



*Republika e Kosovës*  
*Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo*  
*Qeveria –Vlada-Government*

*Ministria e Arsimit, Shkencës, Teknologjisë dhe Inovacionit*  
*Ministarstvo Obrazovanja, Nauke, Tehnologije i Inovacija*  
*Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation*

Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, pursuant to Article 28 paragraph 10 and 15 of the Law no. 08/ I-110 on Kosova Accreditation Agency (Official Gazette of the Republic of Kosova / no. 13/29 June 2023, Prishtina); Article 21, paragraphs 1 and 2 of Law no. 04/L-037 on Higher Education (Official Gazette no. 14, dated 09.09.2011), based on Article 11, (paragraph 1, subparagraph 1.5 of ) of the Law no. 08/L-117 for the Government of the Republic of Kosova and Article 4 (paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 1.7) of the GRK Regulation, no. 14/2023 on areas of administrative responsibility of the Prime Minister's Office and Ministries, amended and supplemented according to the Regulation of the GRK-no 04/2021, amended and supplemented with Regulation of GRK-no 03/2022, and in accordance with Regulation (GRK), no 17/2024 of the Government's Rules of Procedure, adopts:

**ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION (MASHTI) UA No.01B-03/2024 FOR THE  
EVALUATION OF COMPATIBILITY OF THE STUDY PROGRAM HOLDERS AS WELL  
AS PROGRAMS FROM NON-MAJORITY COMMUNITIES IN THE ACCREDITATION  
AND REACCREDITATION PROCESS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

**PART I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1  
Purpose and scope**

1. The purpose of this Administrative Instruction is to evaluate the compatibility of the study program holders, for which HEIs apply in the process of accreditation and re-accreditation, including study programs from the ranks of non-majority communities as well as study programs from the field of arts/applied sciences.
2. This administrative instruction is applied by KAA, for all programs that apply for accreditation and re-accreditation, programs of non-majority communities as well as programs from the field of arts/applied sciences.

3. The purpose of this AI aims to implement the values defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosova, the Law on Higher Education and the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency.
4. The purpose of this AI is implemented taking into account the Law on Higher Education, the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency, as well as the standards drawn up by KAA and approved by SQC.
5. This AI for program holders is applied in HEI accreditation and re-accreditation processes, according to procedures determined by the standards drawn up by KAA and approved by SQC.

## **Article 2**

### **Abbreviations and definitions**

1. Abbreviations used in this AI have the the following meaning:
  - 1.1. **KAA**- Kosova Accreditation Agency
  - 1.2. **MESTI** - Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation
  - 1.3. **HEI** - Higher Education Institution
  - 1.4. **SQC** - State Quality Council
  - 1.5. **AI** - Administrative instruction
2. Abbreviations and definitions used in this AI in terms of definitions have the same meaning as in the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency.
3. For abbreviations and limitations that are not included in this AI, the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency and the Law on Higher Education apply.

## **Article 3**

### **Criteria for study program holders**

1. The criteria for study program holders are the criteria defined by the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency for and detailed through the standards drawn up by KAA and approved by KSHC.
2. For the purposes of this AI, program holders mean BSc, Ma and PhD programs.
3. The eligibility of the study program holders, including those of non-majority communities and programs in the field of arts/applied sciences is determined by this AI and is detailed and diversified through criteria set by SQC through standards compiled by KAA.
4. Criteria for BA/BSc, MA/MSc and PhD program holders include:
  - 4.1. Each study program should have one (1) holder for 60 ECTS;

- 4.2. Each study program must have holders of scientific degrees and corresponding calls obtained according to the Law on Higher Education or equivalent for the field of arts/applied sciences;
  - 4.3. Each study program must have program holders with scientific degrees or equivalent ones for the field of arts/applied sciences and professional achievements in accordance with the scientific profile and the special curriculum contents of the study program;
  - 4.4. Each study program must have program holders with professional scientific and artistic achievements as well as the pedagogical experience in accordance with the scientific profile, the specific contents of the curriculum of the study program;
  - 4.5. Each program holder must have published the required number of scientific publications, in relevant journals, according to the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC or equivalent for programs in the field of art;
  - 4.6. Each program holder must meet other criteria determined through standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC or equivalent for programs in the field of art.
5. The criteria for program holders, defined in the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency, this AI as well as the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC, are applied in all cases, as equivalent for programs in the field of arts/applied sciences, case by case and are evaluated as such by SQC upon decision-making and the evaluation.
  6. For the program holders from the field of Medicine, eligibility criteria are set according to the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC.
  7. Regardless of the criteria for program holders defined in the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency, this AI as well as the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC, for the programs of non-majority communities, affirmative measures are determined through this AI, which are supported by the Constitution of the Republic of Kosova, the Law on Higher Education, the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency and the legislation in force for the protection and promotion of the rights of non-majority communities in the Republic of Kosova.

