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If a whole or part of a paragraph has been amended, the date of the amending regulation appears in square brackets at the end of the paragraph. If a whole paragraph or sub-paragraph has been deleted, the date of the deletion appears in square brackets beside the deleted paragraph or sub-paragraph.

Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 1027

Adopted 19 December 2006

Regulations Regarding the State Basic Education Standard and Basic Education Subject Standards

*Issued pursuant to Section 14, Clause 19 of the Education Law and
Section 4, Clause 11 of the General Education Law*

I. General Provision

1. This Regulation prescribes the State basic education standard – the primary objectives and tasks of basic education programmes, the mandatory content of basic education, the main principles and procedures for the evaluation of basic education acquired by educatees, as well as basic education subject standards – the primary objectives and tasks of subjects, the mandatory content of subjects, basic requirements regarding the acquisition of subjects, the forms and methodological techniques for the evaluation of educational achievements.

II. Primary Objectives and Tasks of Basic Education Programmes

2. The primary objectives of basic education programmes shall be as follows:

2.1. to provide an educatee with the basic knowledge and basic skills necessary for a social and personal life;

- 2.2. to create a basis for the further education of an educatee;
- 2.3. to encourage the harmonic formation and development of an educatee; and
- 2.4. to promote responsible attitude of an educatee towards himself or herself, the family, society, surrounding environment and the State.

3. The primary tasks of basic education programmes shall be as follows:

- 3.1. to form a preconception and understanding regarding primary natural and social processes, sustainable development processes, moral and aesthetic values;
- 3.2. to provide an opportunity to acquire basic knowledge of and basic skills in language and mathematics;
- 3.3. to provide an opportunity to acquire basic learning abilities and basic skills in using information technologies;
- 3.4. to provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and democratic values necessary for a citizen of Latvia;
- 3.5. to provide an opportunity to gain experience in creative activity;
- 3.6. to form a basic conception of the cultural heritage of Latvia, Europe and the world; and
- 3.7. to cultivate communication and co-operation skills.

III. Mandatory Content of Basic Education Programmes

4. The mandatory content of basic education programmes shall be comprised of the following fields of education:

- 4.1. basics of technologies and sciences;
- 4.2. language;
- 4.3. arts; and
- 4.4. people and society.

5. The subjects, primary tasks, education aspects and general content intrinsic to the fields of education are specified in Annex 1 to this Regulation.

6. The content of basic education programmes shall be implemented in the following subjects:

- 6.1. mathematics;
- 6.2. natural sciences;
- 6.3. physics;
- 6.4. chemistry;
- 6.5. biology;
- 6.6. geography;
- 6.7. information sciences;
- 6.8. the Latvian language at educational institutions with the Latvian language of tuition;

- 6.9. the Latvian language and literature for minority basic education programmes;
- 6.10. minority language for minority basic education programmes;
- 6.11. foreign language;
- 6.12. literature;
- 6.13. music;
- 6.14. visual arts;
- 6.15. world history;
- 6.15.¹ history of Latvia;
- 6.16. social sciences;
- 6.17. housekeeping and technologies;
- 6.18. sport;
- 6.19. ethics;
- 6.20. Christian studies.

[12 October 2010]

7. The content of basic education programmes shall be prescribed by the following subject standards:

- 7.1. Mathematics. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 2);
- 7.2. Natural sciences. Subject standard for grades 1 to 6 (Annex 3);
- 7.3. Physics. Subject standard for grades 8 to 9 (Annex 4);
- 7.4. Chemistry. Subject standard for grades 8 to 9 (Annex 5);
- 7.5. Biology. Subject standard for grades 7 to 9 (Annex 6);
- 7.6. Geography. Subject standard for grades 7 to 9 (Annex 7);
- 7.7. Information sciences. Subject standard for grades 5 to 7 (Annex 8);
- 7.8. Latvian language. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 9);
- 7.9. Latvian language and literature for minority education programmes. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 10);
- 7.10. Minority language. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 11);
- 7.11. Foreign language. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 36);
- 7.12. Literature. Subject standard for grades 4 to 9 (Annex 13);
- 7.13. Music. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 14);
- 7.14. Visual arts. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 15);
- 7.15. World history. Subject standard for grades 6 to 9 (Annex 37);
- 7.15.¹ History of Latvia. Subject standard for form 6-9 (Annex 38);
- 7.16. Social sciences. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 17);
- 7.17. Housekeeping and technologies. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 18);
- 7.18. Sport. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 19);

7.19. Ethics. Subject standard for grades 1 to 3 (Annex 20); and

7.20. Christian studies. Subject standard for grades 1 to 3 (Annex 21).

[12 October 2010; 26 April 2011]

8. The use of the Latvian language in minority basic education programmes shall be determined by the sample minority basic education programmes developed by the Ministry of Education and Science and the licensed basic education programmes implemented by educational institutions.

9. In basic education programmes in grades 1 to 3 the educatees shall acquire the ethics and Christian studies by parents' (guardians') choice.

