



TANZANIA COMMISSION FOR UNIVERSITIES

A Guide to Academic Programmes Accreditation at University Institutions

Accreditation is a declaration that the programme has met the prescribed minimum standards and guidelines. All programmes offered in university institutions in Tanzania have to be accredited by the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU). The following are the key steps:

01

Step 1:

The university submits the programme to TCU through the Programme Management System (PMS) after being approved by the University Senate.

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Step 2:

The TCU Secretariat verifies compliance with the Curriculum Development Framework, including submission of all the requisite documents such as Minutes of the Senate meeting that approved the programme, Market Survey Report, Minutes of the Stakeholders Engagement Meeting, and evidence of endorsement by the relevant Professional Body (for programmes with established Professional Bodies).

03

Step 3:

If it does not comply with the Framework, the programme is returned to the university, indicating the observed shortfalls for the university to address them. If it meets the requirements, the university is informed accordingly and requested to meet other established requirements to allow the Commission to proceed with the review process.

04

Step 4:

After submission of evidence that the university has met all the prescribed requirements for programme accreditation, the programme is sent to peer reviewers. Among other things, the peer reviewers are required to:

- a) Check whether the market survey/tracer study has been sufficiently conducted;
- b) Verify if relevant stakeholders have been involved during the development of the programme;

- c) Analyse whether benchmarking both within and outside Tanzania has been sufficiently conducted and lessons learned provided and informed the design and development of the programme;
- d) Verify if the proposed entry qualifications are in line with University Qualifications Framework (UQF) level descriptors, and standards and guidelines for university education in Tanzania;
- e) Verify if the programme delivery mode and duration provided are appropriate to achieve the programme's expected outcomes;
- f) If there are adequate and relevant academic and technical staff to run the programme effectively in line with the existing quality assurance standards and guidelines;
- g) If there are adequate and relevant teaching and learning facilities for the programme;
- h) If the content of the courses provided in the programme reflects the nomenclature of the proposed/reviewed programme;
- i) Check availability and relevancy of support services for both staff and students for effective teaching and learning; and
- j) If the credits provided in each semester and total credits for the entire programme meet the minimum number required and are not unreasonably high.

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Step 5:

Comments and suggestions from the peer reviewers are sent by the TCU Secretariat to the university institution for implementation as appropriate.

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Step 6:

The implementation report of the comments and suggestions is submitted to TCU and subsequently sent to the reviewers for verification.

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Step 7:

If satisfied, the review report and curriculum document are submitted to the Accreditation Committee for deliberation, as appropriate.


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Step 8:

If satisfied, the recommendations of the Accreditation Committee of the Commission are submitted to the Commission for consideration of approval.

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