

# **Regulations Governing the HEEACT Program Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions**

Approved at the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the fourth-term Board of Trustees on September 14, 2017 Revisions approved at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the fourth-term Board of Trustees on March 19, 2018 Revisions approved at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees on June 13, 2023 Revisions approved at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the sixth-term Board of Trustees on March 22, 2024

## Article 1

The Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (hereinafter "the Council") formulated these Regulations in order to manage work related to the accreditation of quality assurance at universities and junior colleges.

#### Article 2

HEEACT Program Accreditation refers to a university or junior college commissioning the Council to conduct an external evaluation of its quality assurance. The evaluation process includes the appointment of Reviewers; the conducting an on-site visit; and the granting of an accreditation result. The university or junior college may commission the Council to conduct Program Accreditation for its departments, graduate institutes and degree-granting programs.

#### Article 3

HEEACT Program Accreditation is aimed at domestic universities, junior colleges, universities of technology, technical schools, and vocational schools whose establishment was approved by the Ministry of Education, and which confer an associate bachelor's degree, bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree, and other degree programs.

#### Article 4

The Council establishes Accreditation Recognition Committees for different academic disciplines. A Committee assists in making revisions to the accreditation process, recommending Reviewers, and reviewing and determining accreditation results for programs that belong to the academic discipline for which the Committee is responsible.

## Article 5

The Council conducts HEEACT Program Accreditation over the following five stages:

1. Preparatory stage: includes announcements, acceptance of

- applications the appointment of Reviewers, and organization of committees;
- 2. Document review stage: includes an initial review of the program's Self-Assessment Report, document review by an On-Site Visit Panel, program response to matters awaiting clarification and submission of supplementary documents, and a meeting of the On-Site Visit Panel to review documents;
- 3. On-Site Visit stage: includes the arrangement of the itinerary for the on-site visit, performance of the on-site visit, completion of the On-Site Visit Report, and recommended accreditation results;
- 4. Decision stage: includes accepting and reviewing an institution's feedback, Comment Form to the feedback drawn up by the On-Site Visit Panel, the convening of the Accreditation Recognition Committee responsible for the relevant academic discipline, and the finalization of accreditation results; and
- 5. Follow-up and improvement stage: includes the acceptance of the Self-Improvement Plan and Progress Report from programs granted accreditation and applications to extend accreditation status.

## Article 6

There are three possible accreditation results:

- 1. Accredited- 6 years;
- 2. Accredited-3 years; and
- 3. Re-accreditation required.

## Article 7

If a program objects to the accreditation result, it may lodge an appeal at the Council within thirty days from the day after it received the accreditation result. The Council will handle the appeal in accordance with Regulations Governing the Review of Appeals of Institutional Accreditation Result and Other Quality Assurance Related Queries.

## Article 8

In order to manage accreditation, the Council has formulated *Enforcement Rules for the HEEACT Program Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions* and *Enforcement Rules for the Collection of HEEACT Program Accreditation Fees.* 

#### Article 9

The Regulations are promulgated and implemented following the approval of the Board of Trustees. The same procedure will be followed for each amendment.