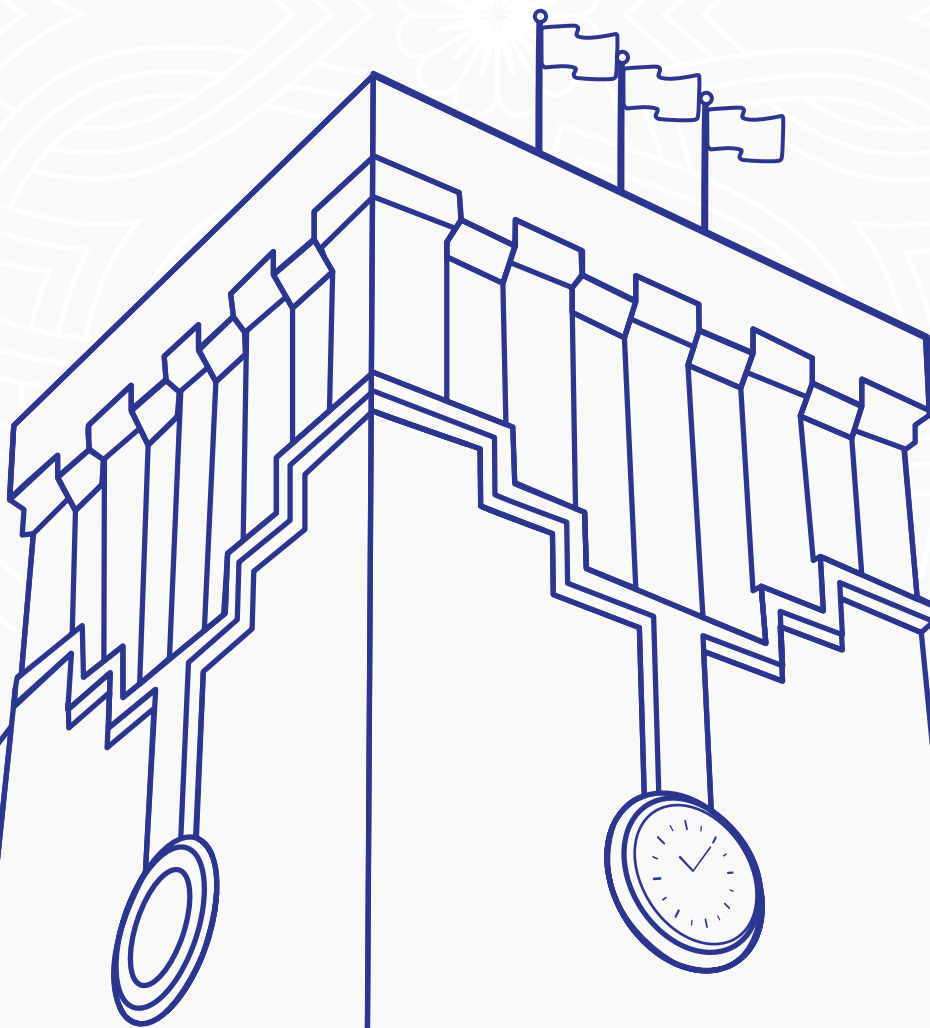


# "Shirakatsy Lyceum" International Scientific- Educational Complex





# **“Shirakatsy Lyceum” International Scientific-Educational Complex**

## **ADMISSION POLICY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL PROGRAM**

**2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR**

## CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. GENERAL PROVISION	4
2. ADMISSION TO STATE CO-FINANCED PLACES	4
3. ADMISSION TO NON-SUBSIDIZED (FEE-PAYING) PLACES	5
4. ADMISSION EXAMS (June)	5
5. ADMISSION EXAMS (end of first semester, December-January)	6
6. ADMISSION	7
7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	9
8. AGREEMENT	9
9. CONTACTS	10
10. CONCLUDING PROVISIONS	10
11. APPENDIX 1	10

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

The only institution in Armenia accredited with the International Baccalaureate (IB) (hereinafter referred to as the IB) programs for preschool-primary, middle and high school age group children, the **"Shirakatsy Lyceum" International Scientific and Educational Complex** (hereinafter referred to as the Lyceum), administers competitive entry for preschool children and gifted students from general education schools in Armenia, the Diaspora and abroad, in order to provide high-quality and comprehensive education that meets the highest state and international standards of the Republic of Armenia.

