



Speed Post

F. No.1-2/2018(DEB-III)

January, 2021

The Registrar,
Assam Don Bosco University,
Tapesia Gardens,
Kamarkuchi,
Sonapur-782407
(Assam).

02 FEB 2021

Sub: Commission Order for continuation of recognition of the Open and Distance Learning programmes already recognized for the academic session 2019-2020 for a period of one year, academic session 2020-2021 – regarding.

- Ref:
1. UGC letter no. F. No. 1-2/2018(DEB-III) dated 14/08/2018 & 18/10/2018 for recognition of ODL programmes up to 2019-20
 2. Provisions stipulated under Regulation 3 (A) of Part II of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 for continuation of recognition of already recognized Open and Distance Learning programmes for 2019-20.
 3. UGC Public Notices issued vide F.No.1-15/2020 (DEB-1) dated 12th October, 2020 and 07th December, 2020 regarding continuation of recognition of already recognized Open and Distance Learning programmes for 2019-20; as per Ref. (2) above.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the references cited above, I am directed to issue this order thereby communicating the continuation of the recognition for a period of one year, academic session 2020-2021, starting from July, 2020 and January, 2021 for offering only those programmes under ODL mode which were already recognised for the academic session 2019-2020 as under:


S.No.	Name of Programmes	Period of recognition
1.	BACHELOR OF ARTS (PHILOSOPHY)	Academic Session 2020-2021 only
2.	BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	
3.	BACHELOR OF COMMERCE	
4.	BACHELOR OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	
5.	MASTER OF ARTS (PHILOSOPHY)	
6.	MASTER OF ARTS (EDUCATION)	
7.	MASTER OF ARTS (HUMAN RIGHTS)	
8.	MASTER OF ARTS (MASS COMMUNICATION)	
9.	MASTER OF COMMERCE	

10	MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK	
11	MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	
12	MASTER OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS	
13	MASTER OF SCIENCE (INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY)	

Note: These recognition details were uploaded on website as per reference (3).

2. For the recognized programmes, the Higher Educational Institution shall scrupulously abide in letter and spirit by all the provisions of the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 while offering the programmes in Open and Distance Learning mode.
3. The HEI shall adhere to various directives issued by the Commission and other relevant statutory/ regulatory bodies/authorities from time to time.
4. In the event of any Higher Educational Institution found offering programmes in Open and Distance mode and/or Online mode without recognition of the Commission or in violation to any of the provision(s) of these regulations and guidelines or orders made there under, the Commission may take actions as per Regulation 7 in Part -II of University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and the Higher Educational Institution shall be solely responsible for career consequence of the students, if any, arising out of the same.
5. The other terms and conditions shall remain same as communicated in the previous Commission Orders.


Yours faithfully,


(Smita Bidani)
Education Officer

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Deptt of Higher Education, Government of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati 781007, with a request to ensure that HEI adheres to all the provisions of the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.
2. The Joint Secretary (Open & Distance/Online Learning), Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
3. The Member Secretary, AICTE, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070.
4. The Vice-Chancellor, Assam Don Bosco University, Tapesia Gardens, Kamarkuchi, Sonapur-782407, (Assam)
5. The Joint Secretary, CPP-I/PÚ Bureau, UGC.
6. Guard file.




(V.K. Sudharsana Devi)
Section Officer

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal
(Former Vice Chancellor, BPS Women University, Haryana)
Secretary General

डॉ. (श्रीमती) पंकज मित्तल
(पूर्व कुलपति, बीपीएस महिला विश्वविद्यालय, हरियाणा)
महासचिव



Association of Indian Universities

AIU House, 16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg (Kotla Marg),
New Delhi-110 002

भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय संघ

ए०आई०यू० हाउस, 16, कॉमरेड इंद्रजीत गुप्ता मार्ग
(कोटला मार्ग), नई दिल्ली-110 002

AIU/Meet/ATR/364GC/2021

17th September, 2021

Dear Vice Chancellor/Director,

Greetings from the AIU!

