

4. THE PROTOCOL FOR NEW PROGRAMS FOR EXPEDITED APPROVALS

4.1 Definition

The Protocol for New Programs for Expedited Approvals applies to new:

- Graduate diplomas
- Dual credential programs (with existing parent programs)
- Joint degree programs (with existing parent programs)

These programs do not require external appraisal and are forwarded to Senate by the Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP). Once approved by Senate, the new programs are reviewed by the Appraisal Committee of the Quality Council. The Quality Council has the authority to approve or decline these proposals.

The Council of Ontario Universities' definitions for inter-university programs can be found in Section 1.6 of the Quality Assurance Framework.

<https://oucqa.ca/framework/1-6-definitions/>

4.2 Initial Institutional Process

The Protocol for New Programs for Expedited Approvals and the major steps within the institution and through the Quality Council differ from the Protocol for New Programs Degree as sections 3.2.3 through 3.2.6 are not required.

4.2.1 Development of the Proposal Brief

The expedited approvals process requires the submission to the Quality Council of a Proposal Brief of the proposed new program and the rationale for it. The evaluation criteria outlined in Section 3.3 will be applied to the proposal.

4.3 Expedited Approvals Process

The Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) outlines the processes followed by the Appraisal Committee for new program proposals in detail. This includes the initial appraisal, the process for requesting additional information, decisions, and the appeal process.

The Quality Council makes one of the following decisions about new programs:

- a) Approval to commence
- b) Approval to commence, with report
- c) Deferral for up to one year, affording the institution an opportunity to amend
- d) and resubmit its proposal brief
- e) Refusal of program proposal

The outcomes of the appraisal process will be conveyed to the Office of the Vice-Provost Academic.

Where a report is required, the Office of the Vice-Provost Academic will, in consultation with the Dean or Principal, prepare and submit the report to the Quality Council.

A link to the Quality Assurance Framework and Associate Guide can be found on the YUQAP website.