (Fig. 2.).

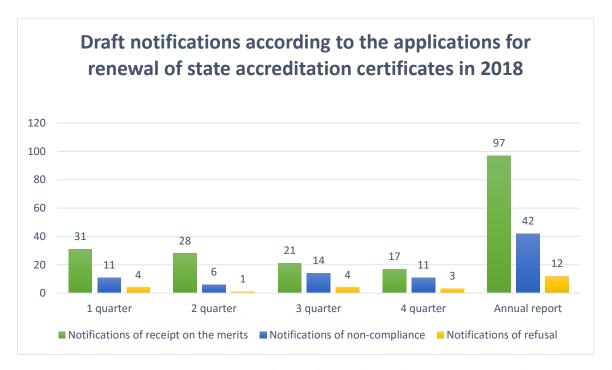


Fig. 2. Draft notifications prepared according to the applications for renewal of state accreditation certificates in 2018

The main reasons for refusal to accept documents for consideration on the merits are the availability of an unfulfilled prescriptive order or order to suspend, deprive or refuse of state accreditation, as well as the availability of detected nonconformities.

The analysis showed that draft discrepancy notifications of average make up more than 30%. This demonstrates the lack of personnel experience when working with the relevant documents and the lack of knowledge of the established requirements related to the submission of documents for the provision of public services.

The main nonconformities of the submitted documents with the established requirements are:

- 1. Incorrect name of the procedure.
- 2. The application is filled out in violation of the established form, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Russia dated March 18, 2014 № 193:
 - the absence or inconsistency of data on the details of the current state accreditation certificate;
 - the lack of information in the line: "on the following basic study programs";
 - the lack of information about the license for the right to work using information constituting a state secret (if necessary);
 - the lack of the seal of an educational institution;
 - inconsistency of data on the organization location, name, as well as the OGRN, KPP, INT of the organization with the data specified in the system of inter-agency electronic interaction;
 - incorrect presentation of information in terms of basic study programs:
 - inconsistency of the codes / titles of IGSFT, codes / names of basic study programs with lists of professions, specialties and fields of training, approved by the regulatory documents of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation;
 - inconsistency of the name of the educational level of the basic study program with the levels specified in the regulatory documents (Article 10 of the Federal Law of December 29, 2012 № 273-FL "On Education in the Russian Federation");
 - discrepancy between the dates of training time specified in the FSES and declared in the application;
 - incomplete or incorrect information on basic study programs: not all accredited basic study programs are taken into account or are indicated not in accordance with the attached documents (including when submitting an application for renewal of the state accreditation certificate);
 - the lack of data on study programs included in an integrated group of professions, specialties
 and fields of vocational training, for which the organization is deprived of state accreditation
 (in case of the certificate renewal);
 - incorrect indication of the reason for renewal of the state accreditation certificate;

- absence of the reason for changing the organization's location, name or reorganization, etc. (in the case of the certificate renewal).
- 3. The documents attached to the application do not meet the established requirements:
 - inconsistency of information on the study program delivery with the approved form (order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation dated July 6, 2015 № 667 "On approval of the data forms on delivering study programs declared for state accreditation"):
 - absence of the name of the head of the organization;
 - discrepancy of the declared level of education;
 - discrepancy of the date of filling out with the date specified in the application;
 - lack of information about the contingent of students;
 - lack of the seal on the inventory of documents submitted by an educational institution or certification of an inventory by a person who is not the head of the organization

When filling out and submitting an application in electronic form, the following observations are noted:

- application and the attached documents are certified by electronic signature of a person who is not the head of the organization;
 - incorrect format of the archive with documents (can not be decoded);
- inconsistency of the data in the attached application file and the data specified in the personal account of the organization carrying out educational activities.

The analysis of the documents reveals the following observations:

- the license to carry out educational activities has not been brought into compliance with the established lists of professions, specialties and fields of training (according to part 9 of article 108 of the Federal Law dated December 29, 2012 № 273 of the Federal Law "On Education in the Russian Federation"):
- invalid information on the availability of a license to carry out educational activities: there is no license for educational activities.

