

Born in 1929 in Russia, Lev Okun graduated from Moscow Mechanical Institute in 1953 where he was a student of Arcady B. Migdal and later a graduate student of Isaak Ya. Pomeranchuk. Since 1954 he has worked at the Institute of Theoretical and Experimental Physics in Moscow and has published some 300 papers, and several books, on the theory of elementary particles.

Lev Okun has served as a member of the Scientific Policy Committees of CERN (Geneva), SSC (Dallas) and DESY (Hamburg). He has also been awarded several international prizes. He is currently a member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Academia Europea. He is also an honorary member of the New York Academy and a Fellow of the Institute of Physics, UK.