

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION



OF PRIVATE

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

Part XXII Constitution of the International Association of Private Universities and Colleges

Document No.: IAPUC/CON-2026-001

Version: 2.0

Effective Date: Adopted and officially approved at the First General Meeting of
Members on [Month] [Day], 2026

Legal Registered Jurisdiction: Colorado, United States of America

Non-Profit Registration Number: 20251179157

Formulating and Approving Authority: Preparatory Committee of the International
Association of Private Universities and Colleges (IAPUC)

Preamble

We, private universities and colleges from across the globe, recognize the unique mission of private higher education in expanding educational opportunities, driving educational innovation, and serving diverse social needs. To strengthen exchanges and cooperation among private higher education institutions, pursue the continuous improvement of institutional operation quality, promote academic freedom and institutional autonomy, and safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the private higher education community, we hereby legally register and establish the International Association of Private Universities and Colleges in Colorado, USA, and formulate this Constitution.

The Association is a legally registered non-profit organization in accordance with the *Colorado Revised Statutes*, approved and supervised by the Colorado State Government and the Colorado Secretary of State. Dedicated to building a shared community for global private higher education institutions, the Association upholds the core values of rigor, impartiality, transparency, diversity, continuous improvement and social responsibility. By establishing and promoting an internal quality accreditation system, the Association provides professional services and international benchmarks for quality enhancement of private universities and colleges. All activities of the Association shall take serving members and advancing the sound development of private higher education as the supreme criterion, and shall strictly abide by the laws and regulations of the jurisdictions where it operates.

Chapter I General Provisions

Article 1 Name

The Chinese name of the Association: 国际私立大学与学院协会

The English name of the Association: International Association of Private Universities and Colleges, abbreviated as IAPUC

Article 2 Nature

The Association is an international, non-profit, non-governmental industrial organization voluntarily formed by private universities, private colleges and private higher vocational education institutions worldwide. Registered and operated in accordance with the laws of Colorado, USA, the Association enjoys independent legal person status.

Article 3 Registered Location

The legal registered address of the Association is Colorado, United States of America. The address of the Association's main office shall be determined by the Council, and representative offices or liaison offices may be established in other regions across the globe.

Article 4 Legal Status and Registration Information

1. Approved and issued a certificate of incorporation by the Colorado State Government and the Colorado Secretary of State, the Association is confirmed as a non-profit organization.
2. The non-profit registration number of the Association is: 20251179157.
3. All activities of the Association shall strictly comply with the provisions governing non-profit organizations stipulated in the *Colorado Revised Statutes*, and the Association shall exercise corresponding rights and perform corresponding obligations within the framework of such laws.

Article 5 Purposes and Missions

The purposes of the Association are as follows:

- (1) To promote exchanges, cooperation and mutual assistance among global private higher education institutions;
- (2) To establish and promote a globally recognized internal quality accreditation system specifically designed for private universities and colleges, guiding and encouraging members to continuously improve institutional operation quality;
- (3) To represent members in conveying the voices of the private higher education sector to governments of various countries, international organizations and the general public, and safeguard the common interests of members;
- (4) To conduct research on private higher education, release industrial information, and facilitate knowledge sharing and the dissemination of best practices;
- (5) To support members in innovation and transformation in the fields of digitalization, internationalization and sustainable development;
- (6) To foster a fair, transparent and responsible global quality culture for private higher education under the principles of academic freedom and institutional autonomy.

Article 6 Core Values

The Association and all its members shall uphold and practice the following core values:

- (1) Rigor: The formulation and implementation of standards adhere to strict academic norms and factual basis;
- (2) Impartiality: All procedures and decisions are independent and objective, with equal treatment for all members;
- (3) Transparency: Governance and major decisions are disclosed to members and the public for supervision;
- (4) Diversity: Respect the diversity of members in school-running models, disciplinary characteristics and cultural backgrounds;

- (5) Continuous Improvement: Regard quality as an endless pursuit, and encourage self-renewal and iterative development;
- (6) Social Responsibility: Actively give back to society through the power of education, and promote equity and sustainable development.

Article 7 Working Language

English shall be the working language of the Association. Translation services or other auxiliary languages may be provided for General Meetings of Members and regional activities as required; however, all official documents shall be subject to the English version.

Chapter II Membership

Article 8 Membership Categories

Association membership is divided into institutional membership and individual membership.

Institutional Membership includes the following categories:

- (1) Full Member: Legally established private universities, private colleges and private higher vocational education institutions with degree-granting qualifications, which recognize the purposes of the Association and are admitted upon application and approval.
- (2) Accredited Member: Full members that have successfully passed the Association's Internal Quality Accreditation (IQA) System accreditation. Accredited membership is an advanced status of full membership, entitling the holder to special rights stipulated in this Constitution during the valid accreditation period.
- (3) Associate Member: Legally established institutions closely related to private higher education without degree-granting qualifications, including vocational education institutions, training institutions, educational technology companies and education industry associations, which are admitted upon application and approval.