10. Within the framework of a basic education programme, an educational institution may implement the subjects not referred to in Paragraph 6 of this Regulation, not exceeding the lesson amount and load per day specified for basic education programmes in the General Education Law. Educational institutions shall develop such subject standards independently and co-ordinate them with the National Centre for Education.

[25 June 2009]

10.¹ It is permitted not to include the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.17 and 6.18 of this Regulation in education programmes that are implemented in the form of evening (shift) or extramural studies.

[24 November 2009]

11. In special education programmes an educational institution shall implement the requirements referred to in this Regulation in accordance with the type of developmental disorder, skills and health condition of an educatee:

11.1. in special basic education programmes for educatees with mental developmental disorders it is permitted not to include the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 of this Regulation, by incorporating certain themes of these subjects into the content of the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.2, 6.16 and 6.17 of this Regulation;

11.2. in special basic education programmes for educatees with serious mental developmental disorders or several serious developmental disorders it is permitted not to include the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.19 and 6.20 of this Regulation, by incorporating certain themes of these subjects into the content of the subject referred to in Sub-paragraph 6.16 of this Regulation, as well as the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.11, 6.12, 6.15 and 6.15¹ of this Regulation.

[24 November 2009; 12 October 2010]

12. The following themes shall be included in all basic education programmes: environment, safety and health.

IV. Main Principles and Procedures for the Evaluation of Basic Education Acquired by Educatees

13. The basic requirements specified in the standard in respect of the acquisition of a subject are specified according to the optimum level of knowledge and skills of educatees.

14. The basic principles for the evaluation of basic education acquired by educatees shall be as follows:

14.1. principle of openness and clarity of requirements. The mandatory content of a subject and basic requirements for achievements of an educatee shall be specified in subject standards;

14.2. principle of summing up positive achievements. The acquired basic education shall be evaluated by summing up positive achievements at the level of memorization and understanding, the application of knowledge and creative activity;

14.3. principle of appropriateness of an evaluation. In a final examination assignment the opportunity shall be given to attest one's knowledge, abilities and skills in all tasks, questions, examples and situations appropriate for all evaluation levels of educational achievements. The organisation of an examination assignment shall ensure adequate and objective evaluation;

14.4. principle of diversity of examination types used for determining an evaluation. Written, oral and combined examinations, evaluation of individual and group achievements and various examination assignments shall be used in the evaluation of educational achievements;

14.5. principle of periodicity of evaluation. Educational achievements shall be evaluated on a regular basis in order to be certain of the knowledge, abilities and skills acquired by an educatee and the dynamics of development of educational achievements; and

14.6. principle of mandatory evaluation. It is necessary for an educatee to acquire an evaluation in all subjects of the basic education programme and in State examinations, except for those subjects and State examinations from which the educatee has been released.

15. Educational achievements of an educatee in grade 1 shall be evaluated descriptively. It shall be a brief oral and written evaluation regarding the learning activity, learning style, communication and co-operation abilities, attitude towards learning and the dynamics of development of the educational achievements of an educatee.

16. Educational achievements of an educatee in grade 2 and grade 3 in the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.1, 6.8, 6.9 and 6.10 of this Regulation shall be evaluated on a scale of 10 points (Annex 22), while educational achievements of the educatee in other subjects shall be evaluated descriptively.

[15 May 2007]

17. [24 October 2009]

18. Educational achievements of an educatee in grades 4 to 9 shall be evaluated on a scale of 10 points.

[24 November 2009]

19. In centralised examinations educational achievements of educatees shall be evaluated in levels

A, B, C, D, E, F (where A is the highest level, F is the lowest level) (Annex 23). The evaluation acquired shall be entered into the basic education certificate, indicating the total percentage evaluation and percentage evaluation for each part of an examination.

[24 November 2009]

20. State examinations upon completion of grade 3 shall be as follows:

- 20.1. test with a combined educational content; and
- 20.2. test in the Latvian language in minority education programmes.

21. State examinations upon completion of grade 6 shall be as follows:

- 21.1. test in the Latvian language in education programmes with the Latvian language of tuition;
- 21.2. test in the Latvian language in minority education programmes;
- 21.3. test in mathematics;
- 21.4. test in natural sciences; and
- 21.5. test in the minority language in minority education programmes.

[24 November 2009]

22. State examinations upon completion of grade 9 shall be as follows:

- 22.1. examination in the Latvian language in education programmes with the Latvian language of tuition;
- 22.2. centralised examination in the Latvian language in minority education programmes;
- 22.3. examination in mathematics;
- 22.4. examination in the history of Latvia;
- 22.5. examination in the minority language in minority education programmes; and
- 22.6. examination in a foreign language.

[24 November 2009; 12 October 2010]

V. Forms and Methodological Techniques for the Evaluation of Educational Achievements

23. Educational achievements of an educatee shall be evaluated according to the basic principles and procedures for evaluation of basic education acquired by the educatee.

24. There shall be the following forms of evaluation of educational achievements:

- 24.1. oral;
- 24.2. written;
- 24.3. practical; and

24.4. combined.

25. Evaluation of educational achievements shall be an integral part of the educational process for determining the knowledge, abilities, attitudes, as well as the dynamics of development of the educational achievements, of an educatee.