On the request of the Member Universities, the AIU in its 364th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 20th July, 2021 resolved to send a letter to the University Grants Commission requesting for amendment in the *University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2021* and to extend the permissions to run Online and Open and Distance Learning Programmes for another period of two years i.e. academic years 2021-22 and 2022-23 to help our HEIs in these difficult times.

We have received a reply from the Secretary, University Grants Commission vide his letter dated 10th September, 2021. A copy of the same is enclosed for your kind perusal and necessary action.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Pankaj Mittal)

Encl.: As stated above.

The Vice-Chancellors/Directors of all AIU Member Universities/Institutions.



प्रो. रजनीश जैन
सचिव
Prof. Rajnish Jain
Secretary



विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

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D.O.No.F.1-10/2020 (DEB-I)

10 SEP 2021 9th September, 2021

Sub: Request from the AIU to extend the permission to offer ODL and/or Online Programmes for the period of two years for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs)

Ref: AIU/Meet/ATR/354GC/2021 dated 04th August, 2021

Dear Madam,

With reference to the letter cited above, the following provisions have been incorporated in UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 to allow more Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to offer Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes in order to achieve the desired Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) and to provide an enabling environment for the HEIs in higher education:

1. Relaxation in eligibility

(i) Eligibility criteria for offering Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programmes:

- The minimum requirement for National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) score has been brought down from 3.26 to 3.01.
- Additionally, HEIs having rank in top-100 in University category of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), at least once in two preceding cycles are also made eligible to offer ODL programmes.
- In view of unprecedented circumstances due to COVID-19 pandemic, 34 HEIs have been accorded continuation of recognition to offer programmes already recognized for the academic session 2019-2020, in Open and Distance Learning mode for a period of one year, academic session 2020-2021, starting from July 2020, as per Regulation 3(A) of UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020.

(ii) Eligibility criteria for offering Online programmes:

- Institution existence has been reduced to 3 years from 5 years.
- The mandatory eligibility of NAAC score of 3.26 and NIRF ranking atleast two in three preceding cycles has been relaxed as under:
 - The eligibility as per NAAC and NIRF is made optional instead of both being mandatory.
 - The minimum requirement for NAAC score has been brought down from 3.26 to 3.01.
 - Category of NIRF Ranking changed from rank in top-100 in "Overall Category" to "University Category".
 - Additionally, NIRF criteria has been changed to "at least once in two preceding cycles" instead of "at least two years during the previous three years".

Contd/-

2. Territorial Jurisdiction:

- Not applicable to Online programmes.
- Applicable to ODL programmes.
- HEIs having NAAC score of 3.26 and above or by the HEIs having rank in Top-100 in University category of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) at least twice in three preceding cycles can enrol International Learners.

3. Intake (non-science based programmes):

No limit on number of learners in a programme in ODL /Online mode.

4. HEIs having NAAC score 3.26 and above or having rank in Top-100 in University category of NIRF, at least twice in three preceding cycles (at the time of application) can start maximum 13 (3 Undergraduate + 10 Postgraduate) Online programme without prior approval of the UGC but in compliance to the Regulations.
5. 42 HEIs are entitled to offer 215 Online programmes from academic year 2020-21 and onwards and 68 HEIs (including Category-I HEIs) have been recognized to offer programmes through ODL mode for academic year 2020-21.
6. UGC has invited application from eligible HEIs as per provisions stipulated under (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 for recognition/entitlement of ODL and/or Online programmes for 2021-22, academic session beginning July, 2021 (revised as November, 2021) which are under process. It is informed that NAAC extended period has also been considered as an eligibility compliance.

You may also appreciate that with change in institutional eligibility requirements, many HEIs are now become eligible to offer ODL and/or Online Programmes. As there is no limit on number of enrolment/Intake; all the prospective learners have been provided an opportunity to enroll. The emphasis is to provide minimum benchmark centered eligibility so that quality distance and online education, in a global context, can be provided to National and International learners.

I look forward to your continuous support in enhancing the quality of distance and online education in the Country.

Yours sincerely,



(Rajnish Jain)

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