

University of Houston System Board of Regents

Academic, Research and Student Success Committee Meeting

May 21, 2026

Degree Program Consolidations and Closure Details

University of Houston

Degree Program Consolidations

Master of Science (MS) in Pharmaceutical Sciences

MS in Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy

MS in Pharmaceutics

Doctor of Philosophy (PHD) in Pharmaceutical Sciences

PHD in Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy

PHD in Pharmaceutics

Master of Laws (LLM)

LLM in Intellectual Property & Information Law

LLM in Health Law

LLM in Tax Law

LLM in International Law

LLM in Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Law

Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

The College of Pharmacy requests approval to close the MS in Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy and MS in Pharmaceutics. These closures are part of a planned consolidation that has been underway for several years, merging the legacy departmental graduate programs into the unified Pharmaceutical Sciences MS and PhD programs. The consolidation has been completed, and these closures formalize the administrative action to remove the legacy program from the inventory.

The Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy MS and Pharmaceutics MS programs have been effectively superseded by the consolidated Pharmaceutical Sciences MS program. There are no students currently enrolled in either program. All curriculum, faculty, and research activities associated with these discipline areas have been integrated into the Pharmaceutical Sciences MS program, which includes tracks and concentrations that encompass the subject matter. The programs will be discontinued in 2027.

Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences

The College of Pharmacy requests approval to close the PHD in Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy and PHD in Pharmaceutics. These closures are part of a planned consolidation that has been underway for several years, merging the legacy departmental graduate programs into the unified Pharmaceutical Sciences MS and PhD programs. The consolidation has been completed, and these closures formalize the administrative action to remove the legacy program from the inventory.

The Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy PHD and Pharmaceutics PHD programs have been effectively superseded by the consolidated Pharmaceutical Sciences PHD program. There are currently two students remaining in each program who are progressing toward degree completion under individualized plans of study. A teach-out plan is in place to ensure these students complete their degrees in a timely manner. All curriculum, faculty, and research activities associated with these discipline areas have been integrated into the Pharmaceutical Sciences PHD program, which includes tracks and concentrations that encompass the subject matter. The programs will be discontinued in 2027.

Master of Laws

The proposal is to consolidate the LLM in Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Law; LLM in Health Law; LLM in International Law; LLM in Tax Law; and LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Law; in separate concentrations under a new umbrella degree program, Master of Laws (with CIP code 22.0201). The programs will be discontinued in 2026.

The newly constituted Master of Laws degree program will not admit undergraduates. Its sole purpose is to serve as a housing mechanism for the consolidated LLM degree programs as concentrations, each of which will continue to require a prior JD or foreign law degree for admission. The concentrations will be designated on the diploma.

University of Houston

Degree Program Closure

Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies

The college requests the closure of the BA in Religious Studies, which is low enrolling and is not on pace to either meet or exceed the THECB minimum of 25 graduates over five years. This lower-than-expected enrollment trend is consistent with what has been found across the state for religious studies.

There are currently 15 students in the program (eight freshmen, four juniors, and three

seniors), around five of which appear to be either pursuing other degree programs in practice or are not progressing in the degree for different reasons. The last date students were admitted to the program was January 2026. The program will be discontinued in 2032. It is important to note that the religious studies minor will continue.

University of Houston System Board of Regents

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Certificate and Minor Closure Details

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Certificate and Minor Closures Details

Graduate Certificates

- College of Education
 - Instructional Coach

Minors

- College of Education
 - Addictions Counseling
 - Instructional Practices
- College of Human Sciences and Humanities
 - Africana Studies
 - Middle Eastern Studies
 - Public Service Leadership

The University of Houston-Clear Lake Office of the Provost has performed an audit of certificates and minors that have (a) been in operation for at least five years and (b) have zero enrollment and zero awards over the most recent five years. The closures have been recommended by the respective College Deans.

University of Houston-Downtown

Certificate and Minor Closures Details

Graduate Certificates

- College of Humanities and Social Sciences
 - Graduate Certificate in History
 - Composition Studies Graduate Certificate

Minors

- College of Sciences and Technology
 - Applied Physics
 - Bioinformatics
 - Environmental Sciences
 - Geology
 - Quantitative Methods in Research
- College of Humanities and Social Sciences
 - Critical Race Studies
 - Religious Studies

- College of Business
 - Security Management

University of Houston

Certificate and Minor Closures Details

Graduate Certificates

- College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
 - Global Energy, Development, and Sustainability
- College of Education
 - Master Technology Teacher
 - Reading Specialist
- Cullen College of Engineering
 - Advanced Subsea Engineering
 - Advanced Subsea Engineering (UH Extend)
 - Cognitive Science
 - Process Engineering & Modeling
 - Corrosion Control and Management
 - Corrosion Engineering
 - Global Climate, Energy, and Environment (UH Extend)
 - Process Safety Engineering (UH Extend)
- Hobby School of Public Affairs
 - Public Policy-Energy Policy
- College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
 - Interactive Game Development
 - Materials Science
 - Mathematical Statistics

Undergraduate Certificates

- Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership
 - Commercial Beverage Management

Minor

- Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts
 - Music
 - Theatre

- College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
 - French for the Business-Related Professions
 - German Culture and Professional Studies
 - Greek
 - Latin

- College of Education
 - Reading and Language Arts Education

- Cullen College of Engineering
 - Nano Engineering
 - Geomatics

- College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
 - Computer Science Systems

- College of Pharmacy
 - Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Sciences

As per University of Houston System Board of Regents Policies, Section III – Academic and Student Success, 21.14 Curriculum Review, certificates and minors have been added under the scope of low-producing programs.

In first steps to compliance with this new policy, the Office of the Provost has performed an audit of certificates and minors that have (a) been in operation for at least five years and (b) have zero enrollment and zero awards over the most recent five years.

All closures have been approved by the respective Colleges.