

Evaluation Division Association of Indian Universities (AIU)

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ADVISORY TO STUDENTS SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMMES OF STUDIES PROMISING QUALIFICATIONS/ DEGREES FROM FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES

Students seeking admission in such Programmes of Studies which promise award of Foreign Qualifications/Degrees are, hereby, advised to ensure that these programmes meet the eligibility requirements for according Equivalence as specified by the Association of Indian Universities.

Students are advised to read the Information Brochure of the AIU on Equivalence of Foreign Qualification/Degrees which may be downloaded free of cost from the AIU website (www.aiu.ac.in).

Given below is a gist of the eligibility requirements for equivalence of foreign qualifications/degrees and Students are ADVISED to ensure that the Programme of Studies and Institutions meet these requirements failing which the Equivalence shall not be granted

SEEKING ADMISSION TO SCHOOL AFFILIATED TO FOREIGN BOARD/OFFERING FOREIGN SYSTEM OF EDUCATION:

1. Equivalence is granted only if (i) the foreign system of education prescribes a minimum of 12 years of regular schooling; (ii) the school is affiliated by a Board that has been approved/recognised; (iii) the school leaving certificate has been issued by the Board that has been approved/ recognised/accredited in the country concerned;
2. As American High School is not conducted by any Board, the School has to be accredited by one of the six recognised accrediting agencies in the United States.
3. AIU shall accord equivalence to school level examinations on the fulfillment of the following conditions:
 - (a) the Minimum duration of the programme must be at least the same as prescribed for the corresponding level of qualification in India (i.e a minimum of 10 years of schooling for being equated with Secondary School Certificate Examination of the CBSE/other Boards in India; and a minimum of 12 years of Schooling for being equated with the Senior School Certificate Examination of the CBSE/other Boards in India);
 - (b) the candidate must have passed the Examination equivalent to the Grade 10 with a Minimum of 5 (five) subjects including English;

(c) the candidate must have passed the Examination equivalent to Grade 12 with a Minimum of 4 (Four) subjects except in case of the GCE ADVANCED (“A”) LEVEL Examination of the approved British Examination Bodies wherein the candidate must have passed the A Level examination with 2/3 subjects at Advanced Level; provided further that in case of Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education from Tanzania and Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education from Uganda which allow students to take courses at Principal and Subsidiary level, equivalence shall be issued by the AIU only if the students has obtained a minimum of two Principal and two Subsidiary Passes;

(d) the School Level examination has been conducted and certificate awarded by the Board/University duly approved and recognised by the Ministry of Education/concerned Ministry of the country to which the Board/University belong. Provided further that in case of the American High School Diploma where certificate is awarded by the School itself (not by any Board/University), the equivalence shall be given only if the School is accredited either by the State Department of Education in the United States or by one of the 6 (SIX) Regional Accrediting Agencies in the US, i.e. (i) Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges, (ii) New England Association of Schools and Colleges; (iii) North Central Association of Schools and Colleges; (iv) North West Association of Schools and Colleges; (v) Southern Association of School and Colleges; and (Western Association of Schools and Colleges)

IB Diploma/ Course (Certificate) AIU shall accord equivalence to both the IB Diploma and the IB Diploma Course (i.e. IB Certificate) provided that a student has secured a minimum of 24 credits and has passed a minimum of three subjects at Higher Level (HL) and three at Lower Level (SL);

4. Equivalence is not granted for qualifications that are awarded for studies undertaken OPEN/DISTANCE/ONLINE/VIRTUAL of HOME STUDIES/ PRIVATE Mode(s)/ certificate awarded in less than 12 years duration;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDIES UNDERTAKEN ON THEIR CAMPUS OF ORIGIN

1. Equivalence is granted to students if he/she meets the following eligibility conditions: (a) The degree has been awarded by a university which is duly approved/recognised/accredited in its own country; (b) The student has pursued the programme of studies as a full time regular student on the campus of the university in the foreign country; (c) The minimum eligibility qualification for admission to the programme of the study is at least the same as prescribed in India; and (d) The duration of the programme of study is at least the same as prescribed in India;

2. The minimum prescribed duration and minimum eligibility of various Programmes of Studies in India, shall be such as are specified by the University Grants Commission (UGC) vide Gazette Notification published from time to time;

3. As of now, Equivalence is not accorded to foreign degrees awarded under DISTANCE/OPEN/ONLINE/VIRTUAL/HOME STUDIES/PRIVATE mode(s) etc.

