

**BULGARIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM
AND ACCREDITATION AGENCY'S APPROACH
TO QUALITY ASSURANCE**

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Table 1: Higher Education Institutions in Bulgaria by type and form of ownership

(2004)

	Total	Universities and equivalent HEIs	Colleges	
			At the universities	Independent
Total	51	42	41	9
Public	37	35	41	2
Private	14	7	0	7

Table 2: National System of Higher Education Degrees

Degree		Type	Issued by:	Min. Years of Study
Higher Education Diploma of “A Specialist in...”		Post-secondary higher education	College	3
Bachelor		First Qualification Degree	University or Equivalent institution	4
Master:	After Bachelor	Second Qualification Degree	University or Equivalent institution	1
	Integrated (longterm) Master	Qualification Degree	University or Equivalent institution	5
Doctor		Scientific Qualification Degree	Academy, University or Equivalent institution	3

Outline of the Aspects of Provision in Institutional Evaluation

- 1. The effectiveness of the internal system for quality assurance
- 2. The effectiveness of the internal procedures for approval, monitoring and updating of study programmes
- 3. The effectiveness of procedures dealing with actions taken with regard to previous accreditations and other external reviews of the quality
- 4. The effectiveness of the overall institutional management and control over the processes of student and staff assessment
- 5. The management of the credit accumulation and credit transfer system
- 6. The management of cooperation with other higher education institutions and organizations
- 7. Maintenance, management and improvement of the facilities and learning resources
- 8. Research activity and the involvement of students in it.

Outline of the Aspects of Provision in Programme evaluation

- 1. Structure, design and content of curricula
- 2. Academic staff profile and qualification
- 3. Learning resources
- 4. Teaching methods and assessment of student achievements
- 5. The quality management
- 6. The research activity of teaching staff and students.

Table 3: Evaluation and Accreditation Results in 2003-2004

Type of Evaluation Procedure	2003		2004	
	Total Nr. of evaluations	Unsatisfactory/Failed	Total Nr. of evaluations	Unsatisfactory/Failed
Institutional accreditation/ reaccreditation	5	1	2	Pendin Decision
Programme accreditation (Bachelor and Master Programmes and College level programmes)	107	1	229	14
Programme accreditation of Doctoral Programmes	146	31	254	33
Projects for new programmes	33	9	40	12
Projects for transformation of existing or establishment of new institutions and faculties	10	3	12	6
Total	301	45	537	65

Table 3-A: Results of Programme accreditation of Bachelor and Master Programmes and College level programmes, leading to professional degree of “Specialist” (ISCED 5B level)

Year	Total Nr. evaluated	Nr. of rated “Very Good”	Nr. of rated “Good”	Nr. of rated “Satisfactory”	Nr. of rated “Unsatisfactory”
2004	229	45%	43%	6%	6%
2003	107	8%	65%	25%	2%