

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES:
PROGRAM REVIEW (PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES)**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item requests approval of the proposed amendments to the rules for Program Review (Private Colleges and Universities). At its October 2007 meeting, the Illinois Board of Higher Education approved the recommendations of the Institutional and Program Approval Working Group. This ad hoc committee was charged with reviewing policies and procedures regarding program approval and review in all educational sectors. These recommendations have been incorporated into the proposed rule amendments. Additional amendments are proposed to recognize standing Board policies, to provide consistency with the similar rules for the public institutions, and to clarify terminology and language. The proposed amendments to the rules were reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee at its June 2, 2008 meeting and the Committee approved the posting of the proposed rule amendments on the Board website. Subsequently, the proposed amendments have been presented to the Academic Leadership Council, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities (FIICU), Faculty Advisory Council (FAC), Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), Proprietary Advisory Council (PAC), Student Advisory Council (SAC), and Associated Colleges of Illinois (ACI). Based on the recommendations of the working group, discussions with Board staff, and comments from interested individuals and groups, the Academic Affairs Committee presents the proposed rule amendments contained in this item for the Board's consideration.

The Illinois Administrative Procedures Act specifies a three-step process for the proposal and adoption of administrative rules: (1) initial Board approval; (2) a publication and public notice period including a period for review by the staff and members of the legislative Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; and (3) final adoption by the Board.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the proposed rule amendments to Program Review (Private Colleges and Universities) (23 Ill. Admin. Code 1030) for publication in the Illinois Register.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES:
PROGRAM REVIEW (PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES)**

This item requests approval of the proposed amendments to the Illinois Board of Higher Education rule for Program Review (Private Colleges and Universities). This rule guides the reviews of (a) applications to establish new colleges and universities in the state and (b) applications for new degree programs, including out-of-state public, out-of-state private, and in-state private institutions. Private colleges and universities that were established in some cases prior to 1945 or 1961 are exempt from submitting proposals unless they want to offer a previously authorized degree program in a region other than the region where their home campus is located.

At its August 2006 meeting, the Illinois Board of Higher Education established the Institutional and Program Approval Working Group and charged it to review policies and procedures regarding program approval and review in all educational sectors. The ad hoc working group reported its recommendations to the Board in October 2007, and the Board approved the recommendations. These have been incorporated into the proposed rule amendments, where applicable. Additional amendments are proposed to recognize standing Board policies, to provide consistency with the similar rules for the public institutions, and to clarify terminology and language. The proposed amendments to the rules for private colleges and universities are summarized in the following points, starting with the key revisions:

1. Creates exemptions from the Illinois Board of Higher Education approval process for the following situations:
 - a. Institutions offering their previously authorized programs at the University Center of Lake County and/or the Quad-Cities Graduate Center (also proposed for public institutions).
 - b. Out-of-state institutions with a "limited physical presence" in the state as determined by the Board.
 - c. Institutions offering programs that are one hundred percent online asynchronous (also proposed for public institutions).
2. Adds definitions and a state map to identify the regions (also proposed for public institutions).
3. Requires institutions that are approved to award degrees to operate without changes to the program for the first year (also proposed for public institutions).
4. Requires those programs for which state licensure is needed for employment to demonstrate that they have prepared students for the exam and to show evidence of an acceptable pass rate for its graduates.
5. Requires IBHE approval for a temporary suspension of an approved program by the institution and limits duration to five years (also proposed for public institutions).

6. Creates an initial operating authorization for five years concluding with an optional review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.
7. Authorizes the Board, at an open hearing, to revoke the certification of approval or authorization to operate of any institution which has abandoned its operation or has not been in operation for one continuous 12-month period.
8. Requires institutions seeking authorization to operate in Illinois to (a) specify accreditation status and (b) outline plans to become fully accredited by an accrediting authority recognized by the U.S. Dept of Education or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
9. Expands required consumer information to include transferability of college credits, advising students about transferability, provisions for articulation arrangements, graduation rates, and enrollment agreements (also proposed for public institutions).
10. Clarifies the process for submitting a “notice of intent” to the Illinois Board of Higher Education when an institution plans to offer a new program (also proposed for public institutions).
11. Requires the Illinois Board of Higher Education to place a temporary hold (not to exceed six months) on pending applications submitted by any institution which is under investigation by the Board as outlined in the rules.
12. Clarifies terms by adding definitions, deleting duplicative phrases, and removing obsolete time frames (also proposed for public institutions).