Individual Membership is open to faculty members, researchers and administrative staff employed by formal and legitimate universities and colleges, who recognize the purposes of the Association and are admitted upon application and approval.

Article 9 Membership Qualifications and Admission Procedures

- (1) Institutional and individual applicants for Association membership shall meet the basic qualifications specified in Article 8 of this Constitution, as well as the specific qualification requirements stipulated in the *Membership Standards and Fee Regulations* formulated by the Council in accordance with this Constitution.
- (2) Membership applications, together with relevant supporting documents, shall be

submitted to the Council or its designated Membership Qualification Review Committee.

(3) Applications for institutional membership shall be reviewed by the Membership Qualification Review Committee and submitted to the Council for approval. Applications for individual membership may be approved by the President or Secretary-General per authorized power.

(4) Upon approval of the application, the applicant shall pay membership fees within the prescribed time limit. Membership qualification shall take effect on the date of full fee payment, and a membership certificate shall be issued accordingly.

Article 10 Membership Rights and Obligations

The contents remain consistent in this full version, covering all rights and obligations of full members, accredited members, associate members and individual members, which are not repeated herein.

Chapter III Organizational Structure

The contents remain consistent in this full version, including the General Meeting of Members, the Council, senior officials, standing committees and other institutional settings, which are not repeated herein.

Chapter IV Internal Quality Accreditation System

The contents remain consistent in this full version, including the status, independence and authority of the quality accreditation system, which are not repeated herein.

Chapter V Asset Management and Finance

Article 18 Sources of Funds

The funds of the Association are mainly derived from the following sources:

- (1) Membership fees paid by members;
- (2) Income from activities and services carried out within the approved business scope (e.g., IQA accreditation fees);
- (3) Government grants, social donations or foundation sponsorships;
- (4) Legitimate investment returns;
- (5) Other legitimate income.

Article 19 Membership Fees

All members of the Association shall pay membership fees in accordance with

regulations. Membership fee standards shall be formulated by the Council in accordance with the *Membership Standards and Fee Regulations* and the actual financial status of the Association, and shall be implemented upon review and approval by the General Meeting of Members. Adjustments to membership fee standards shall follow the principle of prudence and be publicly announced to members in advance.

Article 20 Financial Management

The Association shall establish a strict financial management system to ensure legal, accurate, complete and authentic accounting records. The Association implements a budget and final account management system, and annual financial reports shall be subject to external audit by an independent third party. Audit results shall be disclosed to all members, and necessary annual reports shall be submitted to relevant regulatory authorities of Colorado in accordance with law to maintain the valid non-profit status of the Association. All assets of the Association are collective public assets, which shall not be encroached, privately divided or misappropriated by any institution or individual.

Chapter VI Constitution Amendment and Association Dissolution

Article 21 Constitution Amendment

- (1) A proposal for amending this Constitution shall be put forward in writing by the Council or jointly by more than one-third of all voting members, with detailed amendment reasons attached.
- (2) The constitution amendment bill shall be delivered to all voting members at least sixty days prior to the convening of the General Meeting of Members.
- (3) The constitution amendment bill shall take effect only upon adoption by a two-thirds majority of voting members present at the General Meeting of Members.
- (4) Any amendment to core clauses of this Constitution concerning the Association's purposes, registered location or non-profit nature shall comply with the laws of Colorado, require consultation with legal counsel, and shall be filed with the Secretary of State if necessary.

Article 22 Association Dissolution

The dissolution of the Association shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of all voting members at the General Meeting of Members. Prior to the voting on the dissolution resolution, the Council shall explain the dissolution reasons, asset liquidation plan and residual asset disposal plan to all members, and strictly implement the dissolution and asset liquidation procedures for non-profit organizations stipulated in the *Colorado Revised Statutes*. Upon dissolution of the

Association, after settling all outstanding debts, the residual assets shall, upon proposal by the Council and approval by the General Meeting of Members, be legally donated to other non-profit educational, cultural or scientific organizations that comply with Section 501(c)(3) of the *U.S. Internal Revenue Code* and have purposes identical or similar to those of the Association. No residual assets shall be distributed among members.

Chapter VII Supplementary Provisions

Article 23 Constitution Interpretation

The right of interpretation of this Constitution resides with the Council of the Association. For matters not explicitly stipulated in this Constitution, the Council shall make resolutions with reference to international practices, industrial best practices and the laws of the registered jurisdiction.

Article 24 Effectiveness

This Constitution shall come into force officially upon adoption by the First General Meeting of Members, and shall be permanently preserved in the legal archives of the Association in compliance with the laws of Colorado.

This Constitution was adopted by voting at the First IAPUC General Meeting of Members on _____ Month _____ Day, 2026.

President Signature: _____

Secretary-General Signature: _____

(Association Seal)