

UNIVERSITY BUREAU
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)
For
AICTE-NORTH EAST QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME
(NEQIP)
(2013-16)

1. What is AICTE-NEQIP Scheme?

Ans. *The Project "AICTE-North East Quality Improvement Programme (NEQIP)" is implemented by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in pursuance of the National Policy on Education (NPE-1986 revised in 1992) and Special attention given to the economic development of the North Eastern Region.*

2. What is the eligibility of Institutes to participate and avail the Financial Grant-in-AID under the AICTE-NEQIP Scheme?

Ans. *The AICTE-NEQIP Scheme is open for participation by: (a) the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved Government and Government aided Polytechnics and (b) Government and Government aided Engineering institutions (c) AICTE approved university departments of the States of North Eastern Region (NER) of India.*

3. What are the Objectives of AICTE – NEQIP Scheme (2013-16) ?

Ans. *The AICTE-NEQIP Scheme envisages the following objectives:*

- *Strengthening institutions in terms of infrastructure.*
- *Strengthening institutions in terms of faculty competence and quality of teaching, research and consultancy.*
- *Strengthening institutions in terms of academics to improve learning outcomes and employability of students*

4. Which are the eligibility norms/requirement of the Institutions to avail grant-in-aid under the Scheme ?

Ans. *The Institutes must fulfill the following :*

- *One batch should have passed out;*
- *Minimum 3 Courses approved by AICTE in Engineering including courses either at Diploma (3 years)/Post Diploma (1 ½ year)/UG Degree (4 years)/PG Degree (2 years) currently being conducted;*
- *Minimum 50% faculty positions filled out of which 30% on full-time regular basis as percentage of the total faculty positions sanctioned in accordance with the AICTE prescribed student-to-faculty ratio;*
- *Board of Governors in place with an eminent educationist or Industrialist as the Chairperson.*

5. How the IDPs can be sent ?

Ans. *The IDPs must be forwarded by the Directorate of Technical Higher Education of the concerned State of NER.*

6. Are the Institutes already receiving TEQIP Grant eligible to apply under the Scheme?

Ans. *No. The Institutions presently receiving TEQIP Grant are not eligible for receiving Grant-in-aid under NEQIP Scheme.*

7. What is the method of assessment of the Proposals?

Ans. The Institutional Development Proposals (IDPs) received from the eligible Polytechnic and Degree Engineering Institutions in the States of NER are evaluated by a Committee, namely, the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC), the Experts of which are eminent educationist:

8. What is the duration of the Project?

Ans. The duration of the project is for 3 years from the date of sanction of the Proposal, duly recommended by PEC and approved by the Competent Authority.

9. What is the limit of funds under the Scheme?

Ans. While the Polytechnic category of institutions is eligible for Grant of Rs. 5 Crore, the Degree Engineering Institutions are eligible for Grant of Rs. 7 crore under the Scheme.

10. How the disbursement of Funds is done?

Ans. The disbursement of the funds is done in the following manner

Disbursement of funds based on projected budget	On Sanction of Proposal	Advance up to 25% of the sanctioned amount
	Year 2	Advance up to 30% of the sanctioned amount
	Year 3	Advance up to 35% of the sanctioned amount
	After Completion of the Project	Reimbursement of actual expenditure up to sanctioned amount (based on UC & Completion Report)

11. What are the documents required to be submitted by the Institute at the time of issue of Offer Letter for grant of Financial Aid under the Scheme ?

Ans: Advance upto 25% of the sanctioned amount is disbursed subject to submission of following documents by the eligible Institute recommended by PEC for grant of aid:

- Letter of Acceptance** duly signed by the Head of the institution.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** (as per Annexure-VII of NEQIP Scheme Document) to be submitted in original duly signed by the Head of the institute & **countersigned** by Director, Tech.Edu./Secretary in State Govt.)/Registrar of University.
- Composition of Board of Governors (BoG) as per **AICTE norms** and an **authenticated copy of the Government Notification** of BoG as per AICTE norms.
- Formation of **Institutional Project Unit (IPU)** as per Clause 9.2 of the AICTE-NEQIP Project guidelines duly notified copy as the IPU is accountable to BoG.
- Duly attested copy of the AICTE Approval letter / EOA (relevant to the year).

12. Which are the documents required to be submitted for each disbursement after the release of 25% of advance towards the first installment?.

Ans. The following documents are required.

- Duly Audited Utilization Certificate and
- Receipt & Payment A/c, duly signed by Head of the Institute and Certified by the Chartered Accountant, as per format prescribed by AICTE
- Progress Report in the prescribe format

13. What is the process of Grant of 2nd Installment under the Scheme?

Ans. Based on the visits of Mentors to the Institute for the purpose of providing guidance about the implementation of the Scheme and review by Performance Auditors in the form of "Data Audit and Performance Review (DAPR)", the Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) makes an assessment to consider suitability of next installment to the Institute fulfilling the required norms.

14. Which department at AICTE deals with the NEQIP matters ?.

Ans. AICTE- University Bureau deals with NEQIP matters ?

15. Who is the Director in-charge of NEQIP and what is e-mail ID ?

Ans. Dr. M.S. Manna, Director, University Bureau is the Bureau Head dealing with NEQIP matters. His e-mail ID is director.aicte@gmail.com and contact No. is 011-23724670.

16. Is it essential for the Institution for to have the Board of Governors (BoG) ?

Ans. Yes, The scheme mandates the Composition of BoG as under:

(a) Composition:

- Each Institution will necessarily have its own BoG, as per AICTE Guidelines and Composition, either appointed by the sponsoring Government or by itself through due procedure and
- The BoG will, in all cases, be headed by an eminent Industrialist/Engineering Education expert with adequate representation from other stakeholders.

(b) Meeting:

The BoG will meet at least quarterly for engineering institutions and thrice in a year for Polytechnic institutions or as often as required and the minutes of BoG meetings will be published on Institution's website as promptly as possible. It will perform the following functions in the context of this Project.

(c) Functions:

The BoG will monitor progress in the carrying out of all the proposed activities, resolve bottlenecks, and enable the Institution to achieve targets for all key indicators. It will ensure proper utilization of Project fund and timely submission of Progress Reports and Utilization Certificates.

17. In my Institute the faculties / staff are assigned additional duty of works relating to NEQIP over & above their normal duty. Can they be remunerated under the Head of expenditure "Incremental Operating Cost"?

Ans.: This does not come giving the purview of "Incremental Operating cost" as the Scheme refers charging of salary expenditure only in respect of contractual faculty and staff appointed against the posts created under the Project either against the study leave of a permanent faculty granted on account of qualification improvement programme or for other purposes within the scope of the Project strictly for the Project duration.

18. Whether the training programme attended by the faculty of any of the beneficiary institutions under AICTE-NEQIP Scheme as Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) can be taken as per of the Scheme ?

Ans. Yes

19. Can any portion of the sanctioned amount be diverted for any purpose other than that for which it has been sanctioned or the funds under different heads of expenses can be clubbed ?

Ans.: *No portion of the sanctioned amount can be diverted for any purpose other than that for which it has been sanctioned. Accordingly, the clubbing of funds is not allowed under the Scheme.*