In order to minimize errors and deviations made by educational organizations, when submitting an application for state accreditation with the required package of documents, in 2018 8 practice-oriented seminars were held (see section 5 of this Report).

II. Organization of the external review

The Agency staff plans external reviews as part of the state accreditation procedure taking into account the specifics of the educational organization. Each educational organization has a specialist (supervisor) assigned to it for organizational and methodological support of the expert panel's work.

In 2018, the automated generation of invitations and expert consents to participate in the review was put into practice, which makes it possible to optimize the process of preparing for external review.

The Agency's specialists carried out continuous monitoring of data on the location and name of the educational organization in accordance with the data contained in the USRLE (in 2018, 976 requests were prepared and sent using IEIS).

In 2018, 474 draft executive directives on carrying out external review were prepared in respect of 8159 basic study programs delivered by educational organizations; 636 external reviews were supported on the basis of executive directives of Rosobrnadzor.

The number of contracts concluded with experts during the reporting period amounted to 2998; the number of experts involved in external reviews -31115 people.

In order to conduct external reviews without a site-visit the Agency prepared 206 requests to educational organizations in the reporting period (of which: 2 educational organizations were not reviewed) and received documents and materials on 373 basic study programs for conducting external review, as well as created the necessary conditions for the work of expert panels.

The Department for Organizational Support and Logistics received 555 sets of documents according to an inventory for the formation of accreditation cases.

In connection with the transfer of the state accreditation procedure into electronic form in 2018, in the framework of the experiment on testing the new technology, the Agency fully conducted 5 external reviews in electronic form.

According to the data contained in the integrated information system of licensing and accreditation, the number of experts owning an electronic signature (ES) is no more than 10%. Thus, the number of certified experts involved in the automated selection of experts by the presence / absence of ES and engaged in external reviews conducted in electronic form is reduced. Therefore, participation in the external reviews of individual experts may become irregular.

In 2018, the Agency's training seminars for experts and representatives of expert organizations were especially devoted to the issues of translating state accreditation services into electronic form, including the need for an electronic signature for experts.

Certified experts who have the necessary qualifications in the field of study programs declared for state accreditation and certified expert organizations participated in external reviews.

In 2018, 1,772 applications from individuals were submitted for the establishment of an expert's powers; 1 application for termination of powers from an expert organization (Autonomous non-profit organization "Center for the Development and Improvement of the Education Quality in the Field of Culture and Arts"); 2 applications for the establishment of powers of an expert organization from legal entities: LLC "Institute of Quality Monitoring and Accreditation of Study Programs in the Field of Culture and Art", Association of Communities and Organizations whose activities are aimed at

developing and implementing management methods and standards and assessing the quality of programs of Business and Management Education "National Accreditation Council of Business and Management Education".

Also, the All-Russian Public Organization "Russian Union of Youth" (RUY) is empowered to carry out external review of basic study programs as an expert organization. The Agency together with RUY have prepared methodological materials that determine the specific role of students as fully entitled members of expert panels in terms of assessing the conditions, content, organization and quality of the educational process, as well as establish the procedure for students' participation in external quality assurance procedures in relation to study programs, including the assessment of students' level of satisfaction with the quality of study programs and individual programs.

In order to provide an international perspective for the quality of Russian higher education, the Agency continued involving international experts in external quality assessment procedures. Compared to 2017, the number of international experts increased by 3 people. (25%) and constitutes 12 people.

As part of the experts' certification procedure, the Agency prepared 13 meetings of the Accreditation Commission of the Federal Service for Supervision in Education and Science for certification of experts and expert organizations involved in external reviews of educational activities. The Accreditation Commission made the following decisions:

to establish the powers of an expert - 990 people;

to refuse to establish the powers of an expert - 345 people;

to remove the powers of an expert -11 people;

to remove the powers of one expert organization involved in external review of educational activities – ANPO «Center for the Development and Improvement of the Education Quality in the Field of Culture and Arts»;

to establish the powers of one expert organization engaged in external review of educational activities - LLC «Institute of Quality Monitoring and Accreditation of Study Programs in the Field of Culture and Art» (the organization includes 61 experts);

to recommend for the establishment of the powers of an expert organization – AEO «National Accreditation Council of Business and Management Education» (the organization includes 74 experts).

