

Non - State Higher Education Circular Letter No 02/2023

My No. HE/NS/MU/GENERAL
Monitoring Unit
Non-State Higher Education Division
Ministry of Education
05.06.2023

Chief Executive Officers
Degree Awarding State and Non-State Higher Education Institutions

Revising and Revisiting of Entry Qualifications of the Degrees recognized by Section 25A of the University Act

As per the decision taken at the 65th Standing Committee on Accreditation and Quality Assurance (SCAQA) held on 07.07.2020, it was decided to appoint a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to revisit the admission criteria of the degrees recognized under the section 25A of the Universities Act, in order to eliminate dissimilarities in the Degree Awarding Institute Orders and to include new entry criteria as bridging courses and lateral entry. Accordingly, the recognized degrees were categorized into 6 major disciplines as Engineering, Computing, Management, Arts and Humanities, Science and Education.

02. The reports submitted by the relevant TACs were forwarded to the respective institutes to get the observations regarding the proposed entry qualifications, as per the decision taken by the SCAQA at its 75th meeting held on 21.01.2022. The submitted observations were again forwarded to the SCAQA and the recommendations given by the TACs were considered along with the observations of DANSHEIs.

03. Accordingly the recommendations of TACs were accepted with amendments in certain entry qualifications. Therefore the following main amendments will be adopted for implementation **with effect from 01.07.2023**.

04. The Non-State Higher Education Circular No. 03/2019: Offer Bridging Programme for Commerce Disciplines Recognized by the Ministry will be rescinded with effect of this circular.

Table 4.1 Main Amendments to be adopted in the Entry Qualifications

Serial No.	Discipline	Proposed Entry Qualifications
1.	Management	At least three (3) simple passes (S) in any stream in one and the same sitting at the GCE Advanced Level Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification

2.	Accounting and Finance	At least three (3) Simple passes (S) in any stream in one and the same sitting at the GCE Advanced Level Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification And A Credit (C) pass for Mathematics in GCE Ordinary Level Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification
3.	Engineering	At least two (2) Credit passes (C) and one Simple pass (S) for Combined Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry in one and the same sitting at the GCE Advanced Level Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification
4.	Computer Science Software Engineering Information Technology Information Systems	(a). At least three (3) simple passes in Physical Sciences stream or Engineering Technology stream in one and the same sitting at the GCE A/L Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification; Or (b). At least three (3) simple passes (S) in any stream in one and the same sitting at the GCE A/L Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification; And A Credit pass (C) in Mathematics at the GCE Ordinary Level Examination conducted by Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification with a bridging programme approved by the Specified Authority
5.	Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)	At least three (03) simple passes (S) in any stream in one and the same sitting at the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination conducted by the Department of Examinations of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification.

*- However for the computer engineering degree programs entry requirements set out in Non-State Higher Education Circular No. 02/2019 will be revised as set out in section 3 of Table 4, i.e.; thereby the entry qualifications for engineering degrees specified in this Circular will be applicable.

05. Thereby necessary steps will be taken to amend the respective Degree Awarding Institute Orders of the DANSHEIs as prescribed in the Annexure I.

06. This Circular is issued as per the recommendations of the Standing committee on Accreditation and Quality Assurance (SCAQA) given on 29.11.2022 at its 83rd Meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' and 'N' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

M. N. Ranasinghe
Secretary/Specified Authority