



Committee Guidelines for Consultant's Report on a New Academic Program

Format of Consultant's Report

The consultant should submit a written evaluation of the program. This report should: Include a specific recommendation to the institution.

The consultant may recommend:

- a. Approval.
- b. Approval upon minor modification by the institution.
- c. Non-approval unless major modifications are implemented
- d. Non-approval for stated reasons.

1. Objectives

- a. Describe whether or not the objectives and underlying principles of the program are sound and clearly stated.

- b. Discuss whether or not the program is consistent with the institution's programmatic mission and educational goals.

2. Need for the program

- a. Analyze the need for this program (e.g., student demand), and indicate why it is likely or unlikely that students will be able to secure employment and/or continue advanced study upon graduation.

- b. In the case of career programs:
 - i. Do the results of the market surveys indicate a sufficient level of student demand to justify the creation of the proposed program? [Please explain]

 - ii. Do employment projections indicate a sufficient number of job opportunities in the region and the State to justify the creation of the program? [Please explain]



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3. Educational Programs

a. Discuss the distribution and nature of required courses, electives, and research (if appropriate) in terms of meeting the objectives of the program. Compare and contrast the proposed curriculum with recognized programs of quality at other institutions if appropriate.

b. Are the instructional modes and credit distributions consistent with the objectives of the curriculum? [Please explain]

c. Does the curriculum represent a suitable approach to professional study in the particular field, if appropriate? [Please explain]

d. Does the curriculum meet certification and/or accreditation standards, if appropriate? [Please explain]

e. Are the requirements for admission to the program clearly defined and appropriate to ensure a student body capable of meeting the objectives of the program, without such requirements being artificially strict, rigid, or discriminatory? [Please explain]

f. Discuss whether or not standards for completion of the program are clearly defined and consistent with the objectives of the program



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g. Discuss whether or not an appropriate mechanism for transfer students to enter the program exists and comment upon the suitability of any articulation arrangements between this and other existing programs.

h. If other academic units within the institution are to provide educational services to the program, describe whether or not their commitment to participate is consistent with offering a program of quality in this field.

i. If a program has a clinical component, discuss the adequacy of facilities and the arrangements to support the objectives of the program.

4. Students

a. Is the percentage of part-time students projected for the program consistent with the goals of the program? [Please explain]

b. Comment upon the adequacy of provisions made to ensure successful target population (e.g... minorities and woman) participation in the program

c. Comment upon the adequacy of counseling and advisement to be provided to students enrolled in the program



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5. Faculty

a. Describe whether or not the faculty possesses the appropriate (terminal) degrees and other academic credentials to provide a program of high quality.

b. Comment upon the faculty's involvement in research, teaching, scholarship, creative activity, and community service and whether or not it is appropriate to the discipline and to the proposed program.

c. Discuss whether or not the number of faculty and the amount of time to be devoted by each to the program is compatible with the goal of offering a program of quality.

6. Support Personnel

a. Discuss the adequacy of support personnel to be associated with the program, e.g., secretaries, administrative assistants, bookkeepers, technicians, etc. as appropriate.

7. Finances

a. Discuss the institution's commitment to provide the resources necessary to guarantee a program of high quality (e.g. faculty, equipment, library support staff for the program, below-the-line support for faculty travel, research, etc.).

b. Discuss the possible need for significant additional financial support from the State of New Jersey.



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11. Administration

a. comment upon the administrative structure of the program and indicate if it is sufficiently defined and reasonable.

b. If inter-institutional or intra-institutional cooperation is involved, describe whether or not the administrative and budgetary responsibilities for the program are clearly defined and adequate.

12. Evaluation

a. In what way has an appropriate mechanism been developed to evaluate the success or failure of the program?