



VIA University College
Rector Harald Mikkelsen
Birgitte Ashorn Quelle

Sent by e-mail:

hm@viauc.dk, viauc@viauc.dk, baq@viauc.dk

Positive institutional accreditation of VIA University College

On 1 December 2016, the Accreditation Council granted VIA University College (VIA) a **positive institutional accreditation**, cf. section 8 of the Accreditation Act¹. The Council has reached its decision on the basis of the enclosed accreditation report from the Danish Accreditation Institution. The accreditation report is based on VIA's comments to the draft accreditation report, VIA's self-evaluation report, and other documentation.

The Accreditation Council has reached its decision in making an overall assessment on the basis of the criteria stated in the Accreditation Executive Order², the guidelines in the guidance on institutional accreditation (*Vejledning om institution-sakkreditering*) of 1 July 2013, and the memo from the Accreditation Council dated 23 June 2016 on assessment of the quality assurance systems at institutions (*Vurdering af institutionernes kvalitetssikringssystemer*).

Firstly, the Accreditation Council has assessed that VIA continuously carries out the initiatives described in the subsidiary points to the five criteria in the Accreditation Executive Order. The accreditation panel considers the problems identified in the institutional accreditation to be minor and clearly defined problems which the executive board at VIA is already aware of and which, in the Accreditation Council's assessment, are presently being addressed by the institution in a satisfying manner.

Secondly, the Accreditation Council has assessed that there is a high level of quality in the implementation of the quality assurance work. This means that VIA's initiatives are well-described and are based on a well-functioning and systematic practice. The institution has a well-developed information system with relevant data for the individual study programmes and predefined policies for when and how the management will take action if a programme is exhibiting problems. Moreover, the information flow vertically and horizontally in the organisation is well-functioning and supports well-founded initiatives. VIA also carries out continuous adjustments to its quality assurance practice, and there is a broad-based commitment among institution staff and management which leads to the development and application of acquired experience in future initiatives.

The Accreditation Council refers to the accreditation report for a detailed basis for the Council's decision.

A positive institutional accreditation means that the institution can make adjustments to existing study programmes and local provisions of study programmes, cf. section 9(1) of the Accreditation Act. The institution can also establish new study

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The Danish Accreditation Institution

Bredgade 38
1260 Copenhagen K
Denmark

Phone +45 3392 6900
Fax +45 3392 6901
E-mail akkr@akkr.dk
Website www.akkr.dk

CVR no. 3060 3907

Responsible

Rune Heiberg Hansen
Phone +45 72 31 88 07
E-mail rhh@akkr.dk

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¹ Act no. 601 of 12 June 2013 on accreditation of higher education institutions (the Accreditation Act)

² Executive Order no. 852 of 3 July 2015 on accreditation of higher education institutions and approval of higher education study programmes (the Accreditation Executive Order)



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programmes and new local provision of study programmes when they have been pre-qualified and approved, cf. sections 18 and 21 of the Accreditation Act.

The accreditation is valid until and including 1 December 2022, cf. section 9 of the Accreditation Act.

The Accreditation Council will notify the minister of the positive accreditation designated to the institution.

Please note that this letter is a translation of the original letter in Danish, sent to VIA University College on 2 December 2016 with the reference number 16/057003-02.

If you have any queries, you are welcome to contact Executive Director Anette Dørge at email: akkr@akkr.dk.

Yours sincerely,

The Danish Accreditation
Institution

Per B. Christensen
Chairman
The Accreditation Council

Anette Dørge
Executive Director
The Danish Accreditation Institution

Annex:
Copy of the accreditation report

This letter has also been sent to:
The Danish Agency for Higher Education, the Ministry of Higher Education and Science