K12 ACADEMICS — INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERIES

Studying in Armenia

A guide for international students & families — how Armenia's higher education works, the student visa, affordable English-medium medicine (MBBS/MD), and recognition.

K12 ACADEMICS

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2026 EDITION

ABOUT K12 ACADEMICS

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — for every kind of learner.

AFFORDABLE, ENGLISH-MEDIUM MEDICINE, SAFE & RECOGNIZED

Armenia (in the Caucasus, bridging Europe and Asia) has become a popular destination for **affordable, English-medium medical education (MBBS/MD)**, led by **Yerevan State Medical University**, with globally recognized degrees (WHO, WDOMS, ECFMG) and a safe, welcoming environment. Students obtain a **student visa** after admission. This guide walks it in **ten steps**.

General guidance, not legal, immigration, or medical-licensing advice. Armenian rules, tuition, and recognition change, and **licensing depends on where you'll practice — verify with the relevant council**. Confirm details with your university and the Armenian mission.

1

STEP 01 OF 10

Understand Why Students Choose Armenia

WHAT TO KNOW

Armenia offers **affordable, English-medium MBBS/MD; globally recognized medical degrees; a straightforward admission process; and a safe, low-crime, welcoming environment** — a practical route for aspiring doctors.

BY THE NUMBERS

Affordable	Recognized	Safe
English MBBS/MD	WHO/WDOMS/ECFMG	low-crime, welcoming

HOW TO HELP

Weigh Armenia's **affordable, recognized medical degrees and safe environment** against the need to pass licensing exams where you'll practice — strong value for international medical students.

WATCH OUT

Armenia is noted for its **safety and hospitality**, and medical degrees are WHO/WDOMS-listed — but always verify recognition for your target country.

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STEP 02 OF 10

Understand the System

WHAT TO KNOW

The international draw is overwhelmingly **medicine**: **Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU)**, **Yerevan Haybusak University**, the **University of Traditional Medicine**, and **St. Tereza Medical University** lead. For English-taught non-medical study, the **American University of Armenia (AUA)** is a notable US-affiliated option.

BY THE NUMBERS

YSMU / Haybusak	University of Traditional Medicine	AUA
top medical	+ others	English (US-affiliated)

HOW TO HELP

Choose an **English-medium medical university** (YSMU and others) for MBBS/MD, or AUA for English-taught programs — confirming accreditation and recognition.

GOOD TO KNOW

Confirm your medical university is **WDOMS-listed and recognized** by your target country's council — essential for licensing.

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STEP 03 OF 10

Get the Student Visa

WHAT TO KNOW

After admission, your university issues an **admission/invitation letter**, which you use to apply for a **student visa** at an Armenian embassy/consulate. You'll submit your passport, academic documents, a medical-fitness certificate, a police clearance, and proof of funds.

BY THE NUMBERS

Admission letter	Student visa	Documents
from your university	at the embassy	medical, police, funds

HOW TO HELP

Get your university's **admission letter**, then apply for the **student visa** at an Armenian mission with your documents (medical, police clearance, funds).

GOOD TO KNOW

The **admission letter** underpins the visa — apply as soon as you're admitted.

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STEP 04 OF 10

Apply to Universities

WHAT TO KNOW

Apply **directly (usually online)** with your secondary-school records and passport. Most universities require **no IELTS/TOEFL**; some (like YSMU) hold an **admission test**. You receive an admission letter, then complete enrollment. Indian students must clear **NEET** (per home-country rules).

BY THE NUMBERS

Apply directly	No IELTS/TOEFL	Admission test
online	(most)	at some (e.g., YSMU)

HOW TO HELP

Apply **directly (online)** with your school records — most universities need no English test, though some hold an admission test — and note NEET for Indian students.

GOOD TO KNOW

Indian students need a valid **NEET score** (and later FMGE/NExT to practice in India) — check your home-country requirements.

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STEP 05 OF 10

Plan for Tuition & Costs

WHAT TO KNOW

Tuition is **affordable**: roughly **$4,000–6,500 per year** for MBBS/MD — far below Western fees. Living costs are low (~$300–400/month). Some universities offer scholarships based on academic performance — ask each institution.

BY THE NUMBERS

Tuition	Low	Scholarships
~$4,000–6,500/yr	living costs	merit-based

HOW TO HELP

Budget the **affordable tuition** (~$4,000–6,500/year) plus low living costs, and ask each university about merit scholarships.

GOOD TO KNOW

Armenian medical tuition is **far below Western fees** — the main draw for international students.

