

DISTANCE EDUCATION & CONSORTIUM AGREEMENTS

Foundations and Frameworks



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January 2025

Goals and Aims

- Significant Growth in DE since 2020
- Approved Prior to 2020
- Approved After 2020 in reaction to COVID-19
- What Have We Found?
- Consistency of Expectations post Pandemic

Distance Education Defined

- Distance education, as defined by the Commission, is:
 - A formal process in which instruction within a program or course of study occurs when the student and instructor are not in the same location at the same time.
- Distance education:
 - Employs telecommunication or other electronic technologies (e.g., a learning management system) for the delivery of instruction and may be synchronous or asynchronous in nature.
- Distance education teaching and learning activities may be used for a complete program or for a portion of a program employing hybrid or blended distance education.

Distance Education Foundations

- Monitor Online Academic Engagement
- Regular and Substantive Interaction:
 - Driven by **trained** instructors – timely and meaningful
 - Between students and faculty
 - Among students
- Asynchronous vs. Synchronous
- Credit Hour vs. Clock Hour
 - Clock Hour – track attendance to support completed hours
- Hybrid vs. 100% Online

Distance Education Framework

- Qualified Management & Administration
- Institutional Assessment & Improvement Activities
- Protection of Student Information
- Student Services
- Program Advisory Committee
 - Distance education member qualifications
 - Meaningful review of content & platform
- Student Achievement

Distance Education – Admissions

Admissions Requirements and Enrollments:

- Assess student's readiness for online learning: Have an assessment tool
 - Plan for minimum passing? Not passing?
- DE Orientation is encouraged

Assessment for Online Readiness PRIOR TO ADMISSION:

- Technical
 - Technical skills and Access to Technology
 - Hardware and Internet Access
- Cognitive
 - An assessment of likeliness to succeed in an online environment, e.g.,
 - Learning style,
 - Time management

Consortium Partnership Agreements

- Home Institution:
 - Retains responsibility
 - Expected and acceptable outcomes
 - Documentation of assessment
- Host Institution:
 - Authorized in home institution state(s)
 - Ensure at least 25% completed at Home Institution
 - Administers assessment
- Distance Education Requirements for both Home and Host Institution

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