26. Educational achievements shall be evaluated by:

26.1. teacher;

26.2. educatee, by assessing the achievements thereof on his or her own;

26.3. educatees, by mutually assessing their achievements;

26.4. administration of the educational institution;

26.5. education administration institution;

26.6. National Centre for Education.

[25 June 2009]

27. Methodological techniques for the evaluation of educational achievements shall be as follows:

27.1. initial evaluation at the beginning of the educational process prior to the acquisition of a theme or subject, determining the educatee's level of acquisition of knowledge and skills, in order to take a decision concerning the further educational process;

27.2. regular evaluation during the educational process, determining the educational achievements of an educatee, in order to improve and co-ordinate the course of the educational process, mutual conformity of the education objective and education methods used, as well as promoting self-assessment abilities and responsibility of the educatee;

27.3. [24 November 2009]; and

27.4. final evaluation, determining the educatee's level of acquisition of knowledge and skills, as well as the abilities of the educatee resulting from productive activity, upon completion of a theme or logical part of a theme, semester, school year, course or education level.

[24 November 2009]

28. Forms and methodological techniques for the evaluation of educational achievements, the extent, amount, time for passing and criteria for evaluation of examinations shall be specified by the achievement evaluator, in compliance with the content of the relevant subject and basic education programme implemented by the educational institution.

28.¹ An evaluation in a subject in a year shall be given:

28.¹ 1. in all grades (except for grade 3 and grade 6), taking into account the evaluation received in the first and second semester, as well as the evaluation of the final examination assignment at the end of the school year; and

28.¹ 2. in grade 3 and grade 6, additionally taking into account the evaluation received for the State examination.

[24 November 2009]

VI. Final Provisions

29. Cabinet Regulation No.462 of 5 December 2000, *Regulations Regarding the State Primary Education Standard*, (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2000, No. 473/476) is repealed.

30. In school year 2006/2007, the basic education programme in grades 3, 6 and 9 in relevant subjects shall be implemented according to the following subject standards:

30.1. Latvian language. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 24);

30.2. Latvian language in minority education programmes. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 25);

30.3. Minority language. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 26);

30.4. Mathematics. Subject standard for grades 1 to 9 (Annex 27);

30.5. Natural sciences. Subject standard for grade 1 to 3 (Annex 28);

30.6. Literature. Subject standard for grades 5 to 9 (Annex 29);

30.7. History of Latvia and world history. Subject standard for grades 5 to 9 (Annex 30);

30.8. Biology. Subject standard for grades 6 to 9 (Annex 31);

30.9. Geography. Subject standard for grades 6 to 9 (Annex 32);

30.10. Physics. Subject standard for grades 8 to 9 (Annex 33);

30.11. Chemistry. Subject standard for grades 8 to 9 (Annex 34); and

30.12. Civil sciences. Subject standard for grade 9 (Annex 35).

31. The basic education programme in information sciences in school year 2007/2008 shall be implemented according to the subject standard "Information sciences. Subject standard for grades 5 to 7" (Annex 8).

32. Until 30 August 2007, educational achievements of an educatee in civil sciences shall be evaluated as "passed" or "not passed".

33. Subject standards approved by the National Centre for Education before the coming into force of this Regulation shall be in effect until the end of their approval term.

[25 June 2009]

34. State examinations in school year 2009/2010 upon completion of grade 6 shall be as follows:

34.1. test in the Latvian language in education programmes with the Latvian language of tuition;

34.2. test in the Latvian language in minority education programmes;

34.3. test in mathematics; and

34.4. test in the minority language in minority education programmes.

[24 November 2009]

35. In school year 2011/2012 and school year 2012/2013, the basic education programme in the subject referred to in Sub-paragraph 6.11 of this Regulation shall be implemented according to Annex 12 to this Regulation.

[23 August 2011]

36. In school year 2013/2014 and school year 2014/2015, in grades 3 to 9 the basic education programme in the subject referred to in Sub-paragraph 6.11 of this Regulation shall be implemented according to Annex 12 to this Regulation, while in school year 2013/2014 in grade 1 and school year 2014/2015 in grade 1 and grade 2, according to Annex 36 to this Regulation.

[23 August 2011]

37. In school year 2010/2011 in grades 6 to 9, school year 2011/2012 in grades 7 to 9, school year 2012/2013 in grade 8 and grade 9 and school year 2013/2014 in grade 9, the basic education programme in the subjects referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.15. and 6.15.¹ of this Regulation shall be implemented in the subject "History of Latvia and world history" according to Annex 16 to this Regulation.

[12 October 2010]

38. State examinations in school year 2010/2011, school year 2011/2012, school year 2012/2013 and school year 2013/2014 on completion of grade 9 shall be as follows:

38.1. examination in the Latvian language in education programmes with the Latvian language of tuition;

38.2. centralised examination in the Latvian language in minority education programmes;

38.3. examination in mathematics;

38.4. examination in history of Latvia and world history;

38.5. examination in the minority language in minority education programmes; and

38.6. examination in a foreign language.

[12 December 2010]

Prime Minister

A. Kalvītis

Minister for Education and Science

B. Rivža