Internal quality system of the TUKE and subject information sheets

Information for employees and students for the Academic Year 2023/2024 (Full-time form of study; External form of study)

Face-to-face at the beginning of the semester and in the e-Learning portal: Teaching management system (material in LMS Moodle TUKE subjects/courses) https://moodle.tuke.sk/moodle/

Syllabus / Current status

- Legislative system
- Standards of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (SAAVŠ)
- Internal system for ensuring the quality of higher education at the Technical University of Košice (TUKE)
- Support systems for students
- Subject information sheets / Timetables

Legislative system

Law Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on ensuring the quality of higher education and amending Act no. 343/2015 Coll. on public procurement and on the amendment of certain laws, as amended

Announced: 26/09/2018 Temporary version of the regulation effective from: 25/04/2022

Source:

https://saavs.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/ZZ_2018_269_20220101_EN.pdf

Subject matter of the Act This Act governs the internal quality assurance system of higher education (hereinafter referred to as "the internal system") and its verification, establishment and status of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Agency") and its conduct, the granting of accreditation of the study programme and the granting of accreditation of the habilitation procedure and the procedure for the appointment of professors (hereinafter referred to as the "inaugural procedure").

Law no. 131/2002 Coll. on universities and on the amendment of certain laws, as amended

Announced: 26/03/2002 Temporary version of the regulation effective from: 25/04/2022

Source:

https://saavs.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/ZZ_2002_131_20220425_EN.pdf

The mission of universities, which are part of the European Higher Education Area and the Common European Research Area, is to contribute to the development of education, knowledge, science and culture in accordance with the needs of society, to develop knowledge, skills, wisdom, creativity and human well-being, thereby contributing to the development of a knowledge society. Fulfilling this mission with a focus on the student is the subject of the main activity of universities.

The main task of universities in fulfilling their mission is to provide higher education in accordance with the needs of society and creative scientific research or creative artistic activity.

Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG)

ESG v2015

Sources:

https://saavs.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ESG_2015-English.pdf

Setting the context

Higher education, research and innovation play a crucial role in supporting social cohesion, economic growth and global competitiveness. Given the desire for European societies to become increasingly knowledge-based, higher education is an essential component of socioeconomic and cultural development. At the same time, an increasing demand for skills and competences requires higher education to respond in new ways. Broader access to higher education is an opportunity for higher education institutions to make use of increasingly diverse individual experiences. Responding to diversity and growing expectations for higher education requires a fundamental shift in its provision; it requires a more student-centred approach to learning and teaching, embracing flexible learning paths and recognising competences gained outside formal curricula. Higher education institutions themselves also become more diverse in their missions, mode of educational provision and cooperation, including growth of internationalisation, digital learning and new forms of delivery.2 The role of quality assurance is crucial in supporting higher education systems and institutions in responding to these changes while ensuring the qualifications achieved by students and their experience of higher education remain at the forefront of institutional missions. A key goal of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) is to contribute to the common understanding of quality assurance for learning and teaching across borders and among all stakeholders.3 They have played and will continue to play an important role in the development of national and institutional quality assurance systems across the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and cross-border cooperation. Engagement with quality assurance processes, particularly the external ones, allows European higher education systems to demonstrate quality and increase transparency, thus helping to build mutual trust and better recognition of their qualifications, programmes4 and other provision. The ESG are used by institutions and quality assurance agencies as a reference document for internal and external quality assurance systems in higher education. Moreover, they are used by the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR), which is responsible for the register of quality assurance agencies that comply with the ESG.

Scope and concepts

The ESG are a set of standards and guidelines for internal and external quality assurance in higher education. The ESG are not standards for quality, nor do they prescribe how the quality assurance processes are implemented, but they provide guidance, covering the areas which are vital for successful quality provision and learning environments in higher education. The ESG should be considered in a broader context that also includes qualifications frameworks, ECTS and diploma supplement that also contribute to promoting the transparency and mutual trust in higher education in the EHEA.

The focus of the ESG is on quality assurance related to learning and teaching in higher education, including the learning environment and relevant links to research and innovation. In

addition institutions have policies and processes to ensure and improve the quality of their other activities, such as research and governance.

The ESG apply to all higher education offered in the EHEA regardless of the mode of study or place of delivery. Thus, the ESG are also applicable to all higher education including transnational and cross-border provision. In this document the term "programme" refers to higher education in its broadest sense, including that which is not part of a programme leading to a formal degree.

The term 'quality assurance' is used in this document to describe all activities within the continuous improvement cycle (i.e. assurance and enhancement activities).

ESG: purposes and principles

The ESG have the following purposes: - They set a common framework for quality assurance systems for learning and teaching at European, national and institutional level; - They enable the assurance and improvement of quality of higher education in the European higher education area; - They support mutual trust, thus facilitating recognition and mobility within and across national borders; - They provide information on quality assurance in the EHEA.

The Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education and Standards

Source: <u>https://saavs.sk/en/</u>

Mission of the Agency

The Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education is a newly established public institution whose task is to perform external quality assurance activities in higher education in the Slovak Republic. It was established by Act no. 269/2018 Coll. (the Quality Act) as a legal entity based in Bratislava.

The mission of the Agency is to contribute to improving the quality of higher education through modern tools following the European Standards for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ESG 2015). The Agency is intended to provide a mirror of quality to higher education institutions and to decide on the granting of appropriate accreditations following the law. The Agency replaces the activities of the current Accreditation Commission, an advisory body of the Government of the Slovak Republic in assessing applications of higher education institutions, and also takes over the decision-making authority of the Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic.

The syllabus for the accreditation activities of the Agency will be the standards, the proposals of standards with the evaluation of public comments will be submitted shortly for comment to the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic. The Agency is expected to start receiving the first university applications for accreditation in the second quarter of 2020.

Vision

The Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education ('the Agency') is the national reference point in the field of quality assurance in higher education. It is recognized within the European Higher Education Area. Its activities contribute to improving the quality of higher education, thus meeting the expectations of stakeholders and the general public, thus consolidating the social status and recognition and increasing the attractiveness of universities in the Slovak Republic.

Standards

<u>Standards for the Internal System – in scope of ESG</u> Bratislava, 2 July 2020

The Standards for the Higher Education Internal Quality Assurance System ("the Standards for the Internal System") are a set of requirements for the Internal System and its implementation. These requirements are stated in Articles 2 - 11 of these standards.

The set of procedures, criteria and indicators for benchmarking through which the review panels of the Agency's Executive Board ("the review panel") and the Agency's staff evaluate the fulfilment of standards and measures to ensure the compliance of the Internal System and its implementation with the Standards for the Internal System is stated in the Methodology for Standards Evaluation issued by the Agency.

Stakeholders are university actors, persons, communities or organizations that can influence the process of education, creative and other related activities or be influenced by them. A distinction is made between internal stakeholders (students and employees of the university) and external stakeholders (employers and other representatives of relevant sectors of the economy and social practice, graduates of the university, domestic and foreign partners of the university, etc.).

Standards for Study Program - in scope of ESG

Bratislava, 2 July 2020

The standards for the study program are understood as a set of requirements, the fulfillment of which is conditional on the granting of study program accreditation and the agency's decision on the authorization of the higher education institution to create, implement and modify study programs in the relevant field of study and degree. These requirements are listed in Articles 2-10 of these standards. The standards for the study program also serve to assess the compliance of the internal system of the higher education institution with the standards for the internal system.

The set of procedures, criteria and indicators through which the working groups of the agency's executive board (hereinafter referred to as the "working group") and the agency's employees evaluate the fulfillment of standards and measures to ensure the compliance of study programs with the standards for the study program is set out in the Methodology for evaluating standards, which issued by the agency.

The set of procedures, criteria and indicators, through which the working groups of the executive board of the agency (hereinafter referred to as the "working group") evaluate the level of creative activities of the higher education institution, is determined in the Methodology for evaluating creative activities issued by the agency.

<u>Supplement no 1 to the Standards for Study Program – in scope of ESG</u> <u>https://saavs.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Dodatok-c.1-k-standardom-pre-studijny-</u> program-06052021.pdf

Standards for Habilitation Proceedings and Proceedings for the Appointment of Professors Bratislava, 2 July 2020

Source:

https://saavs.sk/wpcontent/uploads/2021/02/Standards for Habilitation Proceedings and Inauguration Proceed ings.pdf

The standards for the habilitation procedure and the procedure for the appointment of professors (hereinafter referred to as "habilitation procedure and inaugural procedure") are understood as a set of requirements, the fulfillment of which is conditional on the granting of accreditation for the habilitation procedure and the inaugural procedure. These requirements are listed in Articles 2-8 of these standards.

The set of procedures, criteria and indicators through which the working groups of the executive board of the agency (hereinafter referred to as the "working group") and the employees of the agency evaluate the fulfillment of the standards for the habilitation procedure and the inaugural procedure are set out in the Methodology for evaluating the standards issued by the agency.

The set of procedures, criteria and indicators, through which the working groups of the executive board of the agency (hereinafter referred to as the "working group") evaluate the level of creative activities of the higher education institution, is determined in the Methodology for evaluating creative activities issued by the agency.

