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# **CAPSTONE PROJECT**

**An AI agent designed to assist faculty with NBA  
accreditation processes (RAG Based)**

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# OUTLINE

- **Problem Statement** (Should not include solution)
- **Proposed System/Solution**
- **System Development Approach** (Technology Used)
- **Algorithm & Deployment**
- **Result (Output Image)**
- **Conclusion**
- **Future Scope**
- **References**

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# Problem Statement

- Faculty often struggle with the repetitive, document-heavy NBA accreditation process.
- Tasks like SAR preparation, CO-PO mapping, and compliance tracking demand time and precision.

## **Challenge:**

- Create an AI agent that assists faculty with NBA accreditation using RAG — retrieving accurate information from guidelines, formats, and past documents to answer queries effectively.

# Proposed Solution

## **Develop a RAG-based AI agent capable of:**

- Answering faculty queries related to NBA standards
- Retrieving NBA guidelines, templates, formats from trusted sources
- Assisting with:
  - SAR (Self-Assessment Report) drafting
  - CO-PO mapping strategies
  - Documentation processes
  - NBA terminology clarification

## **Benefits:**

- Context-aware, reliable responses
- Reduced manual effort
- Improved documentation quality and consistency
- Faster NBA readiness

# System Approach

- **Technology Stack:**

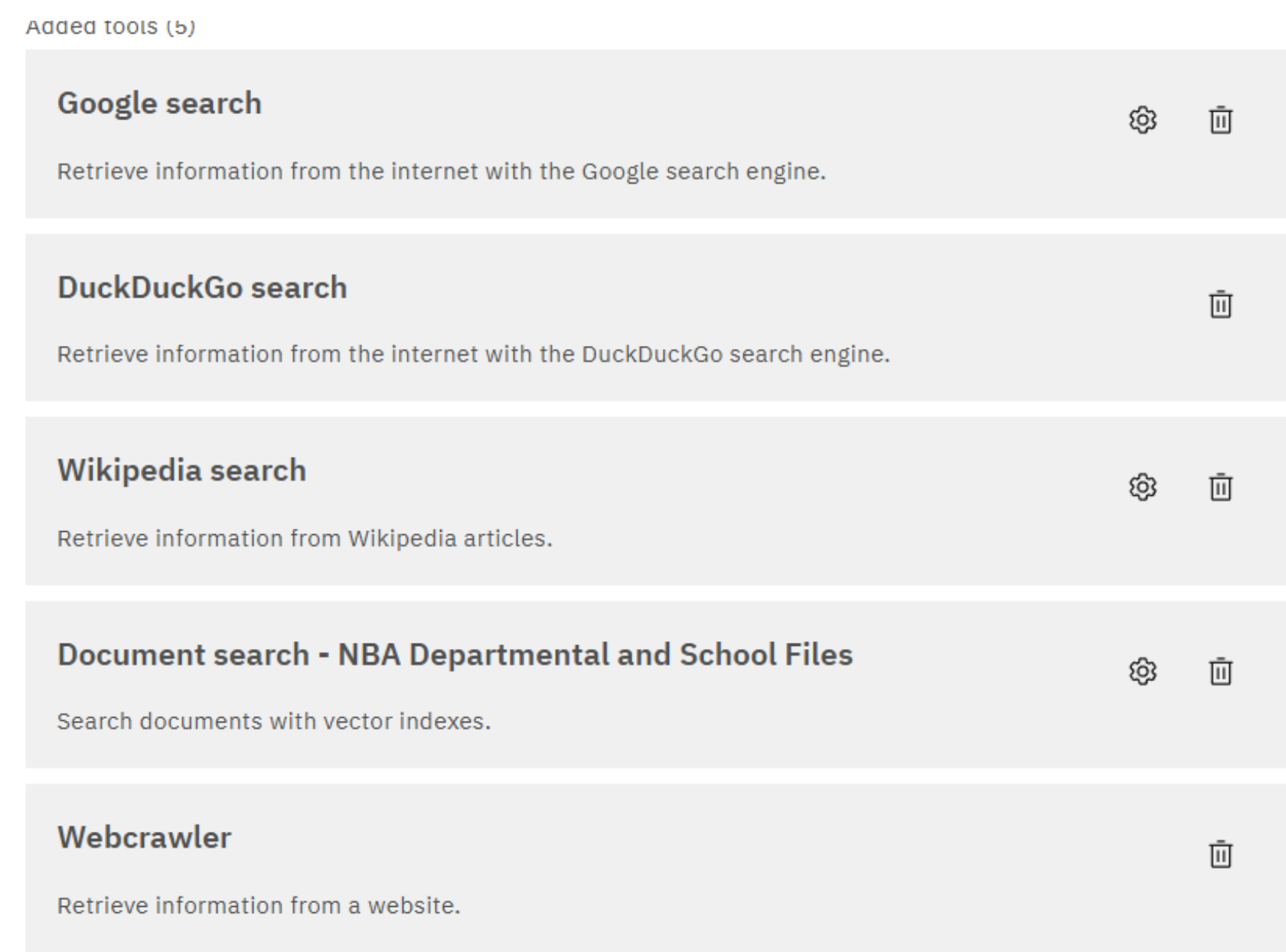
- IBM Cloud Lite Services
- IBM Granite foundation models
- Vector store (for document embeddings)
- RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) pipeline
- LangChain (optional) or IBM watsonx tools

