

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
(Registrar's Department)

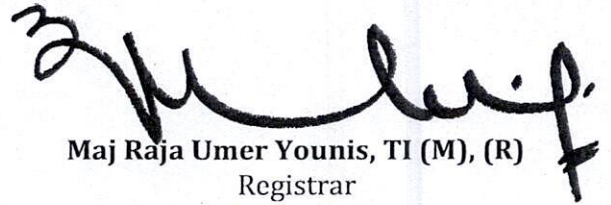
No.F.21-170/2024-Reg/196

Islamabad the 7th May, 2024

NOTIFICATION

The Executive Council in its 129th meeting held on 19.04.2024, while exercising the powers vested under Chapter-IV, Clause-19(2)(v) of AIQU's Act 1974 (as amended up-to 1984) has ratified the adoption of the "Higher Education Framework for Distinguished National Professor (DNP) Program 2023" (reference Notification No. F.1-380/2023-Admn/3324, dated 18.08.2024).

Enclosed: (Nine (09) pages)


Maj Raja Umer Younis, TI (M), (R)
Registrar

Distribution:

1. All Dean(s)
2. All Head(s) of Department(s)
3. Treasurer
4. Additional Registrar (Establishment)
5. University Auditor
6. PS to Vice-Chancellor
7. Notification file

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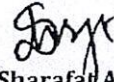
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No.F.1-380/2023-Admn/3324

Dated: 18th August, 2023.

NOTIFICATION

The Vice-Chancellor, in anticipation of the approval of AIOU Executive Council has approved the adoption of Higher Education Commission Framework for Distinguished National Professor (DNP) Program, 2023 as notified vide their Notification No.15-54/Coord/2019/HEC/(QAD)/649 dated 02.08.2023 (Annexure-A).



(Rana Sharaf Ali)
Assistant Registrar (General)

Distribution:

1. All Deans/Heads of Departments.
 - ✓ 2. Assistant Registrar (AMC)
 3. SSO to Vice-Chancellor.
 4. Relevant File.
- For placing the case in the forthcoming meeting of the Executive Council.

Supt (AMC)

P
13/08

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Annexure: "A"



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Coordination Division
H-9, Islamabad (Pakistan)

15-54/Coord/2019/HEC/(QAD)/649

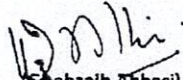
August 2, 2023

Notification

Higher Education Commission (HEC) has been recognizing the achievements of outstanding academicians and researchers in the country and enabling continued utilization of their services in national organizations through the Distinguished National Professor (DNP) program since 2003. The framework of the program was revised in the year 2019 and the last cycle of the program concluded in 2022.

02. The framework of the DNP was presented to the Commission, in its meeting held on April 19, 2023, wherein certain amendments were approved, particularly related to the rate, duration and disbursement mechanism of remunerations of DNPs. The amended version of the framework has already been shared with the Public Sector Universities and is also available on HEC webpage: <http://www.hec.gov.pk/site/DNP>

03. The amended framework of the HEC Distinguished National Professor, is hereby notified for adoption by all the Public Sector Universities across the country for future cycles of the program.


(Shahzaib Abbasi)
Director (Coordination)

Distribution to:

- I. Vice Chancellors/Rectors/Heads of all Public Sector Universities/DAIs.

cc.to:

- i. E.S. to the Chairman, HEC
- ii. E.S. to the Executive Director, HEC
- iii. PS to Advisor (Academics), HEC

Kind Regards:

Ghulam Mustafa | IT Admin. (Coord.) HEC, Islamabad.

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**FRAMEWORK FOR HEC DISTINGUISHED NATIONAL
PROFESSOR (DNP) PROGRAM**



**Higher Education Commission
Islamabad
2023**

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FRAMEWORK FOR HEC DISTINGUISHED NATIONAL PROFESSOR (DNP)

1. Purposes and Principles

For the purposes of recognizing the achievements of outstanding academicians and researchers, and for enabling the continued utilization of their services in national organizations, the title of Distinguished National Professor (DNP) shall be awarded to scholars who are leaders in their respective fields and who have made significant contributions to their academic disciplines at national and international level.

DNP is a prestigious title and an exceptional honor, which shall be awarded solely on the basis of merit as assessed against prescribed eligibility criteria and upon the recommendation of a high level selection committee constituted by the Higher Education Commission (HEC).

2. Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria

The title of DNP shall only be awarded to Meritorious Professors or Emeritus Professors. Nominations can be submitted at any point in the career of a prospective candidate however upon conferment of the DNP title, the person shall assume the role on or after his/her 60th birthday and conclude on the 65th birthday.

