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ACCREDITATION AND STATUS OF LEBANESE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon
(PMSPL II)

Public version

OCTOBER 2017

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ACCREDITATION AND STATUS OF LEBANESE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

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Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon (PMSPL II) for USAID/Lebanon

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ACRONYMS

AACSB	Faculty of Business Administration and Economics
ABET	Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences
AMIDEAST	America-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc.
ASPA	Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors
AUCE	American University of Culture & Education
AUST	American University of Science & Technology
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BAU	Beirut Arab University
BE	Bachelor of Engineering
BS	Bachelor of Science
BU	Balamand University
CHEA	Council for Higher Education Accreditation
EMBA	Executive Master of Business Administration
HU	Haigazian University
LAU	Lebanese American University
LCU	Lebanese Canadian University
LSU	La Sagesse University
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
MUT	Manar University of Tripoli
NAAB	Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design
NDU	Notre Dame University
NEASC	New England Association of Schools and Colleges
PMSPL II	Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon
RHU	Raffic Harriri University
SFEA	Faculty of Engineering and Architecture
SI	Social Impact, Inc.
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USEK	Universite Saint Esprit Kaslik
USJ	Saint Joseph University
USP	University Scholarship Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon (PMSPL II), was tasked in October 2017 to conduct a quick assessment aiming at identifying the Lebanese private universities accredited in US and obtaining information from the remaining private universities on what it would take for them to become accredited.

To proceed with this task, PMSPL initiated a survey by contacting all recognized Lebanese private universities to obtain an appropriate point of contact. The survey questionnaire was then sent on October 4th to the universities recognized by MEHE, however due to low number of responses received by the 10th of October, further reminder calls were done, and the survey questionnaire was resent to the universities who did not yet participate in the survey. PMSPL received 17 responses out of the 43 surveyed universities. Two universities confirmed not being interested in participating in the survey.

There are two basic types of educational accreditation: one referred to as "institutional," and the other referred to as "specialized" or "programmatic."

- Institutional accreditation applies to entire institutions, indicating that each of an institution's parts is contributing to the achievement of its objectives.
- Specialized or programmatic accreditation normally applies to programs, departments, or schools that are parts of an institution.

By 2017, only AUB and LAU had acquired the US institutional accreditation; noting that USEK and NDU are still in the process of acquiring it. NDU is expected to receive the final decision in 2018, while USEK is still in the eligibility phase of the process.

Programmatic Accreditation has been acquired by several universities namely AUB, LAU, NDU, USEK, BAU, and AUST. The programs accredited are mainly business, computer science and engineering related programs. AUB and LAU have acquired accreditation for their medicine, nursing and pharmacy related programs.

All survey respondents except for two are interested in acquiring the US programmatic accreditation for their faculties and seek guidance and financial support to complete the process. Moreover seven respondents have expressed their need for improvement in infrastructure and human resources.

The Tables 1 and 2 of the report indicate in detail the accreditation status for each of the private university. The report provides information as well on the accreditation process. Annexes include a directory of recognized accreditors, a guide for international institution seeking US accreditation and a directory of the accreditation administrative fees as set by each accreditor.

INTRODUCTION

The Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon (PMSPL II), an activity awarded to Social Impact, Inc. (SI) by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Lebanon, was asked to conduct an assessment with the following purposes:

Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) recognizes a total of 47 private universities categorized as private universities (35), religious studies (4), university colleges and technology institutions (8). Not all of these are accredited in the United States (US). Some private universities have no interest in obtaining accreditation, while others desire to become accredited but are unfamiliar with the procedures to obtain US accreditation. PMSPL II was asked to survey all private universities excluding the religious studies to obtain information with the following objectives:

- Find out which universities are accredited, and which are not;
- For those that are not, what it would take for them to become accredited;
- Some universities are not accredited at the institutional level, but they are at the academic program level, so USAID would like to know which programs are accredited

Accreditation is not a way to rank member institutions. Rather, it is a process that validates the integrity of an educational institution. For the student, it is an indication that the institution or program meets certain standards of excellence.

