



MEDICAL

TBILISI STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

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NewsPaper



Tbilisi State Medical University has passed authorization in full compliance with the requirements of new authorization standards for higher education institutions

On September 10, 2018, the meeting of the Authorization Council of higher education institutions was held. The agenda included the issues of awarding authorization to the Tbilisi State Medical University and granting the authority for providing vocational education programs at the Tbilisi State Medical University. The Authorization Council has made decision about the full compliance of TSMU with the requirements of authorization standards and awarded authorization to TSMU with the highest scores and also granted Tbilisi State Medical University the authority to provide vocational training programs.

In terms of the study carried out on the base of the results of the United National Examinations – 2018, issued by National Assessment and Examinations Center (NAEC) according to competitive scores of the enrolled students with both average and maximum scores, Tbilisi State Medical University was ranked first in all medical direction programmes (Medicine, Stomatology, Public Health, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Pharmacy, Nursing) according to the data of students accepted in higher medical educational institutions as well as medical programmes of Multi-Profile Universities;

It should be emphasized that this year the minimum competency level at Tbilisi State Medical University was unprecedentedly high: Natural Sciences (Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics) - 70% + 1 and Georgian Language and Literature - 65% + 1; General Skills and Foreign Languages - 80% + 1, while the competency level in English Language for US MD Programme - 80% + 1, respectively. However, the competency indicator, based on the number of primary applications, on one vacant place, for all announced programmes was - 2.0595. According to this indicator, Tbilisi State Medical University is the leader among all higher education institutions accredited in Georgia;

In addition, the maximum number of students (2199.3), enrolled in the medical profile of accredited higher education institutions in Georgia was in Tbilisi State Medical University.



Tbilisi State Medical University will do the best for better future and victory of their home University and advancement of our country



Dear Students, Colleagues!

Congratulations on a successful academic year to all - students, the academic personnel and staff of the University clinics, researchers, administrative staff and with a special feeling I would like to congratulate first-semester students / freshmen!

Dear first-semester students, thank you for choosing our University. Despite that minimum competency level required for admission to the university is unprecedentedly high, Tbilisi State Medical University traditionally is considered as the most demanded higher medical schools in Georgia. Students - are among our main priorities.

We will do our best to ensure your successful career; here, you will be able to gain knowledge based on the richest traditions and experiences serving as a precondition for your successful professional activities and successful future.

This is the beginning of a new life for you and I want to welcome you on behalf of the Tbilisi State Medical University, especially you and wish you success on the way to future.

Here, you will be able to gain knowledge based on the richest traditions and experiences that will become a precondition for successful professional activities on your way towards the bright future. This is the beginning of a new

chapter in your life, therefore, on behalf of the Tbilisi State Medical University I would like particularly welcome and wish you success in new endeavours.

I would like to congratulate on the beginning of the New Academic Year to the academic personnel of the University, whose dedication and day-to-day work has always been the basis for the successful development of the University and I am confident that you will serve your favourite activity with habitual dedication and sense of responsibility, playing a critical role in educating future generations, development of science, care for patients and successful clinical activities. Our shared responsibility is very great, as we serve human life that requires high professionalism and performance of work on the selfless basis.

I congratulate our international students, the number of which exceeded 2300 out of 68 countries around the world, on the beginning of the academic year. I am confident that, here, at the University, they will have a good attitude and high quality of teaching.

The Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU) is the main center of higher medical education in Georgia, with an almost hundred-year history. Actually, higher medical education in Georgia is of the same age as well. It has established a strong and distinguished place in the international academic-scientific-professional space. The medical university has close relationships with many educational, scientific and clinical centers throughout the world.

International recognition and internationalization of Tbilisi State Medical University, as an essential condition for further development in the epoch of global changes, is considered as one of the main priorities of our activities. Increasing the authority of the University on a global scale is the most important mission for us.

Successful operation of undergraduate, postgraduate, continuous professional education, Master's, PhD programmes and higher professional-educational programs make the University attractive not only for Georgian, but international applicants from different countries as well.

Successful implementation of internationally recognized standards and approaches for medical education at the University promotes development of traditional educational programs, while the collaboration with foreign partners, long-term academic experience and worthwhile efforts to address modern challenges to medical services thrusts us to take bold and innovative steps forward.