As of 31.12.2018, the number of certified experts from educational organizations amounts to 1734 people. (Table 1.).

Table 1. Number of certified experts from educational organizations (as of 31.12.2018)

Name of the educational organization according	Certified experts in total	
to its organizational-legal form	people	%
State educational organizations (including municipal EO)	1630	94
Non-state educational organizations	28	1,5
Spiritual (religious) educational organizations	20	1,4
other organizations (not educational organizations)	56	3,1
Total:	1734	

As of December 31, 2018, the number of certified experts by federal districts / regions of the Russian Federation is 1722.

The number of experts outside the Russian Federation is 12 people.

According to the results of the analysis the main reasons for experts' refusal to participate in external reviews of basic study programs are:

- business need (performance of the rector's duties; election of the rector, dean, head of the department; participation in conferences, competitions, etc.; employment in the educational process, etc. during external review; preparation for state accreditation of its own educational organization);
 - failure by the management of the educational organization;
 - vacation at the time of external review;
 - inconvenient transport logistics;
 - temporary disability;
- family circumstances (lack of available funds for the flight, state of health of the family members, etc.).

According to the results of the analysis conducted in 2018, the most numerous is the composition of certified experts involved in state accreditation carried out in relation to study programs in the following integrated groups of specialties and fields of training: 09.00.00 Informatics and Computer Engineering; 38.00.00 Economics and Management; 39.00.00 Sociology and Social Work; 40.00.00 Law; 44.00.00 Education and Pedagogical Sciences; 46.00.00 History and Archeology, etc.

The composition of certified experts in integrated groups of specialties and fields of training 08.00.00 Technique and Technology of Construction; 13.00.00 Electric and Thermal Power; 24.00.00 Aviation and Rocket and Space Technology; 28.00.00 Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials, etc. is considered to be insufficient.

III. A Analysis of external review results and preparation of documents to be delivered to Rosobrnadzor for making an accreditation decision

According to the results of the conducted external reviews, 9088 external review reports and expert conclusions, based on the results of external reviews on 8465 basic study programs, were submitted to Rosobrnadzor.

Compared to the results of 2017, the volume of work increased by 16% (in 2017, 7643 reports and conclusions on 7069 study programs were analyzed and submitted to Rosobrnadzor).

By Rosobrnadzor's decision, 4982 integrated groups of specialties and fields of training were accredited, and state accreditation was denied for 394 integrated groups of specialties and fields of training in relation to the levels of vocational education.

472 draft orders were prepared, 450 orders on state accreditation / refusal of state accreditation were issued, including:

- 401 orders on state accreditation of educational activities (including 82 orders on refusal of state accreditation with respect to certain levels of vocational education in certain integrated groups of professions, specialties and fields of training (hereinafter partial refusal order); among them: 197 orders on state accreditation (including 66 orders of partial refusal) and 204 orders on renewal of the state accreditation certificate (additional accreditation), including 16 orders of partial refusal);
- 49 orders on refusal of state accreditation of educational activities (including 25 orders on refusal of state accreditation, 24 orders on refusal to reissue a certificate of state accreditation (reaccreditation).

In total, in 2018, the accreditation body denied state accreditation to 165 educational organizations, which is a 33% increase compared to 2017.

The table below shows the total number of educational organizations that in 2016-2018 were refused of state accreditation of educational activities (as a whole or partially) in relation to the levels of vocational education by integrated groups of professions, specialties and fields of training - IGPSFT (Table 2.).

Table 2. Total number of educational organizations that in 2016-2018 were refused of state accreditation of educational activities (as a whole or partially) in relation to the levels of vocational education by IGPSFT

Year	Number of educational organizations that were refused of state accreditation of educational activities (as a whole or partially) in relation to the levels of vocational education by IGPSFT		
	Head educational organizations	Branches of educational organizations	
2016	83	17	100
2017	96	15	111
2018	118	47	165

The list of educational organizations that in 2018 were denied state accreditation of educational activities (as a whole or partially) in relation to the levels of professional education by IGPSFT is 165.

