IQAA

INDEPENDENT AGENCY
FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN EDUCATION - IQAA

REPORT
ON THE EXTERNAL AUDIT
BAKU STATE UNIVERSITY
PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

7005009 Mathematical Modeling

Astana, 2026

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RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVE FOR EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

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LEVEL OF CONFORMITY OF THE SELF-EVALUATION REPORT TO THE ACTUAL STATE OF AFFAIRS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM 7005009 MATHEMATICAL MODELING FOR EACH STANDARD

Standards	**Please indicate the extent to which the self-assessment report reflects the actual situation at the university for each standard**			
	Full compliance	**Significant compliance**	**Partial compliance**	**Non-compliance**
Standard 1 Policy on Educational Program Quality Assurance and Academic Integrity	+			
Standard 2 Curriculum Development and Approval, Information Management	+			
Standard 3 Student-centered learning, teaching, and assessment	+			
Standard 4 Admissions, Academic Performance, Recognition, and Certification	+			
Standard 5 Faculty	+			
Standard 6 Learning Resources and Student Support	+			
Standard 7 Public Information	+			

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CHAPTER 1

CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

Introduction

The external visit of the expert group as part of the international program accreditation procedure to Baku State University took place from March 12 to 13, 2026. The external audit was conducted in accordance with the Program developed by the IQAA agency and agreed upon with the university. All materials necessary for the work of the external expert group (EEG)—including the visit program, the self-assessment report for program accreditation, the composition of the external expert group, the list of interview participants, the guidelines for organizing and conducting the external evaluation, the expert code of ethics, and the EEG accreditation report template were provided to the members of the expert group prior to the start of their work at the educational institution, which ensured the opportunity for timely preparation for the external evaluation procedure.

The self-assessment report on the educational programs of Baku State University contains a sufficient amount of information presented in accordance with program accreditation standards; it identifies strengths and weaknesses, as well as external threats and opportunities for risk management and the university's further development.

In accordance with the EEG visit program, a visual inspection was conducted, which allowed the members of the expert group to gain a general understanding of the organization of the educational, methodological, and research processes, as well as the material and technical infrastructure, and to assess its compliance with standards. In addition, meetings were held with the university administration, vice-rectors, deans of faculties and department heads, faculty members, representatives of academic schools, undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, and employers. The experts inspected the university's structural units, the academic library, sports, recreational, and medical facilities, dining areas, and the student dormitory.

During the external audit, the experts reviewed the university's regulatory documentation to gain a more detailed understanding of document management, educational and methodological, research, and logistical support, the university's website, its navigation and content, as well as the presentation of the university's educational programs on the website's pages and tabs, in the media, and other electronic resources.

The planned activities for the external visit facilitated a more detailed understanding of the university's structure and its operations, and enabled external experts to conduct an independent assessment of the alignment of the data in the self-assessment report on educational programs with the actual state of affairs at the university and the standards of program accreditation.

Key Characteristics of the University

Full name of the educational institution: Baku State University. Year of foundation and establishment: 1919.

The mission of Baku State University is to train highly qualified, competitive in the domestic and international labor markets, and imbued with a patriotic spirit—scientific, pedagogical, and engineering-technical personnel—based on the acquisition of fundamental knowledge and innovative research skills in the field of multidisciplinary lifelong education and scientific research in accordance with international standards.

The university conducts educational activities at all levels of higher education, as well as pre-university and continuing education.

In the field of scientific research, Baku State University conducts fundamental, theoretical-methodological, pedagogical-methodological, and applied research, as well as works to apply the results of this research to practical applications and to the country's industrial and innovative development.

The highest governing body of the university is the Academic Council.

The academic structure of Baku State University includes 16 faculties that train specialists in 55 undergraduate programs and 153 graduate programs across various academic disciplines; 4 institutes; a rich academic library; 21 scientific, methodological, and practical journals published by the university; and a university clinic that serves the faculty, staff, and students of the university.

