

**AGREEMENT 04/2022**

**Whereby amendments are made to paragraph 1 of Article 26 and Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020, which updates the High-Quality Accreditation Model.**

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION (CESU)**

Pursuant to its legal powers, especially those set out in Article 34 of Law 30/1992, Decree 5012/2009 and Article 2.5.3.7.4 of Decree 1075/2015, and

**WHEREAS**

The National Council of Higher Education (CESU, for the Spanish original) issued Resolution 01 of July 1, 2020, with the purpose of updating the high quality accreditation model for academic programs and institutions and to promote high quality as a necessary trait of higher education, in order for students, professors, graduates, employers, and society as a whole to recognize the accreditation of academic programs and institutions as a distinctive autonomous, national and international condition that provides for the improvement of the quality of higher education, in line with social, cultural, scientific, technological and innovation dynamics.

Article 21 of Resolution 02/2020, in a manner consistent with Article 2.5.3.7.3 of Decree 1075/2015, describes the stages of the high-quality accreditation procedure and establishes that the first stage is the review of initial conditions, the purpose of which is to obtain a preliminary overview of the dynamics and operation of the institution as a whole, in a manner that establishes a consistent baseline of the factors and characteristics defined in the high-quality accreditation model.

Paragraph 1 of article 26 of the aforementioned Resolution indicates that it is not necessary to perform the review of initial conditions established for first-time accreditation of undergraduate academic programs in the case of institutions with high quality accreditation currently in force, given that such recognition reflects the soundness of the institution's endeavors. Given that the high-quality accreditation model establishes the aspects covered by the assessment during the initial conditions review stage without differentiating between education levels, and that the National Accreditation System recognizes the consolidation of the institutions' internal quality assurance systems, it is deemed consistent to extend the exemption from performing the initial stage of the high-quality accreditation procedure to graduate programs.

Article 20 of Law 1740/2014 establishes that the purpose of opening a preliminary investigation is to verify the existence or perpetration of any act that represents an administrative breach as provided for by law, and consequently this is a stage during which the Ministry of National Education has not yet decided to impose any penalties. However, paragraph 2 of Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020 establishes that the high-quality accreditation procedure shall be suspended in the stage currently in progress if the Ministry of National Education orders the opening of a preliminary investigation against the institution, until a final decision of the investigation is issued.

Pursuant to the above and with the purpose of guaranteeing the due fulfillment of all the stages of the administrative penalties procedure in progress at the Ministry of National Education, and in a manner consistent with the principles that uphold the right to due process, it is deemed necessary to delete paragraph two of Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 2.5.3.7.4 of Decree 1075/2015, as amended by Decree 843/2020, and of CESU Resolution 01/2020, the National Accreditation Council (CNA) issued a recommendation to the National Council of Higher Education (CESU) to amend paragraph 1 of Article 26 and Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020, for the aforementioned reasons.

The National Council of Higher Education (CESU), at a meeting held on July 1, 2022, approved to amend paragraph 1 of Article 26 and Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020.

Consequently,

**HEREBY AGREES:**

**Article 1. To amend paragraph 1 of Article 26 of Resolution 02/2020.**

Amend paragraph 1 of Article 26 of Resolution 02/2020, which shall read as follows:

**“Paragraph 1.** Institutions with institutional accreditation in force do not require the review of initial conditions for first-time accreditation of undergraduate and graduate academic programs.”

**Article 2. Amendment of Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020.** Amend Article 42 of Resolution 02/2020, which shall read as follows:

**“Article 42. Suspension of the high-quality accreditation procedure.** If after having submitted the self-assessment report for the effects of accreditation or renewal of the high quality accreditation of an institution or an academic program, the institution is subject to any preventive or special supervision measures imposed by the Ministry of National Education, the National Accreditation Council (CNA) shall suspend the high quality accreditation procedure in the stage currently in progress and shall notify such suspension in a timely manner to the Registered Agent of the institution. The suspension of the procedure shall remain in place until the measures imposed on the institution are lifted.”

**Article 3. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become effective as of its publication date.

**BE IT PUBLISHED AND FULFILLED**

Issued in Bogotá D.C., on July 14, 2022.

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**MARÍA VICTORIA ANGULO GONZÁLEZ**  
Chairwoman of the CESU

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**ELCY PATRICIA PEÑALOZA LEAL**  
Technical Secretary of the CESU

Reviewed by: José Maximiliano Gómez Torres - Vice-Minister of Higher Education [Illegible Signature]  
Luis Gustavo Fierro Maya - Head of the Legal Office [Illegible Signature]