

# CRITERIA VII: INNOVATION AND BEST PRACTICES

**1. Criterion VII - Innovations and Best Practices:** This criterion focuses on the innovative efforts of an institution that help in its academic excellence. An innovative practice could be a pathway created to further the interest of the student and the institution, for internal quality assurance, inclusive practices and stakeholder relationships.

## KEY ASPECTS

**7.1 Environment Consciousness**

**7.2 Innovations**

**7.3 Best Practices**

### **7.1 Environment Consciousness**

The institution displays sensitivity to issues like climate change and environmental issues. It adopts environment friendly practices and takes necessary actions such as - energy conservation, rain water harvesting, waste recycling, carbon neutral etc.

### **7.2 Innovations**

The institution is geared to promote an ambience of creativity innovation and improving quality.

### **7.3 Best Practices**

Practices of the institution leading to improvement and having visible impact on the quality of the institutional provisions are considered in this Key Aspect.

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## **THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

The assessment by NAAC takes a holistic view of all the inputs, processes and outcomes of an institution and thus the HEIs are expected to demonstrate how they achieve the objectives of the core values through the data and information detailed in the self study reports (SSR). The Assessment and Accreditation outcome includes a qualitative and quantitative component. The

qualitative part of the outcome is the Peer Team Report (PTR) and the quantitative part includes a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA), a letter grade and a performance descriptor.

**(i) Weightages**

Taking cognizance of the diversity in institutional functioning, HEIs have been grouped under three major categories i.e. Universities, Autonomous colleges and Affiliated colleges and differential weightages are assigned for each of the seven criteria as detailed in the table below:

| <b>Criteria</b>                            | <b>Key Aspects</b>                               | <b>Universities</b> | <b>Autonomous Colleges</b> | <b>Affiliated Colleges</b> |
|--|--|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1. Curricular Aspects</b>               | 1.1 *(U)Curriculum Design and Development        | 50                  | 50                         | NA                         |
|  | 1.1. *(A) Curricular Planning and Implementation | NA                  | NA                         | 20                         |
|  | 1.2 Academic Flexibility                         | 50                  | 50                         | 30                         |
|  | 1.3 Curriculum Enrichment                        | 30                  | 30                         | 30                         |
|  | 1.4 Feedback System -                            | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |
|  | <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>150</b>          | <b>150</b>                 | <b>100</b>                 |
| <b>2. Teaching-Learning and Evaluation</b> | 2.1 Student Enrolment and Profile                | 10                  | 30                         | 30                         |
|  | 2.2 Catering to Student Diversity                | 20                  | 40                         | 50                         |
|  | 2.3 Teaching-Learning Process                    | 50                  | 100                        | 100                        |
|  | 2.4 Teacher Quality                              | 50                  | 60                         | 80                         |
|  | 2.5 Evaluation Process and Reforms               | 40                  | 30                         | 50                         |
|  | 2.6 Student Performance and Learning Outcomes    | 30                  | 40                         | 40                         |
|  | <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>200</b>          | <b>300</b>                 | <b>350</b>                 |
| <b>3. Research, Consultancy</b>            | 3.1 Promotion of Research                        | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |

| <b>Criteria</b>                                 | <b>Key Aspects</b>   | <b>Universities</b> | <b>Autonomous Colleges</b> | <b>Affiliated Colleges</b> |
|---|--|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>and Extension</b>                            | 3.2 Resource Mobilization for Research                           | 20                  | 20                         | 10                         |
|   | 3.3 Research Facilities  | 30                  | 20                         | 10                         |
|   | 3.4 Research Publications and Awards                             | 100                 | 20                         | 20                         |
|   | 3.5 Consultancy  | 20                  | 10                         | 10                         |
|   | 3.6 Extension Activities and Institutional Social Responsibility | 40                  | 50                         | 60                         |
|   | 3.7 Collaboration  | 20                  | 10                         | 20                         |
|   | <b>Total</b>   | <b>250</b>          | <b>150</b>                 | <b>150</b>                 |
| <b>4. Infrastructure and Learning Resources</b> | 4.1 Physical Facilities  | 30                  | 30                         | 30                         |
|   | 4.2 Library as a Learning Resource                               | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |
|   | 4.3 IT Infrastructure  | 30                  | 30                         | 30                         |
|   | 4.4 Maintenance of Campus Facilities                             | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |
|   | <b>Total</b>   | <b>100</b>          | <b>100</b>                 | <b>100</b>                 |
| <b>5. Student Support and Progression</b>       | 5.1 Student Mentoring and Support                                | 40                  | 40                         | 50                         |
|   | 5.2 Student Progression  | 40                  | 40                         | 30                         |
|   | 5.3 Student Participation and Activities                         | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |
|   | <b>Total</b>   | <b>100</b>          | <b>100</b>                 | <b>100</b>                 |
| <b>6. Governance Leadership and Management</b>  | 6.1 Institutional Vision and Leadership                          | 10                  | 10                         | 10                         |
|   | 6.2 Strategy Development and Deployment                          | 10                  | 10                         | 10                         |
|   | 6.3 Faculty Empowerment Strategies                               | 30                  | 30                         | 30                         |
|   | 6.4 Financial Management and Resource Mobilization               | 20                  | 20                         | 20                         |