Baku State University has a well-developed and functional infrastructure that meets modern requirements. The University comprises four academic buildings equipped with lecture halls and computer labs featuring state-of-the-art technical equipment. All university buildings are connected to a single corporate computer network, ensuring their integration into a common information space. The University library, equipped with electronic reading rooms and providing free Internet access, creates the necessary conditions for the effective organization of students' academic and research activities. The educational television studio provides additional opportunities for implementing innovative forms of organizing the educational process.

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CHAPTER 2

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BY THE EXPERT GROUP

Introduction

An external audit was conducted regarding the master's program in the field of study 060509 – Computer Sciences, specialization "Mathematical Modeling," offered at Baku State University.

The purpose of the external audit was to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the quality of the program's implementation, its compliance with international standards for program accreditation, and to analyze the effectiveness of the internal quality assurance system.

During the audit, the expert group focused on the following key aspects:

– the content and structure of the "Mathematical Modeling" specialization;

– the learning outcomes of master's students and the level of development of their professional competencies;

– students' research activities;

– the employment rate and market demand for graduates;

– interaction with employers and other stakeholders;

– the availability of resources and infrastructure for the educational process.

Baku State University is one of the leading higher education institutions in the Republic of Azerbaijan and a recognized scientific and educational center in the region. The university demonstrates sustainable development, strengthens its position in the international educational arena, and actively participates in global academic processes.

The results of the external audit indicate that the implementation of this educational program is characterized by positive dynamics.

Master's students enrolled in this specialization demonstrate well-developed analytical and research competencies, as evidenced by the results of their academic and research activities. A significant proportion of graduates successfully continue their studies at higher levels of education or find employment in the education sector, research organizations, the IT industry, and other professional fields.

The expert group also notes that the university is consistently developing its international reputation and academic competitiveness. Participation in international rankings and scientific initiatives contributes to raising the university's profile and strengthening its position on a global level.

The audit confirmed the presence of a modern educational and research infrastructure supporting the "Mathematical Modeling" specialization, including:

– specialized computer labs;

– software for mathematical modeling and data analysis;

– access to electronic library resources and scientific databases.

It is particularly noteworthy that the university hosts modern educational and research laboratories established in collaboration with leading organizations, including Kapital Bank, as well as specialized educational spaces opened with the support of relevant ministries of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In addition, the university operates an international education center established in collaboration with the Republic of Korea, which facilitates the adoption of cutting-edge educational technologies and the expansion of international cooperation.

The presence of such infrastructure and partnership initiatives significantly enhances the practical focus of the educational program, ensures the integration of theoretical knowledge with real-world industry challenges, and contributes to the development of professional competencies among master's students.

Overall, the results of the external audit indicate that the master's program in the specialty 060509 – Computer Sciences, specialization "Mathematical Modeling," demonstrates sustained positive development trends, high academic and scientific potential, as well as effective mechanisms for ensuring the quality of education.

Standard 1. Policy on Educational Program Quality Assurance and Academic Integrity

Evidence and Analysis

Baku State University considers quality assurance in education to be one of the priorities of its activities. The university has developed and implemented an institutional policy on quality assurance, enshrined in the document "Policy and Standards for Quality Assurance in Education at Baku State University," approved by a decision of the Academic Council on February 23, 2021 (Minutes No. 2). This document defines the basic principles, mechanisms, and approaches to ensuring the quality of the educational process and aims to foster a sustainable culture of quality.

The quality assurance policy is implemented in close alignment with the university's strategic documents, including the Strategic Development Plan 2021–2030, Academic Policy, and Standards for Internal Quality Assurance. These strategic documents are focused on improving the quality of educational and research activities, developing human capital, and strengthening the university's international competitiveness.

