

Applicants who require registration

- 1) Attend higher education programs for the first time;
- 2) Have lost their student status due to an interruption of their studies;
- 3) Have their request for transfer accepted by higher education institutions to which they transfer.

Student categories

- 1) Students who attend programs on a full-time basis;
- 2) Students who attend programs on a part-time basis.

Mobility

- 1) The mobility of students among higher education institutions is permitted;
- 2) Higher education institutions may recognize the study periods, courses or credits of their own programs or programs offered by any other higher education institutions, for the purpose of enabling students to attend higher education programs;
- 3) Each higher education institution shall formulate regulations on the mobility of students.

Internship

Academic training activities of practical or theoretical-practical nature which are covered in the study plan of a higher education program and carried out for a specific period of time, aiming at undertaking training and apprenticeship of a professional practice or at learning certain professional techniques.

Students, who are attending a bachelor's degree or a higher degree program, are allowed to have an internship only when it is arranged or approved by the higher education institutions they are attending.

Qualities of higher education

- 1) Institutional evaluation is further divided into institutional accreditation and institutional quality audit;
- 2) Program evaluation is further classified into program accreditation and program review;
- 3) The higher education quality evaluation shall comply with the principles of equity, objectivity, impartiality and transparency.

Responsible bureau

Higher Education Bureau

Higher Education Fund (Administrative Regulation no. 16/2018)

The Fund was established to contribute to the implementation of the policies of the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region for the financing of institutional development and quality higher education, specifically:

- 1) To promote healthy competition among higher education institutions;
- 2) To promote equal opportunities to receive higher education;
- 3) To provide funding and subsidies in coordination with the preferential policy of higher education and the development plans of higher education institutions.

Higher Education Committee (Administrative Regulation no. 15/2018)

The Committee, as an advisory body, has the following aims:

- 1) To promote communication and exchanges among administrative authorities and higher education institutions or among higher education institutions;
- 2) To gather the strengths of the community to promote the development of higher education through participation, coordination, collaboration and review.

Higher Education Regime

3rd Macao-EU Co-operation Programme in the Legal Field

Law No. 10/2017 establishes the higher education regime in the Macao SAR and has as its objective the regulation of the conditions and standards required for higher education activities in the Macao SAR, in particular the requirements and procedures relating to the establishment of higher education institutions and the higher education courses organized by local higher education institutions in Macao and those from abroad and the other criteria, quantitative indicators of the revision of the conditions of and resources for teaching.

Useful links:

Higher education regime:

<https://www.dses.gov.mo/law/no102017.pdf>

Higher Education Bureau:

<https://www.dses.gov.mo/eng/>

Higher Education Fund:

<https://www.dses.gov.mo/eng/overview/depart/fund>

Higher Education Committee:

<https://www.dses.gov.mo/eng/overview/depart/committee>

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Printing date : October, 2019

Purpose and scope

- 1) Activities, the organization and operation of public and private higher education institutions of the Macao SAR;
- 2) Higher education activities carried out in the Macao SAR by higher education institutions based outside of the Macao SAR.

Objectives of higher education

- 1) To train qualified personnel of higher education in the areas of culture, science and technology;
- 2) To create conditions that enable duly qualified individuals to receive higher education;
- 3) To promote research and development in the areas of culture, science and technology;
- 4) To encourage the dissemination of knowledge, especially in the areas of culture, science and technology, and enhance the value of research activities;
- 5) To promote innovation and local potential for scientific research;
- 6) To encourage interactions between teaching and research;
- 7) To provide professional services for the community;
- 8) To encourage cooperation and exchange between the Macao SAR and the regions and countries beyond the Macao SAR in the areas of culture, science and technology.

Equality of admission

The Government of the Macao SAR shall create equality of admission to higher education, without discrimination on grounds of nationality, descent, sex, race, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs, economic situation or social status.

Roles of the higher education institutions

- 1) To train qualified personnel of higher education;
- 2) To encourage academic research & development and the publication of academic works;
- 3) To provide professional services for the community;
- 4) To carry out vocational training and refresher training;
- 5) To promote cultural innovation and dissemination;
- 6) To encourage cultural cooperation and exchanges between the Macao SAR and other regions and countries;
- 7) To ensure that the educational environment is appropriate.

Nature and legal status of higher education institutions

- 1) Public higher education institutions are legal persons of public law, entitled to academic, pedagogical, administrative and financial autonomy;
- 2) Private higher education institutions are self-managed and enjoy academic, pedagogical, administrative and financial autonomy;
- 3) Private higher education institutions, depending on the nature of their respective holders, are divided into two categories: profit making and non-profit making;
- 4) Higher education institutions are entitled to autonomy, without prejudice to the supervision that public higher education institutions are under;
- 5) Activities carried out by higher education institutions are considered public interest activities.

Statutes of higher education institutions

- 1) The statutes of higher education institutions shall be formulated, amended, approved and confirmed and shall only take effect after their publication in the Official Gazette;

- 2) When the statutes or their amendments do not comply with the provisions of this Law, the Chief Executive may notify these higher education institutions of their non-compliance through the bureau responsible for the higher education sector.

Organizational bodies of higher education institutions

- 1) Council;
- 2) Rector or president;
- 3) Management and administrative bodies;
- 4) Academic and pedagogical bodies.

Staff of higher education institutions

- 1) Management staff;
- 2) Teaching staff;
- 3) Research staff;
- 4) Non-teaching staff.

Degrees conferred by higher education institutions

- 1) Bachelor's degree;
- 2) Master's degree;
- 3) Doctoral degree.

Diplomas and certificates that may also be awarded by higher education institutions

- 1) Associate diploma, to programs with a study period of not less than two academic years;
- 2) Diploma, to programs with a study period of not less than one academic year;
- 3) Certificate, to minor programs.

Qualification for teaching

- 1) Holders of a doctoral or master's degree, or equivalent academic qualifications are qualified for higher education teaching;
- 2) Teaching staff participating in a given program shall not be holders of a degree lower than the one that the program confers;
- 3) In exceptional cases, the exercise of higher education teaching may be authorized, provided that the teaching staff possess professional experience or other qualifications;
- 4) The qualifications of the teaching staff have been recognized by the academic and pedagogical organs of the higher education institutions concerned.

Conditions of admission to higher education

- 1) When determining the conditions of admission to each higher education program, higher education institutions shall take into account the enhancement of the educational, cultural and academic levels of the Macao SAR in particular, as well as the need to ensure teaching quality;
- 2) Only individuals who have successfully completed the three-year senior secondary education or equivalent are allowed to be enrolled in higher education programs;
- 3) Higher education institutions may provide a one-year foundation program;
- 4) Each higher education institution may establish specific conditions, including applicants' participation in the entrance examinations and applicants' attendance at preparatory courses;
- 5) Individuals who have reached the age of 23 but do not fulfil the conditions of admission provided may be granted admission to higher education programs by attaining a pass in a special examination;
- 6) Admission to higher education programs may also be granted to gifted students who, even if they have not yet completed secondary education, are recommended by the secondary schools they attended.