

Policy History
Policy No. AC14
Approving Jurisdiction: Senate
Administrative Responsibility: Provost and Vice President Academic
Effective Date: September 1, 2023

KPU Credential Framework Policy

A. CONTEXT AND PURPOSE

1. As a special purpose teaching university under British Columbia’s University Act, Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) (“the University”) is committed to promoting educational quality and fostering learning pathways through the establishment and recognition of a formal institutional credential framework. The University also recognizes the importance of KPU credentials meeting institutional and Provincial standards that demonstrate currency, relevancy, value, and quality assurance.
2. Through this policy, the University fosters accountability and coordination of systems by providing a formalized framework for KPU credentials that will demonstrate standardization, equivalency and progression to credentials across post-secondary education systems in BC, Canada and globally.
3. The purpose of this policy is to establish criteria and standards for all Senate-approved credentials across all academic levels at the University and to inform the curricular structure and development process so that KPU’s curricula reflect the University’s polytechnic mandate.

B. SCOPE AND LIMITS

1. This policy governs all Senate-approved curricula, credentials and University graduation requirements at KPU.
2. This policy does not apply to curricula, programs and associated completion requirements outside of the jurisdiction of Senate.

C. STATEMENT OF POLICY PRINCIPLES

1. Through the provisions of the University Act and in support of the University’s mandate and strategic priorities, KPU will grant credentials at the preparatory, vocational, undergraduate and graduate levels in accordance with the definitions, standards and criteria set out by the KPU Credential Framework.

2. Through the establishment of an institutional Credential Framework, the University endeavors to reflect and serve our diverse, dynamic, and growing population by utilizing methods and standards that nurture an ability to research, analyze, synthesize and communicate. Theoretical, technical, social, and personal competencies, core elements of our overall polytechnic university learning approach, are central to our curriculum, ensuring that our graduates are prepared for a lifetime of learning and re-learning, and providing them with opportunities to adapt to their changing needs.
3. The University will ensure that well-defined learning outcomes are communicated and incorporated at a credential level appropriate for all Senate-approved programs, utilizing the highest standards of academic rigor and integrity.
4. The University will ensure transparency and consistency in the development, revision, and approval of Senate-approved curricula, credentials and university graduation requirements in accordance with the relevant Provincial regulatory bodies.
5. The University is committed to promoting student learning pathways, mobility and progression for students and graduates within KPU and beyond by developing curricula and credentials that are recognized and well-regarded by other post-secondary institutions, employers, industries as well as local and global communities.

D. DEFINITIONS

Refer to Section A of *AC14 KPU Credential Framework Procedure* for a list of definitions in support of this Policy.

E. RELATED POLICIES & LEGISLATION

AC4 Student Evaluation and Grading

AC10 Establishment, Revision, Suspension and/or Discontinuance of Programs

ST6 Minimum Academic Standards for Programs in Which Letter Grades Are Assigned

F. RELATED PROCEDURES

AC14 KPU Credential Framework Procedure