

Announcement of the Higher Education Standards Committee On the Criteria and Procedures for Credit Transfer and Academic Recognition in Higher Education, B.E. 2565 (2022)

By virtue of Clause 14 and Clause 21 of the Ministerial Regulations on Higher Education Curriculum Standards, B.E. 2565 (2022), in conjunction with the resolution of the Higher Education Standards Committee at Meeting No. 8/2565 on August 10, 2022, the following announcement is hereby issued:

Clause 1: This announcement shall be referred to as the "Announcement of the Higher Education Standards Committee on the Criteria and Procedures for Credit Transfer and Academic Recognition in Higher Education, B.E. 2565 (2022)."

Clause 2: This announcement shall take effect from September 27, 2565 (2022) onward.

Clause 3: Definitions

"Formal Education" means an education system that specifies the aims, methods, curricula, duration, assessment, and evaluation conditions for its completion.

"Non-Formal Education" means an education system with flexibility in determining the aims, modalities, management procedures, duration, assessment and evaluation conditional to its completion. The contents and curricula for non-formal education shall be appropriate, respond to the requirements, and meet the needs of individual groups of learners.

"Informal Education" means an education system that enables learners to learn by themselves according to their interests, potential, readiness and opportunities available from individuals, society, environment, media, or other sources of knowledge.

"Academic Performance" means knowledge, skills, ethics, and personal attributes acquired through formal education, which may be reflected in letter grades or grade points and contribute to cumulative GPA calculations.

"Learning Outcomes" means competencies acquired through educational experiences, training, or practical work, assessed through various methods.

"Learner" means an individual engaged in learning through formal, non-formal, or informal education.

"Committee" means the Higher Education Standards Committee.

Clause 4: Higher education institutions shall prioritize learning outcomes as the primary criterion for credit transfer eligibility. Institutions must establish predefined learning outcomes for curricular components in advance, ensuring alignment with the standard learning outcomes at each qualification levels.

Clause 5: Objectives of Credit Transfer and Academic Recognition

1. To promote lifelong learning by enabling learners from formal, non-formal and informal Education to transfer credits flexibly while maintaining higher education standards.

2. To empower higher education institutions to independently set criteria, methods, and conditions for credit transfer, provided they adhere to the minimum standards prescribed in this announcement.

Clause 6: Principles of Credit Transfer and Academic Recognition

1. Credit can be transferred from across formal, non-formal, and informal educational domains.

2. Credit transfer protocols shall be underpinned by the principles of fairness, quality, and educational standards.

3. Institutions shall establish specialized administrative units responsible for guidance and oversight in the facilitation of credit transfers.

4. Institutions shall implement standardized methods for evaluation and assessment of credit transfer.

Clause 7: Higher education institutions shall carry out credit transfer and academic performance evaluation under the following criteria:

7.1 Transfer from Formal Education

Undergraduate Programs

1. Courses shall be obtained from accredited higher education programs recognized by the Committee or relevant government agencies.

2. Transferred courses shall align significantly with the curriculum of the receiving institution.

3. The grade for transferred courses shall not be lower than 2.00 on a 4.00 scale or its equivalent.

4. Transferred credits from different institutions shall not be included in cumulative GPA calculations.

Graduate Programs

1. Courses shall be obtained from accredited higher education programs recognized by the Committee or relevant government agencies.

2. Transferred courses shall align significantly with the curriculum of the receiving institution.

3. The grade for transferred courses shall not be lower than 3.00 on a 4.00 scale or its equivalent.

4. Transfer of thesis credits shall comply with institutional regulations approved by the governing council of the higher education institution.

5. Transferred credits from different institutions shall not be included in cumulative GPA calculations.

7.2 Transfer from Non-Formal and Informal Education

1. Applicants shall substantiate learning outcomes commensurate with the learning outcomes of the targeted academic modules.

2. There shall be no time restriction on learning experiences used for credit transfer, provided they remain relevant and up-to-date with current development in the field of study to which the applicant seeks to transfer credits.

3. Transferred credits shall not be included in cumulative GPA calculations.

Undergraduate programs shall permit a maximum credit transfer allocation of 75% or 3/4 of total program credits, while graduate programs shall be maximum at 50% or 1/2. If transferring within the same institution, these limits can be exceeded.

Credits transferred from one institution to another shall not be transferred again to a third institution and shall be indicated on the academic transcript.

Clause 8: Procedures for Credit Transfer

1. Institutions shall establish a credit transfer system and mechanism, with the approval of their respective institutional governing councils.

2. Institutional-level committees shall oversee and ensure the quality and standardization of credit transfer system and mechanism, while faculty and program-level committees shall be responsible for implementing assessment processes, with the participation of program directors and instructors responsible for the respective courses.

3. The establishment of criteria and methods used in testing and evaluation for credit transfer system and mechanism shall be of high quality, standardized, transparent, and equitable. These criteria and methods shall be regularly reviewed and revised to ensure alignment with academic and social changes, while also taking into account individual learner needs.

4. The establishment of criteria and methods used in testing and evaluation for credit transfer must consider the following minimum components, as applicable to each case:

4.1 For credit transfer from formal education, learning outcomes, core content, credit hours, and assessment results shall be taken into account.

4.2 For credit transfer from non-formal education, outcomes, key content, teaching hours, measurement and evaluation methods, educational management formats and methods, instructor qualifications, student measurement and evaluation results, certificate of student status, and the history and achievements of the educational provider shall be taken into account.

4.3 For credit transfer from informal education, learning outcomes from experience records, information from the source where the learner gained that experience, and the comparison of experience with the intended learning outcomes of the course or group of courses shall be taken into account.

4.4 In case where credit transfer cannot be assessed based on the components specified in items (4.1)–(4.3), institutions may proceed with the assessment of learner competencies through appropriate testing mechanisms.

5. The recording of academic results from credit transfer, whether for individual courses or course groups, shall reflect the method of assessment used. This includes, for example, credits granted through course exemptions based on prior study

at a higher education institution, credits earned through examinations, credits awarded based on portfolio submissions, credits obtained through standardized testing, or credits resulting from assessments or training conducted by relevant agencies.

6. Institutions shall publicly disclose the criteria and procedures for credit transfer and academic record recognition.

Clause 9: Special Provisions

In cases where compliance with the aforementioned guidelines is not feasible, or where it is necessary to undertake actions beyond those specified in this announcement, such matters shall be at the discretion of the Committee, and the decision of the Committee shall be final.

Issued on September 8, 2022

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Chairperson, Higher Education Standards Committee

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