- **Data Sources:**

- NBA official criteria PDFs
- SAR formats and guidelines
- Internal sample reports
- Previous NBA evaluations

# Foundation Model:

- Model Name: granite-3-3-8b-instruct
  - Type: Instruction-tuned decoder-only LLM
  - Provider: IBM
  - Integrated via: IBM watsonx.ai → Agent or Prompt Lab
- This screenshot shows the added tools for your RAG-based AI agent — including web and document retrieval utilities like:



- Document Vectorization – Uploading SAR Files for Retrieval

## Ground gen AI with vectorized documents

Add documents to vectorize and create a vector index in memory. Otherwise, select your vector database and specify index details.

Vector stores

In memory

watsonx.data Milvus

Es Elasticsearch

Add files

Drop data files or browse to upload

Add PPTX, DOCX, PDF, or TXT files or select from project.

Add up to 300 MB with PPTX files, 50 MB of PDF files, 50 MB of DOCX files, or 5 MB with TXT and other files.

Browse

Select from project

Sample\_SAR\_ECE.docx

37.4KB

Define details

Name

Sample\_SAR\_ECE

Description (optional)

What's the purpose of this vector index?

Advanced settings

Cancel

Create

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# Algorithm & Deployment

## **RAG Workflow:**

1. Document Ingestion: Embed PDF, DOCX, and web sources
2. Retrieval: Use similarity search from vector DB
3. Granite Model Querying: Provide context-aware answers grounded in retrieved chunks
4. Post-Processing: Format output for faculty use (e.g., SAR suggestions)

## **Deployment:**

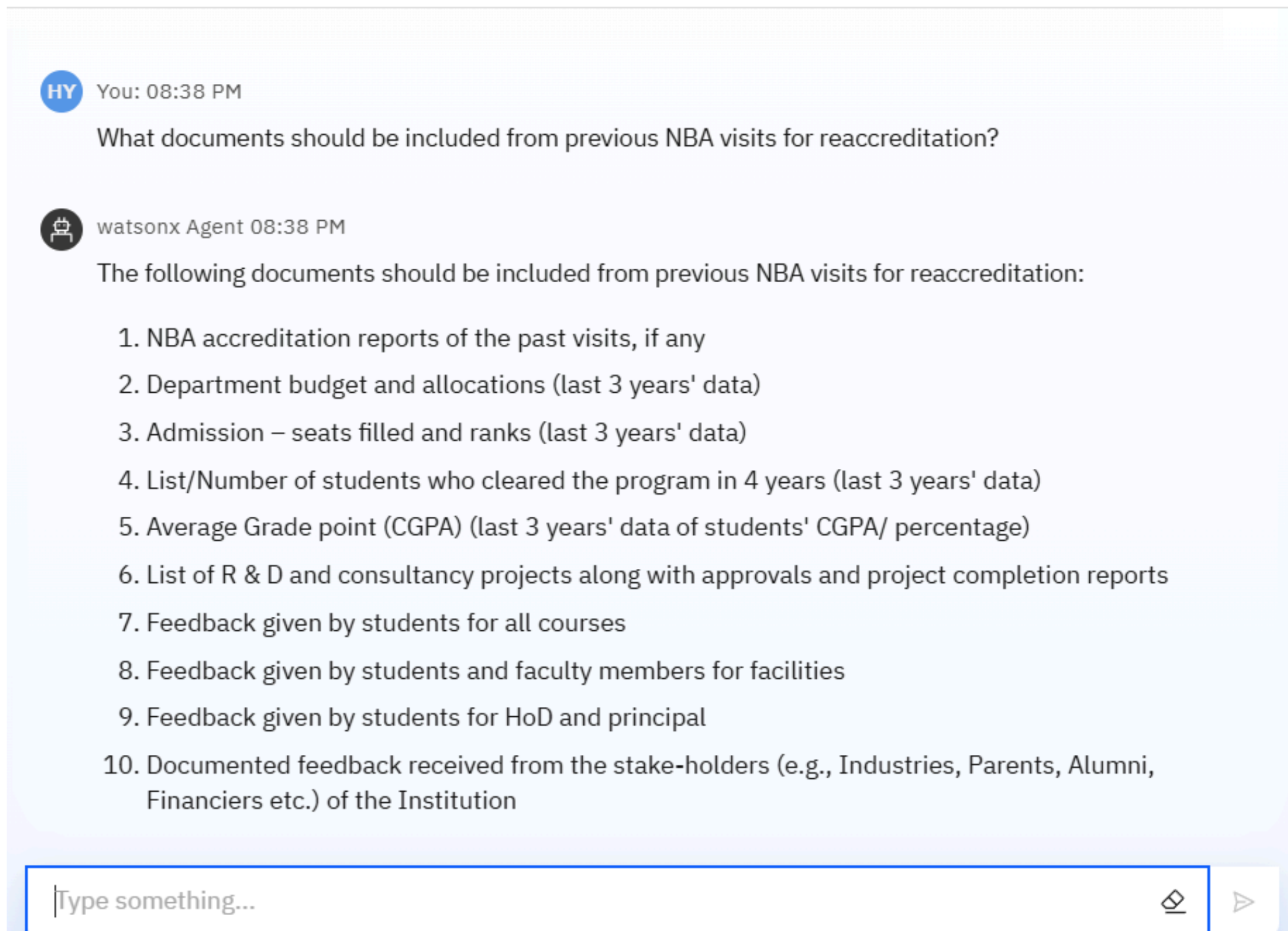
- Built within IBM watsonx.ai
- Accessible via Web UI / Agent
- Secure document access, private vector DB



