

Criteria for Approving Accreditation Agencies

Part I: Overall Criteria

A. Scope of Authority

The accrediting agency must be an entity that is authorized and recognized by the government (i.e. Ministry of Education where the organization is located) or by entities that are authorized or recognized by an appropriate professional or scientific association as having the authority to accredit education programs and schools that award the higher education degrees.

B. Acceptance of the Accreditation Agency by Others

The accrediting agency's decisions must be made known and accepted by other organizations, such as professional licensing bodies, governments, educational institutions, employers, etc.

C. Substantive Changes

The accrediting agency must inform KAU of any substantive changes in the scope of activities of the agency, the procedures for accreditation, or standards for accreditation.

Part II: Accreditation Standards

A. Existence and Availability of Standards

The accrediting agency must use predetermined standards for accreditation. The standards must be accessible to the school/college undergoing the review, and must be available to the general public.

B. Type of Standards

The accreditation agency must use specific standards, or standards possessing similar characteristics. The Standards must be a comprehensive set of standards covering all aspects of the educational process.

C. Appropriateness of Standards

The accrediting agency must have a system to determine that the standards are sufficiently rigorous and appropriate to ensure the quality of the education or training provided at accredited schools.

D. Review of Standards

The accrediting agency must have a system for periodically reviewing and updating the standards to ensure that they are adequate to evaluate the quality of education or training provided by the schools under review, and are relevant to the educational or training needs of the students.