TSMU runs the program that considers invitation of leading Professors of US, EU countries, Great Britain, Turkey, Israel, etc. Since 2012, within the frames of the project approximately 400 visits have been held. Professors delivered thematic lectures in different fields of medicine and provided various types of medical activities, consultations and charity operations at TSMU University clinics.

During the last 6 years, new international joint programs have been launched at the university: the US MD Programme of TSMU developed together with Emory University School of Medicine (Atlanta, USA); Bachelor's and Master's Programmes in Public Health and Management with UniMan Academy of Management and Performance and University of Grenoble (France); Tyrol Hospitals Union - the Western Education Centre (AZW), Georgian-Austrian Bachelor of Nursing Programme allowing TSMU nurses to be trained and gain international experience in the Clinics of Austria.

Currently, TSMU has more than 120 partner universities and university clinics from more than 40 countries throughout the world. These

partnerships are regulated by bilateral agreements and/or international joint projects (ERASMUS+, MEVLANA, HORIZON 2020).

Within the frames of cooperation, every year more than 300 students, academic and administrative staff of TSMU participates in short or long-term mobility programs at undergraduate, Master's and PhD (doctoral) levels.

Since 2009, development of Clinical Sector, University Clinics and their organic involvement in the academic process was and remains relevant subject of care and interest of the university administration and its each structural unit. The First University Multiprofile Clinic of the Tbilisi State Medical University, Givi Zhvania Pediatric Academic Clinic, together with the three Dental Clinics and more than one hundred affiliated clinics with the University, ensure providing high standard of medical education.

We pay special attention and try to improve our learning environment, information-training technologies and material-technical base to support development of fundamental biomedical sciences and research.

Congratulations on the beginning of the new academic year to our numerous friends and partners, who are making great contribution in advancement and development of Tbilisi State Medical University.

The Students, professors and administrative staff of Tbilisi State Medical University will do the best for better future and victory of their home University and advancement of our country.

Tbilisi State Medical University has passed authorization in full compliance with the requirements of new authorization standards for higher education institutions.

Professor Zurab Vadachkoria, MD., PhD, Rector

Welcome and congratulate!

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATE!

Welcome and congratulate the students and especially their families who supported and helped these students for so many years in obtaining their goal of entering Tbilisi State Medical University. Today you have entered in a new phase of your life with a dream for the future and we are proud to have you here at the place where big ideas and small details come together. University is preparing lifelong learners who will lead the way in global researches, science and education.

Tbilisi State Medical University is a progressive institution focused on student achievement and success. "Student's life" is one of the most exciting adventures of life. Our students enjoy an atmosphere of collegiality with one another and they are confident in the correctness of their choice, whereas the mission of the Department of International Students Education is to unite all foreign students of Tbilisi State Medical University under "common umbrella" for facilitation and improvement of their academic and social standards.

Here you understand more of yourself and about your capabilities.



This life gives you freedom as you are at your own from now onwards. Study is going to be more difficult. Your responsibility and workload would also increase, but you have to be strong. Besides being full of hard work it also contains much of entertainment. You would be having a great faculty and professors. This is your time now; you are going to take decision of your future career. Decide your path and work hard to achieve the destiny. Rise above all and make history.

Tbilisi State Medical University transforms your dream into reality.

Assoc. Professor Davit Tophuria
Head of Department of International Students Education

You became students of the best university!

You became students of the best university!

Congratulations for the beginning of the new academic year and I am proud to say that most of the best student's choice is Tbilisi State Medical University. This day is especially important for the first year students, who had to go through many difficulties and now they are the best of the best, because it's a big honor and responsibility to be the student of the Tbilisi State Medical University - studying here is already a big step in future success ..

I would like to wish the first course to spend their happiest years in this university and remember memories till the end of their lives. I would like to wish all of you to become worthy members of the medical society and to establish yourself in your profession. It is impossible to happen otherwise because this is the place where you are looking for the best knowledge, you will see the meaning of being doctor in different way. You will try hard, because studying is prerequisite of your future success. Self-Government of the Tbilisi State Medical University will always be by your side and we will try to create friendly, free, equal and interesting environment and we will try to make your student life more beautiful.