*Lyceum's mission is to cultivate a true intellectual and citizen, grounded in national heritage and embodying universal values.*

*The Lyceum is a full member of the Round Square International Schools Association (since 2010) and the Association of International Schools of the CIS Countries (since 2008).*

*In 2013, the Lyceum's preschool–primary school (hereinafter Primary School) was accredited; in 2014, the Middle and High Schools were accredited, both under the IB program.*

*Launched in 1990 and approved by the RA Government, the Lyceum's national program—"Identifying Gifted Children, Organizing Their Education, and Researching Giftedness Issues"—was expanded and reapproved in 2014 by the RA Ministry of Education and Science; it now fully aligns with the RA State Standard and IB age-level programs.*

*By the decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the Lyceum is authorized to implement the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme in English for Grades 11–12.*

*In 2010, Microsoft recognized the Lyceum as one of 56 innovative schools worldwide.*

1. The Lyceum operates on a fee-paying (tuition) basis, with the exception of a limited number of state co-financed places in Grades 5–12, where tuition is jointly covered by parents and the state.
2. The Lyceum educational units are:
  - 2.1. **Preschool /kindergarten** (ages 3- 5)
  - 2.2. **Primary school** ( Grades 1- 4)
  - 2.3. **Middle school** (grades 5-10)In Grade 10, instruction is organized into four streams: Humanities; Natural Sciences; Economics; and Physics–Mathematics.
  - 2.4. **High school** (Grades 11-12)

*In Grades 11–12, instruction is offered either through differentiated streams with a broad range of subjects or through the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP), delivered in English.*

3. The maximum group sizes are set as follows: Primary School—up to 15 students; Middle and High School—up to 18 students. The educational process operates on an extended school-day schedule. Meals are provided in accordance with the approved dietary plan. Dormitory

accommodation may be provided as required. Transportation for all students is arranged by the Lyceum *using special vehicles; in Kindergarten and Primary School, students are accompanied by designated counselors.*

## 2. GENERAL PROVISION

---

1. The admissions process at the Lyceum is coordinated by the Admissions Committee, established by order of the Lyceum Director.
2. Based on the results of entrance examinations and interviews, the Admissions Committee administers the admissions competition and determines whether to recommend or reject each applicant. Applicants who succeed in completion and are recommended for admission are enrolled as students of the Lyceum upon (i) execution of the Agreement for the implementation of the Educational Program and (ii) issuance of the corresponding decree.
3. Any admission matters not addressed in this Policy shall be determined by the Admissions Committee.
4. Decisions of the Admissions Committee take effect upon approval by the Director of the Lyceum

## 3. ADMISSION TO STATE CO-FINANCED PLACES

---

- 3.1 Admission to state co-financed places at the Lyceum is conducted in June for the September intake of each academic year.
- a) In Grade 8 (30 places)
  - b) In Grade 10 (up to 5 places)
  - c) Students who have demonstrated exceptional ability—including recipients of first-, second-, or third-place awards in National (Republican) Olympiads—may be admitted to the corresponding grade of the Lyceum on a state co-financed basis, outside the competitive selection, provided they achieve satisfactory results in the entrance examinations and vacant places are available throughout the year.
  - d) Students who hold a first-, second-, or third-class diploma/certificate (overall standing) from the Republican General Education Open Olympiad hosted by the Lyceum may be admitted to the corresponding grade of the Lyceum on a state co-financed basis, without entrance examinations, subject to the availability of places, within one academic semester.
  - e) Citizens of the Republic of Armenia, including dual citizens, are entitled to participate in the competition for state co-financed places and to apply for non-subsidized (fee-paying) places, in accordance with the procedures set out in the State Subsidy Agreement dated February 21, 2024.

## 4. ADMISSION TO NON-SUBSIDIZED (FEE-PAYING) PLACES

---

- 4.1 Admission to fee-paying places in the Middle School and High School national educational program is conducted on a competitive basis. Selection is held in June for first-semester entry and in December–January for second-semester entry, subject to the availability of places.
- 4.2 Where vacancies arise in Middle School classes after completion of the June entrance examinations, the Admissions Committee may, by decision, conduct a supplementary in-year admission round, open exclusively to Sunday School students.
- 4.3 Admission of international students to all grades is conducted year-round, subject to the availability of places and adequate institutional resources at the Lyceum, in accordance with the applicable procedure (see Appendix 1).
- 4.4 Scholarships for students enrolled in fee-paying places may be awarded as tuition-fee reductions, in accordance with *the Lyceum’s Scholarship Provision Procedure adopted on April 28, 2021*.

