

POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Name	Program Creation		
Policy #	B.13	Category	Governance and Organization
Approving Jurisdiction	Board of Governors	Replaces	June 2002
Administrative Responsibility	Education and Training Community and Extensions	Version	2024-09-25
		Next Review Date	To Be Determined

See the related PROCEDURES (Link to be added when posted.)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the formal mechanism to support development and approval of new programs in accordance with Aurora College's vision and mission statements.

SCOPE AND LIMITS

This policy and its related procedures apply to the creation of all new programs.

Courses that are not part of a program are developed in accordance with B.15 *Establishment of New Courses Policy* and are outside the scope of this policy.

POLICY STATEMENT

Aurora College strives to create programs that produce graduates who excel in their roles as practitioners, leaders, and citizens. The development of new programs of instruction may arise in response to an identified labour market demand, emerging technologies, or community need.

Guiding Principles

1. Programs are viable and sustainable.
2. Programs are developed through a supportive, collaborative process.
3. Programs develop research capacity.
4. Programs will help students develop transferrable knowledge and skills.
5. Programs meet or exceed quality assurance standards.

General

1. Academic teams may initiate proposals for new programs with the support of the relevant Vice President.

2. Proposals will be:
 - a. Supported by an evidence-based decision process;
 - b. Consultative and collaborative, inclusive of all relevant internal and external stakeholders; and
3. Proposals shall ensure that the new program will:
 - a. Align with the College's strategic priorities, as identified in the College's Strategic Plan, as well as its mission, vision, and values;
 - b. Be developed within a Northern context;
 - c. Adhere to policy G.19 Internal Review;
 - d. Adhere to relevant legislation, where applicable;
 - e. Be in accordance, where applicable, with relevant accreditation and/or industry standards/certifications;
 - f. Reflect best practices in adult and post-secondary education; and
 - g. Invest in research capacity, where applicable.
4. The creation of a new program requires the approval of the Academic Council and the Board of Governors.
5. The creation of new programs may require a System Coordination Review and a Quality Assurance Review, as per the *Post-Secondary Education Act*. (This may take 18 months or longer.)

Refer to *Program Creation Procedure* for details of the process for the creation and approval of new programs.

DEFINITIONS

Program: A program is an integrated set of courses and related learning activities that collectively will lead to a document of recognition from Aurora College and/or elsewhere or achieving the entrance requirements of another program.

RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES/DOCUMENTS

Related Procedures:

B.13.1 Program Creation Procedure

Program Concept Paper Template

New Degree and Non-Degree Program Proposal Template: Stage 1

New Degree Program Proposal Template: Stage 2

New Non-Degree Program Proposal Template: Stage 2

Related Policies:

B.10 Acquisition of Programs, Courses, and Services Policy

B.15 Establishment of New Courses Policy

G.08 Program Review Policy

G.19 Internal Review Policy

G. 21 Program Suspension, Reinstatement, and Termination Policy

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Aurora College Act RSNWT 1988, c A-7

Post-Secondary Education Act SNWT 2019, c 27

Colleges, Degree Granting and Universities Regulations, NWT R-080-2022

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date	Update
1994-06	New policy issued – <i>Establishment of New Programs</i>
1995-10	Policy approved. Policy and Planning Motion PP#37-1995. Board of Governors Motion BG#78-1995.
1998-06	Policy revised. Policy and Planning Motion PP#40-1998. Board of Governors Motion BG#107-1998. Implemented January 1999.
2002-06	Policy revised. Policy and Program Committee Motion PP#48-2002. Board of Governors Motion BG#133-2002. Implemented June 2002.
2024-09-25	Policy revised and renamed – <i>Program Creation</i> . Board of Governors Motion #BG10-Sept-2024. Implemented September 25, 2024.