

POLICY OF ASEAN INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY FOR STUDENTS (AIMS) MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES MEMBER

Ministry of Education (Higher Education) 2018



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GLOSSARY

SEAMEO RIHED

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation, Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development

MOE(HE)

Ministry of Education (Higher Education)

DoHE

Department of Higher Education

Academic Credit

Credit for individual courses completed at host university.

International Relations Office (IRO)/ International Office (IO)

The entity facilitating the flow of student mobility for AIMS programme. The entity may not necessarily be named the IRO.

Local AIMS member universities

AIMS (Malaysia) member universities

About The Policy

The policy document features pertinent implementation aspects of ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Programme. It introduces the background of the AIMS initiative and the motivation for the policy.

The policy will support the agenda of the Ministry of Education (Higher Education) in developing Malaysia into an international education hub.

1.0 Introduction

The ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) programme is established to create student mobility for citizens of all SEAMEO member countries. It has always been one of the key strategic elements of cooperation leading to the development of a regional common space in higher education among countries in Southeast Asia.

Malaysia was a pioneer in the Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand (M-I-T) Student Mobility Pilot Project which was initiated in 2009 through the participations of the governments of the three countries. It was developed as a precursor to expanding a student mobility programme to the Southeast Asia region and beyond which is now known as AIMS Programme. This programme has since been joined by Japan and Korea.

The AIMS programme will enhance the global prominence of local AIMS member universities in ASEAN and Asian higher education, promote Malaysia as an international education hub which is in line with MOE(HE) internationalization policy and develop capacity to deliver international education and build reputation to encourage international student exchange.

The purpose of the policy is to govern the operation and implementation of AIMS programme and commitment of all local stakeholders in order to successfully implement AIMS.

2.0 Objectives

The objectives of the policy are as follows:

- i. To standardize the procedures, operational, implementation and best practices among local AIMS member universities to be consistent with SEAMEO RIHED AIMS operational handbook;
- ii. To facilitate the management of AIMS operational matters (e.g. selection of university, field of study, credit transfer, financial matters, number of students, relevant support, country aspiration and country report); and
- iii. To enhance the capability of IRO in managing mobility programmes under AIMS.

3.0 Scope

The policy applies to all the stakeholders namely MOE(HE), local AIMS member universities, participating students and related agencies.

4.0 Policy General Statement

- i. Malaysian Government will provide adequate support and resources through MOE(HE) in ensuring the successful implementation of AIMS programme;
- ii. Local AIMS member universities will collaborate and complement each other in all aspects relating to AIMS programme;
- iii. Students participating in the programme will meet the expectation and aspiration of AIMS; and
- iv. In ensuring the successful implementation of the policy:
 - a. the nature of the policy is set to be enabling and operational (refer to the AIMS Malaysia guidelines);
 - b. a detailed description of each matter is given; and
 - c. there should be room for refinements of the policy through periodical reviews of the programme.

5.0 Eligibility for membership

- i. Must be a Malaysian university;
- ii. Must be nominated by MOE(HE) based on the member's flagship discipline;
- iii. The disciplines participated by each member university are determined by MOE(HE); and

- iv. Any changes of the discipline must be approved by MOE(HE) and AIMS committee members (i.e. representatives from the member university are appointed by the Director General of the Department of Higher Education).

6.0 Students' Participation

- i. Malaysian citizen; and
- ii. Full time undergraduates.

7.0 Programme Criteria

- i. The duration of study is one semester only;
- ii. Credit transfer systems are based on the policy of the member university. However, the university is encouraged to follow the ASEAN Credit Transfer System (ACTS);
- iii. All courses offered must be taught in English, except for language and cultural courses;
- iv. AIMS member universities are responsible to assist in the credit transfer process (including matching of course syllabi, grade moderation) and promoting the programme to students; and
- v. Disciplines identified are common among local AIMS member universities and are strategic priorities for developing expertise in the ASEAN and Asian region. MOE(HE) must ensure that selected disciplines must be aligned with the need of the country.

8.0 Responsibility of Stakeholders

AIMS Malaysian stakeholders include MOE(HE), local AIMS member universities and their students. The following outlines the responsibility of the relevant stakeholder.

8.1 MOE(HE)

- i. Support funding for participating students;
- ii. Take turns to host AIMS Review Meetings;
- iii. Allocate sufficient budget for Ministry and local AIMS member university representatives to attend all AIMS related meetings and benchmarking purposes each year; and
- iv. Provide pre-departure briefing for all AIMS outbound students to AIMS member universities.

8.2 Local AIMS member universities

- i. Select suitable candidates for the programme;
- ii. Assist inbound students in line with university exchange mobility procedures;
- iii. Provide yearly report to MOE(HE) for review meeting based on the guidelines from MOE(HE);
- iv. Provide AIMS information pack for participating students; and
- v. Provide AIMS student agreement to be signed before departure.

8.3 Students

- i. Abide with the terms and conditions under the AIMS student agreement contract and host universities' requirements; and
- ii. Achieve minimum of 12 registered credits or requirements set by the host universities.

9.0 Reporting

Students must complete the programme survey and provide report as outlined in the AIMS (Malaysia) guideline.

10.0 Policy Effective Date

This policy takes effect as of **1 September 2018**.

DOCUMENTATION SECRETARIAT

ADVISOR

Jamalulail Abu Bakar

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Nordiana Mohd Nordin

MOE(HE)'s SECRETARIAT

Rosmin Md. Amin

Wan Nurul Hidayah Bt Wan Mohamad Akil

Nur Wahidah Harun

Rehan Berhanudin

AIMS (MALAYSIA) COMMITTEE

Yazrina Yahya, UKM

Rosnani Boyak, UKM

Mohamad Farizal Rajemi, UUM

Hendrik Lamsali, UUM

Mior Harris Mior Harun, UITM

Zaibunnisa Abdul Haiyee, UITM

Molly Donna Awang Sham, UMS

Fifty Hanisdah Saikim, UMS

Salmi Marsita Shaari, UM

Vigneshree King, UM

Ahmad Faisal Mohmad Ayob, UMT

Isma Rosila Ismail, UMT

Amalina Zulkifli, UMT

Zelina Zaiton Ibrahim, UPM

Saliza Mustafa, UPM

Muhizam Mustafa, USM

Mohd Hafizal Mohd Isa, USM

Nurul Azwin Binti Noor Rawi, USM

Nor Haniza Sarmin, UTM

Fasihah Mohd Jaslan, UTM

Rahimah bt. Yusuf, UTM