

Northern Marianas College
Board of Regents Policy

SUBJECT:	Teach-Out (Academic Affairs)	EFFECTIVE:	August 13, 2025
SECTION:	3000	POLICY NAME:	Teach-Out Policy
WASC WSCUC Standard/Policy:	Standard One (CFR 1.4 & 1.5)	POLICY NO:	

This policy provides a structured framework for the development and implementation of Teach-Out Plan at Northern Marianas College (NMC). It is designed to safeguard the interests of students and faculty while ensuring compliance with the standards and requirements set by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). This Teach-Out Policy ensures that students affected by program discontinuation or institutional closure can complete their education with minimal disruption.

This policy applies to all academic programs, campuses, and sites under NMC that may be subject to closure, discontinuation, or significant changes impacting student progression.

The decision to close a degree or certificate program requires substantial planning and careful consultation with all those affected. Every effort will be made to inform everyone affected as fully as possible about the conditions leading to a decision, and all available information will be shared.

In accordance with federal regulations, NMC is required to submit a Teach-Out Plan to WSCUC for approval if any of the following occurs:

1. NMC notifies the Commission that it intends to cease operation entirely.
2. The Commission terminates accreditation or the candidacy of NMC.
3. The US Department of Education notifies the Commission that it has initiated an emergency action against NMC or an action to limit, suspend, or terminate NMC participating in any Title IV, Higher Education Act program.
4. A State Licensing or authorizing agency notifies the Commission that NMC's license or legal authorization to provide an educational program has been or will be revoked.

More specifically, if NMC decides to close an educational program, or the entire institution, one of the following options must be followed:

1. Execute a Teach-Out Plan. The Teach-Out option occurs when NMC "teaches-out" currently enrolled students; no longer admits students to programs; and terminates the educational programs or the operations.
2. Develop and implement a Teach-Out Agreement. The Teach-Out Agreement option occurs when NMC enters into a contract with another institution or organization to Teach-Out the educational program or programs.

Both Teach-Out Plans and Teach-Out Agreements must include the following information:

1. Dates of termination and closure;
2. An explanation of how affected parties (students, faculty, staff) will be informed of the impending closure;
3. An explanation of how students will be assisted to complete their program of study with minimal disruption or additional expense;
4. How faculty and staff will be redeployed or assisted to find new employment; and
5. If closing the institution: signed copies of Teach-Out Agreements with other institutions, if any; and arrangement for the storing of student records, disposition of final financial resources and other assets.

The Teach-Out plan should make appropriate distinctions between prospective and currently enrolled students. The Teach-Out period and teach-out plan will vary by academic department and/or program and must be determined and approved in advance at all required levels with final approval of the board of regents.

This policy will be reviewed every three years or as needed to ensure compliance with WSCUC regulations and institutional priorities.

HISTORY:

New Policy