



**GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
HIGHER EDUCATION ARCHIVES &
LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT**

NO. QAC/HED/Ranking/3356
Peshawar, dated 27.01.2026

To

All Vice-Chancellors/Rectors/Directors
Public and Private Sector Universities / DAIs,
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Subject: **Data Collection on KP Universities Ranking**

Respected Sir/Madam,

I hope this letter finds you in good health.

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is in the process of conducting a KP Universities Ranking aimed at promoting academic excellence, transparency, and continuous improvement across public and private sector universities in the province.

Ranking parameters will have 12 Indicators for Universities for which detail proforma is developed by committee. In this regard, your esteemed university is requested to provide the requisite data as per the prescribed Data Collection Proforma for the KP Universities Ranking. The information collected will be used solely for ranking and performance evaluation purposes and will be handled with due confidentiality and professional integrity. You are kindly requested to ensure that the required data is furnished accurately and submitted within the stipulated timeline by **Monday 16th February, 2026**. Timely submission will facilitate a fair and comprehensive assessment process.

The data collection template along with detailed guidelines is enclosed/attached for your kind perusal. In case of any queries or clarification, Focal person/QEC team of Universities may contact the undersigned please.

HED KP will hold online session with all Universities QEC/Focal person on Thursday 29th January at 2PM. Online Link for same will be shared accordingly.

Your cooperation in this important initiative will be highly appreciated.

Dr Imran Ullah Marwat
Director Quality Assurance, HED
Convener Universities Ranking Committee

Copy to:-

1. PS to Minister, Higher Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
2. PS to Secretary, Higher Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
3. PA to Special Secretary, Higher Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
4. PA to Additional Secretary(U), Higher Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
5. All Members of HED KP Universities Ranking Committee
6. Registrar/Director QEC of all KP Public and Private Sector Universities / DAIs,
7. Office Copy

GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
HIGHER EDUCATION, ARCHIVES & LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT

POLICY DOCUMENT

HED–UNIVERSITIES RANKING SYSTEM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs) KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

1. PREAMBLE

In furtherance of the constitutional responsibility of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (After 18th amendment) to regulate, supervise, and promote standards of higher education, the Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department (HED) is mandated to ensure that public and private sector Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) operate in accordance with principles of good governance, academic integrity, transparency, accountability, and societal relevance.

Over the past years, the higher education landscape has expanded in scale and complexity, necessitating the adoption of an objective, evidence-based, and performance-oriented framework to assess institutional effectiveness. In this context, the establishment of a Universities Ranking System is essential to benchmark institutional performance, identify strengths and gaps, and guide strategic planning at both institutional and governmental levels.

This Policy introduces a standardized Universities Ranking System for public and private sector HEIs in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The ranking system is designed not merely as a comparative tool, but as a developmental mechanism aimed at fostering continuous improvement, encouraging innovation, strengthening quality assurance practices, and aligning higher education outcomes with provincial, national, and international priorities.

2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a transparent, credible, and uniform framework for the evaluation and ranking of universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The ranking system shall serve as a strategic instrument to enhance institutional performance, inform policy decisions, and promote accountability within the higher education sector.

2.2 Objectives

The specific objectives of this Policy are to:

- Introduce a standardized and measurable system for assessing the performance of HEIs;

- Promote merit-based governance, sound administrative practices, and institutional transparency;
- Encourage excellence in teaching, research, innovation, and knowledge dissemination;
- Strengthen quality assurance mechanisms and accreditation compliance;
- Support evidence-based planning, funding decisions, and resource allocation by the Government;
- Enhance graduate employability, industry engagement, and societal impact of universities;
- Foster healthy competition among HEIs while promoting collaboration and best practices;
- Align institutional performance with national higher education policies and international benchmarks.

3. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

3.1 Scope

This Policy covers all core functional domains of public and private sector Higher Education Institutions, including governance, academics, research and development, financial management, student services, infrastructure, quality assurance, social responsibility, and graduate outcomes. The ranking framework encompasses institutional performance at the university level and does not rank individual departments, faculties, or programs unless otherwise notified by HED.

The Policy applies to the collection, reporting, verification, and assessment of institutional data for the purpose of annual or periodic ranking exercises conducted by the Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department.

3.2 Applicability

This Policy shall apply to all public and private sector universities and degree-awarding institutions established, or regulated by the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and falling under the administrative control of the Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department.

Compliance with this Policy shall be mandatory for all such institutions for the purposes of ranking, performance evaluation, and related governmental assessments. Private sector institutions may be included at a later stage through a separate notification, subject to approval by the competent authority.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE RANKING FRAMEWORK

The ranking system shall comprise:

- **Twelve (12) Main Indicators** covering governance, academics, research, finance, infrastructure, and societal impact;

- **Sixty-Five (65) Sub-Indicators (KPIs)** used for assessment under the respective main indicators;
- A cumulative scoring mechanism with an overall total of **100 marks**.

Weightages are assigned only to the main indicators. Sub-indicators shall be assessed based on evidence, compliance, and performance benchmarks as notified by HED from time to time.

HED KP Proposed Categories for Universities Ranking (Public & Private Universities)

HED KP will Categorize Universities Into 3 categories.

