



Agency for
Quality Assurance
and Accreditation
Austria

Quality Audit

AQ Austria

The Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria (AQ Austria) is an internationally recognized agency, active in quality assurance (QA) and quality enhancement of higher education. The agency's activities comprise audits of an institution's quality assurance system, accreditation of national and international degree programmes and higher education institutions (HEIs) as well as consultancy services on the implementation and enhancement of quality assurance instruments and systems. AQ Austria performs all of its activities across the European Higher Education Area. In conducting analyses and studies on topics relating to higher education reform and development, AQ Austria draws on its wide-ranging experience.

AQ Austria's principles

- HEIs bear the main responsibility for the quality of their activities and for quality assurance (QA)
- QA procedures support a HEI's quality enhancement
- reviewers are „critical friends“
- international good practice standards (ESG, fteval, DeGEval) serve as model for all procedures

Expertise of AQ Austria

- 20 years of experience in conducting institutional reviews (quality audit, evaluation, accreditation)
- long-standing expertise in conducting peer review procedures
- consultancy activities on establishing quality assurance systems
- international activities (focusing on German-speaking countries and South-Eastern Europe)
- board members are international experts on quality assurance in higher education

International Recognition

- Full Member of ENQA, CEENQA, INQAAHE, EURASHE, affiliate of EUA
- listed on EQAR
- accredited by the Accreditation Council in Germany

The AQ Austria quality audit

- enhancement-led approach
- support to the higher education institution in the preparation for the audit
- selection of reviewers in due consideration of the higher education institution's profile
- reviewers are briefed in consideration of the higher education institution's objectives
- guidance of the higher education institution throughout the entire procedure
- certification decision made by the independent, international Board of AQ Austria
- continuous exchange of expertise with other European agencies as a means to further develop the audit procedure

Objectives of a quality audit

An audit supports quality enhancement and confirms that a higher education institution has established a functioning internal quality assurance system.

Your contact persons at AQ Austria

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