

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the General Counsel

POLICY SUMMARY FORM

Policy Name: Discontinuance of Program or Academic Unit

Policy Number: 5.9

Is this policy new, being reviewed/revised, or deleted? Review/Revise

Date of last revision, if applicable: 1/29/2019

Unit(s) Responsible for Policy Implementation: Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Purpose of Policy (what does it do): This policy will govern the discontinuance of a program or academic unit for reasons other than financial exigency.

Reason for the addition, revision, or deletion (check all that apply):

- Scheduled Review Change in law Response to audit finding
 Internal Review Other, please explain:

Please complete the appropriate section:

Specific rationale for new policy:

Specific rationale for each substantive revision: Texted updated for clarification.

Specific rationale for deletion of policy:

Additional Comments:

Reviewers:

Academic Affairs Policy Committee
Lorenzo Smith, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Scott Gordon, President
Damon Derrick, General Counsel

Discontinuance of Program or Academic Unit

Original Implementation: October 18, 2011

Last Revision: January 29, 2019

This policy will govern the discontinuance of a program or academic unit for reasons other than financial exigency.

Termination of an appointment with tenure, or of a probationary or special appointment before the end of the specified term may occur as a result of discontinuance of a program or academic unit.

~~The recommendation to discontinue a program or academic unit will be based on educational consideration as determined by the university administration after consultation with the affected faculty and appropriate standing or ad hoc committees and will be subject to approval by the Board of Regents.~~

The recommendation to discontinue a program or academic unit will be based on educational considerations; this may include histories of low-producing programs, low-enrollments, or obsolescence, among other considerations. –Recommendations will be made by appropriate university administrators, including the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, the dean, and the unit head, in consultation with the affected faculty. Discontinuance is subject to approval by the Board of Regents.

Before the administration issues notice to a faculty and/or staff member of its intention to terminate an appointment because of discontinuance of a program or academic unit, the university will make every reasonable effort to place the affected faculty and/or staff member in another position for which the individual is professionally qualified.

In each case of termination of appointment because of program discontinuance, probationary faculty members will be given notice as prescribed in policy 7.29, Tenure. Tenured faculty members will be given notice at least twelve months prior to termination of appointment.

A faculty member who alleges discrimination or abridgement of constitutional guarantees or academic freedom will be afforded due process.

Cross Reference: Tenure (7.29); *Financial Exigency (3.15); Establishing Centers, Institutes, and Specialized Testing or Services Laboratories (5.10); Tex. Educ. Code § 61.0512*

Responsible for Implementation: President

Contact for Revision: Provost and *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Forms: None

Board Committee Assignment: Academic and Student Affairs