

Press Release

Accreditation Council Approves New FAQs and Reviews 211 Applications for Program and System Accreditation, as Well as One Application for an Alternative Procedure

Bonn, July 6, 2026

The Accreditation Council convened on June 25, 2026, for its 129th meeting, which took place virtually.

At this meeting, it adopted two new FAQs: one providing guidance on the development of examination concepts (<https://akkreditierungsrat.de/faq-kategorie/pruefungskonzept/>) in accordance with the revised version of Section 12(5)(4) of the MRVO, and one regarding degree programs with a special profile (<https://akkreditierungsrat.de/faq-category/degree-programs-with-special-profile-claims/>).

Furthermore, the Accreditation Council accredited the alternative procedure at the Faculty of Business and Law at Pforzheim University. This resulted in two firsts: First, this is the first alternative procedure to apply exclusively to a subunit of a university. Second, it is the first procedure of this kind to emerge from an experiment conducted under the experimental clause of the former system.

The procedure is based on the “Faculty Review,” which received a positive evaluation as early as 2020 and has now been further developed. It combines the program accreditation of all degree programs within the faculty with an assessment of its strategic goals and the extent to which those goals have been achieved. The purpose of the process is to support the faculty’s strategic development with an eye toward the future and to systematically enhance the effectiveness of its measures.

The Chair of the Accreditation Council, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans-Joachim Bargstädt, emphasizes the particular added value of the process: “The alternative process is particularly well-suited to actively involving many faculty members in the faculty’s quality development and goal achievement. This results in a significant benefit for the entire institution.”

Twelve applications for institutional accreditation were also submitted for consideration at the meeting. The Accreditation Council granted six institutions the authority to independently accredit their degree programs for eight years, based on the initial or reaccreditation of their internal quality assurance systems. For five applications for system accreditation, the Council confirmed that the institution had successfully implemented improvement measures to meet the requirements; one institution subsequently demonstrated compliance with the formal

requirement that all degree programs have gone through the quality management system.

Another 199 applications were for program accreditation and covered 528 degree programs. Accreditation was revoked for degree programs in three applications; six individual applications and one bundled application were rejected. The Accreditation Council certified that all other degree programs met a high standard of quality.

The Accreditation Council is the central decision-making body of the Accreditation Council Foundation (formerly the Foundation for the Accreditation of Degree Programs in Germany). The foundation, based in Bonn, was established by the 16 federal states and tasked with organizing the German accreditation system. Since the intergovernmental agreement took effect on January 1, 2018, its main task has been to make decisions regarding program and system accreditations as well as alternative procedures.

Further information:

Accreditation Council Foundation
Sara Kammler, Head of Committee Support/Public Relations Adenauerallee
73, 53113 Bonn
Tel: (0228) 338306-0, Fax: (0228) 338306-79
kammler@akkreditierungsrat.de
www.akkreditierungsrat.de