

Board Governance Policy Manual

POLICY CATEGORY: OUTCOMES

POLICY NUMBER: A03

POLICY TITLE: PROGRAM QUALITY FOR PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION

EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 12, 2005

LAST REVISED: NOVEMBER 7, 2018

PURPOSE

The delivery of Programs of Instruction is a core business of Mohawk College and the College is committed to ensuring that its Programs of Instruction meet and exceed standards and expectations for ongoing quality, relevancy and currency. As defined by the MTCU, a Program of Instruction refers to a group of related courses leading to a diploma, certificate and/or other document awarded by the Board of Governors. Mohawk College considers similar guidelines for collaborative degrees with partnering universities. Under the OCAAT Act, 2002, the Board of Governors is responsible for all aspects of program approval including the approval of new programs, major program modifications, suspensions, consolidations and/or program cancellations. This policy outlines key Board responsibilities associated with program quality for Programs of Instruction.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the Mohawk College Board of Governors.

PRINCIPLES

Consistent with the MTCU's *Framework for Programs of Instruction* outlined in the Minister's Binding Policy Directive, the Board of Governors will ensure that:

1. Programs of Instruction that are developed and implemented will maintain consistency with published program standards, provincial standards and titling principles where they exist.
2. All new and modified post-secondary programs leading to an Ontario College Certificate, Diploma, Advanced Diploma or Graduate Certificate conform to the Minister's Binding Policy Directive Framework for Programs of Instruction, the Ontario College Quality Assurance Service Credentials Framework, college system standards, programming principles and external accrediting bodies where applicable. Pursuant to

the Post-Secondary Choice and Excellence Act, Applied Degrees will receive approval through the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB) and collaborative degrees with partnering universities will receive appropriate credential validation.

3. Credentials awarded to students upon successful completion of their Programs of Instruction are consistent with the Credentials Framework.
4. Linkages/communication with the employer community are facilitated through the establishment of program advisory committees made up of a cross section of persons external to the College who have a direct interest in and a diversity of experience and expertise related to the particular occupational area addressed by the program.
5. Protocols for grading, advancement and dispute resolution are established, available and publicly communicated to all students and College staff.
6. A regular program review cycle is implemented and that Programs of Instruction offered by the College are reviewed and revised, consolidated, suspended or cancelled as appropriate.

MONITORING

The authority to develop and administer policies and procedures to ensure program quality has been delegated by the Board to the President. Within that context, the Board will monitor compliance with the Minister's Binding Policy Directive and Framework for Programs of Instruction through the following:

- review and approval of new program proposals;
- annual review of Enrolment Management Plans;
- review and monitoring of program quality through various data sources including, academic program scorecards, annual program review, and comprehensive program review and other appropriate indicators of programming performance; and an
- annual review of summary reports of program reviews completed during the year.

The Program Development and Renewal Committee will be responsible for these reviewing and monitoring initiatives and provide regular feedback to the Board as a whole.

POLICY REVIEW DATE

Annual Review by Program Development & Renewal Committee

Next Review – November 2021 (Full Board)