SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS
Program Termination or
Placement on Inactive Status

Use this form to request termination or inactive status for an existing program (graduate program, undergraduate major or minor, certificate, or specialization). The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

UNIVERSITY:	DSU
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	**Health Informatics & Information Management BS Degree**
CIP CODE:	**51.0706**
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	**Health Informatics & Information Management**
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	**DHIM**
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	**College of Business and Information Systems**
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	**DBUS**

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Signed by:

Jose Marie Griffiths

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_____   10/21/2024
President of the University   Date

1. **Program Degree Level (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):**

    Associate ☐   Bachelor's ☒   Master's ☐   Doctoral ☐

2. **Category (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):[1]**

    Certificate ☐   Specialization ☐   Minor ☐   Major ☒

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[1] Note: Certificates, specializations, and minors may only be terminated and not placed on inactive status due to limitations in the student information system.

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3. **The program action proposed is (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):[2]**

	Inactive Status ☒	Termination ☐
	See question 4	*See questions 5 and 6*

4. **INACTIVE STATUS**

    A. **Provide a justification for inactivating the program:**

    Inactivating this program is a proactive step to respond to a trend of decreasing enrollment, prior to non-compliance with the SDBOR dashboard performance requirements. Several courses within the program are also included in the AS HIIM program and Healthcare Coding Certificate. This program is the second part of a 2+2 program building to the BS HIIM degree. Inactivating the associate HIIM degree concurrently impacts some of the same courses including some with low enrollments.

    Eventual savings will be evident by inactivating the BS HIIM program accreditation by CAHIIM. Costs will continue until the last student graduates from the program. The 20% NFE Director administrative time allocated for this program will be eventually shifted to increased teaching duties by 20%. Adjunct faculty described in the Healthcare Coding Certificate program termination and AS HIIM program inactivation will also not be required in this program.

    While this program has been in existence since the late 1970's, it has been historically a small program serving a very niche market in the South Dakota healthcare industry. There are no CAHIIM accredited equivalent competitors in South Dakota, which will leave a small gap in the SD labor market. DSU bachelor's degree graduates are prepared to work in entry-level roles such as coding and reimbursement, health informatics, health information management, information systems, etc. and to sit for the RHIA credentialing exam as well as a multitude of other professional credentials.

    South Dakota legislators mandated that the medical records and respiratory therapy programs could only be located at Dakota State University, but respiratory therapy programs have been transferred to SDSU for better Mission alignment. While this change was positive for RRT, it perhaps had some impact on the HIIM program enrollment, limiting the number of students transferring from that major into the HIIM program and leaving HIIM as the only healthcare program at DSU.

    Specific legislation read as follows:
    13-59-2.4. Dakota State University--Medical records and respiratory therapy programs.

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[2] Note: An inactive program is a program a university has authority to offer, but the program is not admitting new students and has not formally terminated. A presumption exists that inactive status is a temporary status; universities review inactive programs periodically to determine the feasibility of reactivating or terminating the program. Programs can remain inactive for five (5) consecutive years at which time a university must terminate the program. A terminated program is a program for which a university ceases to have authority to offer. Reinstatement of a terminated program requires university and BOR approval through the prescribed new program approval processes.

The medical records program and respiratory therapy program currently in existence at Dakota State University shall remain at Dakota State University unless otherwise transferred by the Board of Regents.
Source: SL 1984, ch 142, § 4; SL 1989, ch 170, § 5.

The SD law 13-59-2.4. may need to be revisited if the need for HIIM programs becomes favorable at some future time. Best alignment of the Mission of the programs and the University may be necessary to further assess SD workforce needs and the ability for the program to collaborate and provide interprofessional skillsets in Health Informatics for all healthcare students in the multitude of professions.

DSU HIM programs have signed several articulation agreements with surrounding CAHIIM accredited AAS HIT programs and STC and WDTC to encourage transfer of AAS students to DSU's BS HIIM program. These agreements from the CAHIIM accredited programs are just beginning to yield results. These are recognized as a required feeder source for HIIM programs that exist at DSU and may require more flexibility in updated articulation agreements if they continue.

In order to continue to produce graduates capable of focusing on the healthcare industry needs in information systems and health informatics to fill the SD market gap, DSU's plan is to incorporate a new Health Informatics specialization into DSU's existing Computer Information Systems bachelor degree and a new certificate program to serve as a feeder to the specialization. Program level CAHIIM accreditation will not be pursued for the CIS BS Health Informatics Specialization or for the Health Informatics certificate program at this time. Articulation agreements will be potentially updated to encourage partners to pursue the BS CIS program HI Specialization instead of the BS HIIM program. Graduating from a non-CAHIIM accredited program removes eligibility of graduates desiring to sit for the RHIA credentialing exam.

B. **If there are current students in the program, what are the implications of placing the program on inactive status?**
Students continuing with at least a part time pace will be allowed to complete the program as required by CAHIIM accreditation requirements. These students will be able to sit for AHIMA's RHIA credentialing exam.

    A. **What is the last date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate in the program?** December 31, 2026

    B. **What is the proposed date (day/month/year) inactive status takes effect (the proposed date for inactive status is also the last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?** December 31, 2024

5. **TERMINATION WITH ENROLLED STUDENTS**

  A. **Provide a justification for terminating the program:**

  B. **What is the plan for completion of the program by current students?**

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C. **What is the proposed date (day/month/year) program termination status begins (program status in the database changes to *Phasing Out* and last date a student may enroll in or declare the program)?**

D. **What is the last date (day/month/year) in which a student may enroll in the program (program status in the database changes to *Phase Out*)?**

E. **What is the last term or date (day/month/year) by which a student can graduate from the program?**

F. **What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program and what are the planned uses of the savings? There are no cost savings in terminating the program.**

G. **What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?**

6. **TERMINATION WITHOUT ENROLLED STUDENTS**

   A. **Provide a justification for terminating the program:**

   B. **What is the proposed date (day/month/year) for the program to terminate (program status in the database changes to *Deleted*)?**

   C. **What are the potential cost savings of terminating the program and what are the planned uses of the savings?**

   D. **What are the resulting employee terminations and other possible implications including impact on other programs?**