Academic Programs at Rutgers University
Implementation of Guiding Principles

Rutgers supports robust curricular development through a university-wide degree program approval process that ensures appropriate input, accountability, and decision-making – at multiple levels – to promote:

- Academic excellence and optimal impact of new and reimagined degree programs on the Rutgers' community, including prospective students, enrolled students, faculty, staff, and the citizens of the State of New Jersey;
- Alignment with strategic academic priorities at the departmental, school or college, chancellor-led unit (CLU), and university levels;
- A commitment to educational access, diversity, equity, and inclusion; and
- Effective and strategic use of university resources.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

We are guided by the following **principles related to academic program development and revision** (undergraduate and graduate; onground, off-site and online; degree/credit and nondegree/non-credit), operationalized by the University Academic Affairs Office of Academic Planning and the Offices of the Provosts in each Chancellor-Led Unit:

Roles & Responsibilities
- Academic units will be responsible for academic programs and their content, subject to any relevant accreditation standards and university approval and review processes.
- University Academic Affairs will coordinate university policy and process for all academic programs.

Institution-wide Coordination
- Excellence at scale requires intentional coordination of programs and deployment of resources, both within our CLUs and across our campuses.
- Academic program development will be consistent with University and CLU goals and strategic priorities and will leverage existing strengths and foci of excellence.

Program Development
- All program offerings will be high quality, accessible to diverse learners, with strong learning outcomes linked to post-completion student success.
- Academic programs will be developed through a data-driven approach that informs long-term success, and considers competitive and labor market opportunities, current or potential faculty expertise, and responsible use of University resources.
- Differences among all programs will be clear to prospective students; there will be no program duplication unless programs can demonstrate (1) clear focus on distinct pools of prospective students or (2) emphasis on differentiating areas of focus.