

OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING (ODL) FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information on the guideline titled “Garis panduan permohonan pengambilan dan pengurusan pelajar antarabangsa yang mengikuti pengajian secara pembelajaran terbuka dan jarak jauh (open and distance learning) di institusi pendidikan tinggi Malaysia melalui Education Malaysia Global Services.” circulated by JPT on 14th October 2024, JPT(BEM)1000/016/046 Jld.44(74).
- 1.2. The new initiative introduced by Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) on Open and Distance Learning (ODL) aligns with the government's aspiration and goal of making Malaysia a hub for internationally recognized higher education.
- 1.3. Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) that wish to enrol their international students in ODL courses must apply through EMGS.

2. TYPE OF ODL APPLICATIONS

2.1. Full ODL (without presence in Malaysia)

- Full ODL is intended for students who wish to complete their entire course remotely from outside Malaysia.
- These international students are not eligible to apply for a Visa Approval Letter (VAL) or Student Pass to undertake any part of their course in Malaysia.

2.2. Partial ODL (with presence in Malaysia)

- Partial ODL is intended for international students who wish to complete part of their course remotely from outside Malaysia.
- These international students must apply for a Visa Approval Letter (VAL) or Student Pass to complete the remaining part of their course in Malaysia, with a minimum duration of 3 months and a maximum of 18 months.

2.3. Long-Term Pass Holders

- This application type is intended for existing Long-Term Pass holders in Malaysia who wish to study in IHEs.
- Long-Term Pass holders who need to attend physical classes are required to obtain JIM approval to study.

Note: JIM approval to study can be requested once the student obtains the EMGS approval letter.

- Long-Term Pass holders who do not need to attend physical classes are not required to obtain JIM approval to study.

3. ELIGIBILITY FOR IHEs

The following are the eligibility criteria for institutions that wish to offer Open and Distance Learning (ODL) courses to international students:

3.1. Public University (Universiti Awam)

- Have full or temporary accreditation from MQA to offer ODL courses.
- Obtained approval from MOHE to offer ODL courses.

3.2. Institutes of Private Education

- Have a valid Certificate of Registration from MOHE.
- Have a valid approval to offer educational program from MOHE.
- Have a valid approval to enrol International Student from MOHA.
- Have full or temporary accreditation from MQA to offer ODL courses.

IHEs that meets the eligibility criteria can register their ODL courses with the EMGS STAR System.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. ODL Course Registration

- IHEs are required to submit the MQA and MOHE approval letters for ODL courses to enquiry@emgs.com.my.

4.2. ODL Application Submission

- With immediate effect, IHEs that have registered their ODL courses with EMGS may submit ODL applications for international students through the “**Open & Distance Learning**” form in STAR System.

- IHEs will be required to submit the following supporting documents for ODL applications:
 - i. Copy of passport bio page or national identity/driving license
 - ii. Academic documents (Official Certificate & Transcript)
 - iii. Offer letter from the Institution (clear indication of the type of ODL)
- For successful applications, institutes can download the EMGS approval letter from the STAR System.
- International students must obtain the EMGS approval letter prior to commencing their ODL course.
- Partial ODL students who wish to study part of their course between 3 to 18 months in Malaysia must apply for a Visa Approval Letter through the “Student Pass Application Form - IM 14” in the STAR system by selecting the Open & Distance Learning option.

For more information, please email us at enquiry@emgs.com.my or call +603 2782 5888.

Education Malaysia Global Services

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