

THE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

...Quality is the Key

The Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) is the principal body in Trinidad and Tobago responsible for the quality assurance of post secondary and tertiary level institutions, programmes and awards. ACTT was established in 2004 by The Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago Act, Chapter 39:06 of the Laws of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. It was formally launched on November 28, 2005 and currently operates three (3) offices in Port of Spain, San Fernando and Tobago.

The establishment of ACTT has transformed the higher education landscape in Trinidad and Tobago. ACTT was established to regulate the sector, which plays a key role in the development of a creative and productive workforce and an articulate, resilient and empowered citizenry capable of transforming the society and securing the future of the nation. The mechanisms used to regulate the sector include:

- Conferment of Institutional Title
- Registration of Post Secondary and Tertiary Level Institutions
- Accreditation of Post Secondary and Tertiary Level Institutions and Programmes
- Programme Approval
- Recognition of Transnational Programmes
- Recognition of Programmes and Qualifications
- Equivalence Assessment

ACTT provides quality enhancement support which fosters continual quality improvement in post secondary and tertiary level institutions for effective learning experiences for students.

ACTT has created a [Compendium of Registered, Accredited and Recognised Institutions, Awarding Bodies and Programmes](#) which assists students and other stakeholders in making informed decisions when choosing an institution or programme which best meets their educational and career/professional goals. The Compendium is available on the Council's website: www.actt.org.tt

Vision

ACTT will be the principal authority in Trinidad and Tobago for quality assurance and continuous improvement in higher education and a leader in innovation and best practice.

Mission

To assure the quality and integrity of higher education primarily through recognition, registration and accreditation as well as public education and related activities, while ensuring the efficiency and transparency of our operations and demonstrating commitment to national development and global competitiveness.

Core Values

ACTT's core values include:

- accountability
- commitment to personal growth and development
- customer focus
- integrity
- teamwork
- trust

Services

FOR STUDENTS

- Provision of Statements on Recognition of institutions and qualifications - This service is used to determine whether the qualification from a foreign institution is quality assured by a legitimate agency in the country of origin.
- Equivalence assessments of foreign qualifications to local qualification - This service is used to determine the comparable academic value of a foreign qualification in Trinidad and Tobago.

FOR INSTITUTIONS

- Conferment of Institutional Title for those that wish to use any of the protected titles that are listed in the Act – This service is used to identify the appropriate title for an institution.

- Registration of post secondary and tertiary level institutions – This is a mandatory process whereby post secondary and tertiary level institutions demonstrate that they have met the minimum criteria to operate in Trinidad and Tobago. With the exception of Conferment of Institutional Title, Registration is the gateway to access other services offered by ACTT, such as Programme Approval, Accreditation and Recognition of foreign programmes, awarding bodies and institutions. The Registered status awarded to an institution is between one (1) and three (3) years.
- Institutional Accreditation of post secondary and tertiary level institutions – This is a voluntary process through which ACTT externally reviews registered post secondary and tertiary level institutions in order to assure academic quality, improve accountability and support continual institutional development. Accredited status is granted to an institution that has been evaluated and found to have met or exceeded stated criteria of educational quality. ACTT grants Institutional Accreditation for periods of five (5), seven (7) or ten (10) years.
- Specialised/Programme Accreditation – This service usually applies to disciplines for which there are licensing/registration requirements for employment (e.g. medicine, psychiatry, dentistry, nursing, law, engineering, social work and architecture). The accreditation of programmes relies significantly on the involvement of the relevant professional body/association for the specialised knowledge field, as well as educators and practising professionals in the field.
- Programme Approval of new and amended locally developed programmes offered by registered and accredited institutions – The primary aim of Programme Approval is to ensure that programmes offered by post secondary and tertiary level institutions within Trinidad and Tobago meet the standard of the field of study and practice. Programmes are approved for a period of five (5) years.
- Recognition of transnational programmes – Transnational programmes are offered by foreign institutions and awarding bodies in collaboration with local post secondary and tertiary level institutions. Transnational recognition is a process through which ACTT quality assures foreign programmes that are delivered by local institutions in Trinidad and Tobago.