

**Instructions for Recognition of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institutions of 2023, issued pursuant to Paragraph (A) of Article 4 of the Regulation of Non-Jordanian Institutions of Higher Education and the Equivalency of their Certificates Law No. 55 of 2023**

**Article 1:** These instructions shall be referred to as "Instructions for the Recognition of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institutions of 2023" and shall come into effect from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

**Article 2:** (a) The following words and phrases used in these instructions shall have the meanings assigned to them below unless the context indicates otherwise:

**Law:** Higher Education and Scientific Research Law.

**Regulation:** Regulation for the Recognition of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution and the Equivalency of their Certificates.

**Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution:** A non-Jordanian educational or research institution, institute, or center and their equivalent, which grants a certificate or its equivalent.

**Traditional Education:** A system of education primarily based on direct face-to-face communication in the teaching and learning process between the student and the faculty member within the Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution and its facilities at specified times and places. It may include other educational methods such as synchronous and asynchronous e-learning and blended learning, as intended in the integration system of e-learning in higher education institutions.

**Fully Online Distance Education:** An educational system that relies entirely on online learning in both its synchronous and asynchronous forms, as intended in the integration system of e-learning in higher education institutions, and does not include distance learning.

**Faculty Member:** An individual holding at least a Master's degree or its equivalent, who is employed full-time at a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution.

(b) Definitions provided in the law and regulations shall apply wherever referenced in these instructions, unless otherwise indicated by the context.

**Article 3:** For the purpose of recognizing a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution, the following conditions are required:

(a) The duration of study necessary to obtain any of the following degrees shall not be less than:

1. Two academic years following the General Secondary Education Certificate or its equivalent for the Community College Certificate.
2. Three academic years following the General Secondary Education Certificate or its equivalent for the Bachelor's degree.

3. One academic year following the Bachelor's degree or its equivalent for the Higher Diploma.
4. One academic year following the Bachelor's degree or its equivalent for the Master's degree.
5. Three academic years following the Master's degree or its equivalent for the Doctorate degree.

(b) The duration of study in one academic year shall not be less than 8 months or two academic semesters, or their equivalent in courses or credit hours.

**Article 4:** For the purpose of recognizing a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution that grants a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent, the following principles and standards must be collectively met:

1. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must be accredited by the competent official authority and by the accreditation body, if applicable, in its country. If there is no accreditation body in its country, it must be accredited by one of the regional or international accreditation bodies.
2. The ratio of faculty members to students must fall within globally approved ratios.
3. The ratio of faculty members holding a doctorate degree or its equivalent to full-time faculty members at the institution must fall within globally approved ratios.
4. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must have appropriate infrastructure to support its learning style(s), including buildings, facilities, laboratories, equipment, libraries, classrooms, teaching hospitals, clinics, engineering workshops, databases, and spaces designated for extracurricular student activities.
- 5-The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must have been established for at least 5 years, and at least one cohort from all the existing faculties must have graduated when considering recognition, unless the Recognition Committee decides otherwise in special and justified cases with the approval of the Minister.

(b) In accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this article, the Recognition Committee shall compile a list of names of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institutions recognized by the Ministry that grant Bachelor's degrees from either a Faculty of Medicine or a Faculty of Dentistry.

This list shall include Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institutions where medical faculties must be listed in the World Federation For Medical Education (WFME) and dental faculties must be listed in any of the following:

- Association of Dental Education in Europe (ADEE)
- The Commission of Dental Accreditation (CODA)
- The Australian Dental Council (ADC)
- The Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC)
- Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges and Universities (ASIC)
- Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences (Germany)

(c) For the purpose of recognizing a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution that grants degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent, the following principles and standards must be collectively met:

1. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must be recognized for the purpose of granting Bachelor's degrees.
2. The ratio of faculty members to students at the institution must fall within globally approved ratios for graduate programs.
3. The ratio of professors and associate professors, or their equivalents, among full-time faculty members at the institution must fall within globally approved ratios for graduate programs.
4. There must be a sufficient number of scientific research published by faculty members on one of global databases such as (Scopus) or (Web of Science).

(d) 1- Despite the provisions of paragraphs (a), or (c) of this Article, recognition is granted to a Higher Education Institution in the United States of America for all degrees if its name appears within any of the following accredited entities:

(Council For Higher Education Accreditation - CHEA):-

-Accrediting Commission For Community And Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges(ACCJC)

-Higher Learning Commission (HLC)

-Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)

-New England Commission of Higher Education(NECHE)

-Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities(NWCCU)

-Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges ( SACSCOC)

-WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)

2. Higher Education Institutions in the United States of America that grant degrees in human medicine or dentistry are exempt from the provisions of Paragraph 1 of this Clause.

(e) The recognition decision of a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution shall not extend to its branches located outside the country. For the purpose of recognizing the branch, the provisions of this article shall apply.

#### **Article 5:**

(a) For the purpose of recognizing a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution that offers fully online distance education, the following principles and criteria must be collectively met:

1. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must be recognized by the Ministry for traditional education purposes and for the same degree offered by the institution through fully online distance education.
2. The minimum duration of study required to obtain the degree must not be less than the minimum requirements for the equivalent degree in traditional education.
3. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution must offer synchronous online learning, as intended in the system for integrating e-learning in higher education institutions, for at least one-third of the total number or duration of meetings between faculty members and students, and must provide due documents to support this.
4. Exams shall be held using electronic means in specific places approved by the Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution, under its direct supervision, through mechanisms ensuring the integrity of execution, provided that due documents supporting this are submitted.
5. The Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution shall provide educational material in both synchronous and asynchronous forms, as intended in the integration system of e-learning in higher education institutions, on electronic platforms.

(b) In accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of this article, the Recognition Committee shall compile a list of names of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institutions recognized by the Ministry that offer fully online distance education.

**Article 6-a:** A Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution wishing to obtain recognition by the Ministry shall submit an application for recognition according to the form adopted by the Recognition Committee for this purpose, available on the Ministry's website, and attach all relevant supporting documents duly certified by the relevant authorities.

Despite the provisions of paragraph (a) of this Article:

1. The Recognition Committee may consider recognizing a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution without the need for a recognition application in special and justified cases.
2. A Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution providing traditional education is exempt from submitting a recognition application if its name appears within the following global rankings:
  - within the top 700 universities in Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)
  - Within the top 500 universities in the QS World University Ranking
  - Within the top 500 universities in Times Higher Education World University Rankings.
- c. The Recognition Committee may request the Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution to provide it with any additional supporting documents deemed necessary to decide on the recognition application.

**Article 7:** A Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution is considered legally recognized for the purpose of granting community college Certificate, provided that the institution is accredited by the competent official authority in the country where it is located.

**Article 8-a:** The Recognition Committee may reconsider its decision to recognize a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution if it becomes apparent that the institution has violated these regulations, or if new updates necessitate such reconsideration.

b. The Recognition Committee may reconsider its decision not to recognize a Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution if it is furnished with the due supporting documents demonstrating the institution's adherence to the recognition criteria and standards outlined in these instructions.

c. The head of the Recognition Committee may assign a number of its members to visit the Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution to verify its compliance with the recognition criteria and standards stipulated in these instructions, upon invitation from the institution.

**Article 9:** The Recognition Committee shall decide on cases not addressed in these instructions.

**Article 10:** The Instructions for the recognition of Non-Jordanian Higher Education Institution No. (2) of 2018, shall be hereby repealed.

**Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
Prof. Dr. Azmi Mahafza**