

## QUALITY ASSURANCE PRACTICES OF AACCUP INSTITUTIONALLY ACCREDITED SUCS IN THE PHILIPPINES: A MODEL FOR BENCHMARKING

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## **ABSTRACT**

Institutional Accreditation by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities (AACCUP) is a leveled-up process undergone by State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the Philippines to assure the public of the quality of service that it can deliver. The AACCUP uses a different set of criteria utilizing the same set of nine areas in accrediting SUCs in the country. As with different accrediting institutions, the practices of the AACCUP must be updated to ensure relevance with the times. This study is in line with ensuring that the model for accrediting IA SUCs is evaluated properly utilizing the current lens. The study involved a mixed methods research design which involves a quantitative phase 1 and a qualitative phase 2 for developing a model. Eleven out of the 14 AACCUP IA SUCs participated in the study. The first phase of the model building is a quantitative analysis of the data during the time that the participating IA SUCs had their accreditation. The results of the quantitative analysis provided an impetus to evaluate the indicators of the existing model. The qualitative part of the study involved an evaluation of the commendations received by the IA SUCs during their accreditation time. The results of the qualitative analysis led to the generation of 184 indicators. The 184 indicators are distributed over the nine a priori areas of the AACCUP adopted for the model of the study. Validation of the initial model led to the refinement and trimming of the indicators in the drafted model. The validation involved nine experts in different areas. The validation involved four steps which include: evaluation, organization, comparison, and recommendation. The items were trimmed to 178. The final model generated was a 178 set of indicators distributed over the nine areas of accreditation. The following is the distribution of the indicators: Area I. Governance and Management (29), Area II. Teaching Learning and Evaluation (16), Area III. Faculty and Staff (16), Area IV. Research (18), Area V. Extension, Consultancy and Linkages (22), Area VI. Support to Students (17), Area VII. Library (13), Area VIII. Infrastructure and Learning Resources (21), and Area IX. Quality Assurance Culture (26).

Keywords: Accreditation; AACCUP, IA SUCs, Model development