

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 29th January, 2014

All India Council for Technical Education (Mandatory Accreditation of all programmes / courses in Technical Education Institutions and University Departments & Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education) Regulations, 2014

F. No. 37-3/Legal/AICTE/2014:— Preamble

Whereas, quality assurance in respect of all the programs/courses run by technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education is becoming increasingly significant, in order to make Indian technical education contribute to national growth and development,

And Whereas, accreditation of all programs/courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education, is an important tool to maintain quality of education and research and for effective dissemination among stakeholders of the standards thereof so as to enable them to make informed choices in accessing technical education;

And Further Whereas, the accreditation processes under the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 is being implemented by the National Board of Accreditation set up by AICTE and other agency which may be set up in this regard;

And Whereas, the Council has resolved that the accreditation by Accreditation Agency (National Board of Accreditation or any other agency identified by the Council) be made mandatory and compulsory.

Now therefore, the council in exercise of the powers conferred under sub-Section (1) of Section 23 read with Section 10 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, hereby makes the following Regulations for the mandatory accreditation of all programs / courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education, namely :

1. Short Title, Application and Commencement :

1.1 These Regulations shall be called the All India Council for Technical Education (Mandatory Accreditation of all programs / courses in Technical Education Institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education) Regulations, 2014.

1.2 These regulation shall apply to :

- a) All the technical education institutions including autonomous institutions;
- b) All the Universities, Universities Departments running programs/Courses in Technical Education;
- c) All Institutions Deemed to be Universities under Section 3 of UGC Act, running programs /Courses in Technical Education;

1.3 These Regulations shall come into force form the date of notification in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions :

- a) 'Accreditation', with its grammatical variations, means the process of quality control in technical education, whereby, as a result of evaluation or assessment or by any other

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scientific method followed by Accreditation Agency, a program / Course conducted by an institution is recognized as conforming to parameters of academic quality and benchmarking of such academic quality determined by the National Board of Accreditation or any other accreditation agency recognized by AICTE.

- b) '*Act*' means the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987.
- c) '*Accreditation Board*' means an agency such as National Board of Accreditation (NBA) set up by AICTE, under Society Registration Act 1860 or any other Accreditation agency approved by the Council from time to time, which are autonomous bodies of All India Council for Technical Education, or such bodies as established by or under an Act of Parliament to carry out accreditation.
- d) '*College*' means a college as defined under section 12A(1)(b) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.
- e) '*Program*' means the field of Technical Education, i.e. Engineering, Technology, MCA, Architecture, Town Planning, Management-MBA, Management-PGDM, Pharmacy, Hotel Management & Catering Technology, Applied Arts & Crafts and such other programs and areas as notified by the Council from time to time.
- f) '*Department*' means a unit/division of a Technical Institute, equipped in all respects in dealing with fulfilment of academic requirements of imparting education in a group of course(s)
- g) '*Course*' means one of the branches of learning (for example Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and so on) in Program which will include Dual Degree course and Integrated course
- h) '*University Department*' means a department established and maintained by the University
- i) '*University*' shall means a University defined under clause (f) of Section 2 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956
- j) '*Deemed to be University*' means an Institution declared as deemed to be University under section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956
- k) '*Council*' means All India Council for Technical Education established under Section 3 of the Act.
- l) '*Technical Education*' means programs of education, research and training in engineering, technology, architecture, town planning, management, pharmacy and applied arts and crafts and such other program or areas as the central government may, in consultation with the Council, by notification in the official Gazette, declare;
- m) '*Technical institutions*' means an institution not being a University which offers courses or programs of technical education, and shall include such other institutions as the Central Government may, in consultation with the council, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare as technical institution;

3. Objectives of Accreditation:

The objectives of Accreditation are:

- a. A mechanism of "Audit" of Programmes/Courses offered by Technical Educational Institutions that is independent of educational system;
- b. Assurances to the educational community and the general public, that the programme / course offered by the institution has clearly defined objectives and is meeting the same;
- c. Facilitates technical education institutions to continuously uphold and augment the quality, by benchmarking high academic standards;
- d. Ensures that a programme/course offered by the technical education Institution reflects good technical practices and education methodologies;
- e. Facilitates and supplements the efforts of technical education institution to secure competitive grants and other incentives, if found eligible by the regulatory authority and funding agency as the case may be;
- f. Promotes and facilitates portability of qualification through national and international recognition, cross border and trans-national collaboration;
- g. Promotes creation of sound and challenging academic environment in the institution, and contributing to the socio-economic development of the country by producing high quality technical manpower.

