11.10   Academic Program Requests

Revised November 15, 2018 (MO -2018)
Next Scheduled Review: November 15, 2023
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Policy Summary

Academic program requests 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

    Academic program requests must be guided by principles and standards set forth by the coordinating board in Texas Administrative Code Title 19, Part 1, Chapters 4 and 5.

    1.1   Mission**.** University degree and certificate programs must be consistent with the mission statement and table of programs 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 in regards to faculty, curriculum, facilities and library resources.

    1.3   Resources. Academic programs and organization must have adequate resources to offer quality programs and represent an efficient use of financial resources. New programs should not be initiated that reduce resources for existing programs. Program choice, design, implementation and delivery must be cost effective. Administrative structure will 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 will approve all new academic program requests and will submit the approved proposals to the coordinating board.

2.3 Requests for existing programs (excluding doctoral degrees) to be offered electronic to groups or off-campus face-to-face delivery must be approved by the system prior to coordinating board submission. Upon approval, the proposal will be returned to the academic institution in order for the member to submit it to the coordinating board.

2.4 Requests for existing programs (excluding doctoral degrees) to be offered electronically to individuals (online) require notification to the system prior to the member submitting the request to the coordinating board.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

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

System Office of Academic Affairs Approval Process

Prior to September 3, 2015, this policy was published as Regulation *03.02.02, Approval Procedures for Degree Programs, Administrative Changes, etc.*

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

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