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## Degree Program Review Policy

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<b>Policy Sponsor:</b>	Vice President, Academic
<b>Policy Contact:</b>	Vice President, Academic
<b>Policy Number:</b>	N/A
<b>Effective Date:</b>	September 01, 2016
<b>Approval Group:</b>	General Faculties Council
<b>Approval Date:</b>	June 15, 2016, Motion # 32-03
<b>Review Date:</b>	Biennially
<b>Procedures:</b>	<a href="#">Degree Program Review Procedures</a>

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### **Purpose**

To establish in policy the process and responsibilities associated with the review of Athabasca University (University) degree programs.

### **Definitions**

APPSC	Academic Planning, Policy and Standards Committee
OVPA	Office of the Vice President Academic
CAQC	Campus Alberta Quality Council

### **Policy Statements**

1. Program Review is a formal process of continuous improvement to ensure the maintenance of quality and rigor in degree programs at Athabasca University.
2. This policy is intended to reflect the University's commitment to the principles, goals, and ideals outlined in the CAQC Handbook.



3. Degree Program Reviews are undertaken at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Where associated certificate or diploma programs exist, they are also considered as part of the degree program review.
4. The Vice President, Academic is responsible for the review of degree programs. The Vice President, Academic may delegate this authority to Academic Deans.
5. For programs that operate outside of an Academic Faculty, the Vice President Academic may delegate responsibility for the review of degree programs as appropriate.
6. Each degree program is normally reviewed at five year intervals. The Vice President Academic may initiate a review at any time.
7. Degree program reviews are conducted according to expectations specified by the Office of the Vice President Academic (OVPA), and will normally include the sequence of self-assessment, external review, formal response and annual reporting specified in the Guidelines associated with this Policy.
8. The Office of the Vice President, Academic (OVPA) coordinates and provides the resources required to conduct the review of University degree programs.
9. In consultation with the Dean and the Program Council Chair for degree programs within academic faculties, and the designate for programs outside of faculties, the OVPA establishes a schedule of the programs to review in the forthcoming academic years. This schedule is provided to Academic, Planning Policy and Standards Committee (APPSC) for information no later than the final meeting of the academic year.

### **Applicable Legislation and Regulations**

[Post Secondary Learning Act](#)

[Programs of Study Regulation \(91/2009\)](#)

[Campus Alberta Quality Council Handbook](#)

[Campus Alberta Quality Council Under/Graduate Degree Program Requirements](#)

[Campus Alberta Quality Council Expectations for Programs Delivered in Blended, Distributed or Distance Modes](#)

[Council of Ministers of Education Canada Degree Level Expectations](#)

### **Related References, Policies, Procedures and Forms**

[Degree Program Review Procedures](#)

Program Council Terms of Reference

Faculty Council Terms of Reference



## **History**

General Faculties Council, June 15, 2016, Motion # 32-03 (approved)