# JSC «ALT University named after Mukhamedzhan Tynyshpaev»



Interview Program for Applicants to the Specialized Master's Program

Educational Program M126 Transport construction

The program of the entrance exam was discussed and received a positive decision at the meeting of the Department of Architectural and Construction Engineering, Protocol No. 10 dated June 04, 2025.

Head of the department
"Architectural and construction engineering"

K.S.Kulmanov

The program of the entrance exam was discussed and received a positive decision at the meeting of the Rolling Stock Department, Protocol No. 10 dated June 03, 2025.

The program of the entrance exam was reviewed and recommended at the meeting of the Council of the Institute of Transport and Construction, Protocol No. 6 dated June 23, 2025.

Chairman of the Institute's Board "Transport and construction"

Sh.A.Abdreshov

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## 1. Purpose of the Interview

Admission to the master's degree in the educational program "M126 Transport Construction" at JSC "ALT University named after Mukhamedzhan Tynyshpayev" on a paid basis is based on the results of an interview. Persons who have at least 5 years of experience in a managerial position in the field of an educational program in the state or civil service, or at least 10 years of professional experience in the field of an educational program, are allowed to participate in the interview.

The interview is conducted to assess the applicant's level of theoretical and practical knowledge, professional competencies, and motivation for pursuing studies in the master's program.

### 2. Interview Procedure.

The interview for applicants to the master's program is conducted within 30 minutes. During this time, the applicant answers questions from the admissions committee approved by the President-Rector of the university.

At the applicant's choice, the interview may be conducted in Kazakh, Russian, or English. The interview is held either in-person or remotely, with mandatory use of video communication. The video recording is archived by the university for up to three years.

Candidates may be asked additional questions related both to the content of the interview and to other sections relevant to the program profile.

Applicants who do not attend the interview for valid reasons (illness or other documented circumstances) are allowed to take the interview on another day according to the approved schedule.

Interview protocols are submitted to the responsible secretary of the admissions committee immediately after the procedure is completed. All disputed issues related to the interview process are resolved in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

#### 3. Interview Evaluation Criteria

The interview is conducted based on an approved standardized protocol, which records the questions asked, the applicant's answers, and the final evaluation.

Candidates are assessed according to the University's internal system based on several criteria reflecting the applicant's level of preparation, professional experience, and motivation. The final decision of the committee is made collectively and documented in a protocol signed by all committee members.

No numerical passing score is established — the committee's decision determines whether the candidate meets the requirements for admission to the master's program.

Interview protocols of admitted applicants are kept in their personal files.

Table 1 - Interview Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Descriptors	Scores
Motivation	Justification of reasons for applying to the program, choice of university, understanding of goals and prospects for professional and personal growth.	Sufficient / Insufficient
Research Competence	Proficiency in basic research skills necessary for scientific and analytical activities related to the educational program.	Sufficient / Insufficient
Creativity	Ability to propose unconventional solutions and demonstrate a creative approach to analyzing tasks and problems.	Sufficient / Insufficient
Communication Skills	Ability to clearly and logically express thoughts, justify one's point of view, and draw conclusions.	Sufficient / Insufficient
	Sufficient / Insufficient	

## 4. Interview Questions

- 1. How do you see the role of a manager in a transport construction project?
- 2. Tell us about your work experience in the field of transport construction. What is your most significant project in this field and why?
  - 3. What attracted you to the specialization of "Transport Construction"?
- 4. What regulatory documents and standards (state, industry) have you worked with in the field of transport construction? Give examples.
  - 5. What professional goals do you set for yourself for the next 3-5 years?
- 6. What do you know about the current trends and challenges in transport construction, especially in the context of Kazakhstan?
- 6. What are the main stages of the project life cycle in transport construction? Describe them briefly.
- 7. Explain the meaning of terms such as "engineering surveys", "design", "project expertise" in the context of transport construction.
- 8. What modern technologies and materials are used in road/railway construction? Tell us about your experience of using them.
- 9. What are the main types of transport facilities that you know? Give examples of objects that you have dealt with.
- 11. Describe your approach to planning a transport construction project. What tools do you use?
- 12. How do you organize the quality control process at the construction site? What typical quality problems have you encountered and how have you solved them?
- 13. What risk management methods do you use in your projects? Give examples of risks specific to transport construction.

- 14. How do you manage the project budget? What measures do you take to control costs and prevent overspending?
- 15. Describe your experience working with contractors and suppliers in transport construction. How do you choose and manage them?
- 16. What software packages or information systems have you used for project management in construction? (For example, MS Project, Primavera, AutoCAD, BIM systems).
- 17. How do you ensure that project deadlines are met, especially in the event of unforeseen circumstances?
- 18. Tell us about your experience working with project documentation, estimates, and certificates of completed works.
- 19. How do you ensure compliance with occupational safety and industrial safety requirements at the construction site?
- 20. How do you approach environmental safety and sustainable development issues in transport construction projects?
- 21. Describe a situation where you had to make a difficult decision on a project. How did you come to this decision and what was the result?
  - 22. How do you motivate your team and manage conflicts within it?
- 23. Tell us about a case when you had to work with a difficult client or a stakeholder. How did you handle this situation?
  - 24. How do you delegate tasks and monitor their implementation?
- 25. Describe your leadership style. Which approach do you consider the most effective for the team in transport construction?
  - 26. How do you respond to criticism and use it for self-improvement?
  - 27. Give an example of a situation where you had to quickly adapt to changes in a project.
- 28. What, in your opinion, is the most difficult aspect in managing transport construction projects?
- 29. What questions would you ask us to better understand the specifics of this position and our company?
  - 30. Why are you the ideal candidate for this position?

### 5. Recommended Literature

- 1. Tsytovich N.A. Mechanics of soils. Moscow: Librocom Publishing House, 2013. 272 p.
- 2. Unaibaev B.Zh., Arsenin V.A., Mardenov Zh.A. and others. Foundation construction on saline soils. Ekibastuz : EITI, 2012. 184 p.
- 3. Bokarev, S.A. Maintenance of artificial structures using information technologies. textbook / S.A. Bokarev, S.S. Pribytkov, A.N. Yashnov.- M.: UMTS on education in railway transport, 2008.- 195s.- (Higher professional education).
- 4. G.M. Borovik. Textbook. Artificial structures on railways. Khabarovsk. 2013. DVGUPS Publishing House

#### 5.1. Additional Literature

- 1. Fundamentals of technical operation of transport equipment: a textbook for students, undergraduates and doctoral students / S. N. Kabikenov [et al.]. Almaty: Evero, 2018. 311 p. ill.
- 2. Fundamentals of technical operation of transport equipment / S. N. Kabikenov, M. N.M. N. Kirievsky, V. N.V. N.Shalaev; Karaganda State Technical University named after Karaganda: KarSTU Publishing House, 2014. 261 p. ill.

- 3. Kolik technikasyn technikalyk uslu negizderi. Oku kuraly / Kopenov B. N.D. Almaty, 2011. 110 p. ill.
- 4. NTD"Rules for the construction and maintenance of artificial structures in railway transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan". In 2015, No. 1288. S. Khasenov.St., M. Kvashnina.Ya. N., Abiev B. N.A. N., Bondar I. N. St.
- 5. A. Kadyrova.St. Fundamentals of scientific research. Monograph / A. N.St. Kadyrov, I. N.A. N. Kadyrova. Karaganda: Publishing House of KSTU, 2015.