

Cal Poly Choice of Catalog Policy

Cal Poly issues a new catalog every one or two years, and the requirements for degree programs may change from one catalog to the next. Students have the right to choose the catalog they'll use, as described in Section 40401 of Title 5 of the *California Code of Regulations*:

“An undergraduate student remaining in attendance in regular sessions at any California State University campus, at any California community college, or any combination of California community colleges and campuses of the California State University, may for purposes of meeting graduation requirements, elect to meet the requirements in effect at the campus from which the student will graduate either:

- (1) at the time the student began such attendance, or
- (2) at the time of entrance to the campus, or
- (3) at the time of graduation, or
- (4) as allowed by campus policy.

“Campus authorities may authorize or require substitutions for discontinued courses. A campus may require a student changing his or her major or any minor field of study to complete the major or minor requirements in effect at the time of the change.

“For purposes of this section, "attendance" means attendance in at least one semester or two quarters each university year. Absence due to an approved educational leave or for attendance at another accredited institution of higher learning shall not be considered an interruption in attendance, if the absence does not exceed two years.”

Choice of Catalog Older than 10 years for Returning Students

Returning students may request to complete their degrees on a catalog older than 10 years if the only remaining degree requirements at the time they left Cal Poly do not exceed 16 units. The remaining degree requirements may include senior project, Graduation Writing Requirement, and/or United States Cultural Pluralism requirement. The decision to approve or disapprove a student's request is based on: (1) her/his willingness to commit to completing outstanding degree requirements within a specified timeframe, and (2) her/his ability to demonstrate, with written documentation, reasonable currency of knowledge and skills in her/his degree field to the satisfaction of the faculty in the applicable major, as certified by the department chair. Both the college dean and the Vice Provost for Academic Programs must give approval.