

ACADEMIC BANK OF CREDITS

In a nutshell: As per National Education Policy 2020, the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) has been envisaged to facilitate the academic mobility of students with the freedom to study across the higher education institutions in the country with an appropriate “credit transfer” mechanism from one programme to another, leading to attain a degree/diploma/PG-diploma, etc.

Nodal agency: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India

The Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) has been created to facilitate students’ seamless mobility between or within degree granting higher education institutions through a formal system of credit recognition, credit accumulation, credit transfers, and credit redemption in order to promote flexible teaching and learning.

It provides academic credit deposit accounts to all the students who are studying in any recognized Higher Educational Institution (HEI). The credits earned by a student in the system can be automatically credited to his/her account and after a certain level, the student can accrue and redeem the credits for any academic program, at any convenient time. Here, the academic program is an educational program leading to the award of a degree, diploma or certificate.

The ABC is a digital entity established and managed by the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the University Grants Commission (UGC). The ABC serves as an online storehouse of students’ data and their credits, where it deposits credits awarded by registered institutions into students’ accounts.

The ABC will provide students with substantial autonomy by offering a diverse range of courses for their programme of study, curricular flexibility, and new and exciting course selections from a variety of higher education disciplines/institutions. It will not provide any awards, degrees, diplomas or certificates, since the statutory powers for those would be vested in universities and autonomous institutions as defined from time to time by the MoE. The bank will perform three functions: Credit accumulation, Credit transfers and Credit redemption.

The ABC service will have 3 portals:

1. **Portal for higher education institutions:** There is a dedicated portal for educational institutions where they can upload academic credits, update and redeem credits for students, provide registration facility for educational institutions as a credit issuer or verifier or both. It approves the verification request of an educational institution and as a facility to

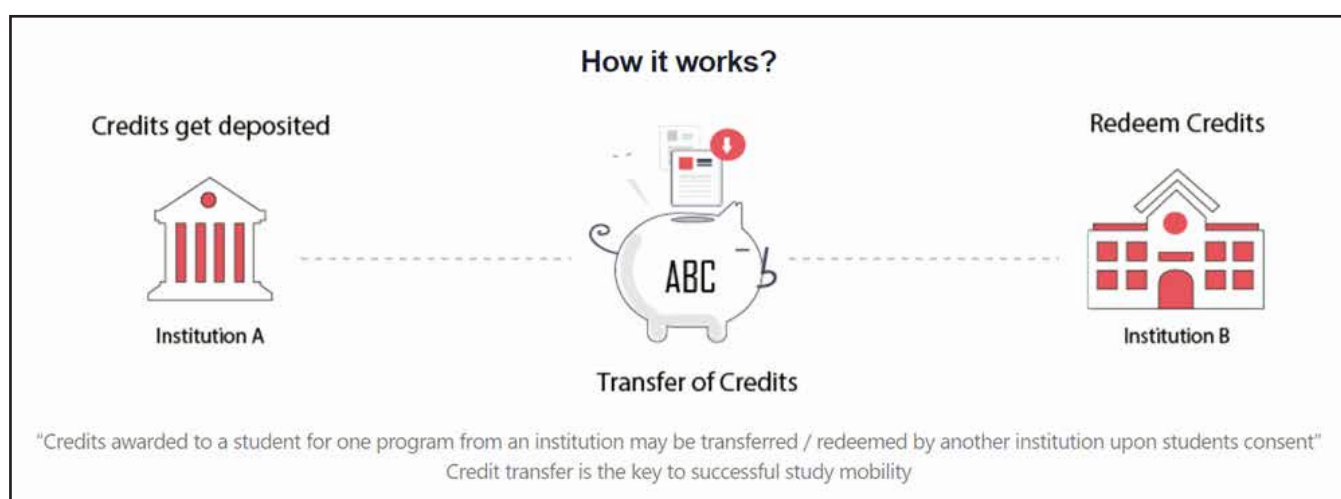
redeem credits from a students' account.

2. **Portal for students:** The ABC provides an account to students that is managed by DigiLocker. The credits earned are deposited/ recorded against the account ID of the student and have a shelf life for the purpose of its value in award of any degree/diploma/PG diploma/certificates. It is a facility for the students to see transaction statements, such as allocation and redemption/transfer of credits. It also provides the facility to access the ABC account on web and on mobile application.

3. **Portal for verifying partners/verifiers:** The verifying partners (employers, banks, consulates, and education institutions, etc.) can easily verify academic award credits of the students through the system post obtaining the consent.

Impact:

- a. Allows multiple entry, multiple exit
- b. Facilitates seamless student mobility across various disciplines
- c. Academic recognition for periods of study
- d. Promotes distributed and flexible teaching-learning



Working of the Academic Bank of credits