# Result

The AI agent, powered by the granite-3-3-8b-instruct model and integrated with a RAG pipeline, was queried about NBA reaccreditation document requirements. The result below showcases its context-aware, document-grounded response.

## Agent preview



The screenshot displays a chat window with a light blue background. At the top, a user message is shown with a blue circular icon containing the letters 'HY'. The user's message is: "What documents should be included from previous NBA visits for reaccreditation?". Below this, an AI response is shown with a circular icon containing a robot head. The AI's response begins with "The following documents should be included from previous NBA visits for reaccreditation:" followed by a numbered list of 10 items. At the bottom of the chat window, there is a text input field with the placeholder text "Type something..." and a blue send button icon to its right.

**HY** You: 08:38 PM

What documents should be included from previous NBA visits for reaccreditation?

**watsonx Agent** 08:38 PM

The following documents should be included from previous NBA visits for reaccreditation:

1. NBA accreditation reports of the past visits, if any
2. Department budget and allocations (last 3 years' data)
3. Admission – seats filled and ranks (last 3 years' data)
4. List/Number of students who cleared the program in 4 years (last 3 years' data)
5. Average Grade point (CGPA) (last 3 years' data of students' CGPA/ percentage)
6. List of R & D and consultancy projects along with approvals and project completion reports
7. Feedback given by students for all courses
8. Feedback given by students and faculty members for facilities
9. Feedback given by students for HoD and principal
10. Documented feedback received from the stake-holders (e.g., Industries, Parents, Alumni, Financiers etc.) of the Institution

Type something...

Build

AI

Model: granite-3-3-8b-instruct

<

Setup

Configuration

Framework

LangGraph

Architecture

ReAct

Instructions

You are an AI Assistant trained to help faculty members with the NBA (National Board of Accreditation) accreditation process. Your responses must be based on official NBA documentation and previously uploaded SAR samples.

Your responsibilities:

Advanced configuration

Knowledge

Tools

Add a tool

Create custom tool

Agent preview

HY

You: 09:13 PM

How is student outcome attainment measured as per NBA documentation?

watsonx Agent 09:13 PM

According to the NBA documentation, student outcome attainment is measured through the Program Outcomes (PO) and the Professional Outcomes (PSO).

Program Outcomes (PO) are the broad skills and knowledge that all students in a program are expected to acquire. These are typically assessed by common methods such as internships, capstone projects, standardized tests, or other forms of assessment.

Professional Outcomes (PSO) are more specific outcomes that prepare graduates for entry into the profession or for advanced study. These are often measured through employment rates, salaries, further education, and professional licensure or certification rates.

The NBA requires institutions to demonstrate that their graduates have achieved these outcomes at rates comparable to or exceeding those of graduates from similar programs. This is typically done through the Self-Study Report (SAR), where institutions provide evidence of student learning outcomes, graduate performance in the workplace, and other relevant data.

For detailed information, please refer to the NBA Criteria Document, specifically Criteria 6: Student Learning Outcomes and Evaluation.

Type something...

Deployment has started

Your AI service deployment has started.

[View status](#)

Timestamp 9:04:08 PM

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# Conclusion

This RAG-based AI assistant simplifies the NBA accreditation process by:

- Providing reliable, document-grounded guidance
- Enhancing faculty productivity and confidence
- Promoting documentation consistency and compliance

The system helps institutions achieve and maintain NBA standards effectively.

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## Future scope

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The system helps institutions achieve and maintain NBA standards effectively.

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# References

- IBM Watsonx.ai Documentation
- IBM Granite Model Info
- Open Source RAG Architecture (LangChain, Haystack)
- ChatGPT Conversation Support.

# IBM Certifications

## Getting Started with Artificial Intelligence

IBM **SkillsBuild**



IBM

# IBM Certifications

## Journey to Cloud: Envisioning Your Solution

IBM SkillsBuild



IBM

7/25/25, 1:19 PM

Completion Certificate | SkillsBuild

**IBM SkillsBuild**

Completion Certificate



This certificate is presented to

Hafsa Y

for the completion of

**Lab: Retrieval Augmented Generation with  
LangChain**

(ALM-COURSE\_3824998)

According to the Adobe Learning Manager system of record

**Completion date:** 24 Jul 2025 (GMT)**Learning hours:** 20 mins



**THANK YOU**