2.1 Evaluation Criteria. The purpose is to establish that the nominee is a person of international eminence and that he or she is active in their field and would be able to make significant contributions to the educational vision of the university. Candidates shall be evaluated on their excellence in teaching, research, academic leadership, and contributions at national and international levels. Emphasis would be placed on quality and impact, rather than quantity. The following indicators will be used in this regard:

Activity	Criteria	Indicators	Weight
<i>National & International Level Contributions</i>	Should have contributed at national and international level in relevant area of expertise.	Discoveries, patents, policy papers, international partnership/fund raising initiatives etc.	20 %
<i>Services to Community</i>	Should have achieved a distinguished reputation of service not only to university but also to the community.	Outreach community activities/projects, awareness campaigns in respective fields/societal issues, membership/leadership role in societies/organizations etc.	15 %
<i>Research</i>	Should have made an impact in their field.	Minimum journal articles (10 for natural sciences, or 5 for social sciences or humanities), in reputed journals (JCR – ISI Web of Knowledge), or a book published by an academic publisher in last 5 years	15 %

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Activity	Criteria	Indicators	Weight
<i>Mentorship</i>	Demonstrable interest in advising graduate student.	Should have supervised at least 10 PhD graduates in the last 5 years.	10 %
<i>Research Grants</i>	Have a strong record in grant writing and soliciting research funding	Should have won local and/or international research grants during the last 3 years, and have produced demonstrable impact.	10 %
<i>Recognition</i>	Be recognized for their work.	Should have received a prestigious national or international award, e.g., national civil award, or best teacher award, in last five (05) years.	10 %
<i>Engagement</i>	Involvement in professional networks.	Should have active membership of prestigious societies and associations during last 3 years.	10 %
<i>Endorsement</i>	Recommendations from recognized experts in the field.	Have at least 3 referee reports from renowned professors from top 500 ranked international universities or institutes.	10 %

3. Procedure

The following procedure will be adopted for receiving nominations and finalization of recommendations:

- a. The nomination and selection of Distinguished Professors will take place annually.
- b. The universities will issue a call for nomination from all faculties and departments upon initiation of the annual cycle by HEC.
- c. All nominations/ applications will be uploaded directly on the DNP portal. The application/nomination will be supported with the following:
 - a. A covering note and complete data on DNP Evaluation Parameters (Table 1).
 - b. Link to the CV of the candidates, which will have to be uploaded directly on to the HEC careers database established under HEMIS.
 - c. Evidence/supporting documents for achievements claimed in research (list of books and published articles along with impact factor, citation index, year of publication, publisher), scholar supervision (list of scholars along with degree completion status), research grants (list of local/international grants including funding source, year and amount), professional recognition (list and certificates of local/international awards received) and professional networks (list and certificates of membership of international organizations) will be uploaded on appropriate HEMIS website.
 - d. Four one-page statements prepared by the candidates, to be placed on the appropriate HEMIS website under a copy left mechanism. The four statements are:
 - i. Statement on contributions in relevant field at national and international level;

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- ii. Statement on distinguished service rendered by the nominee at the community and country level;
- iii. Statement showing impact of research activities (e.g. patents, professional accomplishments of students supervised, new courses/techniques/syllabi/instructional material etc).
- iv. Statement on a five year plan, describing the nominees' future commitments at the university and country level.
- e. List of three referees with names, postal address, email IDs as well as their short biography and assessment of nominee's contributions/impact in the relevant field(s). At least one of the reviewers must describe/assess the impact of the nominee's contribution in service to the university, community and country.
- ii. Each participating university will set up a permanent selection committee, chaired by the Vice Chancellor and including the Registrar, Director QEC, existing DNPs and other members to review the applications or nominations and recommend the candidates for award of DNP. The Deans can be included/consulted by the selection committee however they will be replaced annually/upon completion of a cycle.
- iii. The selection committee would finalize its decision and the results conveyed to HEC within specified deadlines.
- iv. Candidates recommended by the universities shall be evaluated at national level by the Selection Committee (Table 2), which shall meet annually to finalize its recommendations.
- v. Only those whose application and supporting documents were uploaded on the DNP portal on or before the annual deadline and recommended by the parent university will be eligible for the award.
- vi. The Commission Meeting will review the recommendations and approve the final selection.
(Refer terms and conditions at Annex-I for further details).

