11.10   Academic Program Requests

Revised May 7, 2024 (MO – 2024)
Next Scheduled Review: May 7, 2029
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Policy Summary

Requests for new degree programs from academic institutions of The Texas A&M University System (system) should be guided by principles and standards set forth by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (coordinating board). These requests require notification and approval from the system and the coordinating board.

Policy

1. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

    Requests for new degree programs must be guided by principles and standards set forth by the coordinating board in Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Part 1, Chapters 2, 4, and 5.

    1.1   Mission. University degree and certificate programs must be consistent with the mission statement and program inventory authorized by the system board and the coordinating board. This principle also pertains to how programs are designed and delivered.

    1.2   Quality.   University degree and certificate programs must be of high quality as determined by the standards set forth by the coordinating board and accrediting agencies regarding faculty, curriculum, facilities, and library resources.

    1.3   Resources.   Members must have adequate resources to offer quality degree and certificate programs and represent an efficient use of financial resources. New programs should not be initiated that reduce resources for existing programs. Degree and certificate program choice, design, implementation, and delivery must be cost-effective. Administrative structure must be kept low to ensure that most of the funds appropriated for higher education go toward the costs of instruction.

2. PREPARATION, SYSTEM REVIEW AND APPROVAL

    2.1   Academic institutions are required to follow coordinating board rules and system procedures in the preparation and submission of academic program requests. These procedures can be found on the System Office of Academic Affairs website.

    2.2   The system approves all new academic program requests and submits the approved proposals to the coordinating board.

2.3   Requests for existing programs to be offered electronically to groups or off-campus face-to-face delivery must be approved by the system prior to coordinating board submission. Once the system approves the request, the system will notify the member of its submission to the coordinating board.

2.4   Requests for existing programs to be offered electronically to individuals (hybrid or 100% online) require notification to the system. Once the member notifies the system of the request, the system will submit the request to the coordinating board and will notify the member of its submission to the coordinating board.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

19 Tex. Admin. Code Part 1, Ch. 2, Ch. 4 and Ch. 5

System   Office of Academic Affairs Board Approval Process

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Academic Affairs
(979) 458-6072