Students self-government is making your everyday routine full of colors with parties, excursions, intellectual games, innovative projects and conferences. Doors of the self-government is always open for each student and I hope we will spend the best years together ..

Giorgi Miqadze,
President of TSMU Students' Self-government



Students Life



We hope you'll join us in improving healthcare for the 21st century

Dear Students,
Welcome to the Medical Faculty of Tbilisi State Medical University.

Our Medical school is the most outstanding educational centre not only in Georgia but in whole Caucasus region. It is a place of learning and education. Our primary mission is to train competent and fully-rounded physicians and medical researchers who will devote themselves to seeking the truth.

Studying at university is a real contrast to being a learner at school and one of the real challenges is organizing your work and activities. University is a very different environment to school, with unique opportunities and challenges. You can no longer rely on your parents and instead you must sort things for yourself. Prepare to be independent. The majority of your learning is done outside the classroom, and you're expected to locate information by yourself.

Medical students represent an extremely limited selection of people your age and they will tend to be both very capable and hard working. Studying medicine is very much a marathon, not a sprint. It is a 6 year course. Being a medical student puts you in a very privileged position, among the very top students across the country.

As a dean of the faculty, I am proud of what we have to offer. You have joined our communi-

ty at a time when higher education is undergoing rapid and dramatic transformation. We live in an era when knowledge is growing in importance in addressing the world's most pressing problems. We live in an era when human genome discoveries reach the bedside, minimally invasive and robotic techniques revolutionize surgery. We can soon realize the promise of new stem cell therapies.

We see health care challenges ahead that will require far more creative, inter-disciplinary problem solving from physicians than ever before. To do the most good for the most people, physicians of the future will need the confidence and competence to fill multiple demanding roles.

Our students enjoy an atmosphere of collegiality with each other and with our highly qualified faculty and administrators, who provide a superb education as well as personal support. Faculty of Medicine of Tbilisi State Medical University is a great place to get an education in medicine and you are here because you deserve to be and because you can bring something new and exciting to this diverse learning community.

So again welcome to Medical Faculty of the Tbilisi State Medical University.

**Professor Tinatin Chikoani,
Dean of the Faculty of Medicine**

The best wishes for your success. Congratulations!

It is my great pleasure to welcome first-year students and congratulate you on the beginning of a new, special stage in your life. You have chosen a dynamic and challenging health profession dedicated to improving and maintaining physical mobility, independence, health and well-being.

Faculty of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is the youngest and rapidly developing faculty of the TSMU. Modern rehabilitative medicine is a crucial component to effective health care, and like many disciplines within health care, is often a calling for the strongest professionalism and permanent knowledge update. You will study rehabilitation principles and programs, rehabilitation system and practices, current and developing rehabilitation technologies. Academic staff is committed to providing an education program that is well-grounded in the basic, social and clinical sciences in order to produce competent and compassionate clinicians who are skilled in the areas of critical thinking and inquiry, clinical problem-solving, making evidence-based clinical decisions; helping you develop the knowledge, skills and experience you need to effectively solve the strongest health problems during your professional career.

You will obtain research skills and will be involved into the students' research projects.

You will learn and work as part of a team. Health care, today, is more and more delivered

by teams of professionals from different disciplines working in collaboration to provide the best and safest care possible. You will be prepared to function competently and creatively as members of a multidisciplinary team of professionals in a dynamic health care environment.

TSMU administration constantly cares for equipment of clinical bases of the faculty according to the current standards. You will study in different departments of basic and clinical sciences, work in a variety of clinical settings of the university and affiliated with the university. Here all conditions for perfect academic process, as well as clinical and scientific activities are created. This is a best environment for further development and new achievements.

Faculty is closely connected with its partner universities in the USA. American colleagues are teaching on the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation faculty, as well as are involved in organization of seminars and international scientific conferences.

We expect you to grow not just in knowledge but also in compassion and commitment during your time here and to use these traits wisely in serving your profession and society.

I offer you all my best wishes for your success. Congratulations!