4. Selection Committee.

The composition of the national level selection committee shall be as follows:

1.	Chairperson, HEC	Chairman
2.	Executive Director, HEC	Member
3.	Vice Chancellor of a Public Sector University (to be nominated by the Commission)	Member
4.	Two (02) existing DNPs	Member
5.	Director General (Academics), HEC	Member/Secretary

The Committee may co-opt any member in its constitution, if required

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5. Emoluments & Performance Evaluation

An amount of Rs. 200,000/- per month will be paid as remuneration to the DNP till the age of 65. The remunerations of DNP must be paid to the DNP by the host universities/Institutions. The host university/institutions will perform necessary budget calculations for the tenure of the DNP and seek funds from HEC through/after approval from University's Finance and Planning Committee (F&PC).

The DNP may also be incentivized by the universities/institutions with a percentage of the finances arranged/secured by the DNP through fund raising in the form of research grants, donor engagement, etc. The rate of such additional remuneration may be decided/rationalized by the university itself and pay the same to the DNP after its approval from university's governing body. It shall be the responsibility of the host university to monitor the performance of the DNP.

6. Roles and Activities

The DNP shall engage in such activities as expected from a full professor, however, being holder of the national award and an extraordinary honor, he/she will also be entrusted with national responsibilities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Research-based policy advice to the government.
- Representation of the university in international forums, including those for fundraising or income generation.
- Facilitating national and international partnerships.
- Organizing national/international conferences.
- Contributing to improvements or innovations in research and teaching programs and methodologies.
- Engaging students in community-oriented work/projects.

7. Suspension/Pre-mature termination

The DNP may not be removed from his or her position except in case of proven charges of gross misconduct or plagiarism.

8. Trust and confidence

In accepting conferment of the title, DNP shall agree to (a) observe the policies of the host university, including confidential information and data protection, (b) protect and safeguard the reputation of the host university and (c) conduct himself or herself in a manner consistent with the host university's published policies and procedures.

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Annex-I

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE HEC DNP AWARD

1. Eligibility
 - a. Only those who have achieved the status of Emeritus or Meritorious Professors as per HEC criteria.
 - b. A Professor who had received the HEC DNP award under the old framework would be eligible to apply after the expiry of their previous term. Also, if they reapply, they will have to upload their information and supporting documents for the entire intervening period since their receipt of the award. The university's internal committee would have the right to examine the entire dossier in order to judge their eligibility for the subsequent award.
 - c. Members of the University's Evaluation Committee will not be eligible for the award.
 - d. In the event that the name of a Vice Chancellor is recommended for appointment, the recommendation will have to be endorsed by the Chairman, HEC.
 - e. Individuals who have disciplinary proceedings pending against them or have been penalized on charges of plagiarism or other forms of misconduct are not eligible.
2. Terms
 - a. The HEC Distinguished National Professor will retain the title for life. However, their financial benefits would cease on their 65th birthday.
 - b. The HEC Distinguished National Professor Awardee will receive a Certificate of Merit, and a monthly remuneration of Rs. 200,000/- until their 65th birthday.
3. Selection Procedure
 - a. All names will be submitted by the universities after a transparent scrutiny process described below. However, the names and background information of potential candidates will have to be uploaded to the DNP portal on or before the specified deadline.
 - b. Candidates whose names and supporting documents were not uploaded on the DNP portal on or before the deadline will not be eligible.
 - c. The nominees are required to provide detailed justification of the proposed appointment in the covering letter, specifically addressing the criteria outlined in Table 1. The CV must include supporting information, consistent with the required criteria.
 - d. The initial screening will take place at the university level, from among the candidates whose nominations have been submitted on the DNP portal.
 - 1) The university will notify a selection committee for the purpose.
 - 2) The Selection Committee will undertake the university-level scrutiny, and upload its recommendation, duly signed by all members, on the DNP portal
 - 3) While submitting the nomination, the Selection Committee at the university will certify that all eligibility criteria have been met.
 - 4) The department head and dean of relevant faculty will add their remarks in the candidates' dossier for facilitation of the selection committee.
 - 5) It will be the responsibility of the university to identify the international reviewers who are themselves qualified and willing to make judgement of the nominees.
 - 6) The university is responsible for ensuring the transparency of the process and maintaining a balance between disciplines, specifically giving due considerations to

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underrepresented disciplines (e.g. fields under the Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities disciplines).

- 7) The university will set up a mechanism to address grievances if any.
4. HEC will only entertain nominations received according to the prescribed channel and procedure. HEC's decision will be based solely on the documentary record uploaded before the deadline, plus the recommendation of the university selection committee.
5. HEC has the right to not make an award in a particular year.
6. The decision of the HEC will be final.
7. Anyone who provides false or misleading evidence will be barred permanently from the competition. An award granted on the basis of false and misleading evidence will be withdrawn.