



Education alongside research as the mission of a medical, dental and veterinary school

ASPIRE RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN A MEDICAL, DENTAL, VETERINARY SCHOOL

CRITERIA

EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

In higher education there is growing interest in student engagement, in the 'student voice' and in staff working in partnership with students to deliver the education programme and to facilitate change. For a school to be regarded as achieving excellence in student engagement in a school there must be evidence that students contribute to the academic community and that they take an active role and are consulted, involved and participate in shaping the teaching and learning experience. Four spheres of engagement can be recognised:

1. Student engagement with the management of the school, including matters of policy and the mission and vision of the school. (*Student engagement with the structures and processes*)
2. Student engagement in the provision of the school's education programme. (*Student engagement with the delivery of teaching and assessment*)
3. Student engagement in the academic community. (*Student's engagement in the school's research programme and participation in meetings*)
4. Student engagement in the local community and the service delivery.

For each of the four spheres of student engagement, more detailed criteria are described.

The notion of excellence embodies the active engagement with scholarship and a desire to seek continuous improvement in the area of student engagement.

It is recognised that cultural, social and other issues are likely to have an influence on the engagement of students in a school and that how student engagement manifests itself will vary from school to school. Excellence may be found in institutions with limited access to resources just as much as in wealthier institutions. The way in which institutions demonstrate cost effectiveness and context appropriateness will be taken into account by the panel when reviewing individual submissions.

1. CRITERION 1 – STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH MANAGEMENT OF THE SCHOOL, INCLUDING MATTERS OF POLICY AND THE MISSION AND VISION OF THE SCHOOL (*Student engagement with the structures and processes*)

- 1.1 Students have been involved in the development of the school's vision and mission.
- 1.2 Students are represented on school committees.
- 1.3 Students are involved in the establishment of policy statements or guidelines.
- 1.4 Students are involved in the accreditation process for the school.
- 1.5 Students have a management/leadership role in relation to elements of the curriculum.
- 1.6 Students' views are taken into account in decisions about faculty (teaching staff) promotion.
- 1.7 Students play an active part in faculty (staff) development activities.

2. CRITERION 2 – STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN THE PROVISION OF THE SCHOOL'S EDUCATION PROGRAMME (*Student engagement with the delivery of teaching and assessment*)

- 2.1. Students evaluate the curriculum and teaching and learning processes
- 2.2. Feedback from the student body is taken into account in curriculum development
- 2.3 Students participate as active learners with responsibility for their own learning.
- 2.4 Students are involved formally and/or informally in peer teaching.
- 2.5 Students are engaged in the development of learning resources for use by other students.
- 2.6 Students provide a supportive or mentor role for other students
- 2.7 Students are encouraged to assess their own competence
- 2.8 Students engage in peer assessment.

3. CRITERION 3 – STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY (*Student's engagement in the school's research programme and participation in meetings*)

- 3.1. Students are engaged in school research projects carried out by faculty members.
- 3.2. Students are supported in their participation at local, regional or international medical, dental, veterinary and health professions education meetings

4. CRITERION 4 – STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY

4.1. Students are involved in local community projects

4.2. Students participate in the delivery of local healthcare services

4.3. Students participate in healthcare delivery during electives/attachments overseas

4.4. Students engage with arranged extracurricular activities

Further guidance relating to the criteria can be found in:

- *ASPIRE Recognition of Excellence in Student Engagement in a School – An Introduction and*
- *ASPIRE Student Engagement Application: Guidelines for Submitters.*