Degree Title Changes

Chancellor’s Office approval is required for changes in degree titles. To propose a title change, campuses submit to Academic Program Planning (app@calstate.edu) a request and rationale for the proposed title change. There is no prescribed format, but the rationale may address disciplinary convention, recruitment issues, employer concerns, or the titles used at other CSU campuses or at public or private institutions across the country, for example. The Master Plan and longstanding Trustee policy discourage the proliferation of degree titles and degree terminology, so these proposals are evaluated carefully.

Campuses have the authority to establish options, concentrations, and emphases within specific disciplinary degree majors, as described in Executive Order 602. http://www.calstate.edu/EO/EO-602.pdf For those campus-authorized specializations, there is no need to propose to the Chancellor’s Office a change in title.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission does not review changes in degree titles, and Academic Master Plans submitted to the Board of Trustees do not require a footnote identifying title changes. Changes to the names of academic departments are decided by the campus.

Contact Information

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