Pakistan Engineering Council

(Constituted under Pakistan Engineering Council Act, 1976 enacted by the Parliament)

Ataturk Avenue (East),
G-5/2, Islamabad

Engineering Accreditation Department (EAD)

PEC/EAD/117-EAB/ODL/004/2025   April 24, 2025

All Vice Chancellors/ Rectors/ Heads of HEIs
Offering Engineering Program in Pakistan

Subject: **PEC Policy Guidelines for Online Distance Learning (ODL) in Undergraduate Engineering Programs Offered by the HEIs in Pakistan**

It is to inform that PEC in its 117th meeting of Engineering Accreditation Board (EAB) held on March 20, 2025, at PEC, HQ, Islamabad, considered the proposal of Taskforce for Online Distance Learning (ODL).

2.   The EAB granted approval of the proposal to offer four (04) courses only (i.e. Islamic Studies / Ethics, Pakistan Studies, Ideology & Constitution of Pakistan and Expository Writing), through ODL for implementation by the HEIs in the undergraduate engineering programs, if desired. The approved policy guidelines (Modes & Mechanism) are attached as **Annex-I.**

3.   Forwarded for information, please.

Engr. Aijaz Hussain Shah
Additional Registrar/ HoD EAD

Encl: as above

Copy to:
   a.   The Executive Director, HEC
   b.   The Convener-EAB
   c.   PS to Chairman/ Registrar

PEC Policy Guidelines for Online Distance Learning (ODL) in Undergraduate Engineering Programs offered by the HEIs in Pakistan

PEC in its 117th EAB meeting held on March 20, 2025 at PEC HQ, Islamabad allowed Online Distance Learning (ODL) with following guidelines to facilitate the HEIs offering engineering programs:

1. **Modes for offering ODL:**

   The HEIs may adopt any of the given online teaching modes:

   i. **Asynchronous learning**, where students access pre-recorded lectures, readings, Assignments, tutorials and digital course materials through a dedicated Course Management System (CMS) or Learning Management System (LMS).

   ii. **Synchronous learning**, incorporating live discussions, lecture delivery, interactive QA sessions, and real-time assessments via platforms such as Zoom, MS Team, Moodle, Skype, and Google Classroom.

   iii. **Blended Learning:** A mix of online and in-person instruction, meaning that students and instructors engage in some regular interactions while also having access to online resources or learning techniques.

   iv. **Hybrid Learning:** A scenario in which some students participate digitally while others attend class in person.

2. **Courses Allowed for ODL:**

   The following four (04) courses are allowed for ODL:

   i. Islamic Studies / Ethics
   ii. Pakistan Studies
   iii. Ideology and Constitution of Pakistan
   iv. Expository Writing

3. **Mechanism for ODL:**

   i. Any HEI desirous of offering General Education Courses through ODL must get it approved by the HEI statuary bodies.

   ii. A formal request should be submitted to PEC by the HEI before offering General Education courses. No ODL should be launched without prior No Objection Certificate (NoC) by HEC and PEC.

   iii. The HEI must have operational LMS and CMS systems, robust IT network, software and infrastructure support readily available both for students and faculty members.

iv. In the context of ODL, instructional delivery will occur in a traditional on-campus classroom setting. These sessions will be broadcast live through interactive digital platforms, with recordings made available on LMS for future reference.

v. Students must appear physically/ in person for each sessional/ mid-term and terminal exam/final exam at their designated Parent Campus, following the academic calendar.

vi. The process of ODL will be reviewed by PEC Program Evaluation Team during the accreditation/ re-accreditation visit.

vii. The Learning Assessments should be carried out like other courses, being offered physically, with course folders maintained along-with the recorded lectures. The same should be available for assessment by PEC Program Evaluation Team during the Visits.