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY THE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDIES UNDERTAKEN IN INDIA:

1. Equivalence is granted only if the following conditions are fulfilled: (a) the foreign university awarding the degree must be duly approved/recognised by the competent authorities in its own country and/or must be duly accredited by the recognised accrediting agency in its own country; (b) the institute/college/university where studies were undertaken in India must be duly approved/recognised by the competent authorities in India and/ or duly accredited by the recognised accrediting agencies in India; (c) the institute/college/university where studies were undertaken in India must be duly approved by the competent authorities in India (UGC/AICTE/ Government of India) to award degree of the foreign university; (d) the degree has been awarded in accordance with the Rules & Regulations framed by the Statutory/Regulatory Bodies in India; (e) the student has completed his studies as a full time regular student throughout the prescribed duration of the programme of the studies; and (f) that all other parameters as laid down by AIU for according equivalence to foreign degrees have been fulfilled;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDIES UNDERTAKEN IN THEIR OFFSHORE CAMPUSES/ COLLABORATING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN OTHER COUNTRIES EXCEPT INDIA:

1. Equivalence is granted only if the following conditions are fulfilled: (a) the foreign university awarding the degree must be duly approved/recognized by the competent authorities in its own country and/or must be duly accredited by the recognised accrediting agency in its own country; (b) the offshore campus/collaborating educational institution where studies were undertaken must be duly approved/recognised by the competent authorities in the country where they are operating and/or is accredited by the accrediting agencies that has been duly recognised in that country; (c) the offshore campus/collaborating educational institution where studies were undertaken must be duly approved by the competent authorities in that country to award degree of the foreign university; (d) the degree has been awarded in accordance with the Rules & Regulations prescribed by the competent authorities of the country where the offshore campus/collaborating educational institution operates; (e) the student has completed his studies as a full time regular student throughout the prescribed duration of the programme of the studies; and (f) all other parameters as laid down by AIU for according equivalence to foreign degrees have been fulfilled;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY THE INDIAN UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDIES UNDERTAKEN IN THEIR OFFSHORE CAMPUSES/ COLLABORATING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ABROAD:

1. Equivalence is granted only if the following conditions are fulfilled: (a) The Indian University must have obtained due approval/permission from the concerned appropriate regulatory bodies/competent authorities in India (UGC/AICTE/MHRD/Government of India) for establishing and operating the offshore campus/entering into such agreements/MoUs with collaborating educational institutions; (b) The programme of studies for which the degree has been awarded for studies undertaken in the offshore campus/collaborating institution abroad has been duly approved by the concerned appropriate regulatory bodies/competent authorities in India (UGC/AICTE/MHRD/Government of India); (c) The offshore campus/ collaborating educational institution abroad has

been duly approved/ recognised by the competent authorities/regulatory bodies of that country and/or has been accredited by the accrediting agency duly recognised in that country; (d) the degree has been awarded in accordance with the Rules & Regulations prescribed by the competent authorities of India as well as by the competent authorities/regulatory bodies of the country where the offshore campus/collaborating educational institution operates; (e) the student has completed his studies as a full time regular student throughout the prescribed duration of the programme of the studies; and (f) all other parameters as laid down by AIU for according equivalence to foreign degrees have been fulfilled;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY THE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES TO THE STUDENTS ADMITTED THROUGH PATHWAYS/DIPLOMA LEVEL INSTITUTIONS:

1. As of now, the AIU does NOT accord Equivalence to such degrees offered by the foreign universities where students are admitted through pathway/ diploma level institutions;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY THE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES FOR STUDIES UNDERTAKEN THROUGH OPEN/DISTANCE/CORRESPONDENCE / ONLINE/VIRTUAL MODE etc:

1. As of now, the AIU does NOT accord Equivalence to such foreign degrees that have been obtained for studies undertaken through open/distance/correspondence/online/virtual modes(s) etc ;

SEEKING ADMISSION TO PROGRAMME OF STUDIES PROMISING DEGREES AWARDED BY THE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES IN SUCH DISCIPLINES WHICH ALSO ENTITLE THE HOLDER OF THE DEGREE TO PRACTICE A PROFESSION

1. AIU does not entertain applications for equivalence of such professional degrees awarded by foreign universities which also entitle the holder of the degree to practice a profession in India.

2. Thus, degrees in disciplines like Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Law, Architecture etc are presently outside the purview of the AIU as such cases are handled by the respective professional councils;

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