

UNC System Academic Program Approval Calendar, Academic Year 2024-2025

Effective July 1, 2023 the UNC System moved to a timeline for academic program approval by the Board of Governors. The timeline streamlines processes and adds predictability by addressing pain points in PREP processes for academic program approval and change requests to the API. Previously, in some cases, timelines were longer than they needed to be. In other cases, more opportunities for proposal review were needed earlier in the timeline. Ultimately, our goal is to reduce the institutional pressure that faculty and administrators sometimes feel trying to meet monthly deadlines, and likewise reduce pressure on System Office staff and senior leadership when preparing materials for UNC System Board of Governors meetings.

The Academic Affairs Division addresses issues central to the mission of the University. As a result, at each UNC System Board of Governors Educational Planning, Policies and Programs (BOG EPPP) committee meeting there are numerous items to address and a finite amount of time in which to consider them. To address this reality, the Academic Programs team created a timeline and annual calendar for each stage of the establishment and discontinuation process. Academic program approvals will be part of pre-determined BOG EPPP meetings in order to set clear expectations for submitting materials and ensure ample time for review and deliberation around academic programs up for Board approval. We have accounted for the time it takes to move through the process in a way that is collaborative and efficient and believe the timeline indicated in the chart below supports procedural efforts at your institution.

Prior to submission of the program summary, program proposal timelines may increase if institution deadlines are not met or decrease if institution materials are submitted in significantly less time than allotted. Proposal holds and extension requests may also impact the timeline. This calendar offers a general program planning guide for future years. Actual dates are dependent on confirmed [Board of Governors](#) meetings and not projected beyond the current schedule included in this document for Academic Year 2024-2025.

AY 24-25 Bachelor's/Master's Program Establishment Calendar

Week	Stage	Sept 12, 2024 BOG	Nov 14, 2024 BOG	Feb 27, 2025 BOG	May 22, 2025 BOG
24	RPA submitted by institution	Mar 28, 2024	May 30, 2024	Sept 12, 2024	Dec 4, 2024
22	System Office completes internal review of RPA	April 11, 2024	June 13, 2024	Sept 26, 2024	Dec 18, 2024
20	RTE submitted	April 25, 2024	June 27, 2024	Oct 10, 2024	Jan 6, 2025
19	RTE sent for system-wide institutional comments	May 2, 2024	July 8, 2024	Oct 17, 2024	Jan 8, 2025
15	RTE comments close/ System Office finance review complete	May 30, 2024	Aug 1, 2024	Nov 14, 2024	Feb 5, 2025
13	System Office summarizes and returns comments to institution	June 13, 2024	Aug 15, 2024	Nov 25, 2024	Feb 19, 2025
11	Institutional response to RTE comments due and System Office Finance Review complete	June 27, 2024	Aug 29, 2024	Dec 12, 2024	Mar 5, 2025
10	Program summary due	July 8, 2024	Sept 5, 2024	Dec 19, 2024	Mar 13, 2025
8	Academic Programs team reviews program summary draft	July 18, 2024	Sept 19, 2024	Jan 6, 2025	Mar 27, 2025
6	Academic Programs materials approved by VP	Aug 1, 2024	Oct 3, 2024	Jan 16, 2025	April 10, 2025
5	System Office senior leadership reviews	Aug 8, 2024	Oct 10, 2024	Jan 23, 2025	April 17, 2025
3	Board materials finalized	Aug 22, 2024	Oct 24, 2024	Feb 6, 2025	May 1, 2025

*Gray indicates that as of the publication date of January 4, 2024 the opportunity to meet this deadline has already passed. Future calendar years will largely follow the dates listed here; Board of Governor meetings for Academic Year 2025-2026 or beyond are not yet scheduled.

AY 24-25 Doctoral Program Establishment Calendar

Week	Stage	Sept 12, 2024 BOG	Nov 14, 2024 BOG	Feb 27, 2025 BOG	May 22, 2025 BOG
52	RPA submitted by institution	Sept 14, 2023	Nov 16, 2023	Feb 29, 2024	May 23, 2024
51	Graduate Council review begins	Sept 21, 2023	Nov 23, 2023	March 7, 2024	May 30, 2024
47	System Office internal review & system-wide review of RPA complete	Oct 19, 2023	Dec 21, 2023	April 4, 2024	Jun 27, 2024
46	System Office summarizes and returns comments to institution	Oct 26, 2023	Dec 28, 2023	April 11, 2024	July 8, 2024
43	Institution submits response to comments	Nov 15, 2024	Jan 18, 2024	May 2, 2024	July 25, 2024
36	Graduate Council votes on RPA	Jan 3, 2024	Mar 21, 2024	June 17, 2024	Sept 17, 2024
24	RTE submitted	March 28, 2024	May 30, 2024	Sept 12, 2024	Dec 4, 2024
20	External review process takes place. System Office reviews, summarizes, and sends report to institution	April 25, 2024	June 27, 2024	Oct 10, 2024	Jan 9, 2025
10	Response to external review due from institution	July 8, 2024	Sept 5, 2024	Dec 19, 2024	Mar 13, 2025
9	Graduate Council votes on RTE	July 11, 2024	Sept 12, 2024	Jan 3, 2025	Mar 20, 2025
8	Program summary due	July 18, 2024	Sept 19, 2024	Jan 6, 2025	Mar 27, 2025
7	Academic Programs team reviews program summary draft	July 25, 2024	Sept 26, 2024	Jan 9, 2025	April 3, 2025
6	Academic Program materials approved by VP	Aug 1, 2024	Oct 3, 2024	Jan 16, 2025	April 10, 2025
5	System Office senior leadership reviews	Aug 8, 2024	Oct 10, 2024	Jan 23, 2025	April 17, 2025
3	Board materials finalized	Aug 22, 2024	Oct 24, 2024	Feb 6, 2025	May 1, 2025

*Gray indicates that as of the publication date of January 10, 2024 the opportunity to meet this deadline has already passed. Future calendar years will largely follow the dates listed here; Board of Governor meetings for Academic Year 2025-2026 or beyond are not yet scheduled.