

SECTION I

PART O ACADEMIC PLANNING

1.00 Objectives

Academic planning enables the Commission to foresee areas in which new policy or funding initiatives are desirable.

2.00 Statutory Authority

By statute, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education must establish academic planning that supports systemwide higher education goals. The statute (C.R.S. 23-1-108) reads as follows:

The commission shall:(a) Establish a policy-based continuing system wide planning, programming, and coordination process to affect the best use of available resources.

(b) Establish such academic and vocational education planning as may be necessary to accomplish system wide goals of high quality, access, diversity, efficiency and accountability.

3.00 Governing Board and Institutional Planning

3.01 Institutional Planning Documents

Each higher education governing board shall ensure that all institutions under its authority have appropriate planning processes established, that governing board planning priorities and criteria, as appropriate, have been observed, and that institutions have developed planning documents. The planning documents should be used to guide institutions' academic decisions, including but not limited to the development of new degree program proposals, program discontinuance, the review of existing academic programs, and other new institutional initiatives.

3.02 Each governing board shall submit to the Commission an annual report on academic planning that shall include:

- The institutional Academic Planning Report(s) as considered by the governing board;
- Planning initiatives under consideration;
- Potential new academic and vocational programs;
- Possible program discontinuances;
- Proposed responses to specific issues raised in the Statewide Master Plan;
- Initiatives planned to promote diversity;
- Significant changes to previous academic plans.

The governing board report shall be due on the last working day in January.

4.00 Commission on Higher Education Summary and Report

CCHE staff shall summarize how academic planning has addressed system-wide goals of high quality, access, diversity, efficiency and accountability. The annual report to the Commission also shall recommend any further steps that need to be taken to help ensure that state and system goals are achieved.

This annual report shall be completed and made available to the Commission at its May meeting.

HISTORY: CCHE Agenda Item III, F – June 5, 2003