

**Council on Postsecondary Education  
February 11, 2010**

## **Licensure and Accreditation Update**

At its September 10, 2009, meeting, the Council posed two questions which CPE staff has researched for informational purposes.

1. Should CPE assume authority for licensing all for-profit institutions?
2. Should all institutions licensed in Kentucky be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or under a process that mirrors SACS accreditation?

### **1. Should CPE assume authority for licensing all for-profit institutions?**

What is CPE's current licensing authority?

KRS 164.945 - .947 and 13 KAR 1:020 vest the authority to license with the president of CPE. This licensure authority covers:

- All private, for-profit colleges offering a bachelor's degree or above.
- All private, nonprofit colleges.
- Religious colleges and out-of-state private and public colleges which operate in Kentucky.

What is the Kentucky State Board for Proprietary Education's current licensing authority?

If an institution is for-profit and only offering below a bachelor's degree, then the institution is licensed by the Kentucky State Board for Proprietary Education ("Proprietary Board") per KRS Chapter 165A and Kentucky Administrative Regulations Title 201 Chapter 40.

What minimum standards does the Proprietary Board require of a school for licensure?

The Proprietary Board has requirements and standards for licensure similar to CPE.

For example, the proprietary school shall:

- Have adequate space, equipment, instructional materials, and instructor personnel, and the educational and experience qualifications of directors, administrators, supervisors, and instructors shall be satisfactory in terms of the quality of instruction.
- Be maintained and operated in compliance with all local, city, and county ordinances and state law, including rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, relative to the safety and health of all persons upon the premises.
- Maintain and make available for inspection adequate records including current personnel forms, teacher evaluations, inventory of equipment and instructional material, and faculty transcripts.

- Maintain and make available for inspection separate files on each student, and shall include copies of the student's application for admission, enrollment agreement, academic record, attendance record, financial payment record, and placement record.
- Be financially sound and reasonably capable of fulfilling commitments to students for training and preparation.
- Have available a financial statement certified by an independent accountant, and a profit-loss statement certified by the owner as being true and current.
- Not utilize advertising of any type which is untrue, deceptive, or misleading and shall be able to document all advertised claims.
- Adhere to a tuition refund schedule as presented in published form prior to enrollment.

Also, the granting of an associate of arts degree or associate of science degree shall be limited to a school accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.<sup>1</sup> In addition, a copy of the course outline and a schedule of all tuition and fees, program completion rates, and program placement rates of the school's graduates for the preceding twelve (12) months shall be furnished each student applicant prior to enrollment. Federal guidelines on placement and graduation rates shall be used.

#### How much state financial aid is going to students at Proprietary Board schools?

Students at three of the 127 schools currently licensed by the Proprietary Board (less than 2 percent) received state financial aid, namely the College Access Program Grant,<sup>2</sup> for the 2007-08 academic year:

1. Spencerian College – 166 students - \$233,598
2. Galen College of Nursing – 60 students - \$75,471
3. Southwestern College – 40 students - \$40,092

For the three schools, state financial aid totaled \$349,161 to 266 total students, which is .0058 percent (less than 1 percent) of the total \$59,921,965 CAP awarded to 39,728 total students in 2007-08.

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<sup>1</sup> 201 KAR 40:020. Section 2. (1).

<sup>2</sup> Per KHEAA Student Financial Aid Data Report May 2009: The College Access Program (CAP) Grant helps Kentucky's financially needy undergraduate students attend Kentucky public and private colleges and universities, proprietary schools, and community and technical colleges. CAP Grants are awarded to Kentucky residents enrolled for at least six semester hours (half-time) in academic programs of at least two years duration. To apply, students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). CAP eligibility is determined by the total expected family contribution (EFC), calculated from information on the FAFSA according to the federally mandated formula. Grants are offered to eligible students until all allocated funds are expended.

## **2. Should all institutions licensed in Kentucky be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or under a process that mirrors SACS accreditation?**

### What is the purpose of licensure and accreditation?

While licensure and accreditation are related and may have similar criteria, each serves different purposes.

Pursuant to state law, CPE gives a college the authority to grant degrees, gives recognition and approval to bona fide colleges in the state, and provides consumer protection to citizens of the Commonwealth against those agencies and institutions which resort to fraudulent practices, unfair competition, or substandard educational programs.

In contrast, a private non-governmental accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education<sup>3</sup> does not operate under the jurisdiction of Kentucky's law. Accrediting agencies like the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)<sup>4</sup> require that an institution have degree-granting authