## **DEAR STUDENTS!**

## Legalization

According to the legislation of the Russian Federation only the legalized documents issued in other states can be accepted by Russian authorities and organizations. Legalization is a number of certain formal procedures for making the document valid on the territory of other state for submission to official bodies of the state.

**NOSTRIFICATION** is a standardized form of legalization of educational qualifications acquired abroad in the Russian Federation.

The decision on recognition and equivalence assessing of educational qualifications is made by the federal authorities for education in accordance with International Conventions of the Russian Federation. At the present time the Federal Education and Science Supervision Service (hereinafter referred to as Rosobrnadzor) is responsible for this function.

The technical and organizational assistance to the Rosobrnadzor in exercising its mandate is provided by the Federal State Scientific Institution FGNU «Glavekspertzentr» that is located in Moscow.

The procedure for recognition and equivalence assessing is determined by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation dated January 09, 1997 "On Approval of the Procedure for Recognition and Equivalence Assessing of the Foreign States Documents on Education and Academic Ranks and the Corresponding Certificates Forms", which is valid at the present time.

Recognition and equivalence assessing of the foreign states documents on education is proved by a certificate that is issued by the Licensing, Accreditation and Inspectorate Department at the Federal Inspectorate Service for Education and Science of Russia.

If the equivalence of the documents on education is determined by the certain intergovernmental or interdepartmental (with participation of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation) agreement or protocol the certain certificate is issued.

The procedure of equivalence assessing of the documents on education includes the following stages: assessment, decision making, execution and issue of the certificate on equivalence.

Rosobrnadzor makes a decision recognizing the equivalence of the documents on education with the following issue of the certificate.

Recognition and equivalence assessing of the foreign states documents on education is carried out on the application of the document holder or university.

The applicant submits the application form and the following documents to Rosobrnadzor:

- 1. The original of educational document that is to be legalized in Russia (always compulsory). Supplement with marks (always compulsory). The number of educational document and the number of supplement with marks should be equal.
- 2. Translation of educational document and supplement with marks into Russian in duplicate (always compulsory).

According to the legislation of the Russian Federation the translation should be notarized.

- 3. Passport copy in duplicate (always compulsory).
- 4. Notarized copy of passport translation (always compulsory).
- 5. Proof of registration as a university student.
- 6. Letter of attorney.

In some cases the applicant should produce additional documents (detailed description of the courses done, information about previous education, etc.).

Other documents proving the qualifications can also be submitted (originals with copies and (if necessary) translations notarized in the Russian Federation): other documents on education or/and qualifications; documents permitting the access to professional activities or certifying the practical experience.

All the documents used for equivalence assessing are produced with the legalized translation. Legalization of translation as a rule is carried out by a Russian notary, embassy (consulate) of the Russian Federation located in the country where the document on education was issued. In individual cases might be presented the translation done by the embassy (consulate) of the country where the document on education was issued that is located in Russia.

Decision concerning the issue of certificate on recognition and equivalence of educational qualifications is made up in accordance with:

- A decision recognizing the qualification level indicated in the submitted educational document;
- An expert decision on training content compliance;
- Compliance of the general demands to the educational structure in Russia with the demands of the country where the document on education was issued;
- Compliance of the International Conventions on equivalence with the assumed and signed liabilities of the Russian Federation.

## **More information**

Recognition of foreign educational documents in Russia http://nic.gov.ru/ru/proc/nic

Nostrification http://glavex.ru/ru/evaluate/whatis

Legalization http://www.nic.gov.ru/ru/proc/lega

Preparation of documents package http://nic.gov.ru/ru/proc/nic/prepare

## Paperwork terms

Recognition and establishment of equivalence of foreign educational documents should be done during the 1-st educational semester.