

# Student Success in the Majors Initiative

## Chancellor Office Funding to Support Graduation Initiative 2025

Curricular complexity can pose a significant barrier to student success. The goal of any curricular redesign should be to maintain high standards while also assuring that curricular decisions increase the likelihood that students will graduate in four years, if first-time students, or two years for transfer students.

This initiative supports faculty in targeted reflection on and redesign of their curriculum in order to support student success. Possible options--based on promising practices at other CSUs and beyond--are listed below, but programs could propose other strategies that will serve the same goal of streamlining degree requirements.

Grants of \$5,000 to \$7,000 will be awarded to departments to support faculty in making curricular revisions that will be implemented in 2017-2018. The result of the grant should be a proposed curricular change(s) that is approved by the College and submitted to the Office of Academic Planning.

Grant proposals, completed on the provided template, will need the College Dean or designee's endorsement by Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> 2016.

### **Some possible options for outcomes include but are not limited to**

#### **1. Streamlining or altering prerequisites**

#### **2. Streamlining or eliminating Concentrations or Emphases**

The Chancellor's Office is requiring all concentrations to share 50% or more common courses for all subprograms, which include concentrations, options, and emphases. (EO-1071)

#### **3. Reduction of the total units required for the major**

#### **4. Redesign of courses to meet SF Studies requirements**

Meet these requirements in major courses instead of additional courses

#### **5. Changes to the sequence of courses in the major**

#### **6. Redesign of service courses in collaboration with the department that either provides or uses the course**

# Student Success in the Majors Proposal Template

Due 10/28/16 to Division of Undergraduate Education and Academic Planning  
ADM 477

Program or Department name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Identify problem. What is it about the curriculum that may be hindering student success? For example, does the major require a high number of units? Does the required sequence of courses affect student progress to completion?
2. How has this problem been identified? What data and/or student and faculty feedback lead you to believe this is a problem? Have assessment processes/reports or an accrediting body helped identify barriers in students' path through the curriculum? Has the program's 4-year roadmap made some of these barriers more apparent?
3. How will you go about facilitating faculty engagement in this process? How will the work be organized and completed? Will there be a faculty retreat or subcommittee? Will a program curricular committee lead the process?
4. Once the changes have been implemented in 2017-2018, how will you know if they've been successful? Do you plan to see an increased number of graduates, more students retained in the major, and/or a reduction in mean time to degree?

Department Chair signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dean or designee signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact interim Associate Dean of Academic Planning Jane DeWitt ([dewitt@sfsu.edu](mailto:dewitt@sfsu.edu)) with any questions. Proposals should be submitted to the Division of Undergraduate Education and Academic Planning. Half of the funds will be dispersed upon receipt of the award and the remaining half will be distributed after the appropriate curricular change paperwork is submitted to the Office of Academic Planning.