

**MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Policy and Procedures Manual**

SUBJECT: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Policy 303.10 – Academic Program Planning
Effective: May 20, 2005; Issued: June 14, 2005

I. Board Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure adequate notice is given to the board of regents, commissioner of higher education, and other institutions regarding new programmatic offerings, centers, institutes, or similar academic entities at institutions of the Montana University System (MUS) and community college districts. ~~Since the Montana board of regents must approve all new program offerings in the Montana university system (MUS), it is important that the regents have as much information as possible concerning those new offerings. The board should have prior notice of the academic programs being developed by the campuses; and it should also encourage collaboration and cooperation in the delivery of academic programs, whenever that seems appropriate to the system.~~

II. Procedures:

A. The institutions that make up the MUS, and the three (3) community college ~~districts~~, shall report their academic program plans to the office of the commissioner of higher education. That information shall include:

1. all new ~~postsecondary educational programs majors, minors, options and certificates~~ that may be proposed by the above-described institutions during the next three-year period;
- 4.2. identification of those ~~postsecondary educational programs majors, minors, options and certificates~~ that are a priority to the institutions, and may be submitted to the board of regents for its notice, review and/or approval in the next year.
- ~~2. plans to offer new or existing majors, minors, options and certificates in a distance delivery format, or at locations away from the home campus.~~
3. centers, institutes or similar academic entities.

B. If any institution governed by this policy submits a ~~new programmatic offering, center, institute, or similar academic entity program~~, under the ~~academic proposal level I and level II~~ process, for board review or approval that ~~has not been is not~~ reported under this policy, the board of regents may deny authorization of the new programmatic offering, center, institute, or similar academic entity based on that ~~reason alone that program may not be authorized for that reason alone~~, regardless of the merits of the program.

C. The office of the commissioner of higher education shall maintain a list of academic program plans, in an electronic format, on the academic and student affairs website.

III. Cross-reference:

See section 303.1, academic program proposals, Montana university system.

History:

New policy approved May 20, 2005 (Item 127-109-R0505), format change. Editorial change April 20, 2007.