## 5. ADMISSION EXAMS (JUNE)

Applicants shall sit take the following written exams

Exam status	Grades 5-8	Grade 9	Grades 10-12
Competitive	Native language (Grades 5-6) Armenian (Grades 7-8)	Armenian	
	Mathematics	Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry)	
		Single exam paper of natural sciences (test comprises questions from Chemistry, Physics, and Biology)	<p>If the applicant selects the <u>Natural Sciences or Physics and Mathematics streams</u>:</p> <p><u>Natural Sciences</u> — the admission examination is administered as a single integrated paper comprising questions from Chemistry, Physics, and Biology.</p> <p><i><u>If the applicant selects the Humanities stream or the Arts stream (applicable to Grades 11–12 only)</u></i></p> <p><u>Social Sciences</u> — the admission examination is administered as a single integrated paper, comprising</p>

			questions from Social Science, Armenian History, and World History  <i><u>If the applicant selects the Economics stream,</u></i> the entrance examination shall be taken in either Natural Sciences or Social Sciences, at the applicant’s choice.
Non competitive	Foreign Language: Russian	Foreign Language: Russian	
	Foreign languages: English, French, German, Spanish, Farsi, based on the applicant’s choice		

## 6. ADMISSION EXAMINATION (THE END OF FIRST SEMESTER, DECEMBER-JANUARY)

---

Applicants take the following written examinations

Exam Status	Grades 5-7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grades 10-12
<b>Competitive</b>	Native language (Grades 5-6) Armenian (Grades 7-8)	Armenian language	Armenian language	
	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry)	

		Single exam paper of natural sciences (test comprises questions from <u>Chemistry, Physics, and Biology</u> )	<p>If the applicant selects <u>the Natural Sciences or Physics and Mathematics streams</u>: <u>Natural Sciences</u> — the admission examination is administered as a single integrated paper comprising questions from Chemistry, Physics, and Biology.</p> <p>If the applicant selects the <u>Humanities stream or the Arts stream (applicable to Grades 11–12 only)</u></p> <p><u>Social Sciences</u> — the admission examination is administered as a single integrated paper, comprising questions from Social Science, Armenian History, and World History</p> <p>If the applicant selects the <u>Economics stream</u>, the entrance examination shall be taken in either Natural Sciences or Social Sciences, at the applicant's choice.</p>
<b>Non-competitive</b>	Foreign Language: Russian		
	Foreign languages: English, French, German, Spanish, Farsi, based on the applicant's choice		

## 7. ADMISSION

The main provisions of the admission are the following:

7.1 All examinations are conducted in the offline/on-site formats.



- 7.2 Examination results shall be recorded and aggregated on a 200-point scale, expressed as 0.1 to 20.0 points in 0.1-point increments; the minimum passing (positive) score is 8.0 points
- 7.3 All examinations are conducted in compliance with the approved subject programs for the relevant grades of general education schools.
- 7.4 The competition shall include only those applicants who have achieved a passing score in all examinations; ranking shall be based on the aggregate of points earned on the competitive examinations
- 7.5 An applicant who fails to meet the minimum passing threshold in not more than (one subject for Grades 5–7 or two subjects for Grades 8–11, but who, on the basis of interview results, is deemed by the Admissions Committee to possess the required preparation, may, by reasoned decision of the Admissions Committee, be admitted to the corresponding class of the Lyceum on a conditional basis for one academic semester. Upon completion of that semester, the Board of Directors, having reviewed the semester’s academic results—including the student’s progress and alignment with the Student Profile of the Lyceum—shall decide whether to confirm the student’s enrollment (lifting the conditional status) or to discontinue the student’s studies at the Lyceum.
- 7.6 Applicants who are not placed in the competition for state co-financed places may, subject to the availability of vacancies, participate in the competition for tuition-paying places in the corresponding class. Students enrolled in these places may thereafter be transferred to state co-financed places in accordance with the Lyceum’s Procedure for Filling State-Funded and Paid Places adopted on 21 February 2024.
- 7.7 In the event of equal total scores, priority shall be determined—applied sequentially—in the following order:
- (a) applicants with the higher aggregate score from non-competitive examinations;
  - (b) applicants who are students of the Lyceum’s Sunday School;
  - (c) applicants who have completed the corresponding grade in the Lyceum’s middle or high school.
- 7.8 Prior to sitting the examinations, all applicants shall undergo testing administered by the Lyceum’s Psychological Service. The testing schedule shall be set by the unit responsible for receiving and registering applications.
- 7.9 Applications for regular admission are accepted in May, while admission examinations are administered in June. Applications for mid-year (current) admission, conducted at the end of the first semester, are accepted in December, with examinations administered in December–January. The deadlines for each academic year shall be published on the Lyceum’s official website.
- 7.10 Applicants in Grades 5–11 who have obtained passing scores in all admission examinations and have been granted admission by the Admissions Committee shall be invited to an interview for the purposes of initial familiarization with the student that facilitates their group placement, and the effective organization of subsequent work with the student.