<u>Methodology for the Evaluation of Standards</u> <u>Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance of Higher Education</u>

Changes in higher education as a result of the introduction of quality assurance systems 2019-2021

Bratislava, 30 December 2021

Source:

 $\underline{https://saavs.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Changes-in-higher-education-due-to-implementation-of-QA-systems-for-2019-2021.pdf}$

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance of Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Act on Quality Assurance") was adopted.1 The legal standard created a legislative and institutional framework for the implementation of quality assurance systems of higher education in Slovakia by modern European methods. The thematic report outlines the implementation of quality management systems in higher education in the Slovak Republic, following the mentioned act. In recent decades, higher education institutions have achieved the political objective of increasing the proportion of university graduates in the population. With the adoption of the Act on Quality Assurance, the attention of state policies in the field of higher education has been shifted to systematic quality assurance of education. The chosen instruments are based on the best practice in Europe; in the last two or three years their implementation began also in Slovak conditions. It is necessary to continue with the implementation of quality systems and to support these

processes with both legislative and financially appropriate targeted incentives. We recommend that higher education institutions implement their own internal quality assurance system as soon as possible in accordance with the applicable law and published standards and verify its implementation in the study programmes provided by higher education institutions. The law requires higher education institutions to harmonize their internal regulations and study programmes by 1 September 2022 at the latest and to request a review of the compliance with the standards by the end of 2022.

Thematic Report – Summarizing report on the findings of the student satisfaction survey (Academic Quarter) – in Slovak, main findings in English)

Bratislava 5 September 2022

Source: <u>https://saavs.sk/wp-</u> content/uploads/2022/11/Suhrnna_sprava_o_zisteniach_prieskumu_nazorov_studentov.pdf

The Quarter to quality education (Akademická štvrťhodinka) was aimed at mapping the opinions of first-level and second-level university students as well as students of joint first and second level. A quantitative approach is used, and the data was collected through online questionnaires. Almost 20 thousand students completed the questionnaire. Data collection took place from 30 April to 31 May 2021 (during the pandemic). In addition to closed questions, respondents were also asked to answer (voluntary) open-ended questions.

One of the last ones concerned the overall evaluation of the study, suggestions, and comments. Almost 7 thousand respondents gave spontaneous answers. They brought interesting additions and helped to create a more plastic picture of students' view of their school, the attitude of teachers or the benefits of studying. The following sample is among the mentioned spontaneous responses. It sets the bar very high and at the same time – from the student's point of view – points out several key elements of a successful HEI. "My field of study is very interesting and usable in practice.

The content of the subjects is very well built, and the professors are all very accommodating and fair. At the same time, they are a great motivation for us – students." This is not an isolated case of a positive approach: for example, more than half of respondents declare that most or all of their teachers help them develop their potential. Analyses reveal pluses, minuses, and some interconnections. Experts can say if the results obtained reflect satisfactory state of things or whether improvement is needed.

INTERNAL QUALITY SYSTEM OF TUKE

	STUDY	HABILITATIONS	QUALITY	COMPETENCES	
	PROGRAMMES	AND INAUGURATIONS	INDICATORS	AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
S	Source:				

https://www.tuke.sk/wps/portal/tuke/university/vnutorny-systemkvality/!ut/p/z1/hc5BDoIwFATQs3iC_38ptV02wRCIICJYsRvTFWIUNNF4fpGwVWc3yZtk wEMPfgyvOIRnvI3hMvWjFyehCPOEY5WrjrBxzpRUy2JDAg4zwC_RCP7f3s-EE9fEP2S9y1CrZs9a6QhlsoCtTjkrJ1BLwVDbojMZr6xJcQE_PrSPM9yvPUY7rN5h7yr/dz/d5/L0lHSkovd0RNQUZrQUVnQSEhLzROVkUvZW4!/

STUDY PROGRAMMES HABILITATIONS AND INAUGURATIONS QUALITY INDICATORS COMPETENCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Internal Quality Assurance System of Higher Education at the Technical University of Košice (TUKE) regulates the way of fulfilling the mission of TUKE in the field of higher education through:

- quality assurance strategy for higher education and quality assurance strategy for research activities, artistic activities or other creative activities,
- processes for quality assurance of higher education and quality of creative activities,
- the link between creative activities and higher education at TUKE in the relevant field of study.

The internal system is divided into:

- 1. Standards for the internal quality assurance system of higher education at TUKE
- 2. Standards for approval, management and quality assessment of study programmes at TUKE
- 3. Standards for the habilitation procedure and the procedure for appointment of professors at TUKE

Main bodies involved in quality verification at TUKE

- <u>Accreditation Commission of TUKE</u>
- <u>Accreditation Council of TUKE</u>
- Board of the study programme

Main documents

- <u>Statute of TUKE</u>
- Internal Quality Assurance System of Higher Education at TUKE
- Quality Policies of the Internal Quality Assurance System of Higher Education at TUKE
- Quality Objectives
- Organizational Structures of TUKE
- Processes of the Internal Quality Assurance System of Higher Education at TUKE

