

Executive Summary: What's program review about anyway?

If you are new to this process, welcome! And for those who have participated in the process before, thank you for your all your hard work.

Program Review is the voice of your program to the institution and larger community. It provides an opportunity to include all of the voices in your program: full and part-time faculty, classified professionals, and students. Program Reviews may differ in length and detail depending on program needs.

PROGRAM REVIEW PURPOSES

The Program Review process has three major purposes:

- **College Planning:** The first purpose is to compile information needed for college planning efforts. Administrators, planning committees, and budgeting or allocation departments need to know what programs are planning and what needs they have.
- **Reporting:** There are a number of required areas our college must report on, such as SLO assessments or student success metrics. This information could be collected in many ways, but the Program Review is a convenient catch-all place to collect this type of reporting.
- **Program Reflection:** Program Review provides a chance for programs to reflect on their own accomplishments, goals, and challenges, and to communicate those to their Dean and other college readers.

Our goal in the Program Review Committee is to develop an annual process that is meaningful to individual programs and also meets the planning and documentation needs of the college. We also aim to be transparent about the purposes and uses of Program Review.

You might ask: “How does Program Review help my program get what it needs?”

Program Reviews document a program's needs and challenges. For this reason, many resource request processes (such as for hiring or equipment) ask for information from Program Review. The Program Review can also inform your dean or supervisor of any unmet needs so they can direct you to institutional resources and processes or help you find creative ways to address challenges. Finally, your Program Review informs the LPC community about your program, allowing programs to support each other and develop new opportunities together.

We hope that this letter helps explain the purposes and benefits of the Program Review process. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Program Review Committee chair. We appreciate your participation in this process that makes LPC a better place for our students.

Sincerely,
The Program Review Committee