Key Considerations for Creating Academic Plans

This document provides guidelines to create academic plans. First, you will need to identify the action you want to take, so that you submit the appropriate form through Curriculum ChangeMaker. Second, address the considerations listed below to write a compelling proposal. After your Academic Plan proposal is approved, you will enter the curriculum development phase, which leads to implementation. On page two, a step-by-step flowchart illustrates what it takes to move an Academic Plan submission from conceptualization to implementation.

A. Identify the action you want to initiate

Submit academic plan proposals in Curriculum ChangeMaker to initiate any of the actions listed below. Submissions that pass the internal college or school review must be moved by the dean or dean’s designee to the next ChangeMaker approval level, Office of the University Provost Review, by the September due date. To request access to Curriculum ChangeMaker or training regarding proposal submissions, contact curriculumquestions@asu.edu.

New Program

- Establish a degree, minor, concentration or certificate

Submit New Program Form

Update Program

- Rename, move or disestablish a degree, minor, concentration or certificate

Submit Program Change Form

Organizational Unit

- Establish, disestablish or rename a center, department, division, school or college

Submit Organizational Unit Form

B. Consider the following tips while preparing your academic plan submission

Writing Style

Write for an intelligent external audience, using formal voice. Do not use first-person pronouns (I, me, my, we, us). Also avoid the use of acronyms; if an acronym is required, first define the acronym and use the abbreviation thereafter.

University Funds

To request university funds to implement a change (new faculty, new academic or office space, renovations, capital equipment), complete the Academic Plan Resources form to document the need.

Program Fees

Proposed program fees must be reviewed and approved through the current budget and tuition/fee approval process. Please contact Sheila Ainlay, Vice Provost of Planning and Budget, to begin these discussions.

Assessment Plans

Submit assessment plans for new degrees and concentrations directly to the University Office of Evaluation and Educational Effectiveness via the Assessment Portal by the late August due date. Assessment plans are not needed for minors or certificates. Be prepared to address learning outcomes, concepts, competencies, assessment methods and measures. Direct any questions to assessment@asu.edu or (480) 727-1731.

Market Need

Include an analysis of the market need for proposals related to a degree, minor, concentration, certificate or new unit. Specifically, address the following points (include statistics and source attributions): target audience, intended careers and comparable academic programs (at other institutions). Tools such as Emsi Analyst might be used to provide these data.

Digital Immersion

In order to offer programs via digital immersion, separate approval is required; this is managed by EdPlus. To begin the digital immersion approval process, submit the “Request for Digital Immersion Consideration” ChangeMaker form (Create New Forms > Online Forms) by the September due date. Contact EdPlus at edplusprogrammanagement@asu.edu for additional information.

Avoid Duplicate Submissions

Approved actions have a three-year lifespan, allowing time for implementation. To verify previously approved submissions that have not yet been implemented, please sign in with your ASURITE to see the following GoogleDocs:

- Degree Program Implementation Tracking
- Concentration, Minor and Certificate Implementation Tracking
C. Follow these steps for academic plan and curriculum development processes

1. Prepare Academic Plan Submission
   At the department or school level.

2. College or School Finalizes Academic Plan
   At the college or school level. Dean forwards proposals to the Provost via Curriculum ChangeMaker.

3. Provost Reviews Academic Plan Submission
   Anticipate this process to take three to six months. Note that ABOR approval is required to establish, disestablish or rename degree programs and for any requests pertaining to academic units.

4. Provost Issues Plan Approval
   The Provost’s approval to plan is not a guarantee for implementation. Approved actions must be implemented within three years.

5. Unit Develops Full Proposal
   Graduate proposals are reviewed by the Graduate College and University Graduate Council. The Office of the University Provost reviews undergraduate proposals.

6. University Senate and Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee (CAPC) Review

7. Provost Issues Final Approval
   Changes may not be implemented or advertised until notification of final approval.

Need Help? Contact Us

General questions should be directed to Jennifer Shea, manager for Curriculum Development. Other questions should be directed as indicated below.

- Graduate programs – Alfredo J. Artiles
- Undergraduate programs – Frederick Corey
- Organizational changes – Frederick Corey
- Assessment plans – assessment@asu.edu
- Program fees – Sheila Ainlay
- Digital immersion – edplusprogrammanagement@asu.edu
- Centers or institutes – centers-institutes@asu.edu
- Emsi Analyst – Jennifer Malerich

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