

# Substantive Change Policy Crosswalk

12/03/2020 - Subject to update

Intended for reference; not intended as a substitute for informed knowledge of policy.

Includes new, deleted, and *significantly* revised requirements only; previous requirements with no or minor changes are not included in this document. However, a minor policy change may have a major implication for a particular institution; review with care.

Previous Policy	Revised Policy (2020)		
Substantive Change Type / Requirement	Change	Substantive Change Type / Requirement	Comment
<b>INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES</b>			
	New	Institutional Contingency Teach-out Plan	Criteria and process addressed; differentiates from imminent institutional closure.
	New	Competency-based Education by Course/Credit-based Approach - Institutional Approval	Competency-based education by direct assessment requirements are unchanged.
	New	Change in Measure of Student Progress (institutional level change)	For entire institution, e.g., converting from quarters to semesters.
Mission Change	Revised	Mission Change	Clarifies qualifications; addresses change concurrent with or consequent to other sub changes.
<b>PROGRAM CHANGES</b>			
New program, aka significant departure, aka, expanding at current degree level	Revised	New Program Approval	Determination of significant departure simplified and quantitative threshold established.
	New	New Program Notification	Refer to policy for particulars; long-standing admonition not to submit new program information unless approval is required is now moot.
	New	Method of Delivery - Approval	Applies to institution on Substantive Change Restriction only.
	New	Method of Delivery - Notification	Refer to policy for methods and definitions.
	New	Program Designed for Prior Learning - Approval	Applies to institution on Substantive Change Restriction only.
	New	Program Designed for Prior Learning - Notification	Refer to policy for definition/criterion.
	New	Program Re-open	Long-standing practice added to policy.

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Contractual Agreement or Consortium	Deleted		Subsumed under Cooperative Academic Arrangement. For a contractual or consortial agreement to qualify as a Cooperative Academic Arrangement, policy-defined criteria must be met; Cooperative Academic Arrangement is unchanged from previous policy.
Contract with Non-Title IV Certified Entity	Revised	Cooperative Academic Arrangement with Non-Title IV Entities – Approval or Notification	There are now three types of Cooperative Academic Arrangement: (1) Cooperative Academic Arrangement (no change from previous policy), (2) Cooperative Academic Arrangement with Non-Title IV Entities - Approval, and (3) Cooperative Academic Arrangement with Non-Title IV Entities - Notification.
Significantly Altering the Length of a Program	Revised	Program Length Change	Quantitative threshold established and additional criterion added; see policy for particulars.
Dual Academic Award	Revised	Dual Academic Award	Additional criterion: applies to awards at the same credential level only; refer to policy.
Degree Completion Program Approval	Deleted		Approval if a significant departure, but not categorically for degree completion. See also programs designed for prior learning (new requirement).
Distance Education (aka Distance Learning) - Notification of First Program Offering 25-49% of Program by Distance Education	Deleted		Obsolete; subsumed under method of delivery (new requirement). First program offering 50% or more by distance ed still requires approval (no change to previous policy).
<b>OFF-CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONAL SITE (OCIS) CHANGES</b>			
OCIS Approval	Revised	OCIS Approval - Extensive Review	Requires extensive institutional level review and approval via C&R (June + December only).
OCIS Approval	Revised	OCIS Approval - Limited Review	Approvals by limited review AFTER two approvals by extensive review. Not available to institutions on restriction.
Committee Visit - New OCIS	Revised	Committee Visit - New OCIS	Several criteria modified; new criteria added for international OCIS visit requirements.

Previous Policy	Revised Policy (2020)		
Substantive Change Type / Requirement	Change	Substantive Change Type / Requirement	Comment
OCIS Closure	Revised	OCIS Closure	All closed sites require closure approval: notified sites and approved sites. Closing notified sites is a long-standing practice but now added to policy.
OCIS Approval Under U.S. Military Contract	Deleted		OCIS approval by limited review comparable to previous policy requirement; extensive review requirement must be met regardless.
OCIS Approval for Certificates Only on Short Notice Employer Request	Deleted		Prospectus relief was minimal, created additional institutional obligations, and extensive review requirement must be met regardless.
	New	OCIS Re-open	Long-standing practice added to policy.
Inactive OCIS	Deleted		Option removed; sites are either open or closed. (Inactive was an institutional designation and wasn't reported to SACSCOC.)
<b>GENERAL CHANGES</b>			
	New	SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE RESTRICTION	Creates different or additional requirements for institutions meeting defined criteria.
Closures	Revised	Multiple closure types	Approval required when ending any completion option: closing a program, closing an OCIS, closing a program at an OCIS, closing a method of delivery.
Procedures One, Two, and Three	Deleted		Obsolete; referenced by action required: NOTIFICATION or APPROVAL.
Modified Prospectus	Deleted		Obsolete.

### END ###