

## SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES REGIONAL RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

The primary reference for curriculum development and approval is the California Community Colleges Program and Course Approval Handbook (PCAH), a link to the most current edition is provided below: [http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/AA/ProgramCourseApproval/Handbook\\_5thEd\\_BOGapproved.pdf](http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/AA/ProgramCourseApproval/Handbook_5thEd_BOGapproved.pdf)

Important points to remember:

- Programs and courses must be directed at the appropriate level for community colleges; that is, they must not be directed at a level beyond the associate degree or the first two years of college.
- A program or course must address a valid transfer, occupational, basic skills, and civic educational or lifelong learning purpose. It must **not** be primarily avocational or recreational.
- Programs and courses should also be congruent with the mission statement and the master plan of the college or district.

The PCAH also describes the procedures that the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office requires for adding a new program, a new certificate or adding a new option to an existing program in a college's existing inventory of career technical education programs. A vital step in this process includes a recommendation from the Regional Consortium. This recommendation applies to changes of the emphasis, concentration, specialization, strand, track or similar modifications to an existing program. It is intended to promote collaboration and coordination between the regional colleges that result in viable and accessible choices of career technical education for all citizens of a specific geographic region. The San Diego Imperial Counties Regional Consortium has adopted the process described below to obtain this recommendation for new programs and for new options in existing programs.

For more detailed instructions, please refer to the PCAH.

New program development begins with a needs assessment. To begin that process, Regional CTE Deans will complete the Center of Excellence (COE) Data Request Form (located at <http://myworkforceconnection.org/lmi/>) and submit it via e-mail to the Regional COE Director. The COE Director will follow up via e-mail or telephone conversation to confirm receipt of the request, seek any needed clarification and determine the timeline. The requesting dean may gather other pertinent documentation to validate the need for the program in the region at this time.

When a documentation of need is established, the requesting Regional CTE dean will submit this documentation and the following information to the Regional Consortium Program Specialist:

- Program name, goals and objectives
- Proposed TOP Code
- A review of similar TOP Codes in the Region
- A proposed catalog description
- A list of program requirements
- Enrollment/Completer projections
- Industry/Advisory Committee Recommendations

- A proposed start date

Using the following timeline and process, the college may begin the regional recommendation process.

## **REGIONAL CONSORTIUM TIMELINE AND PROCESS**

### **1. TIMELINE**

- Regional CTE Dean will submit programs for recommendation electronically to the RC Program Specialist by the first work day of each month.
- Within three days of the first work day of the month, the RC Program Specialist will send all programs for recommendation to the nine voting Regional CTE Deans.
- The Regional CTE Deans will have two weeks to review and discuss programs with their faculty.
- At the end of this two week period, comments, feedback, objections will be electronically submitted to all nine Regional CTE Deans.
- At the regularly scheduled Regional Consortium meeting (usually the third Friday of each month), programs for recommendation will be placed on the agenda for open discussion and a vote.
- If a majority of the deans (five of the nine) vote to endorse the program, the recommendation is automatic and will be reflected in the minutes.
- If there **are** objections to the program from a majority of the deans (five of the nine), the deans will have one additional week to make adjustments, review, provide feedback, and consultation.
- On the final work day of the month, the Regional Consortium Chair will convene the CTE deans to cast a final vote on any outstanding programs.
- The final vote stands and will be reported to the Regional Consortium Chair for inclusion on the following month's agenda as an information item.

### **2. PROCESS**

- The nine Regional colleges (Cuyamaca, Grossmont, Imperial Valley, MiraCosta, Palomar, San Diego City, San Diego Mesa, San Diego Miramar and Southwestern) have one vote each.
- Representative Regional CTE Deans may appoint a designee to cast a vote.
- Five deans or designated representatives are needed to establish a quorum.
- Programs must receive a simple majority (five of the nine) of votes to obtain a positive recommendation.
- If a program fails to obtain a positive recommendation from the Regional Consortium, and the proposing college feels that a negative vote was unjustified or unfair, the college may submit the program to the Chancellor's Office without a regional recommendation for approval.
- The burden of justification will be on the proposing college to show why the proposal must be approved without a positive recommendation from the Regional Consortium.

- When the final vote on a proposal is taken, it is the responsibility of the proposing college's representative to include the WDC minutes in their proposal to the state.

### **3. APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS**

Apprenticeship Programs will be included on the monthly agenda for information and included in the Consortium's Inventory of new programs when approved by the Chancellor's office.

- 4. Program TOP Code changes will be reported and recorded in the official meeting minutes.

### **5. RECORDS**

The Regional Consortium's Program Specialist will maintain the official listing of the status of all program recommendations. The program recommendation listing is posted on the Regional Consortium website, <http://myworkforceconnection.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Program-Recommendations-February-2014-Dec-2016.pdf>.