The proposed amendments to the rules were reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee at its June 2, 2008 meeting and the Committee approved the posting of the proposed rule amendments on the Board website. As requested, the proposed amendments have been posted on the Board website and presented to the Academic Leadership Council, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities (FIICU), Faculty Advisory Council (FAC), Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), Proprietary Advisory Council (PAC), Student Advisory Council (SAC), and Associated Colleges of Illinois (ACI). Based on the recommendations of the working group, discussions with Board staff, and comments from interested individuals and groups, the Academic Affairs Committee presents the proposed rule amendments contained in this item for the Board’s consideration.

Once approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the proposed amendments to the rules will be submitted to the Secretary of State for publication in the Illinois Register. The Illinois Administrative Procedures Act specifies a three-step process for the proposal and adoption of administrative rules: (1) initial Board approval; (2) a publication and public notice period including a period for review by the staff and members of the legislative Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; and (3) final adoption by the Board. Final presentation is scheduled for the December 2008 Board meeting.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the proposed amendments to the rules for the Program Review (Private Colleges and Universities) (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1030) as detailed in the attached document for publication in the Illinois Register.

TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER II: BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

PART 1030
PROGRAM REVIEW (PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES)

Section	
1030.10	Institutions Required to Receive Approval
1030.20	Definitions
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1030.40	Institutional Approval under the 1945 Act Only
1030.50	Institutional Authorization under the 1961 Act Only
1030.60	Degree Authorization under the 1961 Act
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1030.80	Maintenance of Authorization to Operate and/or Grant Degrees under the 1961 Act
<u>Illustration A</u>	<u>Map of Regions</u>

AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 9.05 of "AN ACT creating a Board of Higher Education, defining its powers and duties, making an appropriation therefore, and repealing an Act herein named" (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1981, ch. 144, par. 189.05).

SOURCE: Amended and effective August 9, 1977; Emergency rules adopted at 3 Ill. Reg. 26, p. 297, effective June 13, 1979, for a maximum of 150 days; adopted at 3 Ill. Reg. 38, p. 222, effective September 22, 1979; amended at 4 Ill. Reg. 48, p. 200, effective November 19, 1980; codified at 8 Ill. Reg. 1454; amended at _____ Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

Section 1030.10 Institutions Required to Receive Approval

- a) Institutions Required to Receive Approval under the 1945 Act. Any private or public person, group of persons, partnership or corporation which is or contemplates offering degrees or and instruction or core academic support services, including but not limited to admissions, evaluation, assessment, registration, financial aid, academic scheduling, and faculty hiring and support in Illinois above the high school level, either in residence or correspondence. Upon the effective date of these rules, such institutions shall be limited to:
- 1) Institutions which were not established and offering degrees in Illinois prior to July 17, 1945; or
 - 2) Institutions which result from a merger of other institutions, whether or not the merged institutions were in existence prior to July 17, 1945; or
 - 3) Institutions which offer ten percent or more ~~a majority~~ of course work, as measured by academic credits, for a degree program in a new geographic location, whether or not the institution was in existence prior to July 17, 1945; or
 - 4) Institutions which have terminated operation and subsequently wish to resume operations as degree granting institutions, whether or not the former institution was in existence prior to July 17, 1945.

b) Institutions Required to Receive Approval under the 1961 Act. Any private or public person, group of persons, partnership or corporation which is or contemplates offering degrees or ~~and~~ instruction or core academic support services, including but not limited to admissions, evaluation, assessment, registration, financial aid, academic scheduling, and faculty hiring and support in Illinois above the high school level, either in residence or correspondence, provided such institution is not an Illinois public tax supported higher education institution, ~~a nursing school~~, a labor union training program or a business trade or other corporate in-service training program. Upon the effective date of these rules, such institutions shall be limited to:

- 1) Institutions which were not operating or authorized to operate in Illinois on August 14, 1961; or
- 2) Institutions which result from a merger of other institutions, whether or not the merged institutions were authorized to operate on August 14, 1961; or
- 3) Institutions which offer ten percent or more ~~a majority~~ of course work, as measured by academic credits, for a degree program in a new geographic location, whether or not the institution was authorized to operate on August 14, 1961; or
- 4) Institutions which have terminated operation and subsequently wish to resume operation as degree-granting institutions, whether or not the former institution was authorized to operate on August 14, 1961.

c) Exemption from Approval Requirements.