**Professor Lela Maskhulia
Dean of the Faculty of Physical Medicine
& Rehabilitation**

Department of International Relations

The Department of International Relations is one of the significant structural units of Tbilisi State Medical University, the main goal of which is to support the internationalization process at the University via development of international relations aiming to deliver the best medical education on a global scale.

English-instructed medical educational programs, offered by Tbilisi State Medical University have more than 20 years of history. Nowadays, more than 2300 students from 68 countries worldwide (India, Sri Lanka, Turkey, EU countries, the US, Canada, Israel, Germany, Nigeria, Iraq, Australia, Central America, etc.) are studying at TSMU.

TSMU Faculty of Medicine offers medical education in English for international students since 1996; Faculty of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation – since 2008, Faculty of Pharmacy – Since 2013; since 2012 Russian-instructed programs for international students were launched at the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry. From 2017 English Medium program was launched at the Faculty of Dentistry.

In 2012, Joint International Bachelor's Program in "Public Health and Management" with UniMan Academy of Management and Performance (France) was introduced by the TSMU Faculty of Public Health. Upon completion of the program a dual diploma - Georgian and French will be issued that gives the alumni more opportunities for employment in the labor market and to proceed with continuous medical education

that makes the program attractive. Since 2015, due to the efforts made by Tbilisi State Medical University and UniMan "Academy of International Management and Performance" (France) joint International Master's Program in "Public Health Management and Health Policy" was developed and launched at TSMU Faculty of Public Health.

In 2013 the USMD Program, a joint project, which has been developed and implemented with the cooperation of the Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU) and Emory University (Atlanta, U.S.) School of Medicine (ESOM) was established.

In 2015, according to the agreement signed between Tyrol Hospitals Union - the Western Education Centre (AZW), Georgian-Austrian Bachelor of Nursing Programme allowing TSMU nurses to be trained and gain international experience in the Clinics of Austria.

TSMU is a full member of the following international organizations and associations

- EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION (EUA)
- MAGNA CHARTA UNIVERSITATUM
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION (AMEE)
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS (IAUP)
- EUROPEAN MEDICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EMSA)



- INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS (IFMSA)
- EURASIAN SILK ROAD UNIVERSITIES CONSORTIUM (ESRUC)
- INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC-EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIVE-TECHNOLOGICAL CONSORTIUM OF HIGHER MEDICAL AND INSTITUTIONS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS
- GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (DAAD)
- UNITED STATE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)
- UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS, GASTROENTEROLOGISTS & ONCOLOGISTS (IASGO)
- AMERICAN AUSTRIAN FOUNDATION/OPEN MEDICAL INSTITUTE (AAF/OMI)
- CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)
- ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE EUROPEAN REGION (AS-PHER)

TSMU closely collaborates with:

- WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)
- WORLD FEDERATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION (WFME)
- EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL GRADUATES (ECFMG)
- ACADEMIC UNION OXFORD

At present, TSMU is the partner of more than 120 universities and University Clinics from 40 countries worldwide; collaboration with

them is regulated on the basis of bilateral agreements and / or joint international projects (ERASMUS +, MEVLANA, HORIZON). Within the frames of the programs, every year more than 300 students, academic and administrative staff of TSMU participates in short- or long-term mobility programs at undergraduate, master and doctoral levels mobility (one semester or more).

Tbilisi State Medical University is on the list of the international directories of WHO and IMED, which allows the graduates to be employed in any country after passing the Licensing Examination / screening test (USMLE, PLAB, YOK, etc.).

Since 2012 TSMU runs the program that considers invitation of leading Professors of US, EU countries, Great Britain, Turkey, Israel, etc. In 2012-2017, within the frames of the project approximately 400 visits have been held. Professors delivered thematic lectures in different fields of medicine and provided following activities: consultations and charity operations at TSMU University clinics.

The modern educational programmes, highly qualified academic staff, effective management and internationalization processes at the University, modern scientific-research infrastructure - all these conditions determine increasing ranking and visibility of Tbilisi State Medical University.

**Tinatin Kilasonia, MD, PhD,
Acting Head of Department
of International Relations**

Students Life



Welcome and congratulations on your acceptance to the American MD program of TSMU

Tbilisi State Medical University has always been a pioneer of innovation and success. American MD Program, established in collaboration with Emory University School of Medicine was launched in 2013-2014 academic year under the department of medicine at Tbilisi State Medical University (TSMU).