During the reporting period, 198 state accreditation certificates and 549 annexes to them were prepared, 40 certificates and 69 annexes were reissued including 73 annexes to the current certificates of state accreditation.

The analysis of documents and materials based on the results of external reviews allows for the conclusion that the greatest number of incompliances with the requirements of federal state educational standards was identified in terms of the training content and conditions for the basic study programs' delivery, as well as the quality of students' training:

a) non-compliances of the training content

- 1. The disciplines of the variable part of basic study programs of higher education do not determine the orientation (profile) of programs; they do not provide for the formation of professional competencies corresponding to the types of professional activity the programs oriented to.
- 2. Inconsistencies of the general workload of disciplines (modules) provided for in working programs of disciplines (modules) and specified in basic study programs' curricula.
- 3. The subject matter of independent research and creative activities of students' academic advisors does not correspond to the scope (profile) of the basic study programs.

b) non-compliances of conditions for the basic study programs' delivery

- 1. The general management of the scientific content of Master's programs is carried out by the academic staff who do not have annual publications on the results of research (creative) activities in leading domestic and (or) foreign peer-reviewed scientific journals and publications.
- 2. The managers of the scientific content of Master's programs and academic advisors of post-graduate students do not have the results of their research (creative) activities tried out at national and international conferences.
- 3. The share of the academic staff (normalized to the integral value of rates) with a degree and (or) academic rank in the total number of the academic staff implementing the basic study program is less than the established value of the FSES of HE.
- 4. The lack of a list of the required set of licensed software in the working programs of disciplines.
- 5. The electronic and information educational environment does not contain a record of the educational process progress, the results of intermediate attestation and the results of the study program acquisition; there is no access to publications of electronic library systems and to electronic educational resources indicated in the working programs.

c) non-compliances of the quality of students' training

- 1. The discrepancy between the results of the basic study program acquisition and the required results of mastering the BSP.
- 2. The discrepancy between the expected results of the basic study program acquisition (competencies to be formed) in the working programs of disciplines (modules) and programs of practices and the assessed competences in the funds of assessment tools for these disciplines (modules) and practices.

3.2. Information and analytical support of state accreditation of educational activities performed by NAA's branch in Yoshkar-Ola

In 2018, the Agency's branch in Yoshkar-Ola carried out work on the preparation of information and analytical materials based on the data about the delivery of study programs declared for state accreditation and the information posted on official websites of educational organizations.

During the reporting period:

- 542 applications of 660 educational organizations and branches were processed;
- 660 official websites of educational organizations were analyzed;
- 13961 data on the implementation of study programs submitted for state accreditation including the preparation of information and analytical materials, and 38 summary statements containing the identified remarks and inconsistencies of the submitted materials with the requirements of FSES were analyzed;
- 660 information and analytical maps were prepared demonstrating the results of the analysis of educational organizations' websites to be further used during the procedure of state accreditation (in terms of the compliance with the requirements of the order of Rosobrnadzor № 785 of May 29, 2014);
- websites of educational organizations were reviewed (including the analysis by means of specialized software) on part of the availability of the working version for the visually impaired and specialized html-markup in accordance with the "Methodological requirements".

3.3.Organizational and technical support of the formation and maintenance of information resources related to the implementation of Rosobrnadzor's powers

In 2018, in the framework of technical support and the functioning of information systems, continuous work was ensured for:

- information system of state accreditation (IS SA);
- information system of licensing of educational activities (IS LEA);
- register of organizations engaged in educational activities on state-accredited study programs (SIS Registry);
 - register of licenses for educational activities –information resource;

- module of the Automated System for Supporting the Process of Distribution of Admission Quotas for Citizens Enrolled at the Expense of the Federal Budget and the Formation of State Tasks for Training Personnel in State Educational Institutions of Higher Vocational Education (AS AQ and ST).

During 2018, the Agency ensured the formation and maintenance of information systems databases; transfer of the information on accreditation of study programs of educational organizations to the consolidated register of organizations conducting educational activities on state-accredited study programs; transfer of the information on licenses of educational organizations to the register of licenses for educational activities.

