The California State University
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

FLOWCHART | CSU INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM APPROVAL

October 15

SUBMIT Letter of Intent and Abstract

Campus submits a letter of intent signed by the Provost and an abstract of no more than 500 words to the CSU Chancellor's Office (CSUCO) for preliminary review.

Feb 1 CO committee and CSU Council of Grad Deans review and provide feedback to campus.

July 1

SUBMIT Concept Proposal to the CSUCO

Campus submits a doctoral degree program concept proposal to the Chancellor's Office for review.

- CO committee provides feedback to campus. Opportunity to submit revisions.

September 15

REVIEW of Duplication by UCOP

Chancellor's Office submits concept proposal to UC Office of the President (UCOP) and CCGA for duplication review. UCOP has 120 days to review and notify the CSUCO of its decision.

Possible consultation between UC and CSU faculty re duplication concerns.

January 15

RECEIVE Duplication Decision from UCOP

With no objection from the UC, the doctoral program can move forward as a projection.

January

June

SUBMIT Projection Proposal to the CSUCO

Campus submits a projected degree proposal on the Campus Academic Plan during the Academic Master Plan (AMP) submission process (early January deadline) or the summer submission cycle (late June deadline). Projections are reviewed/approved by the Board of Trustees.

DEVELOP Full Degree Proposal

Campus develops a new degree program proposal which undergoes the campus-level curriculum approval process and WSCUC Substantive Change screening.

SUBMIT Degree Proposal to CSUCO

Campus submits campus-approved degree program proposal with WSCUC Substantive Change decision to the CSUCO.

Vice Chancellor Approval

ENTER Degree Program into CSU Degrees Database (DDb)

- Campus president receives official CSUCO authorization letter which specifies the CSU and CIP codes for the degree program.
- Campus is responsible for adding the new program to the DDb prior to program implementation and for updating the Campus Academic Plan accordingly.

Updated 09/16/2026