



Quality Assurance: Accreditation and Monitoring

1. Accreditation Principles
2. Leading Questions of Accreditation
3. General Standards
4. Accreditation Procedures
5. Monitoring through Re-Accreditation

Accreditation Principles



1. Reference to international standards
2. Limited in time
3. Involvement of expertise from higher education institutions, science organisations, the state, professional bodies and practice
4. Link of evaluation and accreditation
5. Trans-disciplinary character

Leading Questions of Accreditation



- In which institutional setting is the new study programme performed?
- Why should the study programme be introduced?
- Which educational aims are being pursued?
- How is the study programme implemented?
- How is a minimum quality achieved and ensured?

General Standards of Accreditation



- KMK structural regulations
- Key competencies / soft skills
- Orientation towards future profession / employability
- Internationalisation
- Resources (personnel and finance)
- Master degrees at Universities of Applied Science (Fachhochschulen): Superior Level Public Sector

General Standards: Soft Skills



1. Competence in methods

Learning strategies, media proficiency, project management, teaching capabilities, etc.

2. Social competence

Transfer-, team-, conflict-, moderation-abilities, multilingual, etc.

3. Self competence

Work performance attitude, flexibility, creativity, ethical behaviour, etc.

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- in **Bachelor courses**: rather **additional**: 10 to 15 % of ECTS-points
 - in **Master courses**: rather **integrative**: 5 to 10 % of ECTS-points

General Standards: Employability



1. Scientific fundamentals
2. Communication
3. Customer orientation
4. Problem solving attitude and not problem orientation
5. Coping with complex processes and tasks
6. Coping with unpredictable situations
7. Languages
8. Specialization up to date

The first points are considered as most important by representatives of professional practice.

General Standards: Internationalisation



1. Programme oriented standards:

- Study abroad (with matriculation at a foreign university)
- Traineeship abroad (under supervision of the university)
- Classes in a foreign language
- Admission requirements: German for Foreigners (TestDaf), English for international study courses (TOEFL)

2. Consider international standards through networking with:

- Joint Quality Initiative (JQI): Dublin Descriptors
- European Network for Quality Assurance (ENQA)
- European Accreditation Consortium (ECA)
- European Institute for Quality Assurance (EIQA)

General Standards: Resources



Adequate personnel und financial resources

Personnel **core competence** of the faculty – teaching import ?

- Teaching appointments: from other divisions of the same faculty
 - from other higher education insitutions
 - from research or professional practice
- At least half of the classes offered should be covered by full-time personnel; esp. as regards research oriented master programmes
- Teaching appointments must be ensured by binding **cooperations**
- Higher effort to coordinate teaching, learning and examinations

Accreditation Procedure: Experts' Report and Passing the Resolution (1)



Compilation of Peer Group

- Cover all partial disciplines of the programme to be accredited
- Consider the type of higher education institution (university, university of applied science, university of cooperative education, etc.)
- Integrate professionals and students / graduates

Approval of Peer Group

- University + Standing Accreditation Commission (SAC) [+ Professional Body]

First Expert Meeting

- Sequences of accreditation procedure
- Distribution of tasks

Accreditation Procedure: Experts' Report and Passing the Resolution (2)



Peer Review

Draft of Experts' Report

Part A: Initial situation (ZEvA) – to be agreed with the university

Part B: Assessment and recommendation to the SAC (Peer Group)

Passing the Resolution

- poss. hearing of the peer group resp. the university representatives in the SAC

Notification of Accreditation / Certificate

Monitoring through Re-Accreditation



1. Dealing with conditions and recommendations of first accreditation
2. Study success and positions of graduates

Application for Re-Accreditation

- Copy of accreditation certificate and experts' report of first accreditation
- Current curriculum (Table of modules)
- Examination results (Statistics)
- BA/MA theses (Listing of topics; five originals)