

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Guidelines of Good Practice for Quality Assurance Agencies (GGP) Alignment Process

1. An agency may request that an indication be included on the INQAAHE website that the agency has been found to be in alignment with the GGP.
2. This request is directed to the Secretary and must be accompanied by independent evidence of the alignment.
3. The Secretary refers the request and evidence to the GGP Alignment Group
4. The Group considers the evidence and makes a recommendation to the INQAAHE Board
5. The following is the final paragraph in the Introduction to the GGP:
“As a service to members, INQAAHE will, at the member’s request, record on the INQAAHE website any member agency that has been found to be comprehensively adhering to the Guidelines. For this purpose, an overall finding of adherence to the Guidelines requires substantial alignment with most of the individual Guidelines, which must include numbers 2 (resources), 3 (Quality Assurance of the EQAA), 4 (public reporting), 5 (the Relationship between the EQAA and Higher Education Institutions), 6 (institutional or programmatic performance), and 9 (decisions by the EQAA).”
6. Initially, the Group will be setting precedents, and subsequently will draw on them. If an agency is not judged to have shown alignment, the Group will identify the gaps.
7. If the Board judges that the agency is in alignment with the GGP, this will be mentioned at that agency’s entry on the INQAAHE website. The agency’s name will be added to a list of aligned agencies located within the GGP entry on the website.
8. Once a decision has been made, the Secretariat retains the application, together with any Group comments. These will become the precedents that assist consistency. It will also help us to give some useful examples of independent verification.
9. The GGP Group will also consider other processes (eg regional approaches, other recognition criteria) to see whether they meet the INQAAHE criteria, so any agency recognised in the other context may submit that information in satisfaction of INQAAHE’s criteria.
10. An overall paragraph under the GGP entry refers to the Introduction to the GGP and explains that aligned agencies have been listed at their request on the basis of independent evidence that has been checked by the Board.

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