



International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE)

Accreditation Committee

**INTRODUCTORY GUIDE AND
ACCREDITATION HANDBOOK**

**Brief of QAHE, Accreditation Eligibility and Standards of the QAHE Accreditation
Committee**

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About International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE)

[Subject to update without prior notice – Please refer to the website constantly for the up-to-date information about QAHE]



International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE), registered in Delaware USA, is an independent, private and international organization which is funded through fees charged for its accreditation services to Higher Education Institutions, Certification Bodies, E-Learning Management System Providers and Training Organizations. We use our expertise to support the development of quality assurance systems worldwide. As the accrediting agency has

grown in size and complexity, the quality assurance systems have evolved and, progressively, tasks are articulated and delegated, with official certifications.

Unlike conventional programs, many academic programs and professional training courses taught by electronic means can go beyond geographical borders and do not inevitably require a campus or classroom. QAHE understands the transformation in the higher education sector, therefore assuming the existence of a physical academic infrastructure while assessing institutions' academic and teaching quality may not be applicable.

QAHE accreditation status signifies your institution's commitment to quality education which is in compliance of international standards. Accreditation enriches the profile of your university on international level, resulting in high student's admissions and retention percentage. Through our accreditation, you may offer dual degree programs through our accredited institution, equivalency and legalization services to your students. Besides, QAHE accreditation will give you an opportunity to publicize your institution at our website.

The final award of QAHE accreditation shows that the school has achieved high standards of professional and academic performance in international higher education and has a dedication to continuous perfection. With our benchmark seal of accreditation, it would increase the credibility and trustworthiness of online education providers based on accurate and peer respected supervision and compliance. As a frontrunner in the field of school evaluation and accreditation worldwide, we provide an exceptional international accreditation with a focal point on the development of students as international citizens. Academic credential evaluation is getting more important due to globalization. QAHE is accredited by California University FCE for the purpose of granting the equivalent US degree for our accredited institutions. California University FCE which is organized under the California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Law for public and charitable purposes. California University FCE is a legitimate Elementary Education and Higher Education Assessment Institution within the State of California Educational System.



International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE) has met the American Council of Training and Development's recognition requirements in accordance with international standards and general requirements for accreditation services to higher education institutions. Therefore, it has become a part of the ACTD network of globally recognized organizations. ACTD is an independent board established in the United States of America that issued a license certificate from the Secretary of State of New Jersey. It provides training development, training programs, supervision of courses and professional programs, accreditation and evaluation service for training institutions and trainers worldwide, and we have an advanced global network with regional offices spread all over the world.



QAHE also has been admitted as an Accredited Member of the Board of Quality Standards (BQS). QAHE has fulfilled the Validation criteria of BQS and is fully approved by the chairman of IAC and can participate at INQAAHE Worldwide conference as BQS member. The Board of Quality Standards is an independent international quality assurance regulator and a member of the International Quality Assurance Agencies for Higher Education (INQAAHE).

QAHE also has been recognized as one of the outstanding international accrediting bodies by Christian Leaders Connection in cooperation with the Church of Grace International Ministries Inc. for having proven quality services and conducting excellence in monitoring activities related to educational institutions globally.



In addition, International Accreditation Commission for Education (I.A.C.E). The I.A.C.E. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt Christian organization dedicated to making a significant contribution to the promotion of Christian education everywhere. They are governed by a Board of Directors, and Board of Advisory Board all of whom are reputable born-again Christians. The I.A.C.E is part of the Christian Leaders Connection the Board of Directors of the C.L.C. has formally announced its full recognition, endorsement, and approval of the I.A.C.E Unlike regional accrediting associations which are limited to one area, they were established as a multi-national association of Christian Educational Institutions.



In 2022, International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE) have started our collaboration with International Academic and Management Association. Our accredited institutions will be eligible for IAMA’s membership, and their institutional members will be eligible for our accreditation without further review and inspection.



