The programs and curricula of the District shall be of high quality, relevant to community and student needs, and evaluated regularly to ensure quality and currency. To that end, the Chancellor shall establish procedures for the development and review of all curricular offerings, including their establishment, modification or discontinuance.

Furthermore, these procedures shall include:

- appropriate involvement of the faculty and Academic Senate in all processes;
- regular review and justification of programs and course descriptions;
- opportunities for training for persons involved in aspects of curriculum development; and
- consideration of job market and other related information for career and technical education programs.

All new courses, programs and program deletions shall be recommended by the Curriculum Committee to the Chief Instructional Officer (CIO). Each college’s Curriculum Committee chairperson, CIO, College President, and the Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Workforce Development shall meet to review the proposed Curriculum Action Report (CAR) and ensure adherence to District policy and Title V. The College President shall then submit their recommended CAR to the Chancellor for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

All new programs shall be submitted to the Office of the Chancellor for the California Community Colleges for approval as required.

Individual degree-applicable credit courses offered as part of a permitted educational program shall be approved by the Board. Non degree-applicable credit and degree-applicable courses that are not part of an existing approved program must satisfy the conditions authorized by Title 5 regulations and shall be approved by the Board.

Credit Hour

Consistent with federal regulations applicable to federal financial aid eligibility, the District shall assess and designate each of its programs as either a “credit hour” program or a “clock hour” program.
The Chancellor will establish procedures which prescribe the definition of “credit hour” consistent with applicable Title 5 and federal regulations as they apply to community college districts.

The Chancellor shall establish procedures to assure that curriculum at the District complies with the definition of “credit hour” or “clock hour”, where applicable. The Chancellor shall also establish a procedure for using a clock-to-credit hour conversion formula to determine whether a credit hour program is eligible for federal financial aid. The conversion formula is used to determine whether such a credit-hour program has an appropriate minimum number of clock hours of instruction for each credit hour it claims.

See Administrative Procedure 4020