IACBE Requirements for New Programs

IACBE Program Eligibility

The IACBE accredits business programs that lead to degrees at the associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels in business units of higher education worldwide that grant associate's, bachelor's and/or graduate degrees.

For the purposes of inclusion in your IACBE grant of accreditation, a program of study is considered to be a 'business program' if and only if it satisfies all of the following three criteria:

- The program leads to the awarding of a degree, diploma, or other equivalent credential at the associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral level;
- The credit hours (or contact hours as applicable) in the areas of business education[1] in the program constitute 30 percent or more of the total hours required for an undergraduate degree, diploma, or other equivalent credential, or 50 percent or more of the total hours required for a graduate degree, diploma, or other equivalent credential;
- The program appears on a student's official transcript, diploma supplement, or other official record of program completion.
  - All majors, concentrations, specializations, emphases, etc. of a program must appear on a student's official transcript, diploma document, or other official record of program completion

The IACBE does not accredit minors.

Grandfathering (refer to approval levels below)

Desk Review Programs: Upon IACBE approval of the program students in this program are considered to have graduated from an IACBE-accredited program if they were active in the program at the time IACBE receives the application.

Fast Track Programs: Upon IACBE approval of the program students in this program are considered to have graduated from an IACBE-accredited program if they were active in the program at the time IACBE receives the application.

Full Review Programs: Upon IACBE approval of the program students in this program are considered to have graduated from an IACBE-accredited program if (the earlier of): they were active in the program at the time the IACBE receives the application, or if outcomes results are submitted with the application - they were in the class of graduates that were included in those results.

New Degree Levels: Students in this program are considered to have graduated from an IACBE-accredited program if they graduate after IACBE approval of the program.

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[1] "areas of business education": business administration, accounting, entrepreneurship, finance, human resources, information technology, international business, leadership, logistics, management, marketing, business strategy, economics (principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics), business law, ethics, communication, analytics, and quantitative methods.

IACBE Self-Study Requirements for New Programs

Contact your IACBE Liaison for guidance – prior to beginning any of the following – to ensure you follow the appropriate path

Self-Study Manual	Desk Review	Fast Track	Full Review	New Degree Level
Profile Information			X	X
Principle 2: Quality Assessment and Advancement	Forward-looking OAP only	Forward-looking OAP only	One set of outcomes results, if available	X
Principle 4: Business Curricula and Learning Opportunities		X	X	X
Principle 5: Business Faculty Characteristics, Activities, and Processes			X	X
Principle 6: Policies, Procedures, and Processes				X
Principle 7: Resources Supporting Business Programs			X	X
Principle 8: External Relationships			X	X

Responses and materials submitted are to be relevant to the new program only. IACBE may request additional information.

Desk Review –New majors, concentrations, specializations, or other focus areas. may be approved to an already accredited program if the overall program maintains the same business core curriculum. For example: a business unit may have an MBA with several concentrations and decides to add an MBA with a concentration in Marketing. This review track is conducted at the IACBE Staff level.

Fast Track – The fast-track process is for new/revised programs which are substantially the same as – share the same common business core curriculum – as an already accredited program at the same credential level. For example: a business unit has an MBA with a concentration in marketing and is revising the program to a Master of Marketing; or the business unit is rolling out a new program "BS in Business Management" that shares the same business core curriculum as its already accredited "BS in Business" program; or the business unit is rolling out a new program "MS in Management" that shares the same business core courses as the already accredited MBA program. Upon IACBE approval of the program students in this program are considered to have graduated from an IACBE-accredited program if they were active in the program at the time IACBE receives the application. This review track is conducted at the IACBE staff level.

Full Review – A full review is for new programs that are either entirely new to the business unit or do not share the same full common business core curriculum as an already accredited program. This new program track includes a review by the Board of Commissioners. For example: the business unit is rolling out a new program "BS in Management" that does not shares the same full business core curriculum as its already accredited "BS in Business"; or the business unit is rolling out a new program "MS in Management" that does not share the same full core curriculum as the already accredited MBA program.

New Degree Level – The BOC requires a full New Program self-study and review which may include a virtual or face-to-face site visit for all new programs at any level above that which the business unit already has accreditation for. This new program track includes a review by the Board of Commissioners.