

Section: 1

FAQs on NCVET

1. What is Delegated regulation?

Ans: Delegated regulation means that the powers of Regulation have been delegated to the Awarding Bodies (AB). NCVET will not directly monitor or control the partner agencies/entities working with an Awarding Body (AB) and this responsibility will lie with the concerned AB. ABs shall regulate their partner agencies/entities as per the recommendations of AB guidelines. This will grant more autonomy and control to ABs.

2. Does NCVET regulate working of Training Providers?

Ans: Under the mechanism of Delegated Regulation NCVET has mandated Awarding Body (ABs) to monitor and supervise the functioning of its training entities through an affiliation/accreditation process. Broad parameters to be covered in such affiliation/accreditation process have been prescribed by NCVET in Annexure V of Operational Manual (OM).

NCVET may also seek information from or physically inspect a training entity directly on a need basis and under extraordinary situations as mentioned in para 3.3.1 (II) under Monitoring and Control of OM.

3. Can Council initiate legal proceedings for misuse of the Council's name or logo?

Ans: Yes. The Council can initiate legal proceeding for misuse of the council's name and/or Logo.

Section: 2

FAQs on Awarding Body and Awarding Body Guidelines

1. Who can be an Awarding Body (AB)? What are the responsibilities of an AB?

Ans: A body that can award or propose to award certification to trainees for an approved qualification is an Awarding Body (AB). An AB is responsible for Creation of qualifications and related learning material, development of affiliation/ accreditation norms for training partners and affiliating/accrediting training partners, ensuring quality training, reliable assessments through on-boarding of assessment agencies to ensure fair and reliable assessments through pre-defined norms and processes and monitor the functioning of Training Partners and Assessment Agencies.

2. Once recognized by NCVET what will be my responsibilities as an Awarding Body (AB)?

Ans: Once recognized by NCVET, the AB acquires the right to award certificate to trainees subject to successful completion of training and assessment for an approved qualification. AB is also responsible for creation of qualifications and related learning material, development of affiliation/ accreditation norms for training partners and affiliating/accrediting Training Partners, on-boarding assessment agencies to ensure fair and reliable assessments through pre-defined norms and processes and monitor the functioning of Training Partners and Assessment Agencies etc.

3. What is the benefit of recognition of Awarding Bodies by NCVET?

Ans: The recognition by NCVET' would have the advantage of:-

- a) Recognition by GoI.
- b) Uniform pan India certification and recognition of quality.
- c) Eligibility for Government funding.
- d) Enhanced market acceptability & recognition.
- e) Use of NCVET logo as per guidelines.
- f) Enhanced quality outcomes through standardized procedures and parameters.
- g) Continuous improvement through self-regulation.

4. Who can apply for dual recognition?

Ans: A body can apply for dual recognition if following requirements are fulfilled by it:-

- a) Separation of personnel, systems and managerial controls in awarding and assessment functions.
- b) Separation of financial resources, between the two functions.
- c) Established track record and market reputation.

Bodies recognized as Dual Category Awarding Bodies will have to adhere to both Awarding Body and Assessment Agency guidelines. The template for applying under dual category is provided in Operational Manual.

5. When can the application for recognition be submitted by the applicant to NCVET?

Ans: The application process for the recognition will be open throughout the year.

6. Will any fee be charged to apply for recognition by NCVET as an Awarding Body (AB)?

Ans: An entity applying for recognition as an Awarding Body will be required to submit an amount of Rs.100000/- (Rupees One Lakh only).

7. What will happen to the application fee which I paid when an application is rejected?

Ans: In case of rejection of an application, Rs. 50000/ (Fifty Thousand only) - will be refunded.

8. Do eligibility criteria apply to all Institutions?

Ans: The eligibility criteria for various types of Awarding Bodies and exemptions/ relations have been elucidated in Section 3.10 of the guidelines.

9. Once recognized by NCVET, how long my recognition as Awarding Body (AB) will be valid?

Ans: Once recognized by NCVET, the initial recognition of an AB shall be for 3 years subject to periodic monitoring in the Guidelines and Operational Manual.

10. Is there a provision for extension to the recognition period?

Ans: Post the completion of initial tenure of 3 years, Awarding Body (AB) will submit an application for fast track extension. Based on the merit of the case, maximum of two years of extension would be granted.

11. Is there any extension beyond five years of initial recognition?

Ans: There is no extension beyond five years. However the Awarding Body may apply afresh.

12. Is there a continuous monitoring of performance of an Awarding Body (AB)?

Ans: Yes. There is an existing mechanism to monitor the performance of the AB through periodic monitoring established through continuous criteria.

13. How these guidelines ensure active industry engagement?

Ans: Active Industry Engagement is explained in Section 3.9.4 on Sectoral credibility and a separate head under Section 3.9.9 in the eligibility criteria.

14. Can an applicant/existing recognized Body apply for dual recognition?

Ans: Yes. An applicant/existing recognized body can apply for dual recognition provided they meet the criteria as mentioned in Section 3.9.12

15. Will the State Government play any role in implementation of guidelines?

Ans: State Government will be an important stakeholder for overseeing implementation of monitoring and evaluation.

16. How the Awarding Body (AB) guidelines ensure reliable certification?

Ans: The Awarding Body will ensure the following provisions:-

- a) The recognized AB will ensure that the certificates issued by it are as per the format prescribed by NCVET.
- b) The recognized AB will ensure that certificate is released to the learners within stipulated time, as defined by NCVET.
- c) Certificate should be available through secured online platforms and storage of digital certificates in Digi locker.

17. Will the guidelines apply to all players of the skill ecosystem including the Training Partners?

Ans: These guidelines will apply to the Awarding bodies (ABs) which gets recognition by NCVET and the empanelled Training Partners of the ABs through delegated regulation by ABs.