**PART I**  
**EVALUATION OF COMPATIBILITY FOR PROGRAM HOLDERS FOR ALL SCIENTIFIC**  
**FIELDS AS WELL AS THE FIELD OF ARTS/APPLIED SCIENCES**

**Article 4**

**Number of ECTS and scientific degree or equivalent degree for the field of arts/applied sciences**

1. All HEIs that apply for accreditation and re-accreditation of study programs must ensure that for every 60 ECTS they provide a program holder that meets the relevant criteria according to the law and this AI.

2. The program holders must have at least a PhD degree from the program's field of study or its scientific profile or over 50% of the curricular content (subjects) of the program for which the HEI applies.
3. The program holders for the field of arts/applied sciences must have a degree equivalent to a PhD that fits the scientific profile of the program or over 50% of the curricular content (subjects) of the program for which the HEI applies.
4. The evaluation of compatibility of the PhD scientific degree or the equivalent degree for the field of arts/applied sciences is done taking into account the Erasmus code, related to the program profile as well as the suitability to the learning outcomes of the relevant study program, according to the KAA standards.

#### **Article 5**

##### **The scientific, professional and artistic achievements of the program holder**

1. In order to evaluate the compatibility of the program holder, the correlation of his/her scientific and artistic achievements with the profile of the program for which the HEI applies is evaluated.
2. Professional, scientific and artistic achievements with the profile of the study program profile, mean: Scientific publications, published in certain journals according to the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC or the doctoral topic area declared by KAA or other publications declared in KAA by the program holder.
3. Professional, scientific and artistic achievements for programs in the field of arts mean the equivalent papers, which evaluate the achievements of this field.
4. For the evaluation of the scientific, professional and artistic achievements of the program holders, it is enough to fulfill one of the criteria defined in this article and there is no need to fulfill them cumulatively.
5. The application of the eligibility criteria of the program holder, including the equivalent eligibility from the field of arts/applied sciences, is done by SQC, according to the established procedures, on a case-by-case basis, evaluating separately the criteria defined in this article.

#### **Article 6**

##### **Pedagogical experience of the program holders**

1. The HEI, when applying for the program holder, must also take into account the pedagogical experience of the program holder, related to the program profile or its curricular content for which the HEI applies.
2. SQC assesses the adequacy of the pedagogical experience of the program holders, taking into account their experience in teaching the subjects of the relevant field, related to the content of the subjects of the study program for which accreditation and re-accreditation is applied for by the HEI.
3. When evaluating the pedagogical experience of the program holder, his/her experience in teaching in HEIs accredited in the Republic of Kosova is taken into account, based on the decisions for election,

appointment and reappointment, in the relevant academic rank, which have been declared in KAA, through the e-accreditation system.

#### **Article 7**

#### **Application of criteria for study program holders**

1. The criteria for study program holder determined by the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency, this AI and the standards approved by KAA and SQC, are applied in conjunction with each other.
2. In all cases, the criteria for the holders of the programs are applied in such a way to apply the equivalence of the criterion from the field of arts/applied sciences.
3. Through the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC, all the criteria defined in this AI can be detailed.

### **PART III**

#### **EVALUATION OF COMPATIBILITY OF PROGRAM HOLDERS FOR NON-MAJORITY COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

#### **Article 8**

#### **Non-majority community study programs**

1. The Republic of Kosova, based on the Law on Higher Education, the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency and the legislation for the protection and promotion of the rights of non-majority communities, supports education and programs in higher education in the languages of non-majority communities.
2. MESTI supports the standards approved by KAA regarding programs and program holders and through this AI applies special criteria for program holders from non-majority communities, with the aim of enabling adequate programs to be offered in higher education, as needed for all non-majority communities in the Republic of Kosova.
3. Study programs from non-majority communities, according to the criteria of this AI, take into account the quality assurance process, equal opportunities for students, equality before the law and the labor market needs.
4. The study programs from among the non-majority communities apply the criteria and standards determined by KAA in relation to the program holders, with the exception of other affirmative criteria defined in this AI for these study programs.
5. In all cases, the affirmative criteria for program holders from the ranks of non-majority communities should be seen as an exception, based on the guarantees defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Kosova and the relevant legislation for the protection and promotion of the rights of non-majority communities in Kosova.

**Article 9**  
**Non-majority community study program holders**

1. Programs from among non-majority communities must have a designated program holder for every 60 ECTS, except when affirmative measures are applied according to this AI.
2. The program holders from non-majority communities must have at least relevant scientific degrees and relevant scientific titles, obtained according to the Law on Higher Education, respectively Dr.sc and MSc.
3. Scientific degrees and professional, scientific and artistic achievements, as well as pedagogical experience, of the holders of the program from the ranks of non-majority communities, must be in accordance with the scientific profile of the existing study program or the program for which accreditation is applied for, as defined in the Law on the Kosova Accreditation Agency, this AI as well as the standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC.
4. The professional, scientific and artistic achievements as well as the pedagogical experience of the program holders from among the non-majority communities, as well as other criteria, are verified by SQC and the implementation of these criteria encourages programs that are related to the promotion of the language, history and culture of non-majority communities or meeting the needs of higher education for the realization of the rights guaranteed by the legislation in force in the Republic of Kosova, in the relevant areas of public life.
5. In any case, the affirmative measures for program holders of non-majority communities are applied only to the programs of these communities and cannot be applied and interpreted in favor of any other program that does not belong to non-majority communities, according to the application submitted to KAA.
6. KAA takes all technical and administrative measures, so that in the case of application for accreditation or re-accreditation, the relevant study program is identified as a program belonging to non-majority communities.

**Article 10**  
**Affirmative measures for program holders of non-majority communities**

1. Affirmative measures for program holders from non-majority communities are implemented taking into account legal criteria as well as KAA standards, as an exception for the promotion and creation of the possibility for the existence of programs in higher education for non-majority communities in higher education in Kosova.
2. In addition to the regular criteria for program holders from non-majority communities, MESTI implements the following affirmative measures:
  - 2.1. Applying for these programs, without completing the specified number of candidates for each 60 ECTS, provided that the conditions are met within a period of 3 years;

- 2.2. The obligation that the programs of non-majority communities in the 3-year term be treated with priority to ensure safe quotas of academic personnel, in cases where the corresponding existing program or the program for which accreditation or re-accreditation has been applied for is at risk;
  - 2.3. The creation of the opportunity that for a period of 3 years, for the programs of non-majority communities, of the Ma level, it is possible to use the same holder, as in the Ba program;
  - 2.4. The creation of the opportunity that for at least 3 years the program holder in the program of non-majority communities will also be the academic staff, who is the holder in another program;
  - 2.5. The creation of the opportunity for the program holder in the programs of non-majority communities, at most one holder, as an exception, to have the academic assistant degree;
  - 2.6. The creation of the opportunity for program holders from non-majority communities to be holders of other HEI programs for a period of 3 years from the moment of application.
3. The affirmative measures defined in this article can only be applied as an exception, with the condition that within 3 years, from the moment of application for a new program or for re-accreditation.
  4. If the HEI cannot meet the criteria for program carriers from among non-majority communities, within one year, after the application of affirmative measures, then it cannot register students for the corresponding year in the program from the among non-majority communities, until the condition for the program holder is fulfilled, in the following year.
  5. In the case of applying for accreditation and re-accreditation for programs of non-majority communities, any appropriate affirmative measure may be applied, based on the HEI's capabilities.
  6. In addition to the affirmative measures defined in this article, the holders of programs from the ranks of non-majority communities must meet all other criteria defined by the Law on the Kosovo Accreditation Agency, this AI as well as the compiled standards by KAA and approved by SQC.

## **Article 11**

### **The application for new non-majority community programs**

1. The application for new programs from among the non-majority communities is made taking into account the affirmative measures defined in this AI.
2. The HEI, after applying for new programs, in case of jeopardizing the program from among the non-majority communities, is obliged to forward the request for securing the quota for academic personnel as soon as possible, to ensure adequate holders of the program, by applying with priority public bidding procedures.
3. MESTI, in cooperation with other competent institutions, is obliged to implement the request for securing the quota for academic personnel for the programs of non-majority communities, when the same are endangered due to holders. The request includes the minimum needs for the financial coverage of the number of holders needed for the study program. The request with the reflection of the needs,

according to this article, is addressed to MESTI by the HEI Steering Council, in the case when the program is financed from the budget of the Republic of Kosova.

### **Article 12**

#### **Non-majority community existing programs treatment**

1. All existing accredited programs of non-majority communities that do not meet the eligibility conditions for programs from among non-majority communities are treated taking into account affirmative measures, if they are applicable, within a period of 3 years.
2. If the existing programs of non-majority communities do not meet the conditions even with the application of affirmative measures, then the transitional provisions of this UA are applied.

### **Article 13**

#### **Transitional provisions**

1. If the study programs, including those in the field of arts/applied sciences, in the absence of AI for determining the compatibility of holders, have not been able to apply for re-accreditation of the current programs, the accreditation is continued for a period of 3 years, respectively until the future period of application, in the following year after the entry into force of this AI. The application after this period for these programs is made, according to the new standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC.
2. If the existing programs of non-majority communities do not meet the eligibility assessment criteria for the program holder, including the affirmative criteria according to this AI, the respective study program is accredited under the same conditions for one (1) year, respectively until the following year, after the entry into force of this AI. After the end of this period, the existing programs apply the criteria and standards compiled by KAA and approved by SQC, applying the affirmative measures related to the provision of quotas when the program is endangered due to holders, according to article 10 paragraph 2.2 of this AI.

### **Article 14**

#### **Repealing provisions**

With entry into force of this Administrative instruction is repealed the Administrative instruction is repealed AI 2015/18 of MESTI

### **Article 15**

#### **Entry into force**

This Administrative instruction enters into force seven (7) days after the publication in the official gazette.

**Arbërie Nagavci**

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**Minister**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **2024**



