



## **QUACING Agency**

Agency for the Quality Certification and  
EUR- ACE Accreditation of Engineering Study Programmes

# **QUACING EUR-ACE Accreditation of Engineering Study Programmes Procedures for online evaluation visits *Rev. 0***

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## **1. Objective**

This document describes the QUACING procedures for carrying out online visits aimed at the accreditation of Engineering Study Programmes (SP) consistent with the *EUR-ACE Framework Standards and Guidelines* established by the 'European Network for the Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAE)'.

Online visits are an alternative to visits in presence only when these are not possible (as for example due to limitations of persons mobility imposed by National, Regional or local authorities to avoid the spread of coronavirus).

## **2. Online evaluation visits**

### **New accreditations**

For new accreditations, the online evaluation visit (OEV), similarly to that carried out in presence (PEV), is structured into the following phases:

- a) analysis of the documentation of the SP
- b) preparation of the Pre-Evaluation Report (PER);
- c) carrying out the evaluation visit

#### **a) Analysis of the documentation of the SP**

The documentation of the SP is analysed before the visit by the Evaluation Team composed of one expert professor (Team Leader, TL) of the same disciplinary field of the SP under evaluation, one expert professional from the labour market and one student included in the QUACING's Evaluators Register. In order to ascertain the achievement of learning outcomes, the documentation made available by the SP must include excerpts of assignments for exam tests for courses in fundamental science (Math, Physics, ...) and in areas of engineering specialization. Also samples of reports and graduation thesis have to be provided. The TL is in charge for preparing the pre-evaluation report (PER) consistently with the indications given in the LG QUACING / ValEst.

#### **b) Preparation of the Pre-Evaluation Report (PER)**

Following the remote analysis of the SP documentation carried out by each component of the Evaluation Team, the TL prepares and sends to the Reference Person of the SP under evaluation a Preliminary Evaluation Report (PER).

The PER contains the pre-evaluation for each Quality requirement of the model. In particular, it evidences the aspects on which further information is needed that will be discussed during the online meetings with the different interlocutors (at least: Head of Department/School; Coordinator of the SP and Quality Assurance Team; Representatives of Students, Teaching Staff, Stakeholders and Alumni). For each Item/aspect to be assessed, the specific persons to be interviewed are specified. To this purpose, the TL defines an agenda for the online meetings to be organized by the SP.

A special attention has to be paid to discuss the student's satisfaction (with either the Quality Assurance Team or the student's representatives) with respect to the quality of infrastructures and learning tools adopted for online classes.

#### **c) Carrying out the evaluation visit**

The online visits are organized by any suitable, easy and reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, allowing optimal interaction between the QUACING Assessment Team (AT) and the relevant persons of the SP to be interviewed.

The platform to be used for online meetings must be agreed between QUACING and the SP before the accreditation visits. The Reference Person (RP) of the SP has to provide support by experienced technical staff to ensure that no problems are encountered during the online meetings.

The online meetings with the SP's interlocutors last typically one day 9.00 to 17.00.

In addition, a tour of the infrastructures (classrooms, labs, study halls, libraries, etc.) has to be carried out by one reference person equipped with a web cam or camera with good quality video definition.

### **Accreditation renewals**

For accreditation renewals, the online evaluation visit (OEV) is similar to that for a new accreditation. The only difference is that the tour of the infrastructures is not carried out.