

Collaborative Provision Policy

Owner: *Director of International Partnerships*

Approved by: *Collaborative Provision Committee
Academic Committee*

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COLLABORATIVE PROVISION POLICY

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Policy applies to all of Regent's collaborative provision partnerships, comprising learning opportunities leading to the award of Regent's academic credit or awards that are delivered through an arrangement with a partner organisation.
- 1.2 This policy does not apply to non-credit bearing continuing professional development, student exchanges, work-based or placement learning, consultancy or commercial activities.

2 Key Principles

- 2.1 The development of collaborative partnerships will reflect the strategic objectives set out in the Collaborative Provision and Partnerships Strategy.
- 2.2 Regent's is responsible for the quality and academic standards of all awards and credit granted in its name and must be able to satisfy itself that all courses meet external benchmarks and requirements for academic standards and quality (including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and Office for Students' conditions of registration).
- 2.3 All collaborative provision partnerships are subject to formal approval processes including assessment of risk and scrutiny of academic, legal and financial due diligence as appropriate. The specific requirements for approval will depend on the nature of the arrangement and will be proportionate to the relative level of risk and complexity and the volume of the provision involved.
- 2.4 All collaborative provision partnerships must have a formal written and legally binding partnership agreement.
- 2.5 Partner organisations are not permitted to engage in 'serial' arrangements, whereby the partner offers the approved provision or assigns powers delegated to it by Regent's through a separate arrangement.
- 2.6 All courses delivered through collaborative provision arrangements are subject to the same quality assurance processes as courses delivered wholly by Regent's including processes for approval, modification, monitoring, review and closure.

- 2.7 Regent's will monitor all collaborative provision arrangements on a continuous and periodic basis and, if it is determined that standards are at risk, Regent's reserves the right to suspend or terminate the collaborative provision arrangement subject to student safeguards.
- 2.8 All collaborative provision partnerships will go through a process of formal review at the expiry of the contracted period, including the revisiting of relevant due diligence and appraisal of the academic standards and quality and the student experience.

3 Types of Collaborative Provision

- 3.1 **Articulation agreements:** where students who have successfully achieved credit at a partner organisation are guaranteed entry to an advanced stage of a specified degree course delivered by Regent's.
- 3.2 **Dual Degree arrangements:** where Regent's works with one or more degree-awarding bodies to offer a course of study leading to separate and independent awards. Each degree-awarding body is responsible for its own award.
- 3.3 **Joint Degree arrangements:** where Regent's works with one or more degree-awarding bodies for the purposes of design, development, delivery and assessment of a course of study. Student successfully completing the course gain a single, co-signed award.
- 3.4 **Validation partnerships:** where Regent's determines that a course delivered by a partner organisation is of an appropriate standard and quality to lead to a Regent's award. Students are enrolled with the partner.
- 3.5 **Franchise arrangements:** where Regent's agrees to authorise a partner to deliver and assess an approved course leading to a Regent's award. Students are enrolled with Regent's.
- 3.6 **Partner supported delivery:** where Regent's works with a partner on the co-development and/or delivery of credit-bearing modules or courses which lead to an award by Regent's. This may involve utilising the partner's premises, staff, learning resources or other elements of infrastructure.

4 Criteria for Consideration of a Collaborative Provision Partnership

- 4.1 Collaborative provision partnerships will be considered only if they contribute to the achievement of the Regent's strategic objectives and will maintain and/or enhance Regent's reputation for excellence in learning and teaching.
- 4.2 Regent's will only enter into collaborative provision partnerships with organisations that can demonstrate the required learning environment, infrastructure and resource to deliver a high-quality student experience and successful student outcomes.
- 4.3 Regent's will normally consider collaborative provision partnerships only in disciplines in which it has subject expertise, although provision in other disciplines may be considered as long as appropriate subject expertise can be built into the partnership arrangements.
- 4.4 Regent's will normally consider collaborative provision partnerships only where arrangements are of sufficient scale and sustainability to justify the resource required to develop, approve and maintain the partnership. Partnerships may be considered where they can demonstrate sufficient other strategic and/or civic benefits to mitigate these considerations.

Policy version tracking

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1.0	10 th July 2012	Approved by the Senate Portfolio Development Committee		Published
1.3	August 2017	Updated to reflect organisational changes	Governance Advisor	Published
1.4	09 th July 2020	Updated to reflect transfer of responsibilities to Directorate	Governance Advisor	Published
1.5	07 th July 2021	Updated to reflect transfer from Directorate to the Collaborative Provision Committee.	Governance Advisor	Published
2.0	January 2024	Substantially updated to reflect current practice following review by the Director of International Partnerships and the Collaborative Provision Committee	Director of International Partnerships	Published