

certainly need one if you plan on getting behind the wheel in Armenia. Check out our article on types of licenses, what you will need for a license and whether or not you can drive with the one you already have, [here](#).

Driving theory tests are available in Arabic, English and Farsi. Armenian and Russian have been always available. Please check the tests examples [here](#).

To obtain a national driver's license in the Republic of Armenia, it is necessary to register online (there are 1116 questions in total, of which 20 questions are in each exam list, two errors are allowed).

You need to register online by filling out an application on the [roadpolice.am](#) website, after which you will receive a message or a call about the time and place of the exam. You will receive marks for the theory exam immediately after the end of the testing phase, after which you can apply for a practical exam.

Required documents and payments:

- You will need a passport or identity card or other proof of identity and residency address.
- The cost of participation in the theory exam is 3,000 AMD.
- The cost of participation in the practical exam is 13,000 AMD (3,000 AMD from it is a state fee)
- You will also pay 12,000 AMD for a driver's license.

If you have any additional questions, please get in touch with the [Road Police](#).

PRO TIP: Through the @ROADPOLICEbot Telegram bot, you can register a car, see your traffic fines, etc.

There are numerous driving [schools](#) and centers in Armenia. Check this list on [spyur.am](#). For recommendations, please refer to the [Armenian Repatriates Network](#).



► PURCHASING A CAR

In Armenia, owning a car is still considered a luxury, but is quickly becoming a necessity. The problem with that is the narrowness of many streets, lack of parking spaces, and finding the car you want in the first place. While there are car salons offering brand new models, most people opt to buy used cars abroad and pay customs fees before driving in the country. Unfortunately a very large number of used cars are brought in as salvages from the US, through Georgia's Poti port city. Be careful when you are looking to buy a used car, and if it is originally from the US, always do a background check to ensure there are no major problems. As of 2020, a 1% tax is added to car sales in Armenia, as well as an environmental tax you will have to pay. For cars bought and sold within 365 days, taxes are subject to increase. The prices of cars are high when compared with used cars in the US and Canada, especially. New cars are not so common, but there are a few show rooms for specific brands, such as *Jeep*, *Fiat*, *Toyota*, *Lexus*, *Audi*, *Mer-cedes-Benz*, *Volkswagen*, *Chevrolet*, *Porsche*, *Opel*, *Nissan*, *Honda*, *Toyota*, *KIA Motors*.

You need local driver's license to register your new car to your name. With foreign license you can only drive.

There are two options: either to get the local driver's license (swap it with an Armenian license if you come from the country that is a part of Vienna Convention on Road Traffic or take a theory and driving exam), or register it to someone who has the local driver's license. In the latter case, the point system for driving will be applied for that very driver's license.

► SHOULD YOU BRING YOUR OWN CAR?

This is a personal preference, but if you have a car in the country that you owned for 6+ months you are moving from and you have never used the tax regime for a car before, it may be best.



MEDICAL



Healthcare in Armenia combines both public and private medical services. The main directions are regulated by the Ministry of Health. The country has a system of a basic mandatory package of free services (for example, emergency care, childbirth, treatment of children under 18, and certain chronic diseases). Other services are usually paid for directly by patients or through voluntary health insurance.

Leading clinics and specialized centers are concentrated in Yerevan, while regional infrastructure is less developed but gradually being modernized. In recent years, digital technologies and telemedicine have been actively introduced, along with programs for disease prevention and reproductive health support.

A strong side of the system is the high qualification of specialists: many doctors have international experience and apply modern methods. The largest and best-equipped medical centers are concentrated in Yerevan, including cardiology, oncology, and reproductive clinics. In the regions, infrastructure is less developed, although in recent years steps have been taken to modernize hospitals, improve access to quality care, and introduce telemedicine.

Special attention is given to disease prevention, vaccination programs, combating non-communicable diseases, and protecting reproductive health. The government also plans to introduce a system of universal health insurance in the future to reduce the financial burden on the population and ensure more equal access to healthcare services.

It should be noted that while diseases such as tuberculosis are considered a high risk, and neither Poliomyelitis nor Malaria have been noted in over a decade.

NOTE: If you are looking for work, particularly out of Yerevan, in the medical field, [click here](#) for a list of vacancies. NGOs like [VIVA Foundation](#) and [Health For Armenia](#), can also help professionals to find a job in the medical field.

NOTE: Diseases the government will help you pay for treatment are [included here](#).

Diabetes in Armenia is considered a social disease. The state has developed a diabetes care program, according to which patients can receive free endocrinologists' consultations, undergo examinations in district clinics and receive vital medications (insulin and sugar-lowering tablets) for free.

Since 2010, the [Yeraz Charitable Fund](#) has been operating in Armenia, the country's only leading program for providing diabetic children with insulin and sugar-lowering medication. "Yeraz" closely cooperates with the endocrinological department of the "Muratsan" clinical complex of Yerevan State Medical University.

► MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

The Republic of Armenia under [Article 5 \(c\) of the Law on Medical Assistance and Service to Population](#) guarantees that all patients have the right to confidentiality regarding the very fact they consulted with a physician as well as the state of their health and any information gathered during examinations, diagnostics, and treatment. Moreover, Article 19 (c) of the same Law sets out the obligations of medical care and service providers to respect their patients' confidentiality, except in cases provided for by Armenian legislation (for example, when the disclosure is required by law enforcement agencies). According to Article [Article 145 of the Criminal Code of the RA](#) patient data can be disclosed only upon request of the courts, the prosecutor's office, authorities carrying out investigations, and other authorized entities in situations and according to procedures set by law.

Currently, Armenia is in the stage of legislative reforms in this area. Amendments to the law on medical care and public services will be introduced soon which will provide a better regulation of the relationship between patients and health workers , while e-health system [ARMED](#) was already introduced.

► RIGHT TO COMPLAIN

As to filing a complaint about a doctor, Article 19 of [the Law on Medical Assistance and Service to Population](#) vaguely states that "medical service implementers" bear responsibility for dealing with illegal or improper medical activities, particularly where fault has caused damage to human health. It is quite unclear where to file a complaint about improper medical service delivery. However, in such cases we recommend first of all to report to the administration of the clinic if some minor violations take place and the solution can be found via negotiations. Based on the severity of the case, you can also protect your rights by lodging a complaint to Human Rights Defender or bring action in court.

Please see below other opportunities to submit a complaint:

- Hotline of Human Rights Defender – 116, +374-96-116100
- Hotline of Yerevan Municipality – 105, +374-11-514000
- Hotline of the Ministry of Health – 8003
- Hotline for citizens' complaints and appeals of staff of the Prime Minister of the RA – 117, +374-10-527000

NOTE: [An online system](#) makes it possible to submit an application, request or complaint without visiting a state body

► LANGUAGE OF MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS

Language barrier for non-Armenian speakers is quite an obstacle when it comes to medical consultations. However, for Russian speakers have nothing to worry about since the overwhelming majority of doctors in Armenia speak Russian and can easily switch to it during their consultations. As for English, not all doctors have good language skills to an extent letting them easily consult a patient in English. You can though book an interpreter for medical consultation at the clinic.

PRO TIP: You can always ask for recommendations for doctors speaking specific languages in the [Armenian Repatriates Network](#).

► EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION

This type of service is provided within the package "[Safe holiday](#)" by Reso Insurance which can be received at VTBank.

Another option is provided by [Global Air Rescue](#) company which works with Yerevan Zvartnots airport. They offer emergency medical teams, medical equipment and ground transport.

[Horizon Air Ambulance](#) has been operating in Armenia for over 25 years transporting patients from and to Armenia. Their services are available in Yerevan, Goris, Gyumri, Tashir, Stepanavan.

In 2019, the Ministry of Health for the first time introduced [a new project in air ambulance service](#) in cooperation with Armenian Helicopters LLC.

► HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTERS IN ARMENIA

As of 2022, there are 104 hospitals in Armenia, out of which, 46 are located in the capital city of Yerevan. For the full list, please [click here](#).

Note that the price list for each medical center differs greatly. When insurance companies get ready to pay your bills, they will use their own checklist of what the average cost is in Armenia. A surgery might cost 700,000 AMD in one hospital and upwards of 2 million in another. You will have to shop around, find the right place for the right price, and possibly be ready to co-pay if the hospital you want is not included on the list of hospitals the insurance company directly works with. That list grows by the year, so do not worry. Chances are that you will be covered.

A website that comes in very handy for many when it comes to finding hospitals or even doctors is [doctors.am](#). Use it to your advantage. Also, please ask in the [Armenian Repatriates Network](#) for recommendations. Chances are that someone else has needed a particular doctor before.

All hospitals/medical centers in Armenia are either private or semi-private. Most have doctors that at least speak a little English. Some are considered more repat/expat-friendly than others. When it comes to medical care, the top private hospitals with more Western-style facilities are considered to be:

- [Wigmore Medical Clinic](#)
- [Nairi Medical Center](#)
- [Maple Leafs Armenian-Canadian Medical Clinic](#)
- [Armenian-American Wellness Center](#)
- [SlavMed Medical Clinic](#)
- [Astghik Medical Center](#)

It should be noted that while it was once necessary to pay off your nurses and doctors for hospital treatment, this is now against the law and all payments must go to the payment kiosk.