Based on Emory University School of Medicine Curriculum, entire education process of American MD Program is conducted in English. Emory University professors along with their colleagues from TSMU are actively involved in planning, implementation and quality management of the United States medical education model in Georgia.

Drs. Gordon Churchward, Mary Jo Lechowicz, Douglas Ander, and many others regularly visit TSMU and conduct lectures and grand rounds for students and faculty of the American MD Program, as well as work on faculty development and program monitoring. Faculty and administration of the program from the TSMU also regularly visits Emory School of Medicine to observe methodology of American Medical Edu-

cation on site. Such collaboration and exchange of the professors and personnel between two institutions makes implementation and execution of new methodologies smoother and more efficient.

As it is well known, American MD Program provides students with the opportunity to prepare and pass US Medical Licensing Examinations before graduation. It also offers opportunities to participate in clinical trainings at Emory in Atlanta, Georgia, USA and qualify for the medical residency programs in the United States of America.

English language curriculum and the structure along with strong clinical practice, facilities and equips students with the skills and knowledge to pass USMLE step 1, Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS before graduation.

First group of our students, have already taken USMLE Step 1 during their fourth year and passed it with flying success. This makes us, equally happy and proud for their success. Program provides various professional opportunities, such workshops, clinical observerships, summer certificate programs at Emory University, etc. Clinical Research externship and discovery phase opportunities with the world's leading research centres, such as Walter Reed Army Research Unit Georgia at the Lugar Laboratory in Tbilisi is one of the exciting highlights of the program.



Education Model of the American MD Program includes complete integration of basic, preclinical and clinical subjects. This type of education has many benefits: basic knowledge is enriched with clinical aspects and basic subjects are taught in combination with clinical disciplines which eases clinical correlation of different disciplines associated with individual organ systems. Significant feature of integrated curriculum is active demonstration of clinical cases (patient, simulated patient or clinical history), which helps students master clinical skills. The modern teaching method-

ologies of the program include but are not limited to problem solving, evidence based medicine, case presentation and participation in various interdisciplinary team work activities. Along with the foundation subjects of medicine, significant accent is made on humanities, such as social-cultural and medical anthropology, history of civilization, history of art, philosophy, psychology, world literature, etc. Such curriculum enriches students' general education and assures successful communication skills with the future patients, colleagues and society in general. Course called 'Becoming a Doctor' starts in the beginning of the first semester and follows the curriculum throughout 6 years. Aiming at development of basic clinical and behavioural skills, such as bedside manners, history taking, clinical examination, etc. 'Becoming a Doctor' Course prepares students for medical profession. The working group 'Curriculum Committee', which includes professors as well as students of the American MD Program, is changed with identification, discussion and solution of the strengths, challenges, and opportunities as well as students and faculty affairs and is a firsthand gatekeeper for the quality of the program. Summer at Emory and Winter at Emory - 4 week certificate program at Emory university is a course specially designed for the students of the American MD Program. The Course introduces participants to US Medical education, Health care System and Medical services. Highlight of this program is an opportunity to experience clinical activities at the bedside of the patient with the peer students and residents from Emory University School of Medicine. Every year 20-40 American MD students attend 'Summer at Emory'



Every year 20-40 American MD students attend 'Summer at Emory'

marking students' transition from high school to medical society is highlighted with White Coat Ceremony. During the ceremony Rector of the Tbilisi State Medical University, professor Zurab Vadachkoria, His Excellency Ambassador of The United States, other faculty and administrative personnel of TSMU, professors from Emory university other distinguished guests will put white coats on new students as a symbol of their entrance in to Medical profession.

Welcome and congratulations on your acceptance to the American MD program of TSMU. Only the highest professionalism, and best practice is expected from the doctors and we are glad to see the motivation and determination of each of you to achieve the best in your profession. We are thrilled that you will be joining our family!

Archil Undilashvili, MD Mph MBA MHA FACP
Head of US MD Program
Director of Educational Programs Emory University School of Medicine



Students Life