In addition, International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE) has signed partnership agreement with World Accreditation Commission (WAC). As part of efforts to promote strategic priorities with a view of enhancing quality

provision of higher Education systems Worldwide, World Accreditation Commission (WAC) has partnered United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Centre, Central and South America as Panacea to the global higher Education systems Challenges on international trends on Education Quality Assurance (ITEQA) And International Quality Assurance (IQA).

For the promotion of international accreditation services, QAHE has reached agreements with various organizations such as International Education Board and World Institutions of Theological and Secular Education Accreditation for reciprocal recognition. WITSEA is a member of International Association of Bible Colleges and Seminaries and International Association of Bible Institutes USA.



QAHE is further recognized by International Education Board. International Education Board as a Global Certification Authority uses their expertise in universities network management to support the implementation of quality assurance standard systems around the world. As accreditation systems have grown in size and global complexity, quality assurance systems have progressively evolved to a level where official certifications are required for operational standards recognition.



We have also signed an MOU with Chartered Institute of Arts Management & Professionals (CIAP) for reciprocal recognition. CIAP is an independent professional body for Chartered Arts Management and Professionals, USA. Working in partnership with World Associations of Arts Management; to provide Administrators, Students, Researchers, Governments, Entertainers, Policy Decision Makers, Professionals & other Stakeholders the springboard for Leadership, Management &

Entrepreneurship in the arts for constructive, regulatory & beneficial engagements of Arts Management globally.



By signing an MOU with World Storage Education, Canada (WSE), QAHE further expands its horizon to Blockchain storage and different world standard guides. WSE is the world's leading 'Degree Assessed' and 'Blockchain Storage' institution. They are committed to helping people around the world solve education evaluation and data storage problems. One of WSE's goals is to "Develop and Promote Common Standards." The Professional Competency Profile for Credential Evaluators (PCP) and the Guide to Credential Evaluation ('Guide') represent important statements regarding our profession and are the result of two years of dedicated work by the WSE Committee for Standards. The PCP is intended to be a defining document for our profession – it outlines what we believe to be the key characteristics, qualifications, and role of Evaluators and Senior Evaluators. The 'Guide' represents a common framework for evaluating credentials that should be a standard for evaluators whether they work in an agency or institutional setting. Both the PCP and Guide are 'living' documents' that will be refined and updated over time as the nature of our work as international credential evaluators evolves.

Accreditation

QAHE offers international accreditation to universities, colleges, other higher education institutions and a wide range of other tertiary institutions, including providers of technical and vocational education. QAHE also offers accreditation of individual academic programs and other qualifications.



Institutional Accreditation inspects the internal quality assurance system and reviews study programs of a university. Each Higher Education Institution is responsible for ensuring continuous enhancement of the quality of teaching and research tasks. Our Accreditation scheme assists institutions to achieve and maintain international standard. All accredited institutions must enter the Continuous Perfection Evaluation process every year.

Quality Assured Program Accreditation (QAPA) assesses Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor and master's degree courses and continuing education programs. QAPA provides recognition that the content and quality of the program has been evaluated and meets standards set by QAHE. We provide specialized accreditation for post-secondary programs. Graduates from an QAHE-accredited program have a solid educational foundation and are capable of working in the relevant industry.



Benefit of getting QAHE Accreditation

1. Once you are accredited with QAHE, you will receive a QAHE *Accredited Logo* (JPG/PNG) which can be used on your website, official documents and other various marketing collaterals.
2. The accreditation *certificate and report* in digital format (PDF) will be a proof of achieving QAHE accreditation. You can promote QAHE Accreditation using this certificate on different promotional platforms.
3. *Promotion opportunity* at our website. The promotion of your institutions will be based on availability and needs of QAHE to enhance the global recognition of your institute.
4. *Online Listing and Verification* is available at QAHE Website for all the accredited institutions.