► SPECIALIZED HOSPITALS

Some of Armenia's hospitals, especially in the capital of Yerevan, have certain specializations. These include:

- [Nork-Marash Medical Center of Cardiology and Heart Surgery](#)
- [National Center of Pulmonology](#)



► POLYCLINICS IN ARMENIA

There is a myriad of polyclinics in Armenia, as mentioned in the quick info section above. [Appendix 5](#) has all the polyclinics and their addresses for you to be able to find your nearest one. Polyclinics are important for every citizen as it provides a family doctor nearest to home. Easy and convenient, you will need your polyclinic to get tests done or simply talk to your doctor. You can call and schedule an appointment or even walk in whenever needed. The clinic has different cabinets for each type of practitioner or screening. Every polyclinic covers different services. However, many of them generally provide the same services. Services such as oncological, obstetric-gynecological, therapeutic, and pediatric services are not available at all polyclinics. When a child is born in Armenia, parents are automatically directed to the polyclinic that will be serving their needs. All children with Armenian citizenship are eligible to receive free medical treatment.

NOTE: If a polyclinic doesn't have a specific service, they will write up a document called an "oughegir" (doctor's referral) for you to take to a specific hospital or polyclinic that is equipped to do the tests or offer the treatment. This is also the case for children's dentists, specifying locations.

To register for a polyclinic, the first step is to figure out the closest to your residence. Once you've determined the polyclinic you would like to register at, you have to visit it with your passport and social security card. From there, you will sign a contract that deems you one of their patients.

PRO TIP: Register on [armed.am](#) with your social security number and it'll show you your clinic, the physician assigned to you and you can also get an appointment online.

► DENTAL AND EYE CARE

Armenia has already developed into a bit of a hub for dental tourism. That's a great thing, especially with so many dentistry clinics gearing their products for foreigners. It costs less for one to fly in from North America or Europe, get their procedures done, and fly back home than it would, for example, to have a root canal or two booked in their countries of residence. Check available dental clinics [here](#).

When it comes to eye care, there is no shortage of professionals, either, with many correction surgeries having been performed for decades now at affordable pricing. The most common eye diseases in Armenia are cataracts, macular degeneration, diabetes, glaucoma, and corneal disorders. Eye care centers are included in most hospitals, and the [Armenian Eye Care Project](#) has been instrumental in providing treatment to adults and children alike.

You should know that optician's shops only check visual acuity (both with the help of Shellen chart and autorefractor). This check is free of charge in case you purchase contacts or glasses. Other eye exams are done in Yerevan clinics like Nairi, Wigmore, etc. Vladimir Avagyan Medical Center's ocular eximer-laser microsurgery [clinic](#) was the first in Armenia and is highly recommended for eyesight correction. There is also a separate [ophthalmological center](#) which provides a wide range of professional services in eye care.

► FREE MEDICAL TREATMENT ELIGIBILITY

Certain members of society are eligible for free medical treatment in accordance with the law. It is recommended that you check in your specific case with the Ministry of Health, just to be sure.

1. Beneficiaries included in the system of family allowance with the rates of neediness of 30.01 points and higher
2. People with disabilities of 1st and 2nd groups
3. People with disabilities of 3rd group (under 18)
4. Children under 18
5. Participants of the great Patriotic War and persons equal to them
6. Women of childbearing age: pregnancy, prenatal/postnatal care
7. Adults without parental care (18-23)
8. Those with direction for additional medical examinations given by state eligible medical and social bodies
9. Individuals of conscription age
10. Military men and the members of their families; family members of those fallen during the defence of the RA and while doing their duties.
11. Employees of rescue services and members of their families, retired rescuers, disabled rescuers, members of the families of the rescuers died during their service.

12. Arrested and convicted people
13. Those who live in orphanages and retirement homes
14. Repressed peoples according to law
15. Participants in activities to eliminate Chernobyl accident consequences
16. People who've suffered trafficking
17. Refugees and members of their families
18. People who retired from military service as a result of injuries, diseases but are not considered disabled (within the frames of rehabilitation programs by eligible state bodies).

Those eligible for free treatment are also eligible for free medication, provided by their registered polyclinics, should it be in stock. Children under 18 are also provided with many of the meds required, should the polyclinic be stocked with what he or she needs.

Those eligible can receive such medical care as:

- Arthroscopic surgery
- Surgery for bone injuries, including metal constructions
- Stone removal
- Prostate surgery
- Scleroplasty and keratoplasty (corneal transplant)

► MEDICAL INSURANCE IN ARMENIAS

As mentioned in the beginning, Repat Armenia has its own medical insurance brokered through [Nairi Insurance](#). As insurance is not a normal part of people's lives here, many types do not even exist, and most that are available are not desired by the local populace. The most commonly used insurance is auto, simply because it is made mandatory by the law. When it comes to medical insurance, Armenia has multiple providers but few individual packages. The ones that are available for individuals to apply to on their own are expensive for low coverage. As the job market becomes more competitive, medical insurance benefits are added to the list of provisions the companies guarantee in order to keep their top employees. Most who consider adding this option are large and can afford to broker a good deal for their employees.

- Pros: A good insurance package means paying a small amount from the start to protect you from paying a large amount in the future. [\\$250 at the start could save you \\$2500](#).
- Cons: Not everything is included in the insurance package and you might have to pay from your own pocket at times. Make sure the one you have doesn't cut corners.

NOTE: EU citizens are entitled to free public medical and some dental care in Armenia due to reciprocal arrangements. If one wishes for better service and more modern facilities, however, they'd have to pay extra at one of the Western-style hospitals/clinics dotting the capital city.

► PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH

Childbirth in Armenia is free. However, there are certain payments to be made before that last stage. Cesarean section is also free if required by your supervising doctor. If it is a planned c-section, you will have to pay. Normally, a 50,000–150,000 AMD payment at the start of your pregnancy at a given institution will cover all the basic needs, from blood tests to regular ultrasounds. This will be covered in full if you opt in to our medical insurance before pregnancy.

NOTE: Not all banks work with the MoLSA. A list of banks that do, include:

- ACBA Bank (Child care benefit, maternity allowance)
- Araratbank (Child care benefit)

The government provides a one-time amount of 172,500 AMD as of 2024 to all non-working pregnant women from the 210th day. This helps get ready for the birth of the child and replaces the maternity leave working mothers would receive (which is much higher).

NOTE: Those eligible for motherhood benefits from the government include: citizens, dual citizens, and refugees with registration of residency. Non-citizens who have worked a minimum of one year in a given institution and who have had at least three years of grandzoum are also eligible.

Maternity leave in Armenia is split into two parts: days before your due date and days after. This is to ensure you are covered should you have a preterm baby. As such, you are entitled to a minimum of half and up to full pay maternity leave, provided by your employer, for:

- 140 days (70 days before and 70 days after your due date)
- 155 days (70 days before and 85 days after your due date) in case you have a hard delivery, as documented by your doctor
- 180 days (70 days before and 110 days after your due date) in case of multiple births

The hospital will provide you with a single page document for the regular births, and add secondary documents for the second and third cases, adding the additional 15 and 40 days to your maternity leave benefits. During your maternity leave, an employer cannot fire you or change your work contract. If you are a sole entrepreneur, you will have to check with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs about what you are entitled to receive.

NOTE: You can calculate the amount you will receive [here](#).

NOTE: Non-working mothers in the villages are entitled to a maternity leave stipend 31,600 AMD monthly from the government if they present the necessary paperwork within the 140 days. Check with the Ministry for details.

Government benefits for each child:

- First child: 300,000 AMD
- Second child: 300,000 AMD
- Third child: 1,000,000 AMD
- Fourth child: 1,500,000 AMD
- Fifth child and more: 1,500,000 AMD

NOTE: For every third and further child, the Government will pay 50,000 AMD monthly benefit until the child is 6 years old.

In case of multiple births, you will receive the higher amount indicated. If your second pregnancy results in twins, you will thus have a third child, meaning you will be paid 1,000,000 AMD for each, instead of the 300,000 AMD assigned to the second child.

Parents or those with power of attorney can apply for the benefits upon the birth of the child. It may be done at any of the offices or online. The only exceptions are: Parents are not citizens, the child has a birth certificate from abroad/sibling(s) have birth certificates from elsewhere, or if the child has passed away prenatally. If the parents are foreign citizens or the child is born outside Armenia, a document is necessary proving the child has NOT received benefits from elsewhere.

NOTE: A child born to parents with Armenian citizenship will automatically be considered a citizen. However, if one parent does not hold citizenship, you can opt not to give it to the child.

NOTE: Maternity and childbirth allowances are provided to all foreign citizens who are RA residents. (Have been registered in Armenia no less than 3 years when applying for the benefits) The amount ranges based on the number of children you have borne.