- 1) Institutions offering degree programs at the University Center of Lake County and the Quad-Cities Graduate Center shall not be required to apply for Board approval when offering degree programs authorized for their home campus. For these institutions, center approval is required and the center shall be treated as part of the institution's home campus, provided the center has notified the Board of its approval of the new degree program.
- 2) Institutions with Limited Physical Presence in State. Any public or private person, group of persons, partnership or corporation that is located outside of the state of Illinois which is or contemplates offering instruction in Illinois above the high school level is not required under either the 1945 Act or the 1961 Act to obtain a certificate of approval or operating or degree authorization if such institution has a limited physical presence in the state. No such institution shall be considered to have limited physical presence for any geographic location and program in Illinois unless it has received a written finding from the Board that it has such a limited physical presence. In determining whether an institution has a limited physical presence the Board shall require the following:
 - A) Evidence of authorization to operate in at least one other state; and
 - B) Evidence of accreditation by a body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and /or the Council for Higher Accreditation; and
 - C) Evidence that the institution will offer ten percent or less of coursework,

as measured by academic credits, for a degree program in the State of Illinois, or evidence that the institution is offering degrees through one hundred percent asynchronous on-line instruction from an out-of-state site or sites; and

- D) Evidence that the institution is not providing core academic support services, including but not limited to admissions, evaluation, assessment, registration, financial aid, academic scheduling, and faculty hiring and support, in the State of Illinois.
- 3) Institutions exempted under the 1945 and/or 1961 Acts offering one hundred percent asynchronous on-line instruction do not require additional Board approval.
- 4) Approved institutions under the jurisdiction of the 1945 or 1961 Acts offering one hundred percent asynchronous on-line instruction of a Board approved degree program do not require additional Board approval.
- 5) Approved institutions under the jurisdiction of the 1945 or 1961 Acts offering any degree or certificate program which is devoted entirely to religion or theology do not require additional Board approval

(Source: Amended at ____ Ill. Reg. ____, effective ____)

Section 1030.20 Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, all definitions apply to all terms used in these rules in conjunction with both the 1945 Act and the 1961 Act.

"The 1945 Act" means the Private College Act (110 ILCS 1005).

"The 1961 Act" means the Academic Degree Act (110 ILCS 1010).

"Authorization to Grant Degrees" means the letter from the Board giving an institution authorization to grant specific degrees under the 1961 Act.

"Authorization to Operate" means the letter from the Board authorizing an institution to operate under the 1961 Act.

"Board" means the Illinois Board of Higher Education. In those cases where the term is used to refer to prior approval or lack of prior approval for either an institution or a degree program, the term "Board" shall mean either the Board of Higher Education or one of the two previous administrative agencies which administered this Act (the Board of Education or the Superintendent of Public Instruction), as appropriate.

"Certificate of Approval" means the letter from the Board giving an institution approval to operate under the 1945 Act.

"Degree" means any designation, appellation, series of letters or words, or other symbol which signifies or purports to signify that the recipient thereof has satisfactorily completed an organized academic program of study beyond the secondary school level.

For the purposes of these rules, an "organized academic program of study beyond the secondary school level" shall be defined as:

Any academic program, regardless of duration, which offers any designation, appellation, series of letters or words or other symbol known as or labeled as an associate degree, a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, a doctor's degree, a professional degree or a certificate of advanced study; or

Any academic program of more than 12 months in duration, except for:

~~Any program which is devoted entirely to religion or theology, or~~

aAny program which is offered by any institution operating under the authority of the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act (105 ILCS 425) "An Act in regulation of business and vocational schools (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1981, ch. 144, pars. 136-162).

"Degree program" means the standard required course of study, or its equivalent, leading to a degree.

"Home campus" is also known as "in-region." Both "home campus" and "in-region" are defined as the approval region within which an institution's original operating authority was granted.

"New degree program" means one or more of the following:

A degree program offered at a different educational level from a degree program already approved at a given institution.

A degree program in a different six-digit CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs taxonomy two-digit HEGIS (Higher Education General Information Survey developed by the National Center for Educational Statistics and used in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) code category from that already authorized.

A new professional or specialist degree or certificate.

"New geographic location" is also known as "out-of-region." Both "new geographic location" and "out-of-region" are those sites located outside of the region within which an institution's original operating authority was granted.

"Region" refers to a geographical area within which an institution may operate a unit of instruction and is not limited to the site within that region at which the institution initially applied. A region consists of one or more coterminous community college districts. The community college districts are also property taxing districts established as provided in 110 ILCS 805/Art. III. The ten regions, described by community college district and community college district numbers, are as follows (see also Illustration A):

"North Suburban Region (1)" consists of the Lake County (532), Oakton (535), and William R. Harper (512) community college districts;

“Fox Valley Region (2)” consists of the Elgin (509), Kishwaukee (523), McHenry (528), Rock Valley (511), and Waubensee (516) community college districts;

“West Suburban Region (3)” consists of the DuPage (502), Morton (527), and Triton (504) community college districts;

“Western Region (4)” consists of the Black Hawk (503), Carl Sandburg (518), Highland (519), John Wood (539), Sauk Valley (506), and Spoon River (534) community college districts;