For USAID to be able to support students in accessing higher education under the University Scholarship Program, universities should have requirements similar to American accreditation. Accreditation is required for access to federal funds such as student aid and other federal programs. Federal student aid funds are available to students only if the institution or program they are attending is accredited by a recognized accrediting organization

To proceed with this task, PMSPL initiated the survey by contacting all recognized Lebanese private¹ universities to obtain an appropriate point of contact. The survey questionnaire was then sent on October 4th to the universities recognized by MEHE, follow-on calls were made and 10 responses were collected by the 10th of October. During the 3rd week of October, PMSPL re-approached the universities that did not participate in the survey, and the questionnaire was resent to the prime contact at the universities. A total of 17 responses from private universities were received by the 23 of October 23, 2017 and information was complemented with an online review of the universities' websites. No responses were received from technology institutes and colleges. Two universities

¹ The Lebanese University, public university is not accredited by an American accreditor for the following reasons: accreditation is provided only to private institutions. **For Free-standing institutions abroad:** CIHE's criteria for consideration include the following requirements, among others: that the institution be American-style, that it be independent (non-governmental)... <https://cihe.neasc.org/about-accreditation/becoming-accredited>

confirmed not being interested in participating in the survey. Annex B provides the list of universities that were contacted to participate in the survey.

The universities that participated in the survey are the following:

1. Lebanese American University (LAU)
2. Saint Joseph University (USJ)
3. Beirut Arab University (BAU)
4. La Sagesse University (LSU)
5. Raffic Harriri University (RHU)
6. Universite Saint Esprit Kaslik (USEK)
7. Balamand University (BU)
8. American University of Culture & Education (AUCE)
9. Haigazian University (HU)
10. Notre Dame University (NDU)
11. Lebanese Canadian University –(LCU)
12. Al-Manar University of Tripoli
13. American University of Beirut (AUB)
14. American University of Science and Technology (AUST)
15. Antonin University (UPA)
16. Modern University of Business & Sciences (MUB)
17. Lebanese German University (LGU)

LEBANESE US ACCREDITED UNIVERSITIES, INSTITUTIONS, AND PROGRAMS

There are two basic types of educational accreditation: one referred to as "institutional," and the other referred to as "specialized" or "programmatic."

- Institutional accreditation applies to entire institutions, indicating that each of an institution's parts is contributing to the achievement of its objectives.
- Specialized or programmatic accreditation normally applies to programs, departments, or schools that are parts of an institution.

In Lebanon, out of the 31 universities recognized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, only AUB and LAU have the US institutional accreditation. These two universities also have US program accreditation, along with USEK, American University of Science & Technology (AUST), NDU, and BAU. Program accreditation mainly covers the faculties of engineering, business, science, nursing, and pharmacy. Details on programmatic accreditation of Lebanese private universities are elaborated in Table I below.

NDU and USEK are in the process of being institutionally accredited in the US. NDU has been granted *Candidate for Accreditation* status by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. NDU has proven compliance with the *Requirements of Affiliation*, the University has completed the eligibility phase and is expected to become institutionally accredited in Fall 2018.

Since 2012, USEK has been engaged in the institutional accreditation process with the American Institutional Accreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) - Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE). After getting in alignment with their requirements of affiliation for free-standing institutions abroad, USEK submitted its first draft Report of Eligibility to NEASC – CIHE on July 7, 2015. A site visit is still expected to be held by the President of the Commission. Meanwhile, two encouraging meetings were held between USEK leadership and CIHE President, Dr. Barbara Brittingham: In December 2015 during NEASC Annual Meeting in Boston and in October 2016 at the NEASC premises in Burlington. Updated versions of the draft eligibility report were also sent on December 2015, March 2016 and October 2016.

La Sagesse University is preparing to initiate the institutional and the programmatic accreditation processes. The university working now to implement a new system for managing the institution and is developing following up measures to address gaps in its programs, in order to initiate the process of accreditation for the institution and its programs. The university is not working yet with a US accreditor.

