

Stages of the procedure for the Establishment, Operation and Control of a Private University

The procedure for the establishment, operation and control of a Private University has the following stages-

1. application for the establishment and operation of a private university, of a speculative or not speculative character, by a body corporate registered in the Republic of Cyprus under the provisions of any law;
2. registration of the Private University with the Ministry of Education and Culture, after which the Private University becomes a body corporate and shall be deemed to be a private law organization with its own name and seal but cannot yet accept students;
3. secureness by the Private University of an initial license for operation, after which the Private University can accept students;
4. monitoring by ECPU of the Private University operating under initial license for four years;
5. the secureness by the Private University of a final license for operation; and
6. periodic evaluation of the Private University every five years.

During stage (2), after the examination of the applications, the ECPU can make one of the following recommendations to the Council of Ministers, via the Minister of Education-

1. rejection of the application for registration; or
2. acceptance of the application;

The ECPU can postpone only once and for a certain time period to take a decision, setting conditions to be fulfilled before proceeding to a decision.

The Council of Ministers decides on the acceptance or rejection of the application to register the Private University.

During stage (3), after consultations with the Temporary Governing Committee of the registered Private University, the ECPU can make one of the following recommendations to the Council of Ministers, via the Minister of Education-

1. Provide an initial license; or
2. Postponement of a decision for a certain time period, setting conditions to be fulfilled before proceeding to a decision.

The Council of Ministers can take one of the following decisions-

1. provide an initial license for operation lasting for four years and prescribe the date of commencement of its operation;
2. postponement of a decision for a certain time period; or

3. reject the application in case the reasons for postponement are not rectified during the prolongation.

During stage (4), the ECPU monitors periodically the operation of the Private University under initial license, submits annual reports to the Minister and if it deems expedient, submits relevant suggestions on the basis of which, the Minister has the power to propose to the Council of Ministers the suspension of the Private University's operation.

During stage (5), after the fourth year of the operation of a Private University with an initial license, and after the submission by the University of a relevant report to the Minister, the Council of Ministers can take one of the following decisions-

1. provide a license of operation to the Private University;
2. suspend the initial license of operation and demand the termination of the works and activities of the Private University; or
3. extend, for a period not greater than one year, the initial license of the Private University's operation and impose specific terms with which the university is bound to comply during the prolongation.

After the securing of a license of operation by a Private University, the relevant Law provides for its periodic evaluation every five years.