



## IAAHEH as a Credible National Accreditation Institution Towards The Development of International Accreditation

### I. Executive Summary

IAAHEH was founded in 2014 by 7 Health Professional Organizations (OP) and 7 Associations of Health Higher Education Institutions (AIP) in Indonesia. IAAHEH has a vision of becoming a global standard accreditation institution to realize high quality health higher education study programs. IAAHEH has worked hard to achieve this vision from its inception until now. This policy brief will explain the various achievements and activities to achieve the vision set by the IAAHEH. IAAHEH also needs to adapt and adapt to regulatory changes. In addition, IAAHEH still needs to develop international accreditation for study programs in other countries and also at the national level using international accreditation standards.

### II. Introduction

1. The establishment of IAAHEH was facilitated and funded by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia through a world-bank-funded project, namely the Health Profession Education Quality Project (HPEQ) which ran from 2009-2014. After several workshops involving seven professional organizations and seven educational school associations were conducted, 14 organizations signed a declaration in 2011 to establish an independent accreditation agency for higher education in health. Those were Medicine (Indonesian Medical Association and Association of Medical Education Schools), Dentistry (Indonesian Dental Association, Association of Dental Education Schools), Nursing (Indonesian Nurses Association and Association of Indonesian Nursing Education Schools), Midwifery (Indonesian Midwives Association and Indonesian Midwifery Education Association), Pharmacy (Indonesian Pharmacist Association and Association of Indonesian Pharmacy Education Schools), Public Health (Indonesian Public Health Association and Association of Indonesian Public Health Education Schools), and Nutrition (Indonesian Nutrition

Association and Association of Indonesian Nutrition Education Schools).

2. IAAHEH's vision is to become a globally acknowledged accreditation school to facilitate quality higher education study programs in health. IAAHEH's missions are: (a) to develop IAAHEH in a professional and accountable manner; (b) to improve the quality of accreditation services for higher education study programs in health; (c) to increase the network and recognition of IAAHEH at national and global levels. The core values of IAAHEH are "amanah" (accountable and reliable) and "mandiri" (independent).
3. IAAHEH has been given a legal mandate by the Ministry of Education, Research and Technology through the Ministerial Decree No. 83/P/2020 which stated that IAAHEH could operate in Indonesia. Now, IAAHEH is encourage to operate outside Indonesia to conduct accreditation based on international standards and best practices of international accreditation procedures.
4. Prior to applying for International Accreditation, Study programs are required to obtain National accreditation Status. There are some benefits of international accreditation by IAAHEH, namely:
  - a. To ensure that the accredited study program has fulfilled the IAAHEH International Accreditation Standards for Medical and Health Science.
  - b. To demonstrate that the study program has successfully applied the principles as laid out in the IAAHEH International Accreditation Standards which gives more flexibility for the institutions to develop innovative programs in line with their vision and missions.
  - c. To encourage study programs to have continuous improvement and to maintain their 'accreditation status'.
  - d. The study program that has been accredited internationally has more opportunities to develop international collaboration with overseas schools or international organizations.
  - e. The number of study program that have been accredited internationally is the University Performance Indicator No.8. By having study program with international accreditation, the university may achieve this indicator (Applicable for Indonesian Study Program only).
  - f. Study programs that have been accredited by IAAHEH are recognized by Professional Organization and Indonesian Association of Higher Education in health science.
  - g. Study programs that have international accreditation have more opportunities to get research grants or development grants from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology indicator (Applicable for Indonesian Study Program only)

- h. The graduates may have more chances to get scholarships from the Indonesian Government or from other countries indicator (Applicable for Indonesian Study Program only).
  - i. The study programs with international accreditation are eligible to become mentors for other study programs.
  - j. Faculty members of accredited study programs are eligible to become IAAHEH's assessor.
5. The purpose of this policy brief is to explain the various achievements and activities to obtain the vision set by IAAHEH.

### III. Methodology and Result

The methodology used to compile the policy brief is to process secondary data originating from activities carried out by IAAHEH from 2015 to 2022 and then analyze it descriptively with the following results:

1. Certificates of accreditation results have been established for 4,178 health study programs, with the results of 816 study programs being excellent/A, 2,288 study programs being rated Very Good/B, 1,066 study programs being ranked Good/C, and 8 study programs not being accredited.
2. 158 specific instruments have been compiled for each field of knowledge covering the vocational, academic, and professional levels.
3. There are 925 specific assessment teams for each field of knowledge based on professional and educational backgrounds. The assessment team is always given training and refreshments to maintain and improve their competence.
4. Post-accreditation monitoring and evaluation (monev) of 790 study programs has been carried out in 2022.
5. IAAHEH regularly conducts the following surveys:
  - a. Survey of study program satisfaction with IAAHEH services. The survey results in 2022 show that in Quarter I it is 89.48%; Quarter II of 88.8%; Quarter III of 88.26%; and Quarter IV of 90.14%. The study program's satisfaction with IAAHEH services in Quarters I to IV was very good and met the IAAHEH target of 85%.
  - b. Study program satisfaction survey on the performance of IAAHEH assessors. The results of the survey in 2022 show that in each quarter the assessors in the Very Good and Good categories are above 85%. When translated per quarter the results are as follows: Quarter I of 95.96%; Quarter II of 98.53%; Quarter III of 99.55%; and Quarter IV of 98.71%.
  - c. Survey of assessors' satisfaction with IAAHEH services. The survey results in 2022 show that assessors' satisfaction with IAAHEH services in the satisfied category is 82.7%.