It is worth noting that Lebanese private universities may also seek European accreditation. This is the case of USEK which was accredited in Germany by Evalag and has renewed in 2017. The Balamand University is accredited in Germany by ACQUIN until 2020; Furthermore, the AUCE got in 2010 the accreditation of the British Accreditation Council (BAC) for Independent Further and Higher Education. Antonin University (UPA) has acquired the institutional accreditation in Switzerland. The defined quality standards vary per country and per accreditation system; however, the self-evaluation is a common

approach to all accreditation systems. The BAC UK standards are close to the US standards and address the following:

- Governance, Strategy and Financial Management
- Academic Management and Administration
- Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- Student Recruitment, Support, Guidance and Progression
- Premises, Facilities and Learning Resources
- Quality Management, Assurance and Enhancement

The German standards adopted by EVALAG and ACQUIN follows standards, criteria, and guidelines that are set for quality assurance by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education; such standards address mainly the quality of education in terms of the following aspects: quality assurance policies and continuous quality monitoring, design of education programs, approach for learning, student admission, teaching staff, and learning resources.

In Lebanon, America-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc. (AMIDEAST) offers guidance to Lebanese academic institutions interested in obtaining US accreditation. AMIDEAST provides the following types of support:

- Explaining US accreditation procedures;
- Introducing Lebanese academic institutions to the appropriate US accrediting bodies.

TABLE 1: US ACCREDITATION STATUS OF LEBANESE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

UNIVERSITY NAME	NOTES	IS THE UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONALLY ACCREDITED IN THE US?	DOES THE UNIVERSITY HAVE A US ACCREDITED PROGRAM?	LIST OF PROGRAMS AND FACULTIES	ACCREDITOR	VALIDITY OF ACCREDITATION	SOURCE OF INFORMATION
American University of Beirut		Yes By MSCHE	Yes	<p>The Faculty of Health Sciences' Graduate Public Health Program</p> <hr/> <p>Faculty of Engineering and Architecture (SFEA)'s: (BE Civil Engineering, BE Computer and Communications Engineering, BE in Electrical and Computer Engineering, BE Mechanical Engineering)</p> <hr/> <p>Chemical Engineering programs</p> <hr/> <p>The Faculty of Medicine's residency training programs in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynecology</p> <hr/> <p>The Faculty of Medicine's residency training programs in Anesthesiology, Diagnostic Radiology, General Surgery, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, Neurology, Pediatrics and Psychiatry in.</p> <hr/> <p>School of Nursing</p> <hr/> <p>The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Undergraduate Nutrition and Dietetics Coordinated Program (NDCP)</p> <hr/> <p>School of Business</p>	<p>Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)</p> <hr/> <p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p> <hr/> <p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p> <hr/> <p>Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education – International (ACGME-I)</p> <hr/> <p>Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education – International (ACGME-I)</p> <hr/> <p>Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics</p> <hr/> <p>Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business</p>	<p>2018</p> <hr/> <p>2024</p> <hr/> <p>2020</p> <hr/> <p>2022</p> <hr/> <p>2024</p> <hr/> <p>2017</p> <hr/> <p>2024</p> <hr/> <p>2019</p>	<p>Survey October 2017</p>

Lebanese American University	LAU is currently undergoing accreditation for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School of Architecture and Design • School of Engineering (Petroleum Engineering and the B.E. in Mechatronics Engineering) • School of Arts and Sciences • B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics 	Yes by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)	Yes	School of Engineering	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology	2023	Survey October 2017
				School of Arts and Sciences (Computer Science program)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology	2023	
				School of Nursing	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	2018	
				School of Business (Business Studies economics, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Master of Business Administration (MBA) , Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)	2021	
				School of Pharmacy	Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).	2023	
Beirut Arab University (BAU)	No	No	Yes	Bachelor of Communications & Electronics Engineering (B.Eng.)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology	2017	Survey October 2017
				Bachelor of Computer Science (BS)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology	2017	
Holly Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)	Institutional accreditation in US is in process. New programmatic accreditations are in process and final decision are expected to be released by ABET in July 2018 for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS in Actuarial and Financial 	No	Yes	Computer Science (BS)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology		Survey October 2017
				Information Technology (BS)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology		
				Faculty of Agricultural and Food Science Agricultural Engineering (Engineering Diploma)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology		

