The National Accreditation Board (NAB) is a public service institution under the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports (MOESS), responsible, among other things for the accreditation of both public and private tertiary institutions with regards to the contents and standards of their programmes and also to determine, in consultation with the appropriate institutions or body, the programme and requirements for the proper operation of their institution and the maintenance of acceptable levels of academic or professional standards. It is also responsible for the determination of equivalences of diplomas, certificates and other qualifications awarded in Ghana and elsewhere.

NAB was established with the enactment of the NAB Law 1993 (PNDCL 317), to contribute to the furtherance of better management of tertiary education as the Quality Assurance Body. The Board is made up of twenty-five member representatives from:

- Government
- the Regional Colleges of Applied Arts, Science and Technology (RECAAST).
- Public and Private Universities
- Association of Recognised Professional Bodies
- Association of Ghana Industries
- West Africa Examinations Council
- National Board for Professional and Technician Examinations
- Polytechnics
- Public Services Commission
- Nurses and Midwives Council
- Higher Education Division of the Ministry of Education

and is headed by a Chairperson appointed by the Government.
The Board has a Secretariat headed by an Executive Secretary who is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Secretariat, subject to policy directives of the Board. The Board is financed on government subvention for personal emoluments, administrative costs and service costs. This is also augmented with Internally Generated Funds i.e. fees charged from accreditation exercises and evaluation of certificates.

NAB works through committees and sub-committees with respect to

- Institutional accreditation
- Programme accreditation
- Monitoring and supervisory roles to ensure the maintenance of accepted standards and availability of facilities.

In terms of its assessment methodology, the Board has standard questionnaires administered to applicants. There are two (2) levels – Institutional Accreditation and Programme accreditation. Information elicited from these questionnaires is used to assess the institutions and their programmes. A sub-committee of the Board carries out institutional visits as part of the initial preparations for institutional accreditation. For programme assessment, Panel of Assessors in specified areas are commissioned to assess the programmes. These experts are chosen from the academia, professional associations/bodies and individuals in practice.

Some key areas of concern for the Panel are, programme philosophy, admission policy, curriculum, staffing, examinations, external moderation, academic regulations, provisions for student assessment of course content and teaching and for peer and professional assessment of content of teaching, physical facilities (lecture halls, library, workshops etc) and affiliation.
The Law enjoins the Board to publish information about its activities which is done regularly in the newspapers and the Government Gazette. Occasionally, we also come out with press releases. NAB also has a website – www.nab.gov.gh - where information about our activities and a list of both public and private accredited tertiary institutions and their accredited programmes are featured. The Secretariat also recently organised a workshop for heads, proprietors and prospective proprietors of tertiary institutions.

Early this year, NAB launched its five (5) year Strategic Plan. All these activities are forms of information dissemination for the Board.

For institutions that are unable to ensure the required quality standards, the following sanctions are used.

- suspension of the activities of the institution until a time the identified deficiencies are remedied together with verifiable evidence. The Board will normally visit the institution to ascertain the proof of remedies undertaken
- denial of accreditation
- a revocation of the certificates of accreditation
- closure of institution

One noteworthy requirement of NAB is the issue of affiliation for all newly established tertiary institutions in order to give mentorship and also for the award of its certificates to the graduands of the new institution. This is for a minimum period of four years after which the mentored institution may apply for a Presidential charter. Where the Board is satisfied that all requirements have been met and that the institution can be autonomous, the Board may make a recommendation to the President of the Republic through the Minister of Education. Before this, all are considered university colleges.