

Texas Higher
Education
COORDINATING BOARD

Update on Program Approval

Elizabeth Mayer, Assistant Commissioner
Academic and Health Affairs

July 25, 2024

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Update on Rule Implementation

THECB Texas Higher Education
COORDINATING BOARD

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Goals

- Better aligning degree and certificate approval processes to the agency’s refreshed Strategic Plan.
- Bringing agency rules and procedures in line with statute.
- Minimizing institutions’ regulatory burden and supporting innovation.
- Prioritizing the board meetings on the most meaningful program approval questions.
- Achieving the policy objective of having a comprehensive catalog of all credentials offered in the state; and
- Improving administrability of program review and approval with policies and processes that are feasible, efficient, and flexible.

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Progress to Date

- ✓ Launched 4 online approval forms in the new Data Submission Portal that are live for institutional submissions.
- ✓ Revisions to academic program approval rules recommended for adoption during July board meeting.
- ✓ Adoption of rules for off-campus education and self-supporting courses and programs pushed to October to provide more time for stakeholder feedback.
- ✓ Beginning staff and stakeholder engagement for degree program review processes and rules.

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Effect of New Online Form Implementation

Early Benchmarks

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Proposal Processing Time

Bachelor's & master's degrees

Sept 2022 - Feb 2024		March 2024 - July 2024	
Count*	Average Days in Review	Count	Average Days in Review
65	76	21	66
57	69	13	76

Form implemented February 2024

Planning notifications

Aug 2022 - May 2023		June 2023 - June 2024	
Count	Average Days in Review	Count	Average Days in Review
60	28	281	1

Form implemented June 2023

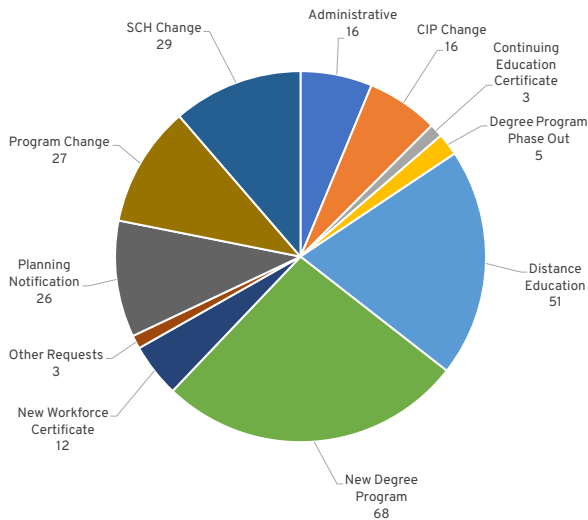
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Approved and Pending Academic and Workforce Requests

April 25 – July 17

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Academic & Workforce Requests – Approved

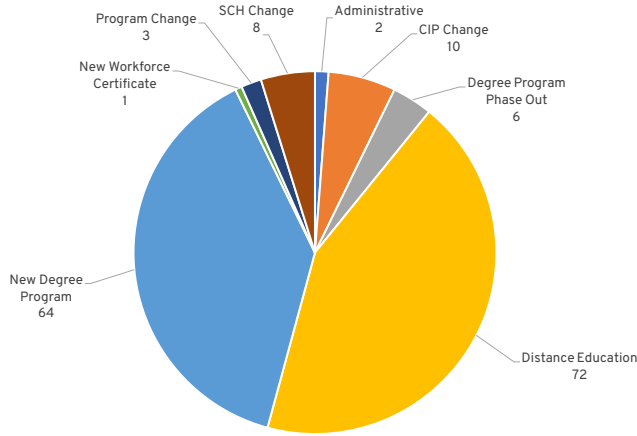


Approved Degree & Certs by Content Area

COMMUNICATION, JOURNALISM, AND RELATED PROGRAMS	1
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES/TECHNICIANS	2
COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES	4
PERSONAL AND CULINARY SERVICES	2
EDUCATION	3
ENGINEERING	2
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES/TECHNICIANS	5
FOREIGN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND LINGUISTICS	1
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES/HUMAN SCIENCES	2
LEGAL PROFESSIONS AND STUDIES	1
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, GENERAL STUDIES AND HUMANITIES	1
BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	2
MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS	1
MULTI/INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES	4
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES	1
PSYCHOLOGY	2
SECURITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES	5
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS	4
SOCIAL SCIENCES	4
CONSTRUCTION TRADES	3
MECHANIC AND REPAIR TECHNOLOGIES/TECHNICIANS	5
PRECISION PRODUCTION	2
TRANSPORTATION AND MATERIALS MOVING	1
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	6
HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND RELATED CLINICAL SCIENCES	9
BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, MARKETING	9
TOTAL	80

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Academic & Workforce Requests - Pending



Pending Degree & Certs by Content Area

AGRICULTURE, AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS, AND RELATED SCIENCES	2
COMMUNICATION, JOURNALISM, AND RELATED PROGRAMS	2
COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES	2
EDUCATION	8
ENGINEERING	6
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES/TECHNICIANS	3
FOREIGN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND LINGUISTICS	1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE/LETTERS	2
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, GENERAL STUDIES AND HUMANITIES	1
BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	2
MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS	1
MULTI/INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES	6
PHYSICAL SCIENCES	1
PSYCHOLOGY	1
SECURITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES	2
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS	5
SOCIAL SCIENCES	1
CONSTRUCTION TRADES	1
MECHANIC AND REPAIR TECHNOLOGIES/TECHNICIANS	1
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	1
HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND RELATED CLINICAL SCIENCES	10
BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, MARKETING	6
TOTAL	65

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Update on Board-approved Programs

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Updated Rule Text

Chapter 2, Subchapter I, Review of Existing Degree Programs

2.182(c) “Board Staff shall annually provide an update to the Board on the implementation status of approved doctoral and professional programs until the program has completed the five-year progress monitoring period.”

Annual Progress Report Status

Program APR Status (2019-2024)

Not Yet Started	26
Year 1	19
Year 3	20
Year 5	48
Total	113

- Institutions submit progress reports during years 1, 3 and 5 of degree program implementation.
- THECB staff review progress reports and submit a response to institutions.
- AHA is beginning an evaluation of all program review processes and will be engaging stakeholders over the next year.

Questions

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