- 7.11 Decisions for the June admission round shall be published no later than 10 July, and decisions for the December–January admission round shall be published no later than 10 February, on the official website (<https://shirakatsy.am>).
- 7.12 Transfer from the High School Diploma Program to the National Program shall be upon submission of a written application by the parent (or legal representative) to the Director of the Educational Complex, specifying the preferred stream within the National Program and the subjects to be studied in depth.
- 7.12.1 Transfer shall be contingent upon the applicant’s achieving a passing result on a proficiency assessment evaluating knowledge in the subjects designated for in-depth study.
- 7.12.2 If a transfer occurs during an academic semester, the curricula and assessment principles of the High School Diploma Program and the National Program shall be aligned for the transferring student to ensure continuity of study.
- 7.12.3 Where discrepancies are identified between the subject curricula studied in foundation courses and those of the receiving program, the missing content shall be remediated during departmental duty (counselling) hours through individual assignments set by the relevant teachers. Upon the parent’s (or legal representative’s) written request, supplementary classes may also be organized.
- 7.13 Students expelled from the Lyceum for unsatisfactory academic performance may reapply for admission only after completing at least one academic semester at another educational institution.

## 8. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

---

Participation in the admission process requires the online submission of the following documents:

- Completed Application Form (the link: <https://shirakatsy.am/forms>),
- Receipt of Examination Fee Payment,
  - \*A non-refundable examination fee of AMD 15,000 is established for acceptance of applications and participation in the admission process. The fee shall be transferred to AMIO Bank account No. 1150003768028007.*
  - \* The examination fee is waived for orphans, children of deceased freedom fighters, and children of large families (five or more children). In other justified cases, pursuant to a decision of the Admissions Committee.*
- Identity Document, or, if unavailable, the birth certificate.
- Public Service Number (PSN) or an official certificate confirming absence of a PSN.
- Applicant photo, 3×4 cm.
- Record of Achievements

The following documents are required to be submitted subsequent to acceptance and before execution of the contract:

- Certificate of Residence

- Academic Progress Certificate, indicating the applicant's academic progress, including the current grade/level of study.
- Medical Documentation: the applicant's medical card (former 026 template). For applicants arriving from abroad, valid medical insurance covering the period of study is required.

---

## 9. AGREEMENT

Admission shall be confirmed after signing an enrollment agreement for the relevant program with the student's parent or legal guardian, and receiving the admission order within the stated deadline

---

## 10. CONTACTS

Address: **Artem Mikoyan 35, Nor Nork 5 dstr, c. Yerevan,**  
 Tel" **+374 10 68 01 02, +374 44 64 01 26**  
 Email: [info@shirakatsy.am](mailto:info@shirakatsy.am), [admissionoffice@shirakatsy.am](mailto:admissionoffice@shirakatsy.am)

---

## 11. CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

1. All matters relating to admission that are not provided for herein shall be determined by the Board of Directors of Shirakatsy Lyceum, upon consideration of the Admissions Committee's recommendations.
2. In exceptional circumstances, and on a case-by-case basis, the Admissions Committee may authorize the acceptance and processing of applications submitted after the deadline.
3. Electronic copies of application documents shall be uploaded through the online application system (accessible via the link posted on the official website of Shirakatsy Lyceum). An application is deemed duly filed and valid only upon upload of all documents designated in the system as required (marked with an asterisk ""). Documents not marked with an asterisk are supplemental and must be submitted prior to execution of the enrollment agreement.
4. The deadlines established by this Regulation, as well as those set in other applicable regulations, may be amended as necessary. Any amendments shall be published on the official website at <https://shirakatsy.am/>.

