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Evaluating Global Accreditation Standards for Higher Education

Arshi Naim, Alok Saklani, Shad Ahmad Khan, and Praveen Kumar Malik



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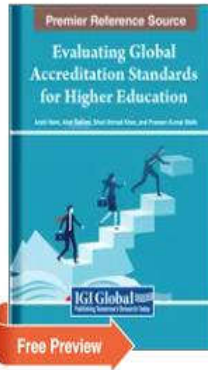
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ABSTRACT

Evaluating global accreditation standards for higher education focuses on the procedure and mechanism of the accreditation process in higher education worldwide and offers broad frameworks and models for the process of accreditation and evaluation for the higher educational system. This chapter will discuss the various categories used to classify international accrediting bodies to help programs adhere to high standards for instruction. In addition to defining the organizations that will assess the requirements and standards for accreditation in higher education, this chapter will discuss the opportunities and difficulties associated with obtaining certification. Universities wishing to become accredited both nationally and internationally can refer to the principles and examples in this chapter.

INTRODUCTION

In the ever-evolving landscape of higher education, the quest for excellence is a constant. Accreditation serves as the compass, guiding institutions toward quality and continuous improvement. This chapter delves into the intricate web of global accreditation standards, dissecting their components, and evaluating their effectiveness in fostering educational excellence. Acquiring a higher education is essential for both personal and professional development, enabling people to become knowledgeable, competent, and capable members of society. The process of accreditation is essential to the pursuit of academic

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achievement. In order to guarantee that higher education institutions follow strict guidelines and that students have a worthwhile education, accrediting agencies act as watchdogs for quality control. Let us examine the significance of higher education accreditation and how it affects educational institutions as well as students.

Defining Accreditation

Accreditation is a rigorous and systematic evaluation process that institutions of higher education undergo to assess their quality, performance, and adherence to established standards. Accrediting bodies, recognized by governmental and professional entities, review and assess various aspects of an institution, including curriculum, faculty qualifications, facilities, resources, student support services, and more. Accreditation may be of programmes or institutions. Accreditation is the establishment or re-statement of the status, legitimacy or appropriateness of an institution, programme (i.e. composite of modules) or module of study. Harvey Lee (2004)

Understanding Accreditation

Accreditation is the hallmark of quality assurance in higher education. It involves a rigorous evaluation process by external bodies to ensure that institutions meet established standards of excellence. These standards encompass various facets of an institution's operations, including curriculum, faculty qualifications, student support services, infrastructure, and governance. In India National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous institution under University Grants Commission (UGC) of India, established in the year 1994. It has been entrusted with the responsibility of Assessment and Accreditation of Colleges and Universities in India for the promotion of quality of teaching-learning and research (Aithal, Shailashree & Kumar 2016).

Maintaining Reliability and Quality

Fundamentally, accreditation serves to guarantee that educational institutions uphold the highest standards of accountability and quality. Accrediting agencies ensure that educational programs are current, relevant, and successful in educating students for their desired jobs by setting and maintaining strict criteria.

Encouragement of Ongoing Enhancement

Getting accredited is a stimulus for ongoing improvement rather than merely a mark of approval. To pinpoint areas in need of improvement, institutions applying for accreditation go through extensive internal review procedures and self-evaluation. This dedication to continual reflection and development results in the advancement of services and programs, which ultimately benefits students and the larger educational community.

Enhancing Institutional Reputation

Improving the Standing of the Institution To students, businesses, and other stakeholders, accreditation is a distinguishing symbol that indicates an institution meets or beyond established quality requirements.

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