Accreditation Application Process

Once you have completed and submitted the [application form](#), we will then:

1. Send you an invoice for Inspection Fee.
2. Upon the payment of the Inspection Fee, you will be our Accreditation Candidate, a **Candidacy Accredited Logo** (JPG/PNG) will be sent to you (The Candidacy Status shall be expired in 3 months if full accreditation has not been achieved).
3. Start the website and documentary inspection such as Certificate of Incorporation, License, other accreditation certificates (if available), faculty's CV and sample course materials.
4. Our Accreditation Committee will contact you for further review and inspection (Feedback concerning your website details, curriculum design and course materials);
5. After the detailed assessment and evaluation, we will inform you whether your application is successful or not.
6. After the final inspection of the LMS, curriculum and teaching quality, if you are eligible to our full accreditation, we will send you an invoice for the final fee.
7. **Accredited Logo** and **Accreditation Certificate** and **Report** in digital format will be sent via email.

** The final grades of the accreditation report are endorsed by the Accreditation Committee of the International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE). We will inform the new applicant educational institution of the conclusions of the accreditation report and will provide suggestions, if applicable. In the case that full accreditation is gained, the Accreditation Committee will send the corresponding accreditation certificate (PDF).

It takes around 7 days to process if no delay for the payment. For more information, please feel free to contact us at accreditation@qahe.org for guidance. We keep our accreditation fee low in order to serve the sector of higher education the best, but please bear in mind that each accreditation certificate is only for one institution in a **single location**, therefore, extra nominal fee will be charged for each branch accreditation.

*Non-Profit Organization will be given 10% off.

** We only accept payment via PayPal, therefore 5% PayPal charges shall be responsible by the payer.

The following five Areas of Inspection will be reviewed by our Committee:

1. *Academic Quality and Integrity*
2. *Teaching Staff Qualifications*
3. *Delivery of Programs*
4. *Students Services*
5. *Website Design and Performance*

On-going compliance of accreditation requirement is essential, otherwise the accreditation status will be disqualified. Accredited institutions can use the QAHE logo and QAHE promotional materials for the duration of their accreditation.

Complaint Against Accredited Institutions

While the International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, like other accrediting agencies worldwide, is interested in assuring that accredited programs maintain their quality and continue to meet QAHE standards, neither QAHE nor its Accreditation Committee is a mediator for consumer complaints against institutions or programs of study. QAHE is an accrediting body, not a regulator or an appellate panel for student or faculty grievances. Our Accreditation Committee will accept and evaluate complaints against accredited programs in connection with annual review of program conformity or reaccreditation processes where there are serious allegations that a program may not be in conformity with QAHE standards.

Accreditation Standards Approved by the Accreditation Committee

International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE) is a non-governmental, private and independent organization as an international accrediting agency for postsecondary institutions that offer certificates, diplomas, associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees, including distance learning.

- All member universities must provide students with books lists, library services, computer services and/or access to instructional materials required for the completion of the degree program.
- A member institution must have a proper and adequate system of student performance assessment.
- A member institution must develop acceptable course content for each and every course offered and for each and every degree program. This
- content must reflect the goals and objectives of the course or the degree program, how evaluation is to be carried out and expectations for
- anticipated student performance.
- All members of the QAHE must engage in the self-evaluation of programs, the assessment of the faculty and administrative staff and the reviewing of
- the relationship between the curriculum and the goals of instruction.
- A member institution should provide assistance, support, counseling, supervision of instruction, and other services appropriate to the student's educational goals.
- A member university must make its financial resources of public record and must maintain sufficient capital income to sustain student enrollments and degree programs.
- The institution must include a written statement of its policy on nondiscrimination including (but not necessarily limited to) race, sex, and national origin.
- Appropriate materials such as catalogues, curriculum guides and other official documents must be submitted by the new member school for evaluation.
- Accreditation is offered for a one-year period and is renewable upon further evaluation at the end of the accreditation period. In addition, member universities are monitored during the period they are accredited and QAHE may forfeit their accreditation if they do not consistently adhere to the guidelines, rules and regulations of the organization.
- The faculty of the member universities must hold diplomas in the appropriate subject area for which they have been employed to teach or counsel students.
- Life-work experience credit may be accepted by the member universities based on accurate and verifiable information submitted by the student.
- Students must be given curriculum, courses of study and other materials appropriate to the plan of their degree program.
- The faculty of the member universities must hold diplomas in the appropriate subject area for which they have been employed to teach or counsel students.
- A clearly defined and published statement of mission, formally adopted by the governing board, which demonstrates that the fundamental purposes of the institution are educational, appropriate to a degree-granting institution, and appropriate to the needs of the constituencies it seeks to serve.