The implementation of the quality policy is systematic in nature and involves the university's structural units, including the Center for Educational Quality Assurance, the Methodological Council, the Center for Educational Organization and Management, the Center for Research and Innovation, as well as the faculties and departments. These units ensure regular monitoring of the educational process, analysis of learning outcomes, and the development of recommendations for improving the training of specialists.

The master's program in the field of 060509 – Computer Sciences, with a specialization in "Mathematical Modeling," is implemented in accordance with the institution's quality assurance policy. The university administration, the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Applied Mathematics and Cybernetics, the relevant department, the faculty, and the students are all involved in the implementation and evaluation of the program. Key indicators are regularly analyzed, including

academic performance, the results of master's students' research activities, and their level of satisfaction with the quality of education.

The university places special emphasis on issues of academic integrity and good faith. The university has an Ethics Committee that implements principles of academic integrity, reviews cases of potential violations, and promotes the development of a culture of integrity among students and faculty. The Committee's activities are based on the principles of transparency, objectivity, and accessibility of the procedures for reviewing complaints.

To prevent academic plagiarism, the university has an Anti-Plagiarism Commission. Since 2017, the StrikePlagiarism system has been used to check written works. Starting in 2024, its capabilities have been expanded to include the detection of texts created using artificial intelligence technologies. All student written work, as well as academic publications, undergo mandatory originality checks, the results of which are documented and submitted to the university administration.

Additionally, the university has implemented modern digital systems, such as Blackboard and the Student and Educational Management System (SEMS), which ensure the transparency of the educational process, student access to learning materials, and the objectivity of learning outcome assessments.

Thus, Baku State University has established and effectively operates a system for ensuring the quality of education and academic integrity, based on strategic management, institutional accountability, and the use of modern digital tools.

Best Practices

– The existence of an institutional policy for ensuring educational quality, integrated into the university's strategic development;

– Systematic operation of quality assurance structures, including the Center for Educational Quality Assurance and the Anti-Plagiarism Commission;

– Use of modern digital tools for monitoring academic integrity, including plagiarism detection systems and the use of artificial intelligence;

Compliance level for Standard 1 – Full compliance

Standard 2. Development, approval of educational programs, and information management

Evidence and Analysis

The development and approval of academic programs at Baku State University are carried out in accordance with the university's mission, its strategic priorities, and the current legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the field of education and science. The university's primary goal is to provide high-quality education based on scientific approaches, modern educational technologies, and national and cultural values, as well as to train competitive specialists who are in demand in the labor market.

The master's program in the field of 060509 – Computer Sciences, with a specialization in "Mathematical Modeling," was developed and approved in accordance with established procedures with the participation of a specialized

commission under the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The working groups include representatives from the academic community and the professional sector, ensuring that modern requirements for training specialists are taken into account.

The program was developed in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Education," state educational standards, international higher education practices, and the university's strategic development documents. The structure and content of the program are designed to equip graduates with professional competencies in mathematical modeling, the analysis of complex systems, the development of algorithms and computer models, and the application of mathematical methods in various fields of science and economics.

The total volume of training for the program is 120 ECTS credits, including required and elective courses, research and teaching internships, as well as the preparation and defense of a master's thesis. The distribution of the course load complies with the principles of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), ensuring comparability with international educational standards.

The curriculum includes specialized courses designed to teach methods of mathematical and computer modeling, statistical analysis, and programming. The curriculum includes courses such as Mathematical Modeling of Biological Problems, Stochastic Models, Mathematical Modeling in Sociology, Mathematical Modeling of Ecological Problems, Mathematical Modeling of Hydrodynamic Problems, and Mathematical Modeling of Acoustic Problems, ensuring an interdisciplinary nature of the program.

An important component of the program is the organization of research and teaching internships. The research internship is conducted at the university's Research Institute of Applied Mathematics and is aimed at developing master's students' research competencies, as well as preparing their master's thesis. Teaching practice contributes to the development of teaching skills.

