



Provision on decision-making of the IQAA Accreditation Council concerning institutional accreditation of higher education institutions

1. The Accreditation Council on its meeting for decision-making concerning institutional accreditation of HEIs considers the following documents: a self-evaluation report, an external review report made by the expert group, a conclusion made by the Agency.

2. The defining factor in decision-making on institutional accreditation is evaluation by standards, made according to the findings of the external review by the IQAA expert group, which includes national and international experts, students and employers.

3. To standardise the decision-making process on accreditation, based on the experience of the European accreditation agencies, the following algorithm is adopted to standardize decision-making on specialized accreditation:

3.1 Evaluative judgment **“Fully complies”** in the external review of an individual standard is accepted in points, which equals to 3, evaluative judgment **“Substantially complies”** equals to 2 points, evaluative judgment **“Partially complies”** equals to 1 point and evaluative judgment **“Does not comply”** equals to 0 point (see the table).

3.2 The maximum number of points that higher education institution can receive by 9 standards equals to 27 points, respectively, while the minimum is 0 points.

3.3 A higher education institution is considered as accredited for full time period of 5 years, if it receives **19-27 points (the experts’ marks by nine standards are grouped by the judgments “Fully complies”, “Substantially complies”, Partially complies).**

3.4 A higher education institution is considered as accredited with conditions for 3 years, if it receives **11-18 points (the experts’ marks by nine standards are also grouped by the judgments “Fully complies”, Substantially complies”, Partially complies).**

3.5 In justified cases, taking into account opinions of the Accreditation Council members, additional information about a higher education institution, and evaluation of evidence the assessment in points can be changed (para 3.3 and para 3.4).

3.6 A higher education institution is considered as not accredited, if it has less than 11 points, and in case if at least one of its standards received a judgment “Does not comply”.

3.7 A decision of the Accreditation Council and a full external review report are sent to the higher education institution and are published on the IQAA’s website.

Standard	Fully complies	Substantially complies	Partially complies	Does not comply
Standard 1 – Mission, strategic planning and a policy in the field of quality assurance	3	2	1	0
Standard 2 – Governance and information management	3	2	1	0
Standard 3 – Students, student-centred learning, teaching and assessment	3	2	1	0
Standard 4 – Student admission, learning outcomes, recognition and qualifications	3	2	1	0
Standard 5 – Study programmes: development, effectiveness, on-going monitoring and periodic review	3	2	1	0
Standard 6 – Teaching staff and teaching effectiveness	3	2	1	0
Standard 7 – Scientific research work (Creative activity)	3	2	1	0

Standard 8 – Resources and student support services	3	2	1	0
Standard 9 – Public Information	3	2	1	0
Standard 10 – Periodic external quality assurance and follow-up procedures	-	-	-	-

4. If significant violations of the accreditation standards and current legislation are identified, the Accreditation council may make a decision (including conditional accreditation or non-accreditation), which is not based on these quantitative indicators.

5. The Accreditation council may decide to conditionally extend accreditation for half a year (six months), if there are objective grounds for untimely completion of accreditation.

The provision has been amended (para 4, 5), approved at a meeting of the Accreditation council on December 9, 2017.