	<p>Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS in Nursing Sciences and Civil Engineering • BE in Civil Engineering <p>The Faculty of Business & Commercial Sciences and the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts are announced eligible for accreditation</p> <p>USEK BECAME ACCREDITATEDFOR ITS STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (non US)</p>			<p>Faculty of Engineering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biomedical Engineering (BE) Chemical Engineering (BE) Computer Engineering (BE) Electrical and Electronics Engineering (BE) Mechanical Engineering (BE) Communications Engineering (BE) 	<p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p>		
Notre Dame University (NDU)	<p>NDU is already Candidate for institutional accreditation with NEASC and is expected to become fully accredited in Fall 2018</p>	No	Yes	<p>School of Engineering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil Engineering (BE) Mechanical Engineering (BE) Electrical Engineering (BE) Computer Engineering (BE) <p>Advertising and Marketing (BA)</p>	<p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p> <p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p>	2021	<p>Survey October 2017</p>
American University of Science & Technology (AUST)		No	Yes	<p>Business programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Master of Business Administration -Bachelor of Science in Business Administration <p>The Bachelor of Science degree program in Computer Science</p> <p>Bachelor of Science degree programs in Computer and Communications Engineering, and Computer and Communications Engineering with Minors in Biomedical Engineering and Biomedical Sciences</p>	<p>International Accreditation Council for Business Education</p> <p>Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology</p>		<p>Survey October 2017</p>
La Sagesse University (ULS)		No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	<p>Survey October 2017</p>

Middle East University (MEU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Saint Joseph University (USJ) –	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
University of Balamand	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Lebanese International University (LIU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Islamic University of Lebanon (IUL)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Beirut Islamic University (BIU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Makassed University of Beirut (MU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Antonin University (UPA)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Jinan University (JU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Global University (GU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Arab Open University (AOU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Manar University of Tripoli (MUT)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Rafic Hariri University (RHU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
American University of Technology (AUT)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Lebanese German University (LGU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Modern University of Business & Sciences (MUBS)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Arts Sciences & Technology University of Lebanon (AUL)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review

Lebanese French University of Technology and Applied Sciences (LFU)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Lebanese Canadian University	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Survey October 2017
Al-Kafaat University AKU	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review
Sainte Family University (USF)	No	No	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Desk review

US-RECOGNIZED ACCREDITORS

Accreditors are private, nonprofit organizations that carry out the accreditation process. Some review entire institutions and they can be regional, faith-based or private career accreditors; while others review programs such as law, medicine or business and they are referred to as programmatic accreditors. These organizations undertake the accreditation responsibility in quite similar ways, each requiring a self-study by the institution or program under review, a review by peers (including a site visit in most cases) and a judgment about accredited status. These judgments are based on standards of quality developed by the accrediting organization in consultation with the higher education community. While each accrediting organization establishes its own standards by which institutions and programs are accredited, these standards all address similar areas, such as expected student achievement, curriculum, faculty, services and academic support for students and financial capacity.

To be officially recognized, an accrediting body must meet one or both of the following criteria:

- It is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) or the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA);
- It is recognized by the US Department of Education; While the US Department of Education is not a higher education "ministry" and is not involved in the process of accrediting institutions, it does publish a database of accredited programs and institutions at: <https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Index.aspx>.

CHEA has six standards by which it reviews accrediting organizations for recognition. The standards place primary emphasis on academic quality assurance and improvement for an institution or program. They require accreditors to advance academic quality, demonstrate accountability, encourage purposeful change and needed improvement, employ appropriate and fair procedures in decision making, continually reassess accreditation practices and sustain fiscal stability.

CHEA is supported by the:

- American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
- American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)
- American Council on Education (ACE)
- Association of American Universities (AAU)
- Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)
- National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU)
- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)

Annex C provides a directory of the US recognized accreditor and specify their scope of work along with their geographic coverage. Additional details on the US recognized accrediting bodies can be found on the website of the [US department of education](#).

