



Note on University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023 (the Regulations)

[Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India.pdf \(ugc.gov.in\)](#)

India's University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved regulations that will allow the establishment and operation of foreign university branch campuses in India. These regulations implement the Indian Government's commitment under the *National Education Policy 2020* to internationalise India's higher education sector. The Regulations were published in UGC's [website](#) on 8 November 2023.

The Regulations will regulate the entry and operations of foreign universities/Institutions in India to conduct undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, post-doctoral, and other programs and award degrees, diplomas and certificates in all disciplines.

Until now Australian universities have not been able to establish branch campuses in India, except for at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

The regulations will provide for foreign universities ranked in the global top 500 or top 500 subject rankings, or those institutions with exceptional expertise in a specific area, to establish and operate a branch campus in India. The Department of Education's assessment of the draft regulations is that they will provide flexibility for foreign universities to establish operations in India and make decisions on courses, fees and hiring decisions without undue interference by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Foreign universities will however need to ensure they source expert advice with regards to the business operating environment, so to ensure they operate in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Foreign Exchange Management Act* and comply with the *Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act* (as well as other relevant tax and business regulations).

All applications to establish a foreign branch campus must be submitted directly to the UGC. The application portal and frequently asked questions can be found at the [UGC foreign higher educational institutions website](#).

Australian universities considering establishing a branch campus in India are encouraged to contact the Australian High Commission in New Delhi.

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