- The institution must include in its published catalogue/webpage a set of admission policies that guide the admission department in admitting students.
- A catalogue and/or other comparable official webpages available to students and the public that honestly and accurately sets forth pertinent information.

Course Accreditation/Validation



The course accreditation system gives accreditation to courses offered by training institutes, universities, colleges and other vocational or educational institutions, which meet the requirements of International Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (QAHE) for Continuing Professional Development points (QAHE CPD). This course accreditation service is only available for our accredited institutions. Once your course is accredited by QAHE, we will dedicate a **branded webpage at our website** to display QAHE Certificate ID, students' name, course completed and result for their verification purposes. Your certificate can also display **QAHE Validated Logo** and a unique QAHE Certificate ID. We understand that Accredited institutions may display our logo of accreditation on their certificates/diplomas, however, it does not signify that the respective course is officially validated by QAHE. Only Courses which are accredited by QAHE can display QAHE Validated Logo and their students' information could be verified at our website. We will announce the list of accredited courses at our website after gathering the sufficient information from the relevant accredited institutions' applications.

Only accredited higher education providers can apply for accreditation of higher education courses. QAHE accreditation focuses on course content; course duration; teaching staff and student resources. Once accreditation is granted, the course will be added to the QAHE website and providers may use the QAHE Validated logo in their marketing material and certificates/diplomas. Once accredited, providers are monitored to ensure that students continue to receive good service and are re-assessed at least once every annually. Formal accreditation of courses by the QAHE will not only recognize the quality and good standing of courses, but it will also provide automatic membership/certified award eligibility for graduates who had completed QAHE accredited courses.

We encourage educational providers to submit their course for accreditation. QAHE considers that accreditation will raise the professional standards of the industry and will be a positive marketing opportunity for education and training providers. We intend to advertise all accredited courses on the QAHE web and in our newsletters to our members and supporters.

Society for Higher Education Professionals

We appreciate nominations for the award of Honorary Fellowships, Honorary Doctorates and Honorary Professorship. The QAHE Honorary Awards are the most prestigious and highest award given by the QAHE to persons of long distinguished service to higher education and specific professional areas.

QAHE Honorary Awards will be given lifetime membership to the QAHE and will be invited to submit a personal profile to be published in QAHE website (Optional). Nominators are asked to upload a current CV of the nominee and a 1-page letter addressing the nominee's contributions to higher education. Any questions regarding this award can be submitted by email at awards@qahe.org. The name, photo and profile of the Honorary Fellows, Doctorates and Professors will be listed in QAHE website (Society for Higher Education Professionals section).



Besides nomination, we would also consider direct application/self-nomination. You'll need to submit your CV that demonstrates that you fulfil at least two of the nine Fellowship criteria: creativity, enterprise, innovation, insight and experience, leadership, repute, responsibility, service, and influence and contribution.

Society for Higher Education Professionals (SHEP) honors world-class managers, educators and professors for their outstanding achievement and contribution to higher education. Furthermore, SHEP celebrates the great achievements of talented faculty and institutions through a variety of awards and recognitions worldwide. We encourage institutions to award their professors in their own graduation ceremonies. Awardees can use SHEP Certified Logo and Titles (HonFQAHE/Hon Dr./HonProfQAHE) for their Websites, Brochures, CVs and Business Cards.

Administrative Handling Fee for each Award to support the operation and accreditation services of QAHE.:

- Honorary Fellowship: US\$1,000
- Honorary Doctorate: US\$1,200
- Honorary Professorship: US\$800

***Fellowship and Professorship Awards will be sent by **email**. Additional charges apply for hardcopy.

***We offer special discount to candidates from developing countries. Please contact us at enquiry@qahe.org for further details.