The Senate’s Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) is tasked by the University Senate with the review of proposals to change academic organization or structure. The information needed by the SAOSC for the review of such proposals is set forth in Section 3 of the *Senate Rules*[[1]](#footnote-1).

The SAOSC has developed a set of guidelines (from the *Senate Rules*) that are intended to ease the task of proposal submissions related to educational units[[2]](#footnote-2) (available at <https://universitysenate.uky.edu/academic-units>). As proposal omissions usually cause a delay in the review process, the individual(s) responsible for the proposal is (are) urged to familiarize themselves with these guidelines before submitting their proposals for review. In particular, the proposer must fill out Sections I, II and III of this form, as well as include statements and documentation that provide a full accounting of the items a - i, below.

1. Disposition of faculty, staff and resources (financial and physical);
2. Willingness of the donating units to release faculty lines for transfer to a different educational unit;
3. Consultation with the faculty of the unit to which the faculty lines are proposed to be transferred;
4. Consultation with the faculty of educational unit that will be significantly reduced;
5. Summary of votes and viewpoints (including dissents) of unit faculty and department/college committees;
6. Ballots, votes expressing support for or against the proposal by unit faculty and staff and committees;
7. Letters of support or opposition from appropriate faculty and/or administrators; and
8. Letters of support from outside the University.

**Section I – General Information about Proposal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| One- to two-sentence description of change: |       |
|  |
| Proposer’s name: |       | Phone: |       | Email: |       |
|  |
| Affiliation (name of college, department, center, etc. etc.): |       |

**Section II – Educational Unit(s) Potentially Impacted by Proposal**

|  |
| --- |
| Check all that apply and name the specific unit(s). |
|  |
| [ ]  | Department of: |       |
|  |
| [ ]  | School of:  |       |
|  |
| [ ]  | College of:  |       |
|  |
| [ ]  | Graduate Center for:  |       |
|  |
| [ ]  | Interdisciplinary Instructional Program: |       |
|  |
| [ ]  | Multidisciplinary Research Center/Institute: |       |

**Section III – Type of Proposal**

|  |
| --- |
| Check all that apply. |
|  |
| 1. *Changes*
 |
| [ ]  | Change to the name of an educational unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Change to the type of educational unit (e.g., from department to school). |
|  |
| 1. *Other types of proposals*
 |
| [ ]  | Creation of a new educational unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Consolidation of multiple educational units. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Transfer of an academic program to a different educational unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Transfer of an educational unit to a different reporting unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Significant reduction of an educational unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Discontinuation, suspension or closure of an educational unit. |
|  |
| [ ]  | Other (Give a one- or two-sentence description below; a complete description will be in the proposal. |
|  |
|  |       |

**Section IV is for internal use/guidance.**

**Section IV – Guidance for SAOSC, Senate Council and University Senate**

***SAOSC Review of Type A Proposals (Changes to Type of, or to Name of, an Educational Unit)***

* SAOSC review of proposal.
* SAOSC recommendation for an additional or joint review by other Senate committee(s) (e.g. Senate's Academic Programs Committee).

***SAOSC Review of Type B Proposals (All Other Changes)***

* SAOSC review of proposal.
* SAOSC recommendation for an additional or joint review by other Senate committee(s) (e.g. Senate's Academic Programs Committee).
* SAOSC review of proposals for creation, consolidation, transfer, closure, discontinuation, or significant reduction and educational unit, or transfer of an academic program to a different educational unit (attach documentation).
* Program review in past three years (attach documentation).
* Request to Provost for new program review (attach documentation).
* Open hearing (attach documentation).
* SAOSC information must be shared with unit 10 days prior to hearing.
* Open hearing procedures disseminated.

***Voting by SAOSC, Senate Council and University Senate***

* Endorse (or do not endorse) the academic organization, reporting, infrastructure, etc.
	+ This vote is taken by the SAOSC, SC and Senate for every SAOSC proposal.
* Approve (or do not approve) the academic status or content of academic program.
	+ This vote is taken by the SAOSC, SC and Senate only when the review involves an MDRC.
1. Items a-i are derived from *Senate Rules Section 3*. The Senate Rules in their entirety are available at <https://universitysenate.uky.edu/rules-and-elections/university-senate-rules>.) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Proposals to suspend admissions and/or close a program are submitted through Curriculog. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)