

Discontinuance of Program or Academic Unit

Original Implementation: October 18, 2011

Last Revision: April 11, 2022

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 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

Revision History: January 29, 2019
October 27, 2014