The program is delivered by the qualified faculty of the Department of Mathematical Physics Equations. Faculty members are actively involved in research, publish in scientific journals, and participate in international conferences and research projects, which helps keep the curriculum up to date.

The university uses modern digital systems for managing educational information. Curricula, course syllabi, learning outcomes, and assessment criteria are available to students through the university's information systems. To monitor the quality of education, regular surveys of students and graduates are conducted to evaluate the content of instruction, the quality of teaching, and satisfaction levels.

Survey results indicate a high level of satisfaction among students and graduates with the quality of education and the professionalism of the faculty. An analysis of employment shows that the majority of graduates are successfully pursuing careers or continuing their education at higher levels.

During interviews with the program's leadership, it was established that employer representatives are involved in discussions regarding the curriculum, and their recommendations are taken into account when improving it. However, no

documentary evidence of this process (meeting minutes, expert opinions, letters of recommendation) was provided, which makes it difficult to objectively assess the degree of employer involvement and the systematic consideration of their opinions.

Thus, the university has established an effective system for the development, approval, and implementation of the program, ensuring its compliance with state requirements, international standards, and labor market demands.

Best practices

– Development of the program in accordance with state standards and international requirements;

– Involvement of representatives from the academic community and the labor market in the development of the curriculum;

– Availability of research and teaching practice;

– Regular monitoring of student and graduate satisfaction.

Areas for improvement

– Ensure systematic documentation of the results of interactions with employers (meeting minutes, expert opinions, recommendations);

– Expand the participation of external stakeholders in the procedures for updating the program.

Level of compliance with Standard 2 – full compliance

Standard 3. Student-centered learning, teaching, and assessment

Evidence and Analysis

The organization of the educational process for the master's program 060509 – Computer Sciences, specialization "Mathematical Modeling," at Baku State University is carried out in accordance with the principles of student-centered learning. Students are viewed as active participants in the educational process, and their opinions are taken into account when improving the curriculum, teaching methods, and assessment procedures.

To ensure feedback, the university conducts regular student surveys. The survey results are analyzed at the department and faculty levels and used to improve the educational process. In addition, students participate in the activities of student organizations, academic societies, and other academic bodies, which fosters their involvement in the development of the educational environment.

The educational process is organized based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) and is regulated by the normative acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan. An individual study plan is developed for each master's student, including required and elective courses, research work, and the preparation of a master's thesis. This approach ensures flexibility in the educational trajectory and allows for the academic interests of students to be taken into account.

Instruction in the program is conducted using modern educational technologies and pedagogical approaches, including interactive classes, project-based learning, discussions, group work, and elements of problem-based learning.

The methods used foster the development of students' critical thinking, analytical skills, independence, and research competencies.

To support students' academic development, the university operates an academic advising system, tutoring support, a career development center, and a psychological counseling service. For students experiencing difficulties in mastering course material, additional consultations and classes are organized.

The educational process is supported by modern digital tools, including e-learning platforms and a learning and educational management system (SEMS), which provide access to course materials, assignments, and learning outcomes.

During the external audit, the expert group was shown a new learning management system (LMS), which is currently in the early stages of implementation. The system was presented as a key element of the digitalization of the educational process, aimed at providing centralized access to learning materials, assignments, and assessment results.

The expert group notes that the implementation of the LMS is an important step in the development of the university's digital educational environment and meets the current requirements of higher education. At the same time, it has been determined that the system is still in the development phase and requires further enrichment with instructional materials, as well as active integration into the educational process to ensure its effective use by students.

Assessment of learning outcomes is carried out using various forms of assessment, including written exams, tests, colloquia, laboratory work, projects, and independent assignments. The grading system is based on a 100-point scale and includes both ongoing and final assessments. Assessment criteria are communicated to students in advance and are reflected in the course syllabi, ensuring the transparency and objectivity of the assessment process.

The university has an appeals mechanism in place that allows students to appeal assessment results. Appeals are reviewed by relevant committees, which ensures compliance with the principles of fairness and academic integrity.

