Academic Program Approval and Termination
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Academic Approval Items

The Board of Governors considers the following academic program items for approval:

• New degree proposals for doctoral programs (research and professional)
• Termination of doctoral programs (research and professional)
• Substantive revisions to existing doctoral programs
• Exceptions to 120 credit hours to degree for baccalaureate programs
• Limited Access Status for baccalaureate programs
Academic Approval Items

The Board of Governors has delegated to university boards of trustees the authority to approve the following academic program items:

- Implement or terminate bachelor’s, master’s, and specialists degrees
- All items coming forward to the Board of Governors for final approval
- Other curricular offerings (majors, concentrations, certificates, etc.)
New Degree Program Approval

Board Regulation 8.011, Authorization of New Academic Degree Programs and Other Curricula Offerings - Amended 03/24/11

- Provides definitions for types of academic offerings
- Establishes approval criteria
  - Need and demand - consider economic, workforce, and student interest
  - Controls for unnecessary duplication
  - State-level accountability - addresses state-level goals
  - Institutional readiness - resources available for quality program
New Degree Program Approval

Board Regulation 8.011, Authorization of New Academic Degree Programs and Other Curricula Offerings - Amended 03/24/11

• Establishes a two-step process for review and approval
  o University Board of Trustees - implement below doctorate
  o Board of Governors - implement doctorates and review all others

• Establishes the State University System Academic Program Inventory
  o Uniform data reporting
Board Regulation 8.011 requires a standard proposal format for all new degree programs that:

- Is aligned with new degree program criteria in 8.011
- Provides a summary of enrollments and costs on the cover page
- Provides tables for calculating enrollments, faculty effort, and budget projections
- Addresses student access and diversity
- Provides evidence of sufficient faculty and other resources
- Facilitates the two-step process for review and approval (University Board of Trustees/Board of Governors)
- Addresses all related state-level laws, rules, and regulations
Other Degree Program Actions

Board Regulation 8.012, Academic Program Termination
• Establishes termination criteria and authority
• Requires a plan to accommodate affected students and faculty
• Mitigates any adverse impact on diversity

Board Regulation 8.013, Limited Access
• Protects against unnecessary restrictions on admission
• Facilitates statewide articulation

Board Regulation 8.014, Bachelor’s Degree Exceptions to 120 Credit Hours Requirement
• Reduces state cost by preventing unnecessary program length
• Facilitates statewide articulation
New Degree Program Proposal Process

Degree Concept Whitepaper → Faculty Committees and Provost → University List for Exploration → Develop Degree Proposal

Board of Trustees for Approval → Provost and Admin Review → Faculty Committee(s) Review → College or School Review

Chancellor’s Office → Staff Analysis of Doctorate Proposals → Staff Review all Other Proposals → Board of Governors for Approval → SUS Degree Inventory

Board of Governors for Approval, ACC, and SCNS as Appropriate
Board Regulation 8.004, Academic Program Coordination - New 11/10/11

• Facilitates collaboration, articulation, and coordination across the State University System
• Annual review of current, proposed new programs or terminations to address:
  o Appropriate levels of postsecondary access
  o Unnecessary duplication
  o Collaboration and shared resources
  o Adverse impacts caused by new or terminated programs
• Council of Academic Vice Presidents and Board Staff utilize the annual university work plans and accountability reports