6. During the 2020-2022 period, research has been carried out to support the formulation of evidence-based policies, including the Impact of the Covid-19 Outbreak on Learning and Accreditation of the Indonesian Health Study Program; Advanced Analysis of Accreditation Database of 7 Standards for 7 Fields of Health Sciences; Field Assessment Survey during the Covid-19 Pandemic; Training Needs Identification Survey; 2021 Post-Accreditation Monitoring and Evaluation Activity Survey; Study Program Readiness Survey and Assessors for Field Visits in 2021; Internal Quality Assurance System (SPMI) and Non-SPMI Surveys in Study Programs; 2022 Post-Accreditation Monitoring and Evaluation Activity Survey; Survey of Stakeholder Views of the IAAHEH Website; International Assessor Training Satisfaction Survey; Analysis of Health Study Program Accreditation Results with 9 Criteria Instruments; and Evaluation of the 2022 Bali Meeting.
7. IAAHEH regularly conducts scientific activities in the form of seminars which are attended by all health universities and health lecturers in Indonesia. During the 2022 seminar, several articles from participants were successfully included in the Indonesian Journal of Health Administration (JAKI) from UNAIR, and it is planned that several other articles will be included in other accredited national journals.
8. Capacity building for study programs related to accreditation has been carried out through Accreditation Clinic activities for study programs which are attended by around 1,000 people per year.
9. IAAHEH in 2022 will start strengthening the quality of Good/C and non-accredited study programs in collaboration with AIP for 183 study programs with the main focus on strengthening SPMI, strengthening AMI, and strengthening non-SPMI (lecturers, financing, research, publications, and community service). The implementer of this activity is AIP, while IAAHEH's position is to support part of the funds for implementing the activity.
10. IAAHEH in the field of financial management is independent, not dependent on government finances. Financial sources mainly come from study programs applying for accreditation to IAAHEH. Audits carried out by the Public Accounting Firm from 2016 to 2022 received an Unqualified Rating (WTP).
11. IAAHEH has a communication medium in the form of a Newsletter which is published twice a year, namely in June and December. The newsletter contains information on important activities at IAAHEH.
12. IAAHEH always actively participates in national and international meetings related to improving the quality of higher education in the health sector such as the Independent Accreditation Institute Communication Forum (Forkom LAM), Round Table Meeting - AQAN,

Annual General Meeting and Round Table Meeting (AGM & RTM) - AQAN, APQN International Seminar, and International Conference - Islamic Quality Assurance.

13. Recognition has been obtained from the international accreditation institution World Federation Medical Education (WFME) for the field of medical science, the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) for the field of health sciences, from the ASEAN Quality Assurance Framework (AQAF) - still in the process of waiting for results - for all fields of knowledge, and a quality management system from ISO: 9001:2015.
14. IAAHEH is developing international accreditation standards for all fields of health science, namely medicine, dentistry, nursing, midwifery, pharmacy, public health, and nutrition as a follow-up to the Bali Meeting in December 2022 which was attended by countries in the Asian region with speakers from WFME, SEARAME, GMC, WHO, and accreditation bodies from various ASEAN countries. Furthermore, IAAHEH will carry out accreditation in collaboration with ASEAN countries for each field of knowledge whose instruments have now been completed and will begin to be implemented in certain countries in the ASEAN region in accordance with the willingness of these countries.
15. Currently IAAHEH is in the process of accrediting medical study programs abroad, namely in the country of Vanuatu, and there have been requests from other countries such as Balkarian-Russia, and Malaysia.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

1. IAAHEH has succeeded in achieving performance targets in accordance with the predetermined vision and mission. This is illustrated by the performance achievements as described in point III and have received recognition from international accreditation institutions.
2. Improving the quality of health study programs needs to be continuously improved in order to achieve better quality study programs and produce graduates who are more competent to carry out their duties in the health care system. It is hoped that the level of public health in Indonesia will continue to increase.
3. There are still study programs that are still in the Good rating category even though the trend continues to decline.
4. On the other hand, there is a need for study programs that are in the Excellent and Excellent category to improve quality with international recognition.
5. For this reason, all fields of knowledge at IAAHEH are currently developing International Accreditation standards referring to international accreditation institutions and building understanding

with Asian and ASEAN countries starting with the Bali Meeting in December 2022.

- Specifically for the field of medicine, Indonesia has begun to accredit medical study programs in the country of Vanuatu. Meanwhile, other fields of study are preparing for the implementation of international accreditation, especially in ASEAN countries.

## V. Implication and Recommendation

First, IAAHEH has been recognized as a credible accreditation body for accreditation at the national level for health study programs. Currently in the process of changing regulations in the health sector and in the education sector which will have an impact on IAAHEH and have begun to be anticipated to deal with these changes.

Second, in accordance with the established mission, IAAHEH has been recognized by international accreditation bodies. The next step is to develop international accreditation for study programs in other countries and at the national level using international accreditation standards.

**Comments, responses, and questions regarding this policy brief please submit to:**

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