

MEMBERS

Lynnette Bennett
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Will Durden
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Jessica Gilmore
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Mike Potter
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Val Sundby-Thorp
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Peter Williams
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Joshua Slep
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Theresa Stalick
CBS

Rebecca Williamson
IC

Kathy Goebel
SBCTC

Mason Norman
SBCTC

Program Approval Task Force

Purpose

The purpose of the Task Force is to create a more meaningful, consistent and accessible application process and inventory of pro-

Authority

The requirements for certificates and degrees awarded by the state's community and technical colleges must follow guidelines and approval processes established by the SBCTC.

RCW 28B.50.000
State Board Policy Man-



Goals

A useful program approval process will...

- Drive college efforts for student success, innovation, and economic growth.
- Where possible, align accreditation, CtcLink, statewide policies/initiatives, and special funding requirements.
- Collect information and data using valid and consistent methodology to support multiple instructional and research purposes.
- Describe how the proposed program fits within one or more educational pathways.
- Clearly identify when full program approval is required and when an abbreviated process is sufficient.
- Streamline procedures to reduce complexity, errors and re-work.
- Create retention protocols for pertinent program approval data and documents.
- Provide clear instructions and common templates.
- Offer a glossary that defines terms used in program approval documents.

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Guiding Principles

- The Task Force will be an active, representative body advocating for the interests of students and their respective councils and commissions, while maintaining a statewide system perspective.
- Timeliness and communication regarding progress towards the group's goals take priority.
- Members commit to considering equally all ideas (even “radical” ideas) put forward. Brainstorming and creative thinking is encouraged.
- Members will respect constructive differences of opinion.
- Members will address all complex issues to reach resolution even if there is outside pressure to maintain the status quo.
- Members will strive for fair standards and expectations. For all colleges, members will consider equitable access to information and technologies (labor market tools, data visualization, etc.)
- Members will oversee the creation of clear and concise procedures, products and services.
- Members will build the most simple and efficient process possible to meet the goals of program approval. Members commit to developing a meaningful process that does not cause unnecessary burden for college and State Board staff.