



Office of the Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

September 23, 2025

Dr. Kevin Sightler, Director of Substantive Change
Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Sightler:

This letter serves as a notification to the Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges to terminate the Master of Mathematics program.

M.M., Mathematics

- On February 18, 2025, the Graduate Advisory Council of the Department of Mathematics unanimously approved the closure of the Master of Mathematics program. The program has not had any students enrolled for several years.
- Closure of the program was communicated to faculty, staff and students after the Graduate Council voted unanimously to terminate the program.
- There will be no direct impact to faculty and staff because of this closure as there is sufficient work and responsibilities for faculty and staff after closing this program.
- To date, we are not aware of any students in the M.M. program whose enrollment status has lapsed. The most recent M.M. graduate completed their degree in May 2020. Consequently, we have had no contact with any potential “lapsed students” since at least 2020, and possibly even earlier.
- It is uncertain whether and how prospective students might learn of the former M.M. program once it is removed from the Bulletin, website, and other official materials. Should any inquiries regarding the M.M. program arise, they will be directed to the Director of Graduate Studies, who will promptly inform them of the program’s closure.
- The Director of Graduate Studies may also recommend alternative pathways, such as the M.S. or Ph.D., as suitable options in lieu of the discontinued program.
- Should a “lapsed student” emerge in the future, we will notify them promptly regarding the program’s closure. We will then offer appropriate assistance tailored to their individual circumstances to help achieve a fair and satisfactory outcome.
- Per Graduate School guidelines, if a student’s last attended course occurred more than eight years ago, all their prior coursework must be revalidated. Given the significant lapse of time, we will collaborate with the student to identify which courses may be revalidated consistent with the requirements of alternative pathways, such as the M.S. program. If necessary, the student may be required to complete one or two additional courses to fulfill the degree requirements.



The University of South Carolina Columbia will terminate the program effective Fall 2025.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this notification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Anne Fitzpatrick".

Provost Mary Anne Fitzpatrick
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
USC Educational Foundation Distinguished Professor

MFP/TH

Trena Houp, Executive Director of Academic Program Planning and Decision Support
cc: Donald Miles, Executive Director of Institutional Research, Assessment and Analytics