



**ACAD 29:
Program Quality Assurance Policy
Effective Date: Friday, April 17, 2026**

1.0 SCOPE

1.1 Authority

This policy is approved under the authority of the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the President and Chief Academic Officer and Administered by the Vice President Academic and Research (VPAR).

1.2 Application

The policy applies to all academic programs including certificate, diploma, undergraduate degrees, offered by SKG.

The policy applies to all stages of the program lifecycle including:

- program development
- program approval
- program delivery
- program review
- program renewal or suspension

2.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for ensuring the quality, relevance, and continuous improvement of academic programs offered by Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig (SKG).

The Program Quality Assurance framework ensures that programs:

- maintain high academic standards
- reflect Anishinaabe knowledge systems and pedagogies
- respond to community and labour market needs
- support student success and wellbeing

- align with institutional mission and strategic priorities

The policy supports transparency, accountability, and excellence in teaching and learning.

3.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Program quality assurance at SKG is guided by the following principles.

- **Academic Integrity** – Programs must meet appropriate academic standards and learning outcomes.
- **Indigenous Knowledge Integration** – Programs will incorporate Anishinaabe knowledge systems, land-based learning, and culturally grounded pedagogies where appropriate.
- **Community Relevance** – Programs will reflect the needs and priorities of Indigenous communities and regional labour markets.
- **Continuous Improvement** – Programs will undergo ongoing evaluation and improvement based on evidence and feedback.
- **Student Success** – Programs will support student learning, retention, and achievement.

4.0 COMPONENTS OF PROGRAM QUALITY ASSURANCE

The program Quality Assurance framework includes the following components.

4.1 Program Development and Approval

New academic programs must undergo a formal development and approval process that includes:

- alignment with institutional mission and strategic priorities
- identification of program learning outcomes
- curriculum design and course development
- labour market and community needs assessment
- resource and capacity planning
- external and community consultation

Programs must receive institutional approval prior to implementation.

4.2 Program Advisory Committees

Each academic program will be supported by a Program Advisory Committee (PAC).

PAC membership may include:

- community representatives
- industry representatives
- Indigenous knowledge holders
- alumni
- faculty

The PAC provides advice on:

- curriculum relevance
- emerging industry needs
- program improvement
- community engagement

4.3 Ongoing Program Monitoring

Programs will be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure quality and effectiveness.

Monitoring may include review of:

- student enrolment trends
- course evaluations
- student progression and completion rates
- graduate outcomes
- feedback from community partners and employers

4.4 Curriculum Review

Curriculum will be periodically reviewed to ensure alignment with:

- program learning outcomes
- current knowledge and professional standards
- Indigenous pedagogical approaches
- labour market needs

4.5 Program Review Cycle

All academic programs will undergo a comprehensive review at least every five years.

Program reviews typically include:

- evaluation of program outcomes
- curriculum analysis
- student feedback
- faculty and instructor input
- community and industry consultation

Program review findings will inform program renewal and improvement.

5.0 EVIDENCE FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

Program quality assurance may include the use of multiple forms of evidence including:

- student feedback and course evaluations
- graduate and alumni feedback
- employer or community partner feedback
- program advisory committee recommendations
- labour market data
- accreditation requirements where applicable

6.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Vice President Academic and Research

Responsible for:

- oversight of program quality assurance processes
- ensuring alignment with institutional policies
- reporting on academic quality

Academic Leadership and Faculty

Responsible for:

- program design and delivery

- monitoring program effectiveness
- participating in program review processes

Program Advisory Committees

Responsible for:

- providing external and community perspectives
- advising on program relevance and improvement

7.0 CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Findings from program reviews and monitoring processes will be used to:

- strengthen curriculum and course design
- improve student learning experiences
- enhance community and industry partnerships
- support institutional planning

8.0 DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

Quality assurance activities will be documented and maintained by the Office of the Vice President Academic and Research.

Documentation may include:

- program review reports
- curriculum revisions
- advisory committee recommendations
- improvement plans

9.0 ALIGNMENT WITH INSTITUTIONAL MISSION

The program quality assurance framework supports SKG's commitment to:

- Indigenous education excellence
- community-engaged learning
- culturally grounded teaching practices

- preparing graduates to contribute to community wellbeing

10.0 POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed **every three years** to ensure alignment with institutional priorities, quality assurance expectations, and evolving educational practices.

11.0 RESOURCE DOCUMENTS

SKG Institutional Quality Assurance Process (slide deck)

Academic Policies:

Academic Freedom Policy

Quality Assurance