Section 10	**Academic Policies**	12/13/06 -Originated
Subject 10	Academic Programs	02/06/14 -Reviewed w/ changes
		-Reviewed w/o changes
Policy	**10.1.2 New Educational Program Approval Process**	02/18/14 - Effective
		Council of Deans -Author

New Educational Program Approval Process

Policy

All new educational programs in each of UTMB's four schools will require approval using the process approved by the Council of Deans (COD) to ensure compliance of state, federal and regional accreditation and regulatory requirements. The Dean of the respective school must give approval prior to any recommendation to the COD.

Procedures

New programs are initiated at the faculty program level in each of the four schools. Each school has a review process specific to its academic mission, which includes faculty vote.

Following faculty approval, the new program or one which is being substantively changed, is then sent to the Academic Affairs Council for review and submission to the COD with a request for review and approval. Review by the COD includes consultation with the UTMB Registrar concerning aspects of program review which may fall in the purview of the Registrar's responsibilities.

The COD reviews and makes recommendations to the UTMB President. If the UTMB President approves the program and if deemed appropriate, forwards to UT System Executive Vice Chancellor. UT System Executive Vice Chancellor reviews and forwards to UT Board of Regents sub-committee for Health Affairs.

After review, the UT Board of Regents forwards the program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) for approval. THECB approves new programs based on academic merit and overall feasibility.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) may require notification and prior approval. Timeline and requirements depend on type of change (degree of departure of new program from existing programs) (range: 6 - 12 months prior to Implementation).

Securing program specific accreditation for the new program, if necessary, is the responsibility of the school initiating the new program.

Certificate Programs

Approval of certificate programs follow the same process as outlined for new programs, but only requires endorsement during each step.

References

SACS Comprehensive Standard 3.4.1, page 28
LCME
Board of Regents Rules and Regulations
THECB
IHOP 10.1.3 Review of Existing Degree Programs