| Criteria                                 | Key Aspects                           | Universities | Autonomous Colleges | Affiliated Colleges |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|  | 6.5 Internal Quality Assurance System | 30           | 30                  | 30                  |
|  | <b>Total</b>                          | <b>100</b>   | <b>100</b>          | <b>100</b>          |
| <b>7. Innovations and Best Practices</b> | 7.1 Environment Consciousness         | 30           | 30                  | 30                  |
|  | 7.2 Innovations                       | 30           | 30                  | 30                  |
|  | 7.3 Best Practices                    | 40           | 40                  | 40                  |
|  | <b>Total</b>                          | <b>100</b>   | <b>100</b>          | <b>100</b>          |
|  | <b>TOTAL SCORE</b>                    | <b>1000</b>  | <b>1000</b>         | <b>1000</b>         |

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(U)- applicable only for Universities and Autonomous Colleges

(A)- applicable only for the Affiliated/Constituent Colleges

### (ii) Grading System

The accreditation status of the assessed HEIs is decided using the weightages detailed above. Institutions will be assessed and graded on a four point scale and qualifying institutions accredited and graded on a 3- letter grade as follows:

| Range of institutional Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) | Letter Grade | Performance Descriptor          |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 3.01-4.00  | A            | Very Good (Accredited)          |
| 2.01-3.00  | B            | Good (Accredited)               |
| 1.51-2.00  | C            | Satisfactory (Accredited)       |
| ≤ 1.50   | D            | Unsatisfactory (Not Accredited) |

Institutions which secure a CGPA equal to or less than 1.50 and graded “D” does not qualify for accreditation. Such unqualified institutions will be intimated and notified by the NAAC as “assessed and found not qualified for accreditation”.

## **(ii) Validity Period of Accreditation**

The accreditation status is valid for five years from the date of approval by the Executive Committee of the NAAC. To continue the status of accreditation the institution has to record its intent for the next cycle accreditation by submitting the LOI six months before the expiry of the accreditation status and the SSR within six months of acceptance of the LOI by NAAC. **Institutions that do not adhere to these timelines will lose the accreditation status.**

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### **7.1 Environment Consciousness**

7.1.1 Does the College conduct a Green Audit of its campus?

7.1.2 What are the initiatives taken by the College to make the campus eco-friendly?

- \* Energy conservation
- \* Use of renewable energy
- \* Water harvesting
- \* Check dam construction
- \* Efforts for Carbon neutrality
- \* Plantation
- \* Hazardous waste management
- \* e-waste management
- \* any other

### **7.2 Innovations**

7.2.1 Provide details of innovations introduced during the last four years which have created a positive impact on the functioning of the College.

### **7.3 Best Practices**

7.3.1 Give details of any two best practices which have contributed to better academic and administrative functioning of the College.

## **Format for Presentation of Best Practices**

**1. Title of the Practice**

This title should capture the keywords that describe the practice.

**2. Objectives of the Practice**

What are the objectives / intended outcomes of this “best practice” and what are the underlying principles or concepts of this practice (in about 100 words)?

**3. The Context**

What were the contextual features or challenging issues that needed to be addressed in designing and implementing this practice (in about 150 words)?

**4. The Practice**

Describe the practice and its uniqueness in the context of India higher education. What were the constraints / limitations, if any, faced (in about 400 words)?

**5. Evidence of Success**

Provide evidence of success such as performance against targets and benchmarks, review results. What do these results indicate? Describe in about 200 words.

**6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

Please identify the problems encountered and resources required to implement the practice (in about 150 words).

**7. Notes**

Optional. Please add any other information that may be relevant for adopting/ implementing the Best Practice in other institutions (in about 150 words).

*Any additional information regarding Innovations and Best Practices, which the College would like to include.*