- General Universities - Top 06 HEIs will be given award
- Professional University- 02 HEI will be given award
- Newly Emerging University (established after 2013)- 02 HEI will be given award

5. MAIN INDICATORS AND ASSESSMENT AREAS

Indicator 1: Governance (Weightage: 10)

Assessment under this indicator shall include:

- Strategic planning and policy compliance;
- Merit-based appointments of academic and administrative leadership;
- Transparency in administrative, academic, and financial operations;
- Faculty–student ratio;
- Recruitment, promotion, and tenure policies;
- Student representation in statutory and decision-making bodies;
- Effectiveness and functionality of statutory bodies.

Indicator 2: Research & Development (Weightage: 20)

Assessment shall cover:

- Research publications in recognized indexed journals;
- Citation performance (Per Faculty and Per Article);
- Patents, innovations, and prototypes;
- Organization and participation in academic conferences and workshops;
- Faculty and student fellowships;
- Research grants and funded projects.

Indicator 3: Finance & Fund Generation (Weightage: 15)

Assessment shall include:

- Annual budget utilization and financial sustainability;
- International research funding and grants;

- Industry-funded projects;
- Competitive research grants;
- Own-source revenue generation excluding student fees;
- Alumni donations and endowment funds.

Indicator 4: Student Support Services (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Career services and counseling facilities;
- Scholarships and financial aid mechanisms;
- Mental health services and civic education initiatives;
- Student grievance redressal systems;
- Housing, accommodation, and transportation services.

Indicator 5: Academic Excellence (Weightage: 10)

Assessment shall cover:

- Faculty qualifications and academic credentials;
- Internationalization of faculty and student body;
- Curriculum modernization and accreditation status;
- Program enrollment health;
- Teaching quality and student satisfaction;
- Awards and recognitions;
- Faculty development and training programs.

Indicator 6: Linkages with Industry and Foreign HEIs (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Active institutional MoUs;
- Internships and graduate placements;
- Faculty exchange programs;
- Student exchange programs;
- Collaborative and joint degree programs.

Indicator 7: Library & Information Technology (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Digital and centralized library systems;
- Access to international e-journals and databases;
- IT and ICT infrastructure supporting teaching and research;
- Library usage and accessibility.

Indicator 8: Emerging Skills Courses (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Courses in emerging and future-oriented disciplines;
- Short-term skills and professional certification programs;
- Alignment of academic offerings with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Indicator 9: Annual Reporting (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Timely submission of annual reports to HED/HEC;
- Research and academic performance reporting;
- Financial audit and transparency disclosures;
- Public accessibility of statutory and regulatory documents.

Indicator 10: Quality Assurance Implementation (Weightage: 10)

Assessment shall include:

- Functionality of Quality Assurance Offices;
- Completion of academic program reviews;
- Accreditation status and compliance;
- Integration of student and faculty feedback mechanisms.

Indicator 11: Social Cohesion (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Participation in national and community events;
- Student engagement in extracurricular activities;
- Availability of sports, cultural, and recreational facilities;
- Student satisfaction with campus life.

Indicator 12: Graduate Employability (Weightage: 5)

Assessment shall include:

- Graduate employment outcomes;
- Employer feedback and reputation;
- Alumni engagement, entrepreneurship, and startup initiatives;
- Performance of career placement offices.

6. DATA SUBMISSION AND VERIFICATION

6.1 Data Submission

All public and private sector Higher Education Institutions shall be required to submit institutional data, reports, and supporting documentary evidence in accordance with the formats, templates, timelines, and guidelines notified by the Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department from time to time. Data submission shall be made through officially designated channels, including digital portals or prescribed reporting mechanisms.

Universities shall ensure that the submitted data is accurate, complete, up to date, and duly endorsed by the competent authority of the institution. Any misrepresentation, concealment, or deliberate provision of incorrect information shall render the institution liable to penalties, exclusion from ranking, or other administrative action as deemed appropriate by HED. Each university will nominate focal person for this exercise who will be responsible for all data compilation inside institution and submission to HED.

6.2 Verification and Validation

The Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department shall verify the submitted data through internal scrutiny, cross-verification with regulatory bodies (HEC/Councils), and, where required, third-party validation. Verification mechanisms may include desk reviews, on-site inspections, audits, stakeholder interviews, and examination of official records.

HED reserves the right to seek clarification, additional documentation, or corrective submissions from any institution at any stage of the ranking process. Failure to respond within the stipulated timeframe may adversely affect the institution's ranking or result in disqualification from the current assessment cycle.

6.3 Transparency and Confidentiality

While institutional rankings and summary outcomes shall be made public, raw institutional data and confidential records shall be handled in accordance with applicable laws, government rules, and data protection protocols.

7. REVIEW, AMENDMENT, AND IMPLEMENTATION

The HED reserves the right to review, amend, or update this policy and its indicators periodically to ensure alignment with national priorities and international best practices. The policy shall come into force upon approval by the competent authority.

Issued by KP Universities Ranking Committee:

1. Dr. Imran Ullah Marwat, Director QAC, HED, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Convener)
2. Dr. Fahim Nawaz, Advisor to Minister HED, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Member)
3. Dr. Rehman Ullah, Member of Advisory Team to Minister HED, KP (Member)
4. Dr. Bashir Khan incharge HEDR HEC ISLAMABAD (Member)
5. Mr. Rashid Mehmood, Consultant HED KP (Member)
6. Nominee of HERA, KP, Peshawar (Member)
7. Deputy Secretary (Universities), HED, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Member)
8. Mr. Waseem Khan, Section Officer, (U-VI) HED, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Member/Secretary)