

## Royal Decree 420/2015, of 29 May, governing the creation, recognition, authorisation and accreditation of universities and university centres

### CHAPTER III

#### Institutional accreditation

##### Article 14 Institutional accreditation of public and private university centres

1. The university will request the institutional accreditation of its centres by ANECA or, where applicable, by the external evaluation body of the autonomous community in whose area the university is located and which must be registered with the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR).

ANECO, or the aforementioned corresponding evaluation body, will issue a binding evaluation report for the Council of Universities, which will subsequently issue its accreditation decision that will be sent to the university, to the autonomous community and to the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports in order for this to be listed as an accredited centres in the Register of Universities, Centres and Degrees.

2. In order to obtain institutional accreditation, higher education centres must comply with the following requirements:

A) To have renewed the initial accreditation of at least half of the official undergraduate and master's degrees that are taught pursuant to the general procedures stipulated in article 27 bis of Royal Decree 1393/2007 of 29 October which establishes the planning of official university education.

B) To be certified for the implementation of its internal quality assurance system geared towards continuous improvement in the education provided to students, in accordance with the provisions of section 9 of Annex I of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of 29 October, and also in accordance with the criteria and guidelines for quality assurance of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

3. In the event that one or more degrees are taught in different centres belonging to the same university, accreditation of the centres involved cannot be sought until the accreditation is renewed for the degree or degrees in question pursuant to Royal Decree 1393/2007 of 29 October.

4. The certificate of implementation of their internal quality assurance system may be issued by ANECA or by the evaluation bodies as set out in the law of the autonomous communities and listed in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR). The process undertaken by the evaluation bodies in order to issue this

certificate must follow the protocol which, as proposed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, is established during the General Conference on University Policy.

5. The renewal of the accreditation of the centres, or institutional reaccreditation must take place within five years of receiving the first, or subsequent, accreditation decision from the Council of Universities. The evaluation procedure for institutional reaccreditation must include a report from an external and independent panel of experts, which requests the accreditation, appointed by ANECA, or by the external evaluation bodies of the autonomous community where the university is located, these being listed in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR). The procedure followed by agencies to carry out the institutional reaccreditation of centres must follow the general protocol which, as proposed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, is established during the General Conference on University Policy. Said protocol must always comply with the provisions of Law 30/1992, of 26 November, on the Legal Regime of Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure. ANECA and the external evaluation bodies of the autonomous communities will mutually provide information regarding the aforementioned evaluations.

6. In the event that the Council of Universities rules to reject an accreditation request, the university must request the renewal of the accreditation of all its official degrees pursuant to article 27 bis of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of 29 October, within a period of one year from the decision date.