Program Quality Assurance Policy

Approved by: Academic Coordinating Committee

Authorizer: Vice President, Academic Administration/ Student Affairs & Human Resources

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Effective Date: May 12, 2009

POLICY STATEMENT

All Conestoga programs of study will be subject to continual quality assurance processes and mechanisms. Program delivery methods are validated and reviewed against quality assurance and pedagogical best practices. To ensure quality, programs use a review process that has been approved by the Board of Governors.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all programs of study offered at Conestoga that are encompassed by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Minister's Binding Policy Directive: Framework for Programs of Instruction, as well as local college certificates and certificates of achievement.

DEFINITIONS

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes represent culminating demonstrations of learning and achievement. They are interrelated and, as a result, should be viewed as a comprehensive whole rather than in isolation. Learning outcomes describe performances that demonstrate that significant integrated learning by graduates of the program of study has been achieved and verified. Learning outcomes can also be referred to as graduate attributes, i.e., the knowledge, values and skills possessed and demonstrated by graduates.

Program of Study

A planned and coordinated selection of courses delivered to an identified student body leading to a certificate, diploma, degree or other credential awarded by the Board of Governors.

POLICY ELABORATION

Postsecondary programs of study will implement quality assurance mechanisms to ensure adherence to standards, requirements and best practices in program development, delivery and review.

Programs of study will adhere to maximum time limits to correspond to Ministry and quality assurance regulations and consent expiry dates, where applicable.

Quality assurance will consider the following:

- Learning outcomes
- Curricular improvements
- Teaching and learning improvements
- Overall delivery of programs of study and other services
- Expertise and sufficient resources to support delivery
- External certification, registration, or licensing
- Program of study advertising as per Ministry approvals
- Specified requirements of relevant quality assurance/ accreditation bodies
- Student, graduate, industry, and employer needs and feedback
- Essential employability skill requirements
- General education and degree breadth requirements
- Degree level outcome requirements
- Relevance and fit with the college mission

REFERENCES

- Course Delivery Procedure
- Course Development Procedure
- Course Revision Procedure
- Faculty Support Procedure
- Minister's Binding Directive: Framework for Programs of Instruction
- New and Revised Program Standards Implementation Procedure
- Postsecondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000
- Program Delivery Procedure
- Program Development Procedure
- Program Review Procedure
- Program Standards Implementation Procedure
- Program Suspension and Cancellation Procedure
- Student Appraisal of Teaching Procedure

REVISION LOG

May 12 2009   Policies and Procedures Committee

August 10 2009	Degree Management Committee
August 26 2009	Academic Coordinating Committee
March 4, 2019	Academic Forum
March 20, 2019	Academic Coordinating Committee