18. Is there a provision of becoming an Awarding Body (AB) only for running qualification developed by others?

Ans: No, for an entity to be eligible to become an AB it is mandatory that the entity demonstrates ability to create its own qualification/s in a given period.

19. What will happen if the tenure of Awarding Body (AB) is about to get over while the qualification validity still exists?

Ans: AB must submit their applications for extension 6 months prior to completion of recognition period. Upon re-application/ request for fast track renewal by recognized ABs, the recognized body shall continue to have privileges of recognition till a decision on extension or discontinuation is made by NCVET. However, AB should ensure that any training batch should not spill over the recognition period.

20. Under what conditions the applicant can be denied renewal of recognition period?

Ans: The risk mapping exercise of the recognized ABs will be carried out once a year. The actions will be taken for ABs based on two factors - risk level achieved and frequency of occurrence of the risk.

21. Can a Training Partner apply for becoming an Awarding Body (AB)?

Ans: Yes. Any entity fulfilling the eligibility criteria as defined in Section 3.9 of Guidelines can apply.

22. Who is responsible to certify Trainers and Assessors?

Ans: It is the responsibility of the Awarding Body (AB) to lay down both the eligibility criteria for Trainers and Assessors and to conduct a training program to certify them. Where such criteria are not specified by AB, the NCVET mandated basic criteria are to be applied.

23. Who is responsible for day to day functioning and monitoring the Training partners?

Ans: Awarding Body.

24. Is it mandatory for the recognized Awarding Body (AB) to use NCVET logo in the certificates being issued by them?

Ans: Yes.

25. Is inspection of recognized bodies and entities under them mandatory?

Ans: As a general policy NCVET will not be carrying out routine inspections however site inspection of the recognized ABs or its third-party agencies will be carried out only on a need basis and under extraordinary situations like serious complaints, fraudulent activities and high-risk ratings of the recognized ABs.

FAQs on Operational Manual (OM) of Awarding Body Guidelines

1. Can I function as an Awarding Body (AB) the moment the Letter of Intent (LoI) is issued?

Ans: No. You have to get the Qualification/s approved by NCVET post which the agreement between NCVET and applicant organization would be signed.

2. Is there any feedback mechanism for applicant organizations?

Ans: Yes, the mechanism for feedback exists. The applicant may refer to Section 2.1.3 of the Operational Manual.

3. My proposal has been rejected. Can I appeal for re-examination of my application? What is the process for it?

Ans: Yes, post the feedback meeting an applicant organization may seek recourse in form of an appeal to NCVET for re-examination of rejected application within 15 days of the feedback meeting.

4. My application and appeal has been rejected. Can I reapply for the recognition?

Ans: Yes, if your application has been rejected after the decision of the Review Panel or Council, you can apply for the NCVET recognition after six months from the date of the rejection. If the application was rejected at the scrutiny stages by either the dedicated case member or the Screening Team then you can apply for the NCVET recognition after three months from the date of the rejection. While sending the application, you will have to go through the entire application process from beginning, including the payment of application fee.

5. I want to operate in a state where few Awarding Bodies (ABs) are already operating? Will I be allowed recognition for that state?

Ans: Yes. Multiple Awarding Bodies in a single state or territorial jurisdiction are allowed as long as they meet the eligibility criteria for the recognition.

6. I am currently imparting vocational training for various courses. Can I continue the same without NCVET recognition?

Ans: Yes, you may continue to do so however you will not be permitted to use NCVET Logo/Name/Certification and your certificate would not have the acceptability as an officially recognized certification.

7. We have been set up as an autonomous organization under a central ministry? Do I need to pay the fee as well?

Ans: Yes. The fee component has been kept uniformly for all entities aspiring to become Awarding Bodies. This is meant to cover the cost of processing and monitoring of functioning of Awarding Bodies and ancillary work which NCVET is entrusted with. The fee shall not be charged in fast track approval after the completion of three years for the next two years.

8. We are providing certification in multiple courses. Do we need to obtain recognition for each of the course separately?

Ans: The recognition is provided for sectors; however there are criteria such as development of Qualifications in that sector and others to qualify for sectoral recognition. If the entity meets the eligibility criteria for multiple sectors, the same may continue to award certification

across sectors. Also for multiple qualifications in the same sector recognition is not required separately for each course.

9. There are various qualifications which have similar outcomes? How these guidelines prevent duplicity of qualifications?

Ans: There exist qualifications of similar outcomes however there may be different need and scope (territorial and functional) of these qualifications by different entities which warrants their co-existence. The National Skill Qualification Committee examines these issues when approving qualifications.

10. I am already recognized as an SSC. Do I need to apply afresh for the recognition as an Awarding Body (AB)?

Ans: Yes. For the existing bodies which are presently certifying, there shall be a transition period allowed for a year w.e.f 27th October 2020 during which you have to apply afresh as Awarding Bodies in the NCVET regulation.

11. What provisions for relaxation for existing Awarding Bodies (ABs) have been provided in the guidelines for bodies?

Ans: For the existing bodies which are certifying there shall be a transition period allowed for a year during which they have to apply afresh as Awarding Bodies in the NCVET regulation. This is done as there are various eligibility criteria and subsequent criteria along with standard processes which need to be applied uniformly to this ecosystem for improving the quality of skilling outcomes.

12. Post subsuming of National Council of Vocational Training (NCVT) in NCVET, what would be the status of State Council of Vocational Training (SCVT) with respect to regulation?

Ans: SCVT may continue to function as now and regulate the training approved by them. However, if they want to regulate their training leading to NCVET approved certification, they may apply for the recognition as an Awarding Body under the new guidelines.