“Central Region (5)” consists of the Heartland (540), Illinois Central District (514), Illinois Valley (513), and Lincoln Land (526) community college districts;

“South Metro Region (6)” consists of the Joliet (525), Kankakee (520), Moraine Valley (524), Prairie State (515), and South Suburban (510) community college districts;

“Prairie Region (7)” consists of the Danville (507), Lake Land (517), Parkland (505), and Richland (537) community college districts;

“Southwestern Region (8)” consists of the Illinois Eastern (529), Kaskaskia (501), Lewis and Clark (536), and Southwestern Illinois (522) community college districts;

“Southern Region (9)” consists of the John A. Logan (530), Rend Lake (521), Shawnee (531), and Southeastern (533) community college districts; and

“Chicago Region (10)” consists of the City Colleges of Chicago (508) community college district.

~~“The 1945 Act” means “An Act providing for the regulation of privately operated colleges, junior colleges and universities” (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1981, ch. 144, pars. 121-135).~~

~~“The 1961 Act” means “An Act to regulate the granting and academic degrees, diplomas and certificates by certain educational institutions, to provide penalties for the violation thereof and to make an appropriation therefore” (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1981, ch. 144, pars. 231-240).~~

(Source: Amended at 4 Ill. Reg. 48, p. 200, effective November 19, 1980; amended at ___ Ill. Reg. ___, effective _____)

Section 1030.30 Institutional Approval

The following general rules apply to institutions seeking a "Certificate of Approval" under the 1945 Act and an "Authorization to Operate" under the 1961 Act. Section 1030.40 identifies

exceptions to these rules for those institutions covered by only the 1945 Act. Section 1030.50 identifies exceptions to the general rules for the institutions covered by only the 1961 Act.

- a) Criteria for Evaluation of the Application for a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate. The following criteria are designed to measure the appropriateness of the stated educational objectives to the name and degree programs of a given institution and the extent to which suitable and proper processes have been developed for meeting those objectives:
 - 1) The objectives for the institution and its degree programs must be consistent with what the institutional name and degree program titles imply.
 - 2) The caliber and content of each course or program of instruction, training, or study shall be reasonable and adequate for achieving the stated degree objectives for which the course or program is offered.
 - 3) The institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment, and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.
 - 4) The education, experience, and other qualifications of faculty, staff and instructors shall reasonably ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the course or program of study.
 - 5) The institution shall be prepared to provide students and other interested persons with a catalog or brochure containing the following information:
 - A) Descriptions of ~~describing~~ the degree programs offered, program objectives, and length of program;
 - B) Schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, and cancellation and refund policies;
 - C) A statement regarding the transferability of college credits, including the fact that the decision to accept transfer credits is currently made by receiving institutions;
 - D) A statement as to how the institution will advise students on the nature of the transfer process, including the importance of consulting with institutions to which the student may seek to transfer;
 - E) Evidence of articulation arrangements with institutional counterparts, where these arrangements exist;
 - F) A statement of the institution's most recent graduation rates as provided by the institution to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS); and
 - G) Such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll, together with any other information specified by the Board and/or

defined in its rules and standards. ~~Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.~~

Such information shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.

- 6) Upon satisfactory completion of the degree program, the student shall be given the appropriate degree by the institution, indicating that a specifically approved course of instruction or study has been satisfactorily completed by the student.
 - 7) Adequate records shall be maintained by the institution to show attendance, progress, or grades, and consistent standards should be enforced relating to attendance, progress, and performance.
 - 8) The institution shall be maintained and operated in compliance with all pertinent local, state, and national ordinances and laws.
 - 9) The institution should be financially stable and capable of assuring the revenues needed for meeting stated objectives and fulfilling commitments to students.
 - 10) Neither the institution nor its agents should engage in advertising, sales, collection, credit, or other practices of any type which are false, deceptive, misleading, or unfair.
 - 11) The institution should have a fair and equitable cancellation and refund policy.
 - 12) The faculty, staff and instructors of the institution shall be of good professional reputation and character.
 - 13) If the institution requires the student to sign an enrollment agreement or a similar agreement, the agreement shall provide consumer information including, but not limited to: institutional calendars with degree program start and end dates; an explanation of all criteria and requirements for retention, progress towards degree, and graduation of the student; the institution's tuition, cancellation, and refund policies; and a statement of the purpose and amount of any fees assessed.
 - 14) Any institution applying for a certificate of approval or authorization to operate in the state of Illinois must specify its accreditation status. New institutions without accreditation from an accrediting authority recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or the Council on Higher Education Accreditation shall provide a clearly defined plan to move from candidate to affiliate status. The plan should include the name of the accrediting organization, the basic outline of the accreditation process, and the projected time line for obtaining affiliate status within five years of the date of Board approval unless the Board waives the original time line if found to be an unrealistic expectation.
- b) Procedures for Obtaining a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate. Following is a description of the steps in the approval process:
- 1) Letter of Intent
- The Chief Executive Officer of the institution seeking a Certificate of Approval

and/or Authorization to Operate a degree-granting postsecondary institution in the State of Illinois should make this intention known by writing to the Board. Following receipt of this letter, the Board staff ~~may~~ will arrange a preliminary conference with institutional representatives.