During interviews with graduates, it was noted that to further improve training in the specialty, it is necessary to expand practice-oriented courses and give greater consideration to modern technological trends. The program administration is taking steps to update the curriculum by introducing new courses aimed at developing applied skills in mathematical modeling, data analysis, and programming.

Overall, the organization of instruction in the program aligns with the principles of a student-centered approach and modern requirements; however, it requires further development of the digital educational environment and a stronger practical focus in training.

Best Practices

– Implementation of the principles of student-centered learning;

– Availability of a system of academic and psychological support for students;

– Use of digital educational platforms and implementation of an LMS;

– A transparent assessment system and the functioning of an appeals mechanism.

Areas for improvement

– Ensure the full implementation and development of the LMS, including the systematic provision of the platform with instructional materials and assessment tools;

– Improve the usability and accessibility of digital educational systems for master's students by creating a unified digital learning environment;

– Regularly update the content of academic courses in line with current technological trends and labor market needs, ensuring a stronger practice-oriented component in the program;

– Expand opportunities for international academic mobility among students.

Level of compliance with Standard 3 - Full compliance

Standard 4. Student Admission, Academic Performance, Recognition, and Certification

Evidence and Analysis

The processes of student admission, monitoring of academic performance, recognition of learning outcomes, and issuance of qualification documents for the Master's program 060509 – Computer Sciences, specialization "Mathematical Modeling," at Baku State University are regulated by the current legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the university's internal regulatory documents.

Admission is conducted through a centralized selection system administered by the State Examination Center. The student body is formed in accordance with the state order and established quotas. Information regarding admission rules, selection criteria, and academic requirements is publicly available to applicants and published on official websites.

Admission to the master's program is conducted in accordance with the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The results of the entrance exams are recorded in the electronic system of the State Examination Center, ensuring the transparency, objectivity, and comparability of the selection results.

Training in the "Mathematical Modeling" program is conducted taking into account the university's available academic, human, and material-technical resources. Over the past five years, the student body has consisted of 17 students, with the admission plan being fully met. At the same time, the expert group notes that absolute enrollment figures remain relatively low, which requires additional measures to increase the student body.

Academic performance is monitored using electronic learning management systems. Students have access to assessment results, academic achievements, accumulated credits, and class schedules. Data analysis shows a consistently high level of academic performance: the success rate is 100%, and the quality of knowledge demonstrates positive trends.

The educational process is supported by a qualified faculty, including professors and associate professors who possess the necessary academic

qualifications and experience in research activities. The program's faculty resources correspond to the level of training provided.

During the external audit, the expert group observed classes, including those in small groups of master's students. It was found that in some cases, the number of students in a class may be as low as 1–2, which is due to the specifics of enrollment and the division into educational tracks and specializations. At the same time, such groups are considered full-fledged academic groups; the teaching load of faculty members is distributed in accordance with established standards, and the quality of teaching is not compromised. On the contrary, small groups facilitate a more individualized approach to teaching and enhance the effectiveness of interaction between faculty and students.

The university has a modern infrastructure, including specialized teaching and computer labs, which creates favorable conditions for the educational process and conducting research.

The university operates a system of academic and social support for students, including an academic advising office, a counseling service, as well as mechanisms for providing government scholarships and other forms of financial aid.

Upon completion of their studies, graduates are awarded a master's degree and receive a state-recognized diploma with a Diploma Supplement containing information on academic performance, credits earned, and grade point average (GPA), in accordance with the principles of the Bologna Process.

The university maintains a systematic database that includes academic performance indicators, results of master's thesis defenses, and information on graduate employment, which allows for monitoring the quality of specialist training.

Overall, the processes of admission, instruction, and certification in the specialty are organized at an appropriate level and meet established requirements; however, they require further development in terms of increasing the student body and strengthening career guidance efforts.

Best Practices

– A transparent and centralized student admission system;
– Availability of a qualified faculty;
– A modern infrastructure, including classrooms and computer labs;
– A well-developed system of academic and social support for students;
– An individualized approach to teaching in small groups.

Areas for improvement

– Intensify career guidance efforts and increase the number of students enrolled in the program, including by recruiting bachelor's degree graduates from this university;

– Develop measures to increase the program's appeal to prospective students, including expanding outreach and promoting the field of study;

Level of compliance with Standard 4 - Full compliance

Standard 5. Faculty

Evidence and Analysis

The personnel policy of Baku State University is implemented in accordance with the Labor Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Education," the University Charter, and other regulatory and legal acts. The policy covers all key human resources management processes, including the recruitment, appointment, promotion, performance evaluation, motivation, and professional development of faculty members.

Recruitment of academic staff is conducted on a competitive basis in accordance with the established requirements of the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Information about vacancies is published in open sources and on the university's official website, ensuring transparency of procedures and equal access for candidates.

The program in the specialty 060509 – Computer Sciences, with a specialization in "Mathematical Modeling," is delivered by the qualified faculty of the Department of Equations of Mathematical Physics. The faculty includes a professor, associate professors, and academic staff holding academic degrees and titles. The faculty members' research interests align with the program's profile and cover the fields of mathematical modeling, applied mathematics, and computational methods.

The academic staff actively participates in research activities. During the 2020–2025 period, faculty members published 96 scientific works, including 19 articles in journals indexed in the international databases Scopus and Web of Science. The overall indicator of scientific activity includes 28 publications in internationally indexed journals and 79 citations. The fact that a number of faculty members have a Hirsch index attests to the international recognition of their scientific achievements.

The university operates a system for planning and evaluating faculty members' activities based on individual work plans that include teaching, research, methodological, and organizational work. Monitoring of plan implementation is carried out at the department and faculty levels, ensuring a systematic approach to managing the quality of teaching.

To encourage research activity and professional achievements, mechanisms for material and non-material incentives are implemented. In particular, at the end of the year, faculty members receive bonuses and rewards for publications in international scientific journals, which helps increase publication activity and motivation for research work. Competitions for "Scientist of the Year" and "Young Scientist of the Year" are also held.

The university monitors faculty members' activities, including the evaluation of teaching quality, participation in research, the development of teaching materials, and contributions to the advancement of the discipline.

At the same time, interviews with faculty members revealed that participation in professional development programs, international internships, and academic

mobility is limited. This aspect requires further development to enhance the level of internationalization and professional growth of the faculty.

Overall, the staffing of the program meets established requirements and ensures the necessary level of student training, but requires further strengthening in terms of international cooperation and professional development.

Positive Practices

- A high level of research activity and the presence of publications in international scientific databases;
- Alignment of faculty members' research interests with the program's profile;
- Existence of incentive mechanisms, including bonuses for publications in international journals.

Areas for improvement

- Increase faculty participation in professional development programs, including international internships and training;
- Expand the academic mobility of the faculty.

Level of compliance with Standard 5 - Full compliance

Standard 6. Learning Resources and Student Support

Evidence and Analysis

Baku State University possesses a well-developed material, technical, informational, and educational infrastructure that supports the delivery of the OP060509 master's program in Computer Sciences, with a specialization in Mathematical Modeling. The availability of modern resources and an effective student support system contributes to ensuring the quality of the educational process.

The faculty operates a modern IT infrastructure. In particular, with the support of the Republic of Korea, the Azerbaijan-Korea Information Center has been established and is operating successfully, equipped with modern computer and multimedia equipment. The center includes teaching laboratories, seminar rooms, and areas for students' independent study.

Additionally, the faculty has specialized computer classrooms and laboratories. Students and faculty have access to several computer laboratories equipped with modern technical resources and software, which enables the effective organization of the educational process and scientific research.

