

Quality criteria of Health Promoting Universities 2020

1. *A Health Promoting University* follows the settings approach of health promotion.
2. *A Health Promoting University* is based on the concept of salutogenesis and focuses on conditions and resources necessary for health. *A Health Promoting University* considers health as a multi-dimensional concept.
3. *A Health Promoting University* incorporates the concept of health promotion into its vision statement and organizational policy.
4. *A Health Promoting University* considers health promotion as a cross-cutting theme to guide all its internal processes and decisions concerning staff and recruitment, teaching, research and knowledge management.
5. *A Health Promoting University* appoints a university-wide steering committee responsible for the development of health promoting structures and processes. The steering committee represents all relevant departments and scientific as well as non-scientific population groups.
6. *A Health Promoting University* manages information and communication transparently. It uses the results of regular health reports to formulate goals and measures, which are derived from a comprehensive, transparent, and accessible health reporting system.
7. *A Health Promoting University* carries out health promoting measures for all population groups in the organisation that integrate both behavioural and structural aspects of the health problem and use a participatory approach.
8. *A Health Promoting University* is committed to the principles of sustainability and global and inter-generational justice by signing the Okanagan Charter. It supports the development of competencies relevant for dealing with societal challenges. Universities act as agents of change towards sustainability in the wider society through education, teaching, research and knowledge exchange.
9. *A Health Promoting University* integrates gender and cultural mainstreaming, diversity, inclusion and equity into its health promotion approach, thus enabling synergies with and between all these initiatives.
10. *A Health Promoting University* is inter-connected with the regions and communities that surround it. It is networking with other universities and research institutions both nationally and internationally.

The aforementioned quality criteria were the result of a two-year discussion process and were ratified at the “Ten-Year Network of Health Promoting Universities” anniversary event held on June 10, 2005 at the University of Bielefeld. After a minor revision in 2007 the present version has undergone a thorough revision and was ratified January 31, 2020 in Bielefeld.

The underlying reasons for the revision are as follows: The German higher education system has seen fundamentally changes with the implementation of bachelor and master degrees. Moreover, the governmental decision-making power for universities was delegated to the federal states.

In 2015 the prevention legislation was implemented fostering the 10 quality criteria and offering new financial support structures. In addition, in 2013 a legislation for the prevention of occupational mental health risks was established with new duties for occupational health, which also includes the prevention of mental health risks of students. Moreover, the UN Convention for Human Rights commits organizations to include individuals with mental or physical disabilities.

All these developments made it necessary to revise the quality criteria.

The criteria and their corresponding explanations can be downloaded at:

www.gesundheitsfoerdernde-hochschulen.de