In order to display complete and up-dated information in information systems, the Agency staff carries out monitoring of the entered data, as well as compares the input information and data in the system of interagency cooperation.

The Agency provides system administration:

- access for registered users;
- extranet access to the Personal Account of the expert and educational organization;
- processing requests received from users about errors in the work of information systems;
- advising users on working with the systems;
- elimination of system failures.

In response to requests from the founder of the Agency for the reporting period, 205 reports were prepared on state accreditation and licensing procedures. 769 certificates and annexes to them were transferred to the SIS "Registry".

686 information sheets on educational organizations were prepared.

Measures were taken for complex protection of the restricted access information, including personal data, and certification of NAA's hardware for its compliance with the information protection requirements:

- extension / purchase of Dr. Web anti-virus software;
- renewal / purchase of the technical support certificate for the information security product Secret Net Studio
- renewal / purchase of the technical support certificate for the information security product Continent (TC)
 - acquisition of a license to use the software XSpider
 - acquisition of a license to use the software VGate R2 4.0
 - purchase of the equipment HSCE Continent 3.7. Crypto Gateway. Platform IPC100. CSP
 - examination and analysis of the state of security of NAA's hardware;
 - updating the model of threats to the security of state information systems;

- certification of NAA's hardware for its compliance with the information protection requirements.

Within the framework of re-certification of the Agency's hardware for its compliance with the information protection requirements, NAA was granted a compliance certificate for the state information systems.

4. Additional work to the Agency's planned activities

In 2018, the Agency carried out a number of additional activities to the planned one.

Information and analytical materials were prepared (basic information, a list of licensed and accredited IGSFT, information on monitoring carried out by the Ministry of Education of RF, information on control and supervisory measures in relation to educational organizations, information on accreditation procedures in relation to educational organizations, enrolment of students, academic staff, facilities and equipment) for 80 educational organizations.

The generalized information and analytical materials on educational organizations delivering the below mentioned study programs were prepared:

- study programs of higher education (the structure of educational organizations' activities) in Ryazan, Tver, Novosibirsk, Pskov, Tomsk regions, Republic of Bashkortostan;
- "Theology", "International Relations", "Law", "State and Municipal Administration" (the structure of educational organizations' activities);

Generalized information and analytical materials (the number of students, the results of monitoring, the structure of educational activities) were prepared for educational organizations related to the sectors of the economy "Transport", "Agriculture", "Culture" and "Medicine".

Generalized information and analytical materials were prepared on religious educational (Islamic) organizations (information from the registers of licensing and accreditation).

A summarized analysis of educational organizations delivering higher education study programs in the field of "Economics and Management" (the structure of educational organizations' activities) was carried out.

The analysis of information on educational organizations for the admission quotas (AQ) competition was carried out: checking the availability of a valid license, checking whether the declared study program is indicated in the annexes to the current license, checking the availability of a valid accreditation for each declared IGPSFT (integrated groups of professions, specialties and fields of training): 18 473 higher education study programs and 2232 secondary vocational education and training programs.

The webinars "About posting information on the educational organization's official website" were held on 03.30.2018, 05.04.2018 and 11.04.2018 for representatives of general educational institutions responsible for the maintenance of official websites, as well as specialists of the executive authorities of RF subjects. 884 educational organizations took part in the events.

A register of non-state educational organizations was compiled (with information on the availability of a license and validity period of the state accreditation certificate).

Analytical materials were prepared on the list of educational organizations implementing adapted study programs and applying for the state accreditation procedure in 2018.

The monitoring of educational organizations' licenses issued by Rosobrnadzor as well as by local education management bodies of the subjects of RF was conducted for 135 educational organizations.

Generalized information and analytical materials on educational organizations involved in the National Arctic Scientific and Educational Consortium (availability of licenses to conduct educational activities, state accreditation certificates; structure of educational activities) were prepared for 23 educational organizations and 31 branches.

Monitoring of websites for the educational organizations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was conducted (21 educational organizations and 12 branches).

The information from the IS SA was analyzed. The analysis was conducted according to the applications on state accreditation submitted by educational organizations, delivering study programs of the following IGPSFT: 050000 Earth Sciences, 350000 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 360000 Veterinary and Livestock (total 631 applications).