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

Specific requirements and standards vary between accrediting bodies. However, any institution or program accredited by a recognized accrediting body must²:

- Have an overall stated purpose (often called a mission) that defines the students it serves and the objectives of the institution's or program's activities;
- Control the resources necessary to achieve its purposes; that is, the institution must control its own financial resources, employ adequately prepared faculty and instructional staff, admit only those students whose qualifications make them able to benefit from the programs offered, and present educational programs in a coherent and current manner;
- Be effective in achieving its immediate objectives;
- Provide evidence that it will continue to achieve those objectives for the near future.

Accrediting associations assess the performance of an institution or a program compared to its stated mission and the accrediting body's standards. Recognized accrediting bodies follow a three-step process to ensure quality:

- **The institutional self-study:** Self-study is at the heart of accreditation. The institution carries out a self-study and submits a report to the accrediting body. The self-study and report address the accrediting standards and mainly include the institution's mission, academic programs, faculty, financial, and other tangible resources, information resources, student services, physical facilities, and system of governance. Preparation should begin at least eighteen months before the date of the team evaluation visit, and some institutions begin planning more than two years in advance. AUB has initiated a two years plan to complete a self-study by 2019; its first self-study was initiated the design of the study in summer 2001 and completed in fall 2003. A well-planned comprehensive self-study, visiting team evaluation, Commission decision, and follow-up processes can encompass three to five years.
- **The on-site evaluation:** An outside group of academics representing the accrediting association visits the institution to validate what the institution has reported in its self-study, determine whether the institution or program meets the accreditation standards of the agency, make suggestions for the improvement of the institution or program, and submit a report for consideration by the accrediting association's governing body.
- **Commission review and decision:** Commission review of the self-study, team report, and any institutional response occurs at one of the Commission's four regular meetings each year. The governing body decides whether or not to grant accreditation. Accreditation is never partial, so there is no difference between the terms "fully accredited" and "accredited."

Institutions located outside the states such as Lebanese Universities, should initiate the process with an eligibility phase that is specific for Free-Standing Institutions operating abroad. Eligibility is a finding by

² <https://www.educationusa.info/accreditation.php>

the Accreditor that the institution substantially meets the Requirements of Affiliation for Free-Standing Institutions Abroad and may, apply for candidacy for accreditation within the next two years.

Annex D is a guide developed by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC-CIHE) Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, on the requirement of Affiliation for international candidates.

The accreditation process does not end once an institution has successfully had an accreditation visit and decision. Institutions and/or programs within institutions must file annual reports, reply to rulings made by the accrediting body, and undergo regular visits at least once every five to ten years³. Universities must also notify their accreditors if they undergo any significant changes - for example, in ownership, mission, location of campuses, or offering of a degree at a higher level.

Accrediting associations require institutions to engage in constant self-assessment to keep their programs as current as possible. Such assessments ensure that an institution's graduates are prepared to meet the current needs of modern society, and that they have developed the capacity for continued learning.

The investment allocated for the accreditation process varies between universities as it is related to the number of programs that are to be accredited and the enhancement needed to meet the accreditor required standards. According to one respondent, each programmatic accreditation process was allocated an administrative fee \$40,000 to \$45,000, including fees from visiting teams. In addition to this, there is an annual accreditation fee of about \$6,000 per program renewal. Administrative prices may vary as well from one accreditor to another. Another respondent stated that paying around \$30,000 of administrative fees per program. Annex E provides further details regarding the administrative fees as charged by the recognized US accreditors. Programmatic accreditation varies between faculties and programs, and ranges between 5 to 8 years, and sometimes up to 10 years. In general, it takes any given Lebanese university 2 to 3 years to acquire a programmatic accreditation.

As for institutional accreditation, one respondent reported a renewal administrative fee of \$19,760 to be paid on a yearly basis.

According to survey responses received by Lebanese private universities, two universities invested up to \$400,000 each in administrative fees on US programmatic accreditation. Additional indirect expenses may also be allocated to the process.

All survey respondents except for one are interested in acquiring program accreditation in the US and seek external guidance and financial support for the accreditation process. Seven respondents expressed

³ This is a general timeframe not specific to Lebanon as per http://www.chea.org/userfiles/uploads/fund_accred_20ques_02.pdf. In 2014, LAU underwent a comprehensive evaluation and was re-accredited for a ten-year period.

their need for improvement in infrastructure and human resources. Another university decided to seek the institutional and programmatic accreditation for all its programs. Table 2 provides details on the universities that expressed interest in becoming accredited in the US or in receiving additional programmatic accreditation in the US.