An important element of the educational infrastructure is the laboratories established in collaboration with industrial partners and government agencies, including cooperation with financial institutions and relevant ministries of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The presence of such laboratories contributes to the development of students' practice-oriented skills and strengthens the link between education and the real sector of the economy.

The university operates research units, including the Digital Research Scientific-Research Laboratory, which provide the necessary conditions for conducting research

in the fields of mathematical modeling, data analysis, and digital technologies. Master's students are actively involved in scientific activities and participate in research projects.

The University's Scientific Library plays a significant role in supporting the educational process, boasting an extensive collection of print and electronic resources. Students have access to international scientific databases and electronic library systems, which contributes to the development of their research competencies.

The university's electronic learning environment (SEMS), as well as the LMS system currently being implemented, provide access to course materials, assignments, and assessment results, contributing to the digitization of the educational process.

The university provides a comprehensive student support system, including academic advising, tutoring, psychological counseling, and career counseling. These services facilitate students' successful adaptation and enhance the quality of education.

The university's social infrastructure includes dormitories, medical and sports facilities, as well as cultural and student organizations that create favorable conditions for the comprehensive development of students.

Overall, the available resources and infrastructure meet modern requirements and ensure the effective delivery of specialized training; however, they require further development in terms of digital educational technologies and internationalization.

Best Practices

- A well-developed material and technical base and modern computer labs;
- The presence of international educational centers (including the Azerbaijan-Korea Center);
- Cooperation with industry partners and the availability of practice-oriented laboratories;
- Access to international scientific databases and electronic resources;
- A comprehensive system of academic and social support for students;
- Well-developed sports and social infrastructure.

Level of compliance with Standard 6 - Full compliance.

Standard 7. Public Information

Evidence and Analysis

Baku State University ensures openness, transparency, and accessibility of information about its activities for all stakeholders. The primary source of information is the university's official website, which provides details on its structure, academic programs, faculty, research activities, and international cooperation.

Information about the Master's program 060509 – Computer Sciences, specialization "Mathematical Modeling," is publicly available and includes program objectives, expected learning outcomes, curricula, course content, assessment criteria, admission requirements, and program duration.

The data is published in a structured and understandable format, ensuring its accessibility to prospective students, current students, alumni, employers, and other stakeholders.

The university is featured in international ranking systems, including the Times Higher Education platform, which helps increase its visibility and competitiveness on the international stage.

Digital communication channels, including social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Telegram, YouTube, etc.), are actively used to engage with the public, ensuring timely updates on the university's activities.

Information about the faculty, including qualifications, research interests, and courses taught, is regularly updated and available on the official website.

Separate information sections are provided for international students, containing details on admission, studies, and administrative procedures.

The university has a dedicated public relations department that implements the university's information policy, interacts with the media, and fosters a positive image of the university.

Additional channels for disseminating information include the university's media resources, such as the print publication "Baku University" and the educational television studio BDU TV, as well as joint projects with media companies.

Overall, the public information system meets modern requirements for transparency and accessibility of information.

Best Practices

– A well-developed information system via the official website and digital channels;

– Publication of comprehensive and up-to-date information on academic programs;

– Participation in international rankings;

– Existence of a dedicated public relations department;

– Use of university media resources;

– Active engagement with the media.

Level of compliance with Standard 7 - Full compliance.

CHAPTER 3

CONCLUSION

Comments and areas for improvement identified by the expert group following the audit:

Standard 1. Policy on educational program quality assurance and academic integrity – full compliance

Standard 2. Development, Approval of Educational Programs, and Information Management – Full Compliance

Areas for improvement:

– Ensure systematic documentation of the results of interactions with employers (meeting minutes, expert opinions, recommendations);

– Expand the participation of external stakeholders in the procedures for updating the program.

