

Consolidated Certification Process for University Research Centers

(Concert)

Purpose

Research centers are key components of the university's strategy to enhance research and academic excellence. Typically, a research center is an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary collective that aims to enhance university research activity, reputation, or prestige by leveraging the allocation of faculty time and other university resources to acquire extramural funding. Research is a primary component of the missions of research centers, but they also may be missioned to

The dean's recommendation letter, a summary of the internal review including the composition of the faculty review committee, the center profile, the business plan, and any additional documentation are forwarded to the Office of Research for approval. The dean may recommend for

Certification of existing research centers

Existing centers will be placed on a rotating certification schedule. By August 1, 2018, deans will identify up to three cohorts of centers within their colleges that are to complete the certification process by December 15 of 2019, 2020, or 2021, respectively. Deans will convey their cohort schedules to the Vice President for Research by July 31, 2018. The Office of Research will develop a schedule for centers supervised by the VPR. Inclusion on the schedule will convey provisional certification for those centers scheduled to complete the process after fall, 2019.

Provisional certification

Provisional certification is granted for a three year period to newly approved centers, after which time they submit updated certification proposals to be considered for full certification. Excepting this requirement, provisionally certified centers are treated as fully certified centers in every regard. New centers created under exceptional circumstances may be granted immediate provisional certification by the Vice President for Research, with a grace period of up to one year to submit a certification proposal.

Certification proposal component: Center profile

The Center profile is a template for conveying basic information about the center (name, mission, and membership), the start date of the business plan, and the purposes of the proposal. It identifies inter- and intra-institutional collaboration and relevant sponsored research activity. It also includes attachments of required and optional supplementary documentation, such as curriculum vitae, sponsored project summaries, and letters of commitment or support.

Certification proposal component: