



University of Colorado

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BOARD OF REGENTS

4. ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Policy 4.B: Academic Planning and Accountability

4.B.1 Academic Program Review

As articulated in regent law, article 1, part B, the delivery of high-quality education is fundamental to the mission of the university, and the Board of Regents is authorized to approve the creation and discontinuance of degree programs per Regent law, article 4, part B. System and campus policies shall be implemented to support understanding of degree program progress over time and accountability.

a) Review of all degree programs shall be conducted at least once every seven years within an established timetable. Each campus shall have a published process for conducting program review that, at a minimum, provides the information specified in APS 1019: Degree Program Review. As appropriate, professional accreditation processes may be used to meet some, or all, program review requirements. Professional accreditation processes may require adjustments to the seven-year time period. The Board of Regents shall receive an annual report on program review activities and, where appropriate, recommendations for board action.

b) A process to periodically audit the integrity of campus processes for campus program reviews relative to the requirements of APS 1019: Degree Program Review, shall be developed and implemented.

4.B.2 Notification of Accreditation Status Change

The president and chancellors shall notify the Board of Regents of any change in the status of institutional accreditation or a change to the accreditation status of a degree program, department, or other unit that results in probation or loss of accreditation.

4.B.3 Proposals for Academic Units, Degree Programs, and Other Credentials

Each campus shall have published processes for the following:

a) ~~d~~Development of proposals for new academic units, new degree programs, and other credentials that are consistent with the respective Administrative Policy Statement (APS) (1041: Approval of Academic Units; 1038: New Degree Program Approval; and 1040: Board of Regent Approval for Non-Degree Credentials).

b) A process to pPeriodically audit -of the integrity of the campus processes for new academic units and new degree programs relative to the requirements of APS

1038: New Degree Program Approval and APS 1041: Approval of Academic Units, shall be developed and implemented.

~~c) Each campus shall have a process for n~~ Name changes of academic units or degree programs. Name changes shall be approved by the chancellor and communicated to the Board of Regents through the vice president of academic affairs.

4.B.4 Academic Unit and Degree Program Discontinuance

Upon recommendation by the chancellor, the Board of Regents may discontinue a regent-approved academic unit or degree program for educational, strategic realignment, resource allocation, or financial reasons, or a combination of these reasons.

The processes for academic unit and degree program discontinuance are specified in APS 1015: Implementing Academic Unit or Degree Program Discontinuance.

Each campus shall have processes for the discontinuance of academic units or degree programs that are consistent with those provided in APS 1015.

Upon a decision by the Board of Regents to discontinue a degree program, every reasonable effort will be made to allow students to complete their degrees. Termination of faculty appointments that occur as the result of formal discontinuance of an academic unit or degree program shall follow procedures detailed in Regent Policy 5.F: Termination of Faculty Appointments Following Program Discontinuance.

4.B.5 Records of Degree Completions

The campus registrars shall maintain the official records of the candidates to whom degrees are awarded.

4.B.6 Degree Revocation

Upon recommendation of the faculty and the chancellor, the Board of Regents may revoke a degree if it is discovered that degree requirements were not satisfied due to academic misconduct or administrative error. Procedures for revoking a degree shall be consistent with the corresponding APS 1039: Degree Revocation.

History:

- Adopted: June 15, 2017, as Policy 4.B: Academic Planning and Accountability, but did not become effective until the related administrative policy statements (APSs) were implemented on January 1, 2018.
 - NOTE: Policy 4.A and 4.B were the result of significant changes to both the structure and content of the previous versions of Article 4, Policy 4 and related policies.
- Revised: July 1, 2020, non-substantive changes made to section 4.B.4 to replace “terminate” with “discontinue” and updated old reference to Appendix 4.1 to Regent Policy 5.F after Appendix 4.1 was rescinded and policy statements previously stated in Appendix 4.1 were incorporated into Regent Policy 5.F; June 4, 2025.
- Last Reviewed: June 4, 2025.