*Note: Upon submission, the system automatically sends an acknowledgment to the email address provided in the application confirming successful receipt.*

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Regulation on the Admission of International Students and the Organization of Their Education at the Lyceum**

This Regulation governs the admission of students from foreign countries to the “Shirakatsy Lyceum” International Scientific- Educational Complex (the “Lyceum”) and the organization of their education.

Admission of international students to all grades is conducted year-round, subject to the following conditions:

1. Vacant places are available in the relevant grade/age group following completion of the main admissions cycle;
2. The Lyceum has sufficient instructional and support resources to meet the learner’s needs; and
3. The applicant successfully completes the prescribed entrance examinations and interviews.

To participate in the admissions process, a parent or legal guardian shall submit an online application. Priority shall be accorded to children from families returning from diplomatic service abroad. The principal of the relevant school shall arrange an interview with the applicant, the outcome of which will determine the format and language of the entrance examinations.

Admission examinations are organized by the Lyceum’s Admissions Coordinator; examination content is set by the heads of the relevant departments; and overall coordination is exercised by the principal of the respective school.

Admission is conducted on a competitive basis, determined by the results of admission examinations in the subjects prescribed for the corresponding grade, in accordance with the admissions policy for the relevant academic year. When preparing examination papers, the scope and depth of the applicant’s prior study in the subject at the previous school may be taken into account. Passing grades on admission examinations shall remain valid for one (1) academic month.

Where instruction in a foreign language is required, the Director of the Educational Complex (the “Director”) shall be provided with the department’s preliminary curriculum together with documentation evidencing the availability of foreign-language teaching resources.

The relevant departments shall mark and moderate the examination papers and, thereafter, submit to the Admissions Committee a recommendation on the form and language of instruction.

Based on the results of the exams, the admission committee makes a decision on the applicant's admission (or rejection) to the Lyceum and presents it to the Director. Applicants who have not passed the minimum threshold of points in one (in the case of grades 5-7) or two

(in the case of grades 8-11) subjects, but who have demonstrated the necessary preparation according to the results of the interviews, may, by decision of the committee, be guaranteed admission to the corresponding class of the Lyceum on a conditional status for a period of one semester. Based on the summary of the semester results (progress, compliance with the profile of the student), by decision of the Board of Directors, the student continues or does not continue their studies at the Lyceum.

On the basis of the submitted recommendations, the Director shall decide either to refuse admission or, alternatively, to formalize admission and issue the corresponding decree (order). The School principal shall inform the parent/legal guardian of the decision.

In exceptional cases, the Director may, at their sole discretion, grant conditional admission to any applicant. The determination of whether a case is “exceptional” rests with the Director.

If the Admissions Committee decides to enroll an applicant from abroad, the parent/legal guardian shall submit the required documents (see Section 8). Where necessary, the Lyceum may also request an attestation from the National Center for Academic Recognition.

An enrolment agreement is then executed between the Lyceum and the parent/legal guardian. The student is assigned to the appropriate class/group and may thereafter attend classes. During the first school lineup, the student is formally introduced to the school community.

Transportation for a new student is arranged by the Lyceum during the first week; until that time, transport is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian.

The examination fee for in-year admissions is set in accordance with the Admissions Policy for the relevant academic year.

Applicants who have not previously studied a required subject may be admitted on the condition that individual tuition in that subject is arranged.

Where an applicant lacks sufficient proficiency in Armenian, the admissions process may be conducted in a foreign language. If group instruction cannot be provided due to language constraints, the student’s education may be organized on an individual basis until the required level of Armenian is achieved through intensive language classes.

## 1. Version Control Log

Version	Date	Changes Made	Responsible	
1.0	March 2023	Modified the application form to collect more detailed information about applicants and to identify educational needs early	Admission Committee	Director / Board of Directors
2.0	March 2024	Revised all organizational appendices attached to the policy, clarifying procedures and regulations	Admission Committee	Director / Board of Directors
3.0	March 2025	Added Appendix 1 on the admission procedures for students coming from abroad, Added provision on admitting winners of the Lyceum's Open Olympiad under special conditions	Admission Committee	Director / Board of Directors