Standard 3. Student-centered learning, teaching, and assessment – full compliance

Areas for improvement:

– Ensure the full implementation and development of the LMS, including the systematic addition of instructional materials and assessment tools to the platform;

– Improve the usability and accessibility of digital educational systems for master's students by creating a unified digital educational environment;

– Regularly update the content of academic courses in line with current technological trends and labor market needs, ensuring a stronger practical component in the program;

– Expand opportunities for international academic mobility among students.

Standard 4. Student Admission, Academic Performance, Recognition, and Certification – Full Compliance

Areas for improvement

– Intensify career guidance efforts and increase the number of students enrolled in the program, including by attracting bachelor's degree graduates from this university;

– Develop measures to increase the program's appeal to prospective students, including expanding outreach and promoting the field of study.

Standard 5. Faculty – Full compliance

Areas for improvement:

– Encourage faculty participation in professional development programs, including international internships and training;

– Expand the academic mobility of the faculty.

Standard 6. Learning Resources and Student Support – Full Compliance

Standard 7. Public Information – Full Compliance

Appendix 1

PROGRAM
of the external audit by the IQAA expert group at Baku State University for program accreditation March12-13, 2026

Time	Event	Participants	Location
	Day 1: March 12, 2026		
8:45	Arrival at the university	L, EG, C	EG office
9:00-10:00	Briefing, discussion of organizational issues	L, EG, C	EG office Conference link
10:00-10:45	Interview with the University Rector	L, EG, C,Rector	Rector's Office Conference link
10:45-11:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG Office Conference link
11:00-11:45	Interview with the Vice-Rectors of the University	L, EG, C, Vice-Rectors	Rector's Office Link for the conference
11:45-12:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG office Conference link
12:00-12:45	Interviews with heads of structural divisions	L, EG, C, RSP	EG office Conference link
12:45-13:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG Office Conference link
13:00-14:00	Lunch	L, EG, C	
14:00-14:45	Interview with deans, department heads	L, EG, C, Dean of the faculty, Head of the department	EG office Link for the conference
14:45-15:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG Office Conference link
15:00-15:45	Interview with faculty members of the department on the accredited educational program	L, EG, C, teaching staff of the department	EG office Link for the conference
15:45-16:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG office Link for the conference
16:00-16:45	Interview with employers	L, EG, C, Employers	EG Office Conference link
16:45-17:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG Office Conference link
17:00-18:30	Visual inspection of material, technical, and educational laboratory facilities	L, EG, Heads departments	Academic building Conference link

18:30-18:45	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG office Conference link
Day 2: March 13, 2026			
8:45	Arrival at the University	L, EG, C	Academic Building
9:00-11:00	Academic and scientific support for master's students. Selective attendance at academic exams and practical training bases	L, EG	Academic building Practical training bases
11:00-11:45	Interviews with students	L, EG, C, Students	EG office Conference link
11:45-12:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group	L, EG, C	EG Office Conference link
12:00-13:00	Invitation to department heads at the request of experts.	L, EG, C, department heads	EG Office
13:00-14:00	Lunch	L, EG, C	
14:00-16:00	Preparation of external audit reports. Review of documentation on the accredited educational program. Invitation of individual representatives of the department and structural units at the request of experts.	L, EG, Head of Department, HSU	EG office Link for the conference
16:00-17:00	Exchange of views among members of the external expert group. Preliminary results of the external audit	L, EG, C	EG office Link for the conference
17:00-17:30	Meeting with management to present preliminary results of the external audit	L, EG, C	Rector's Office Conference link

Note: L – Leader of EG, EG – Expert Group, C – Group Coordinator, HSU – Heads of Structural Units

Appendix 3

LIST OF DOCUMENTS ADDITIONALLY REVIEWED AT THE UNIVERSITY

1. Educational Program
2. Working curriculum of the educational program
3. Course syllabi
4. Policy and system for internal quality assurance in education
5. Materials from collegial bodies governing the educational program
6. Materials on the system for monitoring student progress
7. Student Theses