

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION – SRI LANKA

GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTING DEGREES / DIPLOMAS OFFERED BY PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND FOREIGN DEGREES/DIPLOMAS OFFERED ON-CAMPUS/ ONLINE / LOCALLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE DEGREE / POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, SRI LANKA

I. INTRODUCTION

The National Institute of Education (NIE), Sri Lanka has been receiving applications for degrees / postgraduate study programmes with qualifications offered by private institutions, and foreign universities. Having observed several issues in these qualifications, the NIE has decided to develop general guidelines for considering these qualifications for enrollment in the degree / postgraduate study programmes offered by the NIE.

II. DEGREES/DIPLOMAS OFFERED BY PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS IN SRI LANKA

- (a) The programmes should be approved by the University Grants Commissions (UGC) of Sri Lanka and listed under ‘other recognized degrees’ accessible through the following link: https://www.ugc.ac.lk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=101&Itemid=37&lang=en
- (b) However, if any exemptions have been given for the courses of the study programme concerned, acceptance of this qualification is subject to obtaining approval from the Academic Affairs Board of the NIE. The decision of the NIE on accepting or rejecting the exemptions is final.

III. DEGREES/DIPLOMAS OFFERED BY FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES ONCAMPUS/ONLINE

- (c) The University should be listed in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook or the International Handbook of Universities. (A letter of recommendation from the UGC, Sri Lanka, should be obtained and attached with the certificates.)
- (d) The study programmes should be accredited by the relevant authority of the respective country (e.g.- 1: Malaysian degrees should be accredited by the Malaysian Qualification Agency of the Ministry of Higher Education <https://www.mqa.gov.my/pv4/index.cfm>).
(e.g.- 2: Degrees from Cambodia should be accredited by the ACC, Accreditation Committee of Cambodia.) www.mqa.gov.my/pv4/index.cfm.
(e.g.- 3: Degrees from Costa Rica should be accredited by the Ministry of Education, Costa Rica.)
(e.g.- 4: Degrees from India should be accredited by the University Grants Commission of India.)

- (e) Certificates should be attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the relevant embassy and the relevant attestation authority in the respective country. (e.g., Certificates from UK-based universities should be attested by the Commonwealth Legalization Office.)
- (f) Details of the study programmes should be available on the official website of the University. The website should contain veritable and credible information on the university and the study programme concerned.
- (g) In addition to the professional courses/subjects, the Bachelor of Education programmes should offer academic courses/subjects and include a substantial teaching practicum which is not less than 10 weeks in duration. Postgraduate Diploma in Education programmes should offer a substantial teaching practicum which is not less than 10 weeks in duration, as part of their curriculum.
- (h) However, if any exemptions have been given for the courses of the study programme concerned, acceptance of this qualification is subject to obtaining approval from the Academic Affairs Board of the NIE. The decision of the NIE on accepting or rejecting the exemptions is final.
- (i) Qualification/s might be rejected by the NIE if the medium of study of the programme differs from that mentioned in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook or the International Handbook of Universities.

IV. DEGREES/DIPLOMAS OFFERED BY FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES THROUGH LOCAL AGENCIES

- (j) The University should be listed in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook or the International Handbook of Universities. (A letter of recommendation from the UGC, Sri Lanka, should be obtained and attached with the certificates.)
- (k) Study programmes should be accredited by the relevant authority of the respective country
(e.g. 1: Malaysian degrees should be accredited by the Malaysian Qualification Agency of the Ministry of Higher Education <https://www.mqa.gov.my/pv4/index.cfm>).
(e.g. 2: Degrees from Cambodia should be accredited by the ACC, Accreditation Committee of Cambodia.)
(e.g.- 3: Degrees from Costa Rica should be accredited by the Ministry of Education, Costa Rica.)
(e.g.- 4: Degrees from India should be accredited by the University Grants Commission of India.)
- (l) Certificates should be attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the relevant embassy and the relevant attestation authority in the respective country. (E.g., Certificates from UK-based universities should be attested by the Commonwealth Legalization Office.)
- (m) Details of the study programmes should be available on the official website of the University. The website should contain veritable and credible information on the university and the study programme concerned.

- (n) Study programmes conducted in Sri Lanka or details of agencies in Sri Lanka should be published on the official website of the relevant University.
- (o) In addition to the professional courses/subjects, the Bachelor of Education programmes should offer academic courses and include a substantial teaching practicum which is not less than for 10 weeks in duration. Postgraduate Diploma in Education programmes should offer a substantial teaching practicum which is not less than 10 weeks in duration, as part of their curriculum.
- (p) However, if any exemptions have been given for the courses of the study programme concerned, acceptance of this qualification is subject to obtaining approval from the Academic Affairs Board of the NIE. The decision of the NIE on accepting or rejecting the exemptions is final.
- (q) Qualification/s might be rejected by the NIE, if the medium of study of the programme differs from that mentioned in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook or the International Handbook of Universities.

Approved by Academic Affairs Board of NIE - BP No – 437.4.5.2 / 4289