TABLE 2: UNIVERSITIES INTERESTED IN BECOMING ACCREDITED IN THE US

University	Is the university interested in becoming accredited in the US?	Type of accreditation	List of programs to be accredited
U1	Yes	Institutional	-
U2	Yes	Program	School of Arts and Sciences a. BA in Education (elementary) b. BA in Education (early childhood) School of Business a. BS in Hospitality and Tourism Management School of Medicine
U3	Yes	Institutional and Program	Engineering, Health Sciences, Computer Science
U4	Yes	Program	Faculty of Human Sciences (Mass Communication, English Language and Literature) Faculty of Engineering (Civil & Environmental Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Power and Machines, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering) Faculty of Medicine (Bachelor Degree in Medicine and Surgery)
U5	Yes	Institutional and Program	Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Public health, Faculty of Religious science, Faculty of Business Administration, Faculty of Political Science
U5	Yes	Institutional and Program	Faculty of Business & Commercial Sciences, Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts
U6	Yes	Institutional and Program	Engineering, Business, Medicine, Nursing, Sciences, Pharmacy
U7	Yes	Institutional and Program	Faculty of Business Administration and Economics (AACSB) Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences (ABET for Computer Science Program) Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design (NAAB)
U8	Yes	Institutional and Program	Engineering (6 programs) Business Administration (seven tracks) Computer Science (one program)
U9	Yes	Institutional and Program	All faculties
U10	Yes	Institutional and Program	Clinical Laboratory Design programs
U11 has acquired the institutional accreditation in Switzerland.	Yes	Institutional and Program	Engineering programs Business programs Physiotherapy

SUMMARY OF PRIMARY ACCREDITING ACTIVITIES

Standards: The accreditor, in collaboration with educational institutions and/or programs, establishes standards.

Self-study: The institution or program seeking accreditation prepares an in-depth self-evaluation report that measures its performance against the standards established by the accreditor.

On-site evaluation: A team of peers selected by the accreditor reviews the institution or program on-site to determine first-hand if the applicant meets the established standards.

Decision and publication: Upon being satisfied that the applicant meets defined standards, the accreditor grants accreditation or pre-accreditation status and lists the institution or program in an official publication with other similarly accredited or pre-accredited institutions or programs. Only public and private non-profit institutions can qualify to award federal student aid based on pre-accreditation.

Monitoring: The accreditor monitors each accredited institution or program throughout the period of accreditation granted to verify that it continues to meet the accreditor's standards.

Reevaluation: The accreditor periodically reevaluates each accredited institution or program that it lists to ascertain whether continuation of its accredited or pre-accredited status is warranted.

USEFUL LINKS

US Department of Education's page on accreditation: <https://www.ed.gov/accreditation>

US Department of Education page on the database for Accredited postsecondary institutions and programs <https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/FAQAccr.aspx>

United States Department of States page on Accreditation and Education <https://www.educationusa.info/accreditation.php>

U.S. Department of Education page on financial aid for postsecondary students <https://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation.html#Overview>

Council for Higher Education Accreditation <http://www.chea.org/>

AMIDEAST page on Accreditation <http://www.amideast.org/lebanon/advising/accreditation-and-authentication-services>

European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education <http://www.enqa.eu/index.php/home/esg/>

ANNEXES

Annex A : Survey questionnaire



University survey_
US Accreditation qu

Annex B: Surveyed universities



Surveyed
universities.xlsx

Annex C: CHEA directory of the US recognized accreditors



directory-CHEA-rec
ognized-accreditors

Annex D: Requirement of Affiliation for international candidates.



Inst_Abroad_Becom Requirements_of_A
ing_Accredited_Guicffiliation_for_Free-Si

Annex E: Directory of Accreditation fees per Accreditor



accreditation_fees_
directory-final.pdf

United States Agency for International Development
Beirut, Lebanon