

## INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

### STATEMENT

Institutional accreditation is the status granted to an institution that has been found to meet or exceed established standards for educational quality. It involves a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its academic and administrative systems. The effective date of institutional accreditation marks the date when the status of institutional accreditation was granted by the UCJ.

From the stage of application for registration as a higher education institution, an institution begins its journey through the UCJ's quality assurance process. In this way, all academic and administrative operations at the institution would come under the scrutiny of UCJ, to ensure that quality and standards were being adhered to across the institution.

When an institution decides that it wishes to apply for institutional accreditation it would have had in place an internal quality assurance system that continuously ensures that quality and standards for ALL its programmes and operational systems are established and maintained. It is important to note that up to the point of application for institutional accreditation, not all programmes offered by the institution would have been submitted for review by the UCJ. This does not mean, however, that programmes that were not submitted for review are in any way inferior in quality or without educational value for access to employment and further study. By virtue of a number of programmatic reviews cycles by the UCJ, the institution would have been engaging in the quality assurance process. With institutional accreditation, all tertiary level programmes offered by the institution are recognised as meeting acceptable standards.

#### Equivalence of Programmes prior to Institutional Accreditation

In light of the fact that the UCJ would have been quality assuring the institution and its operation over several programmatic cycles, quality and standards would have been met and continuously improved in an institution. Consequently, those programmes that were not reviewed through the programmatic accreditation are deemed to be equivalent to an accredited programme. This equivalence is applicable to all programmes from the time the UCJ started to quality assure the institution.

#### Recognition of Programmes after Institutional Accreditation

Individual academic programmes are not reviewed during the institutional accreditation process. Instead, the focus is placed on the robustness of an institution's Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) system and on overall systems, policies and practices, and how they impact the quality of programmes offered by the institution. Therefore, when institutional accreditation is granted, all programmes are recognized by the UCJ and local and international stakeholders, as meeting minimum acceptable standards. At the effective date of institutional accreditation, all tertiary level programmes are recognised as having the same standing and recognition as an accredited programme.

Signed



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