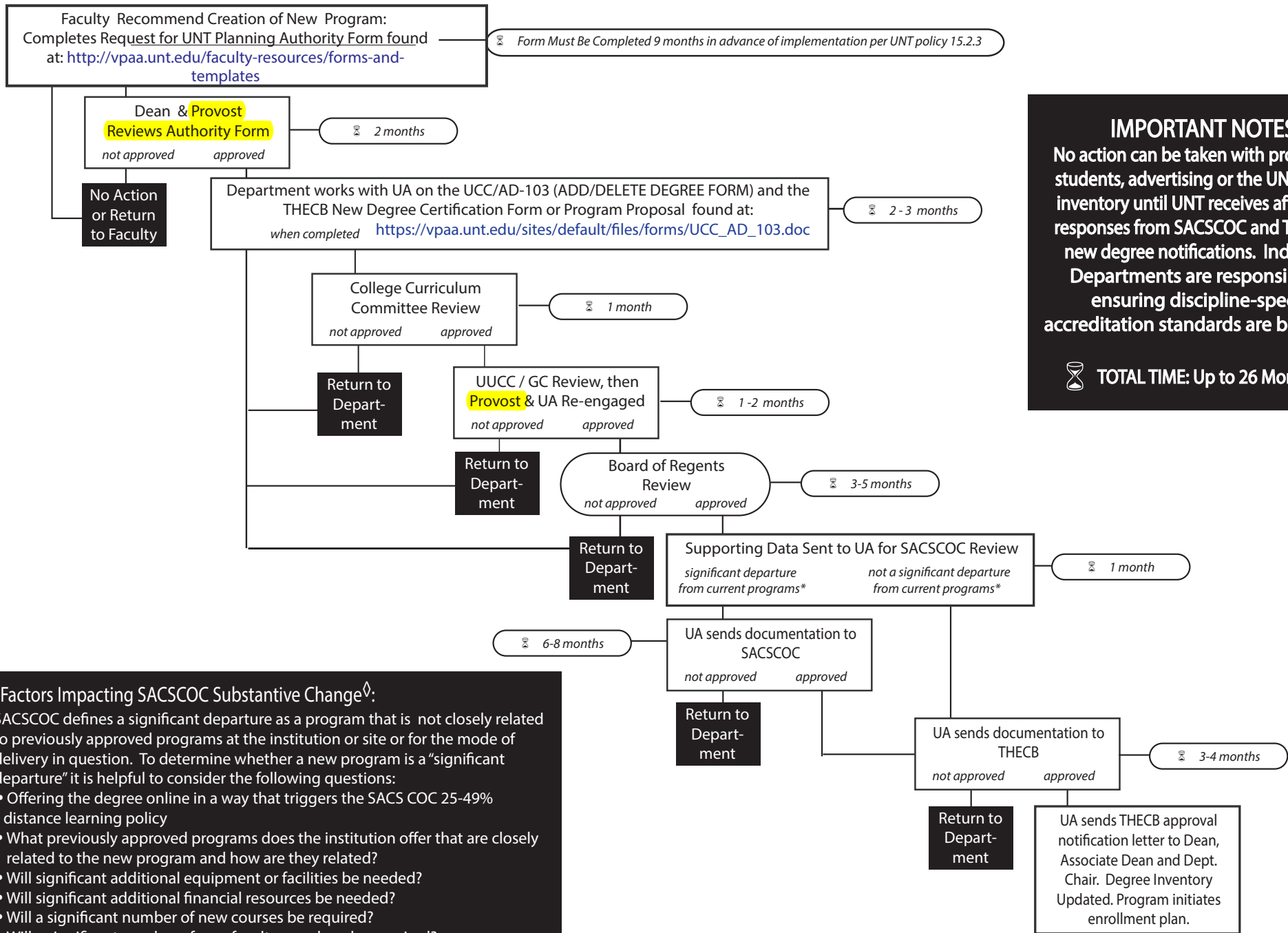


# Creating New Degree Programs at UNT: Required Steps and Timing Implications



**IMPORTANT NOTES:**  
 No action can be taken with prospective students, advertising or the UNT degree inventory until UNT receives affirmative responses from SACSCOC and THECB on new degree notifications. Individual Departments are responsible for ensuring discipline-specific accreditation standards are being met.

**TOTAL TIME: Up to 26 Months**

**\*Factors Impacting SACSCOC Substantive Change:**  
 SACSCOC defines a significant departure as a program that is not closely related to previously approved programs at the institution or site or for the mode of delivery in question. To determine whether a new program is a "significant departure" it is helpful to consider the following questions:

- Offering the degree online in a way that triggers the SACS COC 25-49% distance learning policy
- What previously approved programs does the institution offer that are closely related to the new program and how are they related?
- Will significant additional equipment or facilities be needed?
- Will significant additional financial resources be needed?
- Will a significant number of new courses be required?
- Will a significant number of new faculty members be required?
- Will significant additional library/learning resources be needed?
- Will competency-based credits be awarded?

*This is not an exhaustive list. Please contact University Accreditation for any matters related to Substantive Change.*