After January 1, 2023, an allowance of **31,600 AMD per month** is provided to city-dwelling non-working mothers on maternity leave, as well as non-working mothers in rural regions, for up to two years or until they start working. For working mothers in rural regions, the amount is doubled to **69,100 AMD per month**, half for their working status and half for living outside the capital, especially. City dwelling working mothers will receive **37,500 AMD**

Should there be two children under the age of two, both will receive monthly stipends. Those eligible to receive this amount are both natural or adoptive parents, as well as legal caretakers of the children when no parent is available. The family receives it if both parent and child are registered as living in Armenia as of their application date. To receive the additional amount for village-dwelling mothers, both mother and child must have registered residence for a minimum of one year.

Overall, a city-dwelling working mother on **maternity leave** will receive **300,000 AMD + 900,000 AMD** if she decides to remain on maternity leave until the child's 2nd birthday. This is on top of the amount paid by your workplace and subsidized by the government.

Armenian men can get paid paternity leave, although for now, it is only five days within the first month of their child's birth. The bill was passed on September 16, 2020.

► DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

You will need to present the following in order to apply for state-provided benefits when pregnant or have had your child in Armenia:

1. Application
 - a. Include name, surname, serial number of ID document, registered residence address of the applicant
 - b. Include name, surname, serial number of ID document, SSN, registered residence address of beneficiary
 - c. Beneficiary's bank information
2. Documents proving the identity of both applicant and beneficiary, including SSN
3. Temporary unemployment document provided by medical center
4. Unemployed mothers provide a document written by hand or typed, stating they are neither employees nor part of a family business. Include name, surname, ID serial number, date the document was written.

More information about more specific cases can be found [here](#).

The decision to accept or deny the application must be made within one month. Denials may be received if the beneficiary is not eligible for government benefits, the application is incomplete or includes false information, there is no residence registration record or a non-citizen has not been registered for at least three uninterrupted years, the application was received after the 140 days of maternity leave, or the beneficiary has already received benefits.

► MATERNITYWARDS, PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL CARE

When it comes to prenatal and postnatal care, there are multiple things to consider. Many polyclinics have treatments for infertility, STDs, and other such issues. Furthermore, prenatal care often includes: Oedema / Proteinuria and Hypertensive Disorders in Pregnancy / Childbirth and the Puerperium *Maternal Care Related to the Fetus and Amniotic Cavity and Possible Delivery Problems *Complications Predominantly Related to the Puerperium. Furthermore, certain conditions originating in the perinatal period are also treated, such as disorders related to the length of gestation and fetal growth, as well as birth traumas. Some have a focus on miscarriage prevention and treatment, as well as the treatment of complications arising in pregnancy. Few polyclinics also offer childbirth education classes, which might come in very handy. There are also psychotherapy sessions during pregnancy and family planning sessions.

Maternity wards are found in each of these hospitals. They generally include departments or

high-risk pregnancies, maternity and postpartum departments, intensive therapy and reanimation for newborns, gynecology and laboratory diagnostics.

- Astghik Medical Center- 28/1 D. Varuzhan St., Yerevan - +374-60-651257
- Kanaker-Zeytun Maternity Hospital – 7/2, Hrachya Nersisyan St., Yerevan- +374-10-285145
- Margaryan Maternity Hospital – 22 Mashtots Ave., Yerevan - +374-10-531342
- Beglaryan Medical Center – 56 Aboyan St., Yerevan- +374-10-582224
- Erebuni Medical Center – 14 Titogradyan St., Yerevan- +374-10-471100
- Grigor Narekatsi Medical Center – 22nd Nor-Aresh St. 63/1, Yerevan - +374-264-22103
- St.Gregory the Illuminator Medical Center – 10 Gyurjyan St., Yerevan - +374-10-645900
- Shengavit Medical Center – 9 Manandyan St., Yerevan - +374-10-443373
- SlavMed Medical Center – 4/2 Marshal Baghramyan Ave., Yerevan - +374-10-322211
- Surb Astvatsamayr Medical Center – 46a Artashesyan St, Yerevan. +374-10-727801

Outside Yerevan, maternity hospitals can be found in Akhuryan, Artik, Aboyan, Gyumri (*Austrian Hospital of Mother & Child and Gyumri Maternity Hospital*), Charentsavan, Champarak, Gavar, Vanadzor, Kapan, Hrazdan, Masis, Noyemberyan, Sevan, etc. There are two research centers in Yerevan, as well.

[Surb Astvatsamayr Medical Center](#), also known as the Artashesyan polyclinic, is a center for children and women in need of specific services. This includes thoracal and neurosurgery for children, and has departments for obstetrics and gynecology, as well.

