



Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA)

Observations of the Kosova Accreditation Agency on calculations of students' capacities by the HEIs

April 2016



Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA)

- KAA is a public agency responsible to evaluate quality assurance among HEIs in Kosovo;
- Established by MEST (2008) in accordance with the Law on Higher Education (2003/14);
- Establishment and development of KAA is supported by Austria (KAIP Project);
- Contacts and cooperation with three Austrian bodies for QA and accreditation (AQA; OAR; FHR) and BAC;



Legislation

- Law on Higher Education in the Republic of Kosovo (2011);
- AI on Establishment of Kosovo Accreditation Agency (2004);
- AI on Licensing of HEIs in the Republic of Kosovo (2012);
- AI on Accreditation of HEIs in the Republic of Kosovo (2013);
- AI on Accreditation of High Professional and Technical Schools in the Republic of Kosovo (2010);



Mission

- Through the accreditation process KAA supports development of the quality in HEIs;
- Assures the Kosovo society that the quality of teaching and learning is at the level of international standards;

Responsibilities

- Accreditation and re-accreditation of public and private HEIs and their study programs;
- Constant control of quality at the accredited institutions and their study programs;
- Informs the public about the quality of HEIs and their study programs;



HEIs in the Republic of Kosovo

- 7 Public Universities (UP, UPe, UPz, UGjk, UM, Ugjl, UASF)
- Faculty of Islamic Studies
- 26 Private HEIs
 - 23 Colleges
 - 2 High Professional Schools
 - 1 Academy

Validated institutions:

- Faculty of Economics of University of Lublana
- International Business College of Mitrovica
- EADA School



Number of study programs in Kosovo

Study programs by level					
Sector	Level V	BA	MA	PhD	Total
Private	9	124	73	0	206
Public	0	130	108	24	262
TOTAL	9	254	181	24	468



Evaluation procedure





What are the key elements to be evaluated by KAA when doing external evaluation of HEIs in relation to finances?



1. Academic staff;
2. Infrastructure, equipment, and IT;
3. **Students;**
4. International cooperation;
5. Scientific/ artistic research
6. Quality Assurance
7. Financing



Guidelines on Drafting the Self Evaluation Report for assessing institutions and study programs

- The criteria for students' admission of a study programme in the Higher Education Institution must be published and must be applied equitably toward all candidates for admission.
- Documents on planned legal relations (reports) between institutions and students;
- Students registration and admission criteria;
- To be presented agreements with at least two accredited HEIs which ensure that students can be transferred in similar programmes of these HEIs, in case of bankruptcy or accreditation withdrawal. KAA should provide its endorsement for concluded agreements (Law on Higher Education, No. 04L-037, 2011, article 14, point 5.8);
- Number of students;

Guidelines on Drafting the Self Evaluation Report for assessing institutions and study programs



- Ratio of Full Time (FT) academic staff/ students per unit and per institution in general;
- To be presented in tabular/ numerical form the data about the: IT infrastructure, internet, WI FI, number of PC for the academic staff, students and administration;
- To be presented the list with publications of the full time (FT) academic personnel and students in the last three years in national and international scientific journals;
- To be presented the relation of research with teaching in the programme (s) under evaluation (how are research outcomes transmitted through teaching of students);

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Students



- The criteria and procedures for the admission of students and their graduation must be clearly defined and published in relation to every study programme.
- The ratio between academic staff and students must be such as to guarantee that the educational aims and objectives of the Institute are achieved and that students are properly prepared for assessments. Where this ratio is higher than 1:20 in any programme (other than a Doctoral Studies programme), the Institution will need to present evidence that demonstrates that students on that programmes are satisfied with the staffing arrangements and, in particular, that students' assignments have been properly marked and feedback on their performance given to them on a timely basis.
- The Institution must guarantee that potential and current students have access to advisory and support services during their studies. The Institution must have procedures that enable students to evaluate their progress during their study programme and feed back any concerns to an appropriate member of academic staff.

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Students



- The Institution must possess an adequate physical and technical infrastructure to enable long-term achievement of its objectives. It must not enrol more students than its infrastructure can adequately manage. This maximum number will be agreed with KAA at the time of its institutional accreditation and may be revised with KAA's agreement if additional infrastructural resources have been made available.
- The Institution applying must have at its disposal sufficient qualified staff, premises and equipment (such as computers, libraries, etc..) necessary for its proposed study programmes. These resources must be insured and be appropriate for the type of educational institution and sufficient for the number of students to be enrolled. Where an Institution is applying for its accreditation to be extended to include an additional branch or its campus, then these resources must be in place before the application is made so that KAA can determine the form of Expert Team needed to conduct a site visit to assess that branch or campus.



Thank you for your attention