4. Mandatory Accreditation :

4.1 It shall be mandatory for each technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education to get all its programs / Courses accredited by the Accreditation Agency after passing out of two batches or six years, whichever is earlier, in accordance with the norms and methodology prescribed by such agency or the Council, as the case may be.

4.2 Every program / Course in a technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education, which has completed six years of existence or two batches having passed out, whichever is earlier, shall apply within six months from the date of coming into force of these regulations, to the Accreditation Agency, for accreditation.

4.3 Any program / Course in a technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education, which has not completed six years of existence or two batches having passed out, whichever is earlier, shall, within a period of six months from date of such completion, apply to the Accreditation agency for accreditation.

4.4 Every program / Course in a technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education, intending to commence academic operations after coming into force of these regulations, shall apply for accreditation to the Accreditation Agency, as per Clause 4.1 above.

5. Period of Validity and Reaccreditation :

5.1 The accreditation for a program / Course will be valid for a specific term period decided as per the norms of the Accreditation agency from time to time.

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5.2 It shall be mandatory for each accredited program / Course in a technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education to apply for Reaccreditation six months before the expiry of the accreditation period in accordance with the norms and procedures prescribed by the Accreditation Agency.

6. Duties and Obligations of Accreditation Agency :

The Accreditation Agency shall:

6.1 Ensure complete transparency in its operations and strictly abide by a code of ethics.

6.2 provide an opportunity to all stakeholders in the technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education including students, teachers and non-teaching employees, Parents, Alumni and Industry to submit their views on matters of academic quality.

6.3 provide an opportunity to all stakeholders in the technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education including students, and non-teaching employees, to file suggestions or objections, if any, on the Self Assessment Report (SAR) prepared by the technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education for submission to the Accreditation Agency, which shall be taken note of by the Accreditation Agency while finalizing the accreditation.

6.4 publish on its website the final accreditation together with all documents based on which such accreditation was given to the program / course in technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education.

6.5 complete the accreditation process / take a final decision on the accreditation application within six months of the receipt of application from the technical education institutions, University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education.

6.6 take a decision on application, submitted within 90 days of grant of accreditation, for withdrawal / modification of accreditation, against which any person or body is aggrieved, within 90 days of receiving the application.

7 Accreditation as Pre-requisites :

No technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education shall be eligible for applying or receiving financial assistance from Council under any of its schemes without having undergone accreditation within stipulated period as defined in Clause 4.1 above.

8. Incentives:

The Council shall allocate any funding under various schemes run by AICTE from time to time, as it may deem fit, to such technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education **ONLY** as are accredited and approved by AICTE.

9. Penalties:

9.1 Where a technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education fails to comply with the provisions of any of the preceding clauses, notwithstanding any other action that may be taken against the technical

education institution— University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education by the appropriate Accreditation Agency, the Council may, after providing reasonable opportunity to such technical education institution and University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education, to be heard, impose any of the following penalties or any combination of such penalties on technical education institution University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education, namely :

- a) Withholding of all grants, where applicable, allocated to such technical education institution , University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education;
- b) Declaring such technical education institutions and University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education to be ineligible for consideration for any assistance under any of the general or special assistance programs of the Council;
- c) Declaring, for the purpose of general information of the public, that the programs / courses offered by the technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education are not accredited and cautioning potential candidates seeking admission to such technical education institution, University Department and Institution Deemed to be University imparting Technical Education of the same, through various forms of the media including the website of the Council.

10. Dispute Resolving Mechanism:

10.1 Any dispute arising out of the implementation of these regulations will be discussed and resolved by the Council whose decision shall be final and binding.

10.2 The Council reserves the right to amend these regulations from time to time and same will be binding on all the technical education institutions, —University Departments and Institutions Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education.

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