► BLOOD TYPE DEPICTION

We thought this topic needed a separate subheading since it will confuse many repats. While most of the world uses the ABO system with the positive and negative rhesus, Armenia and most post-Soviet countries opt for the number system. Below is a photo to help you understand which is which. You will notice that police, as well as army personnel, have such badges to help identify their blood transfusion needs more easily should they be caught in a situation requiring it. When you go in for a blood test, these are the numbers you will be told. When you are asked, use these numbers to fill out your doctor's questionnaire: I (0), II (A), III (B), IV (AB).

► IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE

Armenia follows the WHO schedule in immunizing children. The immunizations schedule is plastered all over the childrens' polyclinics, as well as in the OB/GYN's office before childbirth. The table below shows the months at which point you will receive a call to bring your child in for immunization. There are separate rooms in the polyclinics with doctors specifically there for this task. The structures are quite old and need a full revamp but the medication is the latest from Europe that's imported into Armenia.

NOTE: It is not a mandatory thing, though highly recommended by your pediatrician. Many parents do opt not to immunize, though your pediatrician will state that should your child contract the disease, problems might arise.

Annual flu shots can be obtained at all polyclinics in Armenia. Go to the one you're registered at. Below is the immunization chart for children. The HPV vaccine is also available for young teens.

FIRST 24-48H AFTER BIRTH	TUBERCULOSIS, HEPATITIS B	24 WEEKS	INACTIVATED POLIO
6 weeks	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Haemophilus influenzae B, Hepatitis B, pneumococcal conjugate, polio, rotavirus	12 months	Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
12 weeks	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Haemophilus influenzae B, Hepatitis B, pneumococcal conjugate, polio, rotavirus	18 months	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Haemophilus influenzae B, Hepatitis B, polio
18 weeks	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Haemophilus influenzae B, Hepatitis B, pneumococcal conjugate, polio	6 years	Diphtheria, Tetanus, polio, MMR

► DISABILITY CARE

Disability pensions are available for individuals who obtained injuries and are not considered disabled due to their work, as well as from birth defects, childhood illnesses, natural and technical disasters, etc. For those who are disabled due to non-work circumstances, a pension is provided should one have a certain amount of work experience. Those not deemed eligible for the pension are provided with benefits instead.

UP TO 23 YEARS OF AGE	2 YEARS OF WORK	32-34	6 YEARS
23-25	3 years	35-37	7 years
26-28	4 years	38-40	8 years
29-31	5 years	41-43	9 years
		44+	10 years

EDUCATION



The Armenian Constitution recognizes the right to education, while society greatly values continuing education well into post-graduate degrees. Armenia boasts a 99.8% literacy rate.

Basic education on school level is compulsory, and the government creates the necessary conditions to make it accessible to everyone through providing free primary and secondary education, and competitive tuition fees in higher education [institutions](#). There are primary (kindergarten/development centers), secondary (split into 1-4 (elementary), 5-9 (middle), 10-12th (high school grades), vocational and higher professional educational institutions. There are 2 levels of vocational training in Armenia. The first provides hands-on job skills for entry-level workers, while the second provides technology-specific training for up to 4 years leading to a formal qualification. Homeschooling is not an option in Armenia. Those who follow an international homeschooling curriculum may continue to do so.

Period of compulsory education:
Entry age: 6 Exit age: 17/18

Cultural education programs are constantly being developed, including collaborations between different musical institutions with public schools across the country. You can check out the latest programs on the [ministry's website](#). Furthermore, diasporan Armenians are encouraged to study in Armenia at different levels. The programs are updated annually. Here is the program for [2025-2026 academic years](#).

The school year starts on September 1 and is split up into two semesters. The school year lasts for 30 weeks for first grade and 34 weeks for the remaining grades. There are two week-long breaks, one in November and one in February. The academic year normally ends in May, with only a few final exams in June.

Two important dates for every child are the first day of school in first grade, where each school has a special ceremony to welcome the newcomers, and "Last Bell" also known as Verjin Zang, which denotes graduation and has its own set of traditions inno

► GRADING SYSTEM

Armenia uses two grading systems: 2-5 points, and out of 20 points. Below is a chart for comparison's sake. To figure out the percentage out of 100, simply multiply the grade out of 20 by 5.

Grade	Scale	Grade Description (In English)	Grade Description (In Armenian)	US Grade
5	18.00-20.00	Excellent	Գերազանց	A
4	13.00-17.99	Good	Լավ	B
3	8.00-12.99	Satisfactory	Բավարար	C
		Pass	Սոուզված	P
2	0.00-7.99	Fail	Անբավարար	F

► SCHOOLS

Public schooling is free and compulsory until the age of sixteen, essentially through the high school senior level. After the age of sixteen, students may opt to drop out with parents' written consent. To graduate high school, students undergo final examination. According to the [Ministry of Education](#), 1353 public schools operate in the territory of Armenia (click [here](#) to see the complete list). Throughout the country, only 47 private schools exist at the moment.

