

University of Alaska Southeast

Report on Academic Program Reviews – AY19-20

UA Board of Regents – September 2019

Academic Program Reviews at UAS

The University of Alaska Southeast’s mission, values, and core themes emphasize the importance of both academic excellence and accountability. Program reviews, required by Board of Regents policy, are an integral part of our practice to ensure that we meet that mission.

Program reviews focus on data-informed evidence of quality teaching and learning, graduation effectiveness, success of graduates in securing employment or advancing their educational goals, community engagement, adequacy of available resources, alignment with related programs at UAS and across UA, and program elements requiring improvement. Reviews offer an opportunity to celebrate successful programs and to identify ways to build on that success. Reviews also offer an opportunity to look critically at program needs, challenges, and weaknesses—to suggest changes, to reallocate resources internally, or to propose eliminating a program altogether.

Regents’ policy calls for such reviews at least every seven years and more frequently as the need arises (BOR P10.06.010 [B]--Academic Program Review). At UAS our practice continues to be completing such reviews at least every five years. The current schedule for reviews is found at http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/program_review.html.

The review process includes participation from program faculty and staff, students, Faculty Senate, administrators, discipline experts, and industry/community representatives. It concludes with a final decision by the UAS Provost, with concurrence from the UAS Chancellor. Special reviews outside of the normal cycle may be conducted as determined by university leadership.

Academic Program Reviews Completed in AY 18-19

In line with its published schedule, in AY 18-19 UAS conducted five Program Reviews.

Academic Program Reviews	Decision
OEC and Associate of Construction Technology	Continuation of program
Bachelor of Biology	Continuation of program
Bachelor of Environmental Science	Continuation of program
Bachelor of Mathematics	Continuation of program
Masters of Education – Reading	Continuation of program

Reviews Planned in Next Five Years

Academic Year	Reviews Scheduled
AY 19-20	6
AY 20-21	7
AY 21-22	6
AY 22-23	6
AY 23-24	5
Total	30

UAS Specialized Program Accreditation

- School of Education: National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) consolidated into the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) in July of 2013.
- Health Information Management: Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)
- Medical Assisting: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

UA Academic Program Review Definitions and Format

Academic Program

Degree or Certificate Program: UAS programs include Occupational Endorsements, Undergraduate Certificates, Associate degrees, Baccalaureate degrees, and Master's degrees. Academic Program Review decisions are listed relative to each academic program. For example, deleting a track within a program would be considered a revision of the program. In some cases, stand-alone minors and academic departments that are not degree-granting undergo Academic Program Review at the discretion of the Provost and Dean.

Decision Types

Enhancement: Program will be enhanced with additional resources. (Areas for enhancements might include, for example, faculty or staff, curriculum, program delivery, student success initiatives, outreach and/or partnerships with the community or industry, program promotion and marketing, and facilities.)

Continuation: Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements.

Revision: Program will be revised using existing resources, which might entail a reallocation of resources within the program. (Areas for revision might include, for example, faculty or staff workloads and assignments, curriculum, program delivery, student success initiatives, outreach and/or partnerships with the community or industry, program promotion and marketing, and facilities.)

Continued Review: Program is required to address specific issues and to undergo another review within the next two academic years.

Suspension: While decisions relative to the program are made, admissions to the program are suspended. There are a variety of reasons for suspension. These may include, among others, temporary circumstances (e.g., insufficient faculty to meet substantial enrollment increases), planned major revisions to the program (e.g., deleting a track or changing the degree level), or potential program deletion.

Deletion: Program is scheduled for deletion, a teach-out process will be developed and communicated to majors, and the program will remain in the catalog until the teach-out process is complete.

Actions

Action on results of program review: This column allows for details relative to decisions regarding the particular program.