2) Preliminary Conference

The agenda will include a discussion of criteria to be met by the institution and procedures used in applying for a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate.

3) Letter of Application and Documentation

Following the preliminary conference, the institutional representatives shall complete the application supplied by the Board. The application requests information and supporting evidence to demonstrate that the institution meets the criteria established.

4) Staff Analysis

Following the receipt of the formal application and accompanying documentation, staff will review and analyze all materials.

5) Site Visit

A) Following completion of documentation and staff analysis of the application, a site visit may be arranged in order to verify and supplement the information provided about the proposed institution. Site visits may be scheduled if:

- i) the Board is not familiar with the physical facilities,
- ii) the institution asks for a site visit,
- iii) questions have been raised about the veracity of the application,
or
- iv) for other reasons the proposed institution/program does not lend itself to an in-office analysis.

B) The site visit may include interviews with prospective administrators, students, faculty, and/or board members and observations of facilities, record systems, financial data, and/or curricular resources.

6) Outside Consultants

The Executive Director of the Board, at his or her discretion, may utilize the services of outside consultants to assist the staff in the verification and/or evaluation of the documentation submitted or obtained through the site visit.

7) Staff Report

- A) Following the site visit, Board staff will prepare an analysis of the findings and develop a recommendation to the Board regarding the institutional application. This recommendation will be shared with the applicant.
- B) The recommendation will be one of the following:
 - i) That the institution be issued a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate, subject to annual reporting and the implementation and maintenance of the conditions under which approval/authorization has been granted; or
 - ii) That the institution be denied a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate.

8) Staff Recommendations to Board

The Executive Director of the Board will submit the staff recommendation to the Board for action at a regular meeting. The Chief Executive Officer of the applicant institution or a his designee will be invited to attend the meeting and comment on the recommendation. In the event the staff recommendation is negative, the applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond in writing. This response shall be transmitted to the Board at the same time as the staff recommendation.

9) Board Action

Following the Board's decision to issue a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate or to deny a Certificate of Approval and/or Authorization to Operate, a letter signifying the action will be sent from the Executive Director of the Board to the Chief Executive Officer of the institution. A letter of approval will serve as the official Certificate of Approval/Authorization to Operate for the institution in the State of Illinois.

c) Initial authorization to operate in Illinois for institutions new to the state shall be for five years. In the fifth year of operation, the Executive Director of the Board may instruct staff to conduct a review. The Board may deny a continuation of the initial approval or offer a limited extension if the institution:

- 1) Has failed to implement and maintain the conditions that were presented in its application and that formed the basis upon which authorizations were granted;
- 2) Has failed to maintain sound fiscal status; or
- 3) Has failed to achieve affiliation status from an accreditation agency within the institution's proposed time line for obtaining accreditation unless the Board of Higher Education finds that the original time line was an unrealistic expectation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the Board from withdrawing certification of approval or authorization to operate at any time, including during the first

five years of operation, if an institution has failed to implement and maintain the conditions that were presented in its applications and that form the basis upon which its certificate or authorization are granted.

d) _____ Publications and Information

- 1) An institution may state that it is approved or authorized to operate in the State of Illinois only after such approval has been officially granted and received in writing from the Board.
- 2) An institution shall not advertise or state in any manner that it is "accredited" by the Board. ~~Granting Certificates of Approval to Operate, Authorizations to Operate and Authorizations to Award Specific Degrees is the function of the Board rather than accreditation.~~
- 3) No institution shall publish or otherwise communicate to prospective students, faculty, staff, or the public misleading or erroneous information about the operating or degree-granting status of a given institution.
- 4) Recruitment and informational materials of an institution which has received only Approval and/or Authorization from the Board to Operate shall indicate that the institution is not yet authorized to award degrees.

(Source: Amended at ___ Ill. Reg. ____, effective _____)

Section 1030.40 Institutional Approval under the 1945 Act Only

The following rules apply to institutions requiring approval under the 1945 Act only:

- a) All rules, criteria, and procedures defined in Section 1030.30 shall apply.
- b) Student housing owned, maintained, or approved by the institution should be appropriate, safe, adequate and operated in compliance with pertinent laws.
- c) Such institutions are exempt from receiving further approval for additional degree programs under Section 1030.60.
- d) Conditions governing continued approval of such institutions are defined in Section 1030.70.