NOTE: A family is entitled to a [25,000 AMD stipend](#) when a child is to start 1st grade. Within 1 month of the school application (August, September, or October), the parent or adult in the family must apply to the regional social affairs center. Each child in the family is entitled to this.

NOTE: School uniforms are not mandatory in Armenia. However, there are some public schools in which uniforms (*at least black shoes and white shirts*) are recommended. In many of them it is the result of the joint decision of parents and teachers' council.

► ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Curriculum: Basic literacy and mathematical skills
Grades: 1-4 / Ages: 6-10

► MIDDLE SCHOOL

Main Subjects: Armenian language and history, mathematics and foreign language
Curriculum: Natural sciences- chemistry, astronomy, ecology, physics, and biology; social science, geography, law, political science and economics; culture, music and fine arts.
Grades: 5-9 / Ages: 10-15

Credential awarded: Certificate of Basic Education (Himnakan yndhanur krtutyun atestat)
Upon successful completion, students receive a certificate that allows them to enter high school or technical/vocational school.



► HIGH SCHOOL

Curriculum:

Grades: 10–12 / Ages: 16–18

Credential: Certificate of Full Secondary Education (*Mijnakarg yndhanur krtutyany atestat*)

Upon successful completion of the high school studies, students receive a certificate which is also known as Certificate of Maturity «Hasunutyan vkayakan» or Attestat. This is necessary, alongside the exams for the year, to enter higher education institutions.

► VOCATIONAL SECONDARY EDUCATION

The vocational secondary education provides specialized and professional education in a particular field. The duration of this educational level is 6 months to 3 years. [Age: 16 and above](#) In Armenia, there are many vocational craftsmanship schools and middle technical colleges. To be admitted to any vocational school, one must have at least basic general education. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia holding dual citizenship can be admitted to a vocational school, upon their choice, either according to the conditions defined by the state for the citizens of the RA or foreigners. For a full list of public vocational schools, refer to [Appendix 6](#).

► TECHNICAL AND SPECIALIZED SECONDARY EDUCATION

To gain admittance into the technical and specialized secondary educational institutions, students must hold a basic education (elementary school) certificate or a full secondary education certificate. This level of education provides technology-specific education/training.

Technical schools in Armenia cover the following professional fields such as business, finance, hospitality, tourism, construction, engineering, agriculture, medicine, music, dance, jewelry etc. During the Soviet times, these schools were called “техникумы” (Russian word “tehnikoum”). Nowadays, these schools are quite often called colleges. See the full list of colleges by regions in [Appendix 7](#).

► TECHNOLOGY CENTERS IN ARMENIA

[TUMO – Center for Creative Technologies](#)



Tumo Center for Creative Technologies is a training center in Yerevan, Armenia which was founded in 2011. The center trains young people aged 12 to 18 to develop their skills in modern technologies, in particular, animation, game development, web development and digital media. Currently, it has 4 branches in Armenia: Yerevan, Dilijan, Gyumri, Koghb alongside with 29 TUMO boxes.

[Vanadzor Technology Center \(VTC\)](#)

This high-tech hub was created with the support of Armenian Government and World Bank. Various courses in the IT sphere are available for the students. The mains ones are:

- Web-development (HTML/CSS)

- C++
- JavaScript
- Python
- PHP
- Codu etc.

[Gyumri Technology Center \(GTC\)](#)

This center was also created with the support of the Government of Armenia and World Bank. It also provides courses on:

- HTML/CSS
- JavaScript
- PHP
- Node.JS
- System Administration
- After Effects

There are courses on web and javascript for pupils.



[Armath Engineering Lab](#)

These labs were created all over Armenia with the aim to stimulate technological education in Armenia, expand technological employment, and establish additional economic activity in the area of advanced technologies. Labs are organized for the Kids aged 10–18 who are introduced to science, technology, engineering, and math education through interactive after-school classes, exciting competitions, innovative camps and more.



► HOMESCHOOLING IN ARMENIA

Homeschooling status is defined in the law on “Special Education of Persons with Special Educational Needs” as opposed to regular schooling laws. Thus, there are programs implemented by educational institutions for individuals with special educational needs who temporarily or permanently are not attending an educational institution due to health conditions.

The full list of diseases leading to home education are mentioned in [Decision N 1330-N by the Government of the RA](#). The home education of persons with special educational needs should be carried out by the educational institution where such programs exist that is closest to one's home. A written agreement is necessary between the school, state bodies, the child and/or the parent (guardian).