The founders' directory was adjusted.

5. Information support of the activity of experts and expert organizations involved in external review of study programs delivered by educational organizations, carrying out educational activities and of educational organizations' representatives

In 2018 in line with the schedule of seminars and webinars, agreed upon with Rosobrnadzor, the Agency conducted 21 training events, including 7 webinars and 14 seminars:

- 8 seminars in Moscow.
- 6 offsite seminars in Kazan, Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Barnaul, Magas, St. Petersburg.

The seminars were devoted to the main changes in legislation in the field of education and legal regulation of the state accreditation procedure, the main requirements for higher education study programs development, the issues of improving the state accreditation procedure, especially in the context of its transfer into an electronic format.





1,315 people took part in the Agency's training events in 2018, of which 257 people participated in webinars, 1058 people – in practice-oriented and offsite seminars.

Every week NAA's staff hold skype meetings with experts involved in external reviews. The number of experts participating in skype meetings for the reporting period amounted to 2050 people.

75 people took part in a special seminar organized within the framework of information support of experts and expert organizations' activities.

A feedback mechanism is actively used by the Agency: NAA's staff answered about 100 questions every week after skype-meetings and more than 100 questions after the workshops (held at least twice a month). The answers are delivered to every participant.

In 2018, NAA conducted a questionnaire survey among the seminars' participants. The survey results showed that the indicator of compliance of the seminars' subject and content to the listeners' expectations is: fully - 67%, partially - 32%. According to the participants' opinion the most relevant seminars topics are "Audit of a basic study program", "Assessment of students' competencies"; "Requirements for completing an application for state accreditation and information on the implementation of a study program, declared for state accreditation of educational activities", etc.

In 2018, the Agency obtained a license for educational activities (series 77 π 01 No. 0010527, registration number № 039647 dated 21.09.2018) in order to deliver further vocational training programs for experts and employees of organizations engaged in educational activities for them to improve the existing and (or) obtain new competencies.

The implementation of further vocational training programs is scheduled for 2019.

6. Agency's participation in seminars, meetings, forums and conferences

In 2018, NAA's staff took part in 23 events (seminars, forums, meetings, conferences, etc.) organized by: Rosobrnadzor, State Committee for Science and Technology of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, HEIs, All-Russian public organization «Russian Union of Youth» and non-profit organization «Association of Classical Universities of Russia», expert organizations, involved in external evaluation, etc.

The range of issues discussed at these events is quite wide: priority areas for the development of education in the Russian Federation, improving the regulatory and legal base in education, new challenges and approaches to the quality of higher education, improving the procedure of state accreditation of educational activities, etc.

The total number of event participants among the NAA's administration and employees was 31 people. (30% of the Agency's core staff).

Compared to 2017, the number of participants at the meetings organized by third parties increased almost 2 times (in 2017, 16 people participated in the events).

Information about the Agency's participation in seminars, meetings, forums, conferences is 23.

7. Project activities

The Agency prepared the terms of references for the performance of works (provision of services) for 2 projects:

- "Development of a complex of information systems providing licensing and state accreditation procedures conducted within the framework of the RF state program "Development of Education";
- The Russian state program "Scientific and Technological Development of the Russian Federation" (*proposed by Rosobrnadzor*).

In 2018, the Agency was engaged in a project of Rosobrnadzor "Improving the personnel conditions for implementing the model of state accreditation of educational activities" (hereinafter - the project).

The project participants were representatives of organizations engaged in educational activities as well as representatives of the expert community.

Under the project, 3020 people received training, of which: 736 people were trained on the program "Training of expert candidates for state accreditation"; 2,284 people — on the program "Increasing the training level of experts / heads of expert panels involved in state accreditation of educational activities".

The Agency staff conducted 13 seminars for training of expert candidates, experts / heads of expert panels involved in carrying out state accreditation of educational activities in Yekaterinburg, Kazan, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk, Magas, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Orel, Rostov-on-Don, St. Petersburg, Tula, Khabarovsk.

In addition, target work was carried out to enhance the methodological support of expert activities on state accreditation.