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STEP 06 OF 10

Meet the Financial Requirement

WHAT TO KNOW

For the visa you show **proof of funds** (typically a bank statement) covering tuition and living, plus a **medical-fitness certificate**, a **police clearance**, and health insurance. Confirm the exact requirements with your university and the Armenian mission.

BY THE NUMBERS

Funds	Medical + police	+ insurance
bank statement	clearances	required

HOW TO HELP

Prepare **proof of funds**, a **medical-fitness certificate**, a police clearance, and insurance — confirm specifics with your university and the Armenian mission.

GOOD TO KNOW

Requirements are modest — follow your university's and the mission's official checklist.

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STEP 07 OF 10

Meet Language Requirements

WHAT TO KNOW

MBBS/MD is taught **in English**, so there's no language barrier for study, and **no IELTS/TOEFL is required** at most universities. Some **Armenian (or Russian)** helps in clinical rotations and daily life; universities often provide language support.

BY THE NUMBERS

English	No IELTS/TOEFL	Armenian/Russian
medium of instruction	(most)	for clinicals

HOW TO HELP

Study **in English** (no language test needed at most universities), and pick up some **Armenian or Russian** — useful in clinical rotations and daily life.

GOOD TO KNOW

Some **Armenian/Russian** helps with **clinical rotations** and local patients — universities usually offer language classes.

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STEP 08 OF 10

Prepare for the Move

WHAT TO KNOW

After acceptance, **arrange hostel or private housing, complete registration, and set up insurance and banking**. Most students are based in **Yerevan (the capital)**; living costs are low, and Armenia is safe and welcoming. Universities offer accommodation options.

BY THE NUMBERS

Housing + registration	Insurance + banking	Based
first tasks	set up	in Yerevan

HOW TO HELP

Handle arrival admin — **housing, registration, insurance, banking** — and settle into Yerevan; Armenia is safe and affordable.

GOOD TO KNOW

Armenia's **safety and low costs** make it comfortable for international students — universities offer accommodation.

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STEP 09 OF 10

Understand the Program Structure

WHAT TO KNOW

The **MBBS/MD program runs six years**: about **five years of academic study (basic and clinical sciences)** plus a **final internship year** with clinical rotations in affiliated hospitals. Universities provide modern facilities, laboratories, and hospital-based training.

BY THE NUMBERS

6 years	5 academic	Hospital training
total	+ 1 internship	affiliated hospitals

HOW TO HELP

Plan for the **6-year structure** (5 academic years + a 1-year internship) — and use the hospital-based clinical training fully.

GOOD TO KNOW

The **final internship year** gives real clinical experience — key preparation for licensing exams.

10 STEP 10 OF 10

Thrive & Practice After Study

WHAT TO KNOW

Your degree is **globally recognized (WHO/WDOMS-listed, NMC-approved, ECFMG-accepted)**, but to practice you'll typically need to **pass the licensing exam of your target country** (e.g., FMGE/NExT for India, USMLE for the US). **Verify recognition and requirements** before committing — the crucial final step.

BY THE NUMBERS

Recognized	Licensing exam	Verify
WHO/WDOMS/ECFMG	in your target country	before you rely on it

HOW TO HELP

Plan early for your target country's **licensing exam** (FMGE/NExT, USMLE, etc.), and **verify recognition** before committing.

WATCH OUT

The degree opens the door, but **passing your country's licensing exam is essential to practice** — prepare throughout your studies.

QUICK REFERENCE

Studying in Armenia: The Essentials

A snapshot — recognition and licensing vary by country, so verify with the relevant medical council, your university, and the Armenian mission.

The system

The international draw is overwhelmingly medicine: Yerevan State Medical University (YSMU), Yerevan Haybusak University, the University of Traditional Medicine, and St. Tereza Medical University; the American University of Armenia (AUA) offers English-taught, US-affiliated programs.

The visa

After admission, the university issues an admission letter; you apply for a student visa at an Armenian mission with your passport, academic documents, a medical-fitness certificate, a police clearance, and proof of funds.

Tuition & program

Tuition ~$4,000–6,500/year (far below Western fees); the MBBS/MD program runs 6 years (5 academic + 1 internship); English-medium, mostly no IELTS/TOEFL (YSMU holds an admission test); low living costs.

Money & language

Show proof of funds, a medical certificate, a police clearance, and insurance; study in English, with some Armenian/Russian useful for clinical rotations; Indian students must clear NEET.

Recognition

Degrees are WHO- and WDOMS-listed, NMC-approved, and ECFMG-accepted, but practicing requires passing your target country's licensing exam (FMGE/NExT, USMLE, etc.) — verify recognition before you commit.

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