► EXAMS IN SCHOOL

In the 4th grade the students pass exams on mother tongue and mathematics; in the 9th grade – Math, Armenian, Armenian literature (centralized exams), a foreign language students can choose from, and natural sciences where there are options as well, plus Phys Ed.

In the 12th grade, students take state graduation exams in December or June in their choice of:

- Armenian language and Armenian literature (written exam),
- Math (written exam),
- Armenian History (written exam)
- Russian language and literature (oral exam for Russian-language classes),
- Mother Tongue and Literature (oral exam for classes with national minority pupils).

More information on exams can be found in the [RA Law on General Education](#).

► WESTERN ARMENIAN IN SCHOOLS

Unfortunately, there are only a few classes in Armenian literature when children are exposed to Western Armenian poetry and writers. For those who move with Western Armenian as their base, there is a special project by the ministry in the works aimed at helping quickly improve the Eastern Armenian of newly arrived children. You can take part in either group learning or pick up individual tutors (at 5,000-10,000 per hour rate).

► FINANCIALS

While private schools have tuition fees to take into consideration, as well as transportation they might provide, public schools are essentially free. Some things to take into consideration are:

- Transportation is normally organized by the parents, unless the school has a proper system. Most children will get to school by bus or a taxi that's on a monthly pay, tasked with getting the kids from home to school and back. Budget this in when considering financials.
- Books are free in public schools and sometimes included in private school fees. However, most public schools will ask for a rental fee. Should you lose a book or if it's marked so much it needs to be replaced, there is a fee to pay there as well. Rentals cost around 6,000 AMD, give or take, while buying the year's supply might cost around 15k.
- Food is generally not provided at public schools. You will pay extra for it most of the time in private schools. It is recommended that children eat a healthy breakfast, have snacks with them, and eat lunch at home when they get back. Food IS provided at the kindergarten level at the moment. Things might change for school age, as well.
- Trips are organized throughout the school year. Account for around 5,000 AMD here.
- Uniforms are uncommon. However, you might need it, or a new set of black pants/skirts, and white shirts. Most schools prefer a color scheme, but won't force the children.

► SCHOOL ZONES AND REGISTRATION DATES

As a rule, the place of residence registration does not play a role in the child's admission to the school. There might be exclusions though. It is best to keep an eye out each year for changes in the process.

In order to ensure equal starting conditions for all, every parent, from any part of the world, can enroll their child online in public secondary schools of Armenia to attend the first grade [here](#). This online procedure is a three-stage system:

Checking the availability and accuracy of the personal data on the website through entering the parent and child public services number (*Social Security Number*).

June 10: The actual registration takes place here for the following applicants:

*One of the parents of a child going to the 1st grade is an employee of the school
A child in the 1st grade has a sister or brother who already attends said school*

June 11: throughout the school year: Registration is open for those who do not meet the conditions mentioned above.

As a result of this online system, if you have the necessary documents, you can register from abroad. If you have trouble obtaining a public service number (SSN), you can arrange the process with a power of attorney through a notarized copy of your passport and birth certificate. In the case of foreign citizens and their children in Armenia, an SSN is equally mandatory and is provided by the passport departments where you had your grandzoum.

► SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Procedures for admission to school and the required documents are defined by the [RA Law on General Education](#). To apply to schools, you will need to pull together a number of documents.

- For kindergartens:
 - Copies of the parents' passports
 - Copy of the child's birth certificate
 - Two 3x4 photos
 - Official document (26 dzev) from child's registered polyclinic
 - Application form – filled on site
 - Signed contract – signed on site

► FOR GRADES 1-12:

1. A completed application form with the principal's name mentioned
2. 2 photographs (color, 3x4)
3. For the 1st grade, you will need registered residence documents
4. A copy of the child's birth certificate
5. A certificate on child's health status (from the medical institution where the child receives medical services) – Bring a medical and health record from the country you move from
6. A record of academic progress for children changing schools
7. Graduation diploma for those applying for grades 10-12
8. The personal file (sealed transcript) of the student (applicable to those enrolling in a class higher than first grade) – any applicable documents from your current country
9. You may also need copies of parental ID/passports

Public schools can offer language classes in **Russian, English, Spanish, French, German, and Chinese** (see the full list of schools in [Appendix 8](#)). For newcomers, a trip to the principal's office and a thorough assessment of the child's abilities will determine the grade he/she is assigned to. It may be higher, but it may also be a lower grade.

PRO TIP: You might want to check with a few schools before deciding which location is best for your child.

NOTE: While it is not obligatory, most schools offer Russian language teaching and the administration will help with finding the right support for your child.

If you want your child to dive into international education, there are multiple international