I. Board Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure adequate notice is given to the board of regents, commissioner of higher education, and other institutions regarding new programmatic offerings, centers, institutes, or similar academic entities at institutions of the Montana University System (MUS) and community college districts.

II. Procedures:

A. The institutions that make up the MUS, and the three (3) community college districts, shall report their academic program plans to the office of the commissioner of higher education. That information shall include:
   1. all new postsecondary educational programs that may be proposed by the above-described institutions during the next three-year period;
   2. identification of those postsecondary educational programs that are a priority to the institutions and may be submitted to the board of regents for its notice, review and/or approval in the next year.
   3. centers, institutes or similar academic entities.

B. If any institution governed by this policy submits a new programmatic offering, center, institute, or similar academic entity, under the academic proposal process, for board review or approval that has not been reported under this policy, the board of regents may deny authorization of the new programmatic offering, center, institute, or similar academic entity based on that reason alone, regardless of the merits of the program.

C. The office of the commissioner of higher education shall maintain a list of academic program plans, in an electronic format, on the academic and student affairs website.

III. Cross-reference:

See section 303.1, academic program proposals, Montana university system.

History: