



European Association for
Public Administration Accreditation

EAPAA Accreditation Committee Summary Evaluation | 2025-2031

Master of Public Administration in Governance (MPA), FHR Lim A Po Institute for Higher Education – Suriname.

Summary evaluation with respect to the request for accreditation of the Master of Public Administration in Governance programme, FHR Lim A Po Institute for Higher Education – Suriname.

In consideration of the Self-Evaluation Report of the above programme, the Site Visit Report of 26 March 2025 of the EAPAA Site Visit Team for this programme, and the response of the programme to the draft of the Site Visit Report, the EAPAA Accreditation Committee, at its meeting of 26 August 2025 in Glasgow, Scotland, has evaluated this programme against the EAPAA Standards (September 2023).

Criteria	Summary evaluation
Mission, objectives and competencies	The programme is rooted in the mission to strengthen Suriname's public sector capacity and modernize its governance through advanced professional education. This is translated into a clear set of objectives and required competencies.
Entry into the programme	The entry requirements are formalized and clearly defined. The programme's levelling courses help ensure that all students are ready to take the MPA courses.
Structure of the curriculum	The programme has a transparent structure, with a teaching and a thesis trajectory. There is a sufficient justification of how the courses are related and how they are linked to the programme's objectives. The programme does not offer specialisation tracks.
Content of the curriculum	The core curriculum, which has become more focused since the previous accreditation, addresses the fundamental domains of public administration and adopts a multidisciplinary perspective. The programme convincingly demonstrated the links between programme objectives, intended learning outcomes, and course content. Research methods and ethics are sufficiently addressed.
Didactic approach	The programme has a substantial number of contact hours, during which there is ample time for discussion and feedback. The relatively small number of students allows a high degree of interaction. This intensive, small-scale approach is one of the strengths of the programme.
Student assessment	Although the evidence suggests assignments are sufficiently demanding, there is a lack of variety in the types of assignments, with an overly strong emphasis on essays, exams, and group presentations. The programme demands significant student independence. Sufficient attention is paid to research ethics.

Preparation for the labour market	The programme is designed for professionals who are already active in the labour market, with often several years of professional experience. Specific attention is given to how insights from courses can be applied in practice.
Results	Excluding the effects of the COVID pandemic, graduation rates have been increasing, due to improvement in the preparation of research proposals. In general, the theses are of sufficient quality, although methodological diversity could be improved. Various alumni are in top positions in Surinamese public administration.
Quality monitoring and improvement	The programme has a combination of internal and external mechanisms to monitor and enhance its quality continuously. Internally, the programme relies on well-established monitoring systems that include regular course evaluations, exit interviews, and structured feedback loops between students, faculty, and programme management. In terms of external oversight, the programme has a consistent record of undergoing reviews and most recommendations have been acted upon. Stakeholder involvement is an important component of the programme's quality assurance approach.
Faculty	The faculty are competent and committed, leading to an overall high level of quality teaching. The core faculty remains relatively small, with most lecturers recruited from the broader network. More structured efforts to acquaint new lecturers with the programme and Surinamese context would be beneficial.
Diversity	The students in the MPA sufficiently reflect the ethnic and religious diversity of Suriname. Faculty are still to a large extent drawn from Dutch institutions, though local Surinamese staff are involved in various aspects of the programme and its management.
Responsibility and autonomy	The programme is well-managed, but much responsibility rests upon few shoulders. It is important, not only to plan for succession, but also to consider measures to lighten the burden of vertical coordination and further distribute responsibilities.
Supportive services and facilities	The programme offers an adequate range of supportive services and facilities that enable the delivery of the curriculum in an effective and practical manner, though certain aspects would benefit from further development.
Research basis	Despite the research basis of many lecturers, but domestic research capacity still falls short. Through the development of a research platform, the programme has made an important step in structurally addressing this.
Internationalisation	The programme has an international orientation, but would benefit from more comparative learning on South America and the Caribbean.