Section 1030.50 Institutional Authorization under the 1961 Act Only

The following rules apply to institutions requiring authorization under the 1961 Act only:

- a) All rules, criteria, and procedures defined in Section 1030.30 shall apply.
- b) Such institutions are required to receive further approval for each new degree program under Section 1030.60.
- c) Conditions governing continued authorization of such institutions are defined in Section 1030.80.

- d) The education, experience and other qualifications of a Chief Executive Officer, trustees, directors, owners, administrators, supervisors and agents shall reasonably ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the course or program of study.
- e) The Chief Executive Officer, trustees, directors, owners, administrators, supervisors, and agents of the institution shall be of good professional reputation and character.

Section 1030.60 Degree Authorization under the 1961 Act

- a) Criteria for New Degree Programs

The Board requires that a non-public or out-of-state public institution demonstrate that it can maintain and operate a new degree program which meets the standard criteria for such degree programs. The following standard criteria are designed to measure the appropriateness of the stated educational objectives to the degree programs of a given institution and the extent to which suitable and proper processes have been developed for meeting those objectives:

- 1) The objectives of the degree program(s) must be consistent with what the degree program title(s) implies ~~imply~~.
- 2) The requested degree program shall be congruent with the purpose, goals, objectives and mission of the institution.
- 3) The caliber and content of the curriculum shall assure that the stated degree objectives for which the program is offered will be achieved.
- 4) The institution shall have adequate and suitable space, equipment and instructional materials to provide education of suitable quality.
- 5) The education, experience, and other qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors, and instructors shall ensure that the students will receive education consistent with the objectives of the program.
- 6) The information which the institution provides for students and the public shall accurately describe the degree programs offered, program objectives, length of program, schedule of tuition, fees, and all other charges and expenses necessary for completion of the course of study, cancellation and refund policies, and such other material facts concerning the institution and the program or course of instruction as are likely to affect the decision of the student to enroll. Such information, including any enrollment agreements or similar agreements, shall be available to prospective students prior to enrollment.
- 7) Fiscal and personnel resources shall be sufficient to permit the institution to meet obligations to continuing programs while assuming additional resource responsibilities for the new degree program.
- 8) The faculty, staff, and instructors of the institution shall be of good professional reputation and character.

b) Procedures for Obtaining Authority to Award One or ~~M~~ore New Degrees

The Board shall approve all new degree programs in institutions described and not exempted as provided in Section 1030.10 of this Part. Institutions authorized to offer a degree program at a site within a region are not required to obtain additional approval to offer the same degree at a different site within the same region. Following is a description of the steps in the approval process:

1) New Degree Program Request

A) The Chief Executive Officer of the institution seeking approval of a new degree program in the State of Illinois should make this intention known by completing a notice of intent on the form provided by the Board prior to submission of the request for approval. The notice of intent shall include the degree and program name, region located, description of the program, demographics of the intended students, estimated enrollment, and contact person. Notices of Intent shall be publically posted by the Board for no less than 30 days before Board action on the application.

B) The institution requesting permission to offer a new degree program will complete an application provided by the Board.

BC) Information to be provided by the institution shall include:

- i) program titles and descriptions,
- ii) program objectives,
- iii) curriculum,
- iv) relationship of new programs to existing programs,
- v) faculty,
- vi) recommendation of internal governance bodies,
- vii) facilities,
- viii) finances, and
- ix) program publicity information.

2) Governing Board Approval

The application shall be approved by the institution's governing board prior to submission to the Board.

3) Submission of the Application

Applications ~~may~~ shall be submitted to the Board at any time prior to December

~~1 of the year preceding the academic year in which the institution plans to start the new program.~~

4) Board Staff Analyses

Following receipt of the application, Board staff will review and analyze the application and documentation submitted.

5) Additional Documentation and Site Visit

In the case of a proposed new degree program where Board staff determines it is necessary to verify or supplement the information supplied in the application, the staff may request additional written documentation and/or arrange for a site visit, or both.

6) Outside Consultants

The Executive Director of the Board, at his or her discretion, may utilize the services of outside consultants to assist the staff in a site visit and in the evaluation of the documentation submitted.

7) Staff Report

Following the staff analysis, Board staff will summarize its findings and develop a recommendation to the Board regarding the new degree program request. This recommendation will be shared with the applicant. This recommendation will be one of the following:

- A) That the degree program(s) be approved to admit students ~~at the beginning of the next term~~ and the appropriate degree(s) be awarded upon program completion; ~~or~~
- ~~B) For institutions applying after July 1, 1979, that the appropriate degree(s) be awarded but no sooner than one year after the approval date; or~~
- €B) That the degree authority requested not be granted.