The Agency also participated in the development of a new model of state accreditation of educational activities and initiated 3 proposals for improving this procedure.

8. International activity

In order to study international experience and practices for the development of the Russian quality assurance system, in 2018, NAA participated in a number of events abroad.

The Regional Consultation Meeting for Eastern Europe and Central Asia held on April 2018 (Moscow) was one of the most important event for NAA.

The information on NAA's participation in the international events is provided below.

Table 3. NAA's participation in the international events

№	Date of	Participants	The event, key issues
1.	participation 19.04.2018- 20.04 2018	representatives of quality assurance agencies (ENQA's members and affiliates), Regional Ministry of Education, and European Universities' Associations (more than 90 participants).	The 8th ENQA Members' Forum (Zaragoza, Spain). Key issues: social dimension in quality assurance; UNESCO's Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications; Can the ESG support innovative policy and practice? – Results of the final study of the EQUIP project
2.	21.04.2018	representatives of international quality assurance networks in higher education, Rosobrnadzor's and international experts.	A round table meeting devoted to: "The role of information resources in quality assurance and recognition of education." <u>Key issues:</u> development of information resources in order to ensure the education quality and their impact on education.
3.	23.04.2018- 24.04. 2018	representatives of government authorities, educational organizations, international quality assurance agencies in higher education	Regional Consultation Meeting for Eastern Europe and Central Asia «The role of quality assurance in higher education: challenges, developments and trends». Key issues: accreditation of higher education programs, the diversity of higher education, various models of independent quality assessment of higher education in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
4.	25.04.2018	representatives of international quality assurance networks in higher education (ENQA, CEENQA)	Meeting with the representatives of international quality assurance networks in higher education (ENQA, CEENQA). Key issues: challenges of state accreditation procedure in Russia, priority directions for agencies' development.
5.	27.09.2018- 28.09.2018	representatives of quality assurance agencies	ENQA seminar for agencies preparing for an initial external review organized by Academic Information Centre, Riga (AIC), <i>Key issues:</i> undergoing external review.
6.	16.10.2018	representatives of quality assurance agencies	II Central Asian International Quality Forum on Quality Assurance in Education organized by the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Kazakhstan.

			<u>Key issues:</u> creation of an international dialogue for discussing and sharing best practices in quality assurance, accreditation and rating research system; enhancement of cooperation with international networks and foreign agencies promoting the development of quality culture and the professional community formation; improvement of the quality of education, curricula and students' training paths according to international standards.
7.	18.10.2018	representatives of quality assurance agencies	I Russian-Uzbek Educational Forum "New Personnel for a New Economy" organized by the Russian Union of Rectors, the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the support of the administrations of the presidents of Russia and Uzbekistan in order to expand and institutionalize the bilateral scientific and educational cooperation (Tashkent).
8.	18.10.2018- 19.10.2018	representatives of quality assurance agencies	ENQA IX General Assembly – Astana, Kazakhstan.
9.	29.11.2018	representatives of the Ministries of members States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	Meeting of the Commission on Quality Assurance in Education of member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (Moscow) <u>Key issues:</u> A draft cooperation agreement in accreditation for organizations engaged in educational activities (HEIs), draft recommendations "On improving the quality of education in the CIS"

The provided data show that the Agency has intensified its international activities in education quality assurance.

9. Main tasks and promising areas of NAA's activity in 2019

- 9.1. The main tasks to be accomplished by the Agency in 2019 include:
- improvement of the procedure for state accreditation of educational activities, including its transfer into an electronic form;
- updating the methodological support of state accreditation of educational activities in the context when the revised Federal State Educational Standards FSES (3++) enter into force;
 - delivery of further vocational training programs;
 - development of the international activity.
 - 9.2. The promising areas of the Agency's activity in 2019 are:
 - achieving the efficiency in all directions of NAA's activity;
- enhancing objectivity and transparency of the state accreditation procedure, developing expert community and providing its quality composition;
- preparing for and undergoing ENQA external review against the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG);
 - active participation in project-based activities;
- broad cooperation with various structures of executive authorities, academic, professional and expert communities on external quality assurance issues.
 - development of the Agency's staff motivation capacities.