



Executive Summary

Initial Licensure Sharjah Performing Arts Academy

February 4, 2019

Sharjah Performing Arts Academy (SPAA) submitted its application for Initial Licensure (Application), as an independent higher education institution. The SPAA is owned by the Government of Sharjah.

SPAA was established by an Emir Decree issued by H.H. the Ruler of Sharjah. It aims to provide the western conservatoire style training and education in the Emirate of Sharjah, based on the long and successful history of performing arts conservatoire training and education in the UK and USA. Its programs include Acting, Musical Theatre and Dance.

Overall Academy's Strengths

1. It has the full support of H.H. the Ruler of Sharjah.
2. It has already acquired well designed and equipped physical facilities, located within Sharjah Academic City.
3. The program offered by the College is generally comparable to reputable programs in the UK and USA.
4. It has developed a well-articulated strategic plan, and a realistic targets of student enrollment.
5. SPAA already hired leading faculty and staff, indicating the seriousness of its operation.
6. The documentation submitted for initial licensure were generally in good order, although some areas needed revision.

Areas for Improvement in the Application documents

The Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) identified few areas which needed review and attention in:

- Adjustment of Organization Chart to include QA unit
- Evaluation of Board performance
- The roles and responsibilities of QA unit
- Policies for student admission, and grading system
- Policies for RPL, and transfer admission
- Completion of missing policies for faculty and administrative staff