8) Staff Recommendations to the Board

The Executive Director of the Board will submit the staff recommendation for action to the Board at a regular meeting. The Chief Executive Officer of the institution, or a his-designee, will be invited to attend and comment on the recommendation. In the event the staff recommendation is negative, the applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond in writing. This response shall be transmitted to the Board at the same time as the staff recommendation.

9) Board Action

Following the Board's decision to approve or deny the degree-granting request, a letter signifying the action will be sent from the Executive Director of the Board to the Chief Executive Officer of the institution. A letter of approval will serve as

official authorization for the institution to award the stated degree(s).

10) Awarding Degrees

~~Institutions applying after July 1, 1979~~ shall not award new degrees until one year after authorization by the Board to do so.

11) New Application

Any institution denied approval to award a new degree must file a new application in order to be given subsequent consideration for approval.

12) Advertising of Degree Programs

A) An institution may state that it is approved or authorized to award a degree in the State of Illinois only after such approval has been officially granted and received in writing from the Board.

B) An institution shall not advertise or state in any manner that it is "accredited" by the Board to award degrees.

C) No institution shall publish or otherwise communicate to prospective students, faculty, staff, or the public misleading or erroneous information about the degree-granting status of a given institution.

~~Recruitment and informational materials for institutions with developing degree programs should either refer only to those degree programs for which the Board has granted authority or clearly distinguish between authorized degrees and pending degrees.~~

13) No Program Changes for the First Year

Institutions applying after December 15, 2008 shall not deviate from the approved plan for one year from the date of the letter of approval.

14) Institutions Exempt from Approval

Institutions offering a previously authorized degree program at another site within the same region shall not be required to apply for additional Board approval.

(Source: Amended at ___ Ill. Reg. ____, effective _____)

Section 1030.70 Maintenance of Approval under the 1945 Act

- a) Most institutions are approved to operate under both the 1945 Act and the 1961 Act. Institutions under only the 1945 Act shall comply with Section 1030.70, Rules for Maintenance of Approval. Institutions under only the 1961 Act shall comply with Section 1030.80, Rules for Maintenance of Authorization. Institutions under both Acts shall comply with the rules under both Sections 1030.70 and 1030.80. Where the rules are identical under both Acts, the institution will be considered in compliance with the 1945 Act by complying with the same rules under the 1961 Act and vice versa.

b) The following rules govern maintenance of the Certification of Approval under the 1945 Act:

1) Annual Report

Each approved institution shall file annually with the Board its current catalogs.

2) Reviews

The staff of the Board may conduct reviews and/or visitations of approved institutions as necessary for the implementation of the Statute.

3) Complaints Concerning Institutions

The staff of the Board shall initiate an investigation upon receipt of a verified written complaint and may initiate an investigation in response to oral or written information concerning any of the following:

- A) Alleged violation of any of the conditions governing issuance of the Certificate of Approval;
- B) Alleged failure to comply with any of the rules adopted by the Board;
- C) Alleged fraudulent conduct on the part of any person conducting the institution or of any person, acting within the scope of his/her employment, by the institution, on account of which conduct any student ever enrolled in the institution has been injured or has suffered financial loss.

During the investigation there may be a temporary hold placed on any of the institution's pending applications to the Board. The hold will be for a specified period of time not to exceed six months, unless the Board begins the process for revocation as provided in this rule, at which time the hold will continue until the Board decision is made.

4) Revocation of the Certificate of Approval

A) Grounds for Revocation Include:

- i) Violation of any of the conditions governing issuance of the Certificate of Approval;
- ii) Failure to comply with any of the rules adopted by the Board;
- iii) Fraudulent conduct on the part of any person conducting the institution or of any person, acting within the scope of his/her employment, by the institution, on account of which conduct any student ever enrolled in the institution has been injured or has suffered financial loss.

iv) Failure to offer degrees or instruction for one continuous 12-month period.

v) Abandonment of the institution.