Responsibilities for quality assurance at TUKE are defined according to:

- Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education
- Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance in Higher Education

External documents

- Act no. 422/2015 Coll. on the Recognition of Evidence of Education and Professional Qualifications
- Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic no. 244/2019 Coll. on the System of Study Fields in the Slovak Republic
- Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic no. 246/2019 Coll. on the Procedure for Obtaining Scientific-pedagogical Titles and Artistic-pedagogical Titles of Associate Professor and Professor
- Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic no. 614/2002 Coll. on the credit system
- Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic no. 458/2012 on the minimum requirements of students with specific needs
- <u>National Qualifications Framework of the Slovak Republic</u>
- National system of qualifications
- Standards for the Internal System SAAVŠ
- <u>Standards for Study Program SAAVŠ</u>
- Standards for Habilitation Proceedings and Proceedings SAAVŠ
- <u>Methodology for the Evaluation of Standards SAAVŠ</u>

The quality of the study programs is guaranteed by **the Study Program Councils** and the Faculty Committee for Ph.D. studies in the field of Transport

The Study Program Board consists of:

• the person responsible for the study program, who is its chairman;

• four teachers providing profile subjects in the given study program;

• one student representative for each level of education in which the study program is conducted for content-related study programs;

• three consultants as representatives of external interested parties or graduates of the given study program who are not members of the academic community of the holder of the authorization and are not regular members of the Study Program Council.

Pozn.:

Internal Quality Assurance System of Higher Education at the Technical University of Košice

Issued on: 24.06.2022, valid from: 11.07.2022

Source:

https://pdf.tuke.sk/legislativa/EN_%C3%9Apln%C3%A9%20znenie%20Vn%C3%BAtorn% C3%A9ho%20syst%C3%A9mu%20zabezpe%C4%8Dovania%20kvality%20vys.%20vzdel% C3%A1vania%20na%20TUKE%20v%20znen%C3%AD%20dodatku%20%C4%8D.%201.pd f

Long-term Intent of the Technical University of Košice 2016 – 2023 Source: https://www.tuke.sk/wps/wcm/connect/fa831914-a5b8-446f-b650-5a237f0c1e83/LongTermStrategicPlanTUKE-2016-2023.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=nCJPA9Y

TUKE Internal Evaluation Report

Internal portal only

S/TUKE/VHS/22 Internal evaluation report on the implementation of the internal system of quality assurance of higher education at TUKE

issue no. 1, date of issue 21.12.2022, change no. 1 - 25.1.2023 context change No 1

TUKE uses 3 methods to get feedback:

• feedback from students through periodic surveys (Evaluation of LS/ZS, Survey for the 1st year of the 1st level of education),

• meetings of faculty management and TUKE with students,

• expressing students' demands in bodies in which students are represented (Student Council, Academic Senate of TUKE, Academic Senate of Faculties, TUKE Management, TUKE Board of Directors).

Support systems for students

Sources:

Applicants with specific needs

If an entrance exam is part of the verification of study abilities, the form of the entrance exam and the method of its execution will be determined at the request of an applicant with specific needs, based on the evaluation of his specific needs, taking into account his specific needs. For more information, contact an applicant with specific needs. https://accesscentre.tuke.sk/en/?noredirect=en_US

Foreign applicants and students

https://studium.tuke.sk/wps/portal

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND MOBILITIES

https://www.tuke.sk/wps/portal/tuke/university/usek-pre-zahranicne-vztahy

GENDER EQUALITY PLAN AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AT TUKE

https://www.tuke.sk/wps/portal/tuke/university/rovnost-prilezitosti

CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

https://www.tuke.sk/wps/portal/tuke/university/zdru%C5%BEenia-a-zvazy

FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION

https://www.tuke.sk/wps/portal/tuke/university/slobodny-pristup-k-informaciam

Support for students with study problems, with cognitive problems as a result of overcoming the pandemic, with problems of adaptation of a foreign student, etc.

Contact: The study report will directly address the study advisor for your study program who, in cooperation with the person in charge of the study program, the head of the scientific-pedagogical workplace and the subject teacher, will provide you with targeted, individual study counseling and support.

https://svf.tuke.sk/wps/portal/svf/studium/referat-pre-vzdelavanie

Subject information sheets / Timetables

Access to recommended study plans and subject information sheets

External access of students and interested parties to study programs, recommended study plans of TUKE faculties (for academic year, form of study, level of study, study program) and to subject information sheets for individual study programs Bc., Ing. And PhD. study is through the "PORTAL" of the MAIS Modular Academic System - a public portal. Language options: Slovak language; English language.

Source: change to English EN

https://mais.tuke.sk/

Information sheet of the selected subject

Content of the Subject Information Sheet

https://maisportal.tuke.sk/portal/studijneProgramy.mais?lang=en