

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, MODIFICATION & CONTINUANCE

*References: Education Code Sections 70902 (b) and 78016;
Title 5 Sections 51022 and 55130*

The District recognizes the primacy provided to faculty under the law to review and approve new and modified curriculum and educational programs at the Curriculum Committee level, a standing committee of the Academic Senate, as part of the Governing Board's 10 + 1 Agreement with the Academic Senate (District Policy & Procedure No. 2515).

This District and the Academic Senate will ensure that the programs and curricula of the Southwestern Community College District shall be of high quality, relevant to community and student needs, in alignment with the mission of California Community Colleges as well as the Mission of Southwestern Community College District, and shall be evaluated regularly to ensure appropriate quality, rigor, currency, and transferability.

The State of California and the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) define a "program" as "a set of courses that lead to completion of a certificate, degree or transfer." Thus, the District shall establish procedures in collaboration with the Academic Senate for the development and review of all curricular offerings, including the establishment and modification of educational programs and curriculum.

New courses that are not part of an existing approved program shall be approved as Stand Alone courses as required by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, as long as Stand Alone requirements are met by the District. All new programs shall be submitted by the Office of Instructional Support Services via the electronic submission system of the California Community College Chancellor's Office. Pursuant to Policy and Procedure No. 2515, all new and modified curriculum including inactivations, approved by the Curriculum Committee shall be forwarded to the Governing Board on a curriculum summary for final approval.

All grant-funded curriculum shall require written agreement between the District and the Academic Senate prior to approval as detailed in the procedures for this policy.

All programs and curriculum that will have an accrediting body outside of the District must submit written documentation of the program's licensure/accreditation personnel requirements prior to approval by the Curriculum Committee.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, MODIFICATION & CONTINUANCE**Mandatory Stand Alone Certification:**

References: AB1943 (Nava, 2006), Title 5 §55100

In keeping with Title 5 section §55100, Southwestern Community College District may, until December 31, 2012, approve and offer non-degree applicable credit courses and degree-applicable credit courses which are not part of an approved education program without separate approval by the Chancellor's Office, provided that the District continuously complies with all of the following requirements:

- that all courses be approved by the Southwestern College Curriculum Committee
- that all courses be approved by the Southwestern College Governing Board
- that all faculty and staff involved in curriculum approval have completed training provided by the Curriculum Committee Co-Chair (Academic Senate President-Elect or official faculty designee).
- that submission of Certification form be submitted and received by the Chancellor's Office by September 30th of each year.
- that original documentation of training as demonstrated by a signature page is kept for auditing purposes.