B) Procedures for Revocation

i) Before revoking any certificate to operate, the Board shall designate a Hearing Officer who shall schedule and conduct a hearing, as prescribed in Section 6-9 of the 1945 Act. The Board shall not be required to schedule a hearing and has the option to waive a hearing if the institution has not operated for one continuous 12-month period or the institution has been abandoned; even in such cases, however, the Board shall be required to revoke such certificate at a public meeting at which any opponent to such revocation shall be heard.

ii) If the Board decides to grant a rehearing pursuant to Section 10 of the 1945 Act, it shall appoint another Hearing Officer, different from the first, who shall conduct a hearing upon only those grounds for which the rehearing was granted. The second Hearing Officer shall submit a written report of his findings and recommendations to the Board which shall make a final determination.

iii) Upon revocation of the Certificate to Operate, the Certificate of Approval shall be rendered invalid.

iv) At any time after revocation of a Certificate of Approval, the Board may restore it to the institution.

v) A closed institution shall arrange for its student records to be maintained in a safe and suitable place.

(Source: Amended at ___Ill. Reg. ____, effective _____)

Section 1030.80 Maintenance of Authorization to Operate and/or Grant Degrees under the 1961 Act

a) Most institutions are approved to operate under both the 1945 Act and the 1961 Act. Institutions under only the 1945 Act shall comply with Section 1030.70 Rules for Maintenance of Approval. Institutions under only the 1961 Act shall comply with Section 1030.80 Rules for Maintenance of Authorization. Institutions under both Acts shall comply with the rules under both Sections 1030.70 and 1030.80. Where the rules are identical under both Acts, the institution will be considered in compliance with the 1945 Act by complying with the same rules under the 1961 Act and vice versa.

b) The following rules govern both maintenance of the authorization to operate and/or grant degrees under the 1961 Act:

1) Annual Report

Each authorized institution shall file annually with the Board its current catalogs.

2) Reviews

The staff of the Board may conduct reviews and/or visitations of authorized institutions and/or their degree programs as necessary for the implementation of the Statute.

This may include a review in the fifth year of a new degree program's existence. Board staff may review the degree program, in cooperation with institutional staff, to verify the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its applications and that formed the basis upon which the authorizations were granted. The fifth year review may also include information on improvements in the institution's capacity to efficiently and effectively deliver degree programs using technological innovation and comprehensive data system.

In the case of a program in which state licensure is required for employment in the field, a program can be found to be in good standing if the institution is able to provide evidence that program graduates are eligible to take the appropriate licensure examination and evidence of an appropriate pass rate on the exam. If there is no such evidence, approval of the program may be withdrawn by the Board.

3) Complaints Concerning Institutional Degree Practices

The staff of the Board may initiate an investigation in response to written or oral information suggesting that changes have occurred in the conditions under which authorization to operate and/or to grant a specific degree was given. During the investigation there may be a temporary hold placed on the institution's applications to the Board for new program approvals and other programs. The hold will be for a specified period of time not to exceed six months, unless the Board begins the process for revocation as provided in this rule, at which time the hold will continue until the Board decision is made.

4) Temporary Suspension of Program

An institution may place any approved program on temporary suspension after receiving Board approval. The institution shall provide an annual status report to the Board on any program under temporary suspension status.

The Board will consider a program placed on temporary suspension status to be terminated if an annual status report is not received or if no reinstatement request is received within the first five years after the program was placed on temporary suspension. An institution may petition for reinstatement during the five-year period.

5) Revocation of Operating and/or Degree-Granting Authority

A) Grounds for Revocation Include:

- i) Failure to permit any duly authorized representative of the Board to enter upon the premises of the institution and to inspect or otherwise examine the institution and its books, papers, or other records.
- ii) Failure to maintain the conditions under which the institution and/or its degree(s) were authorized.
- iii) Failure to ~~receive Approval to Grant Degrees within three years of the issuance of Authority to Operate.~~ offer degrees or instruction for one continuous 12-month period.
- iv) Abandonment of the institution.

B) Procedures for Revocation

- i) Following the Board staff investigation of the institutional degree practices, the staff may recommend to the Board revocation of the Authorization to Operate and/or Award Specific Degrees.
- ii) If the Board votes to revoke Authorization to Operate and/or Award Specific Degrees, the institution may request a hearing. The Board shall not be required to schedule a hearing and has the option to waive a hearing if the institution has not operated for one continuous 12-month period or the institution has been abandoned; even in such cases, however, the Board shall be required to revoke such authority at a public hearing at which any opponent to such revocation shall be heard.
- iii) The Board shall designate a Hearing Officer who shall schedule and conduct a hearing.
- iv) The Hearing Officer shall make a written report of his findings and recommendation to the Board, which shall make a final determination and shall notify the institution of its decision.
- v) Following a Board decision to revoke Authorization to Operate and/or Award Specific Degrees, the Letter of Authorization shall be rendered invalid.
- vi) At any time after revocation, the Board may restore Authority to Operate and/or Authority to Award Designated Degrees.
- vii) A closed institution shall arrange for its student records to be maintained in a safe and suitable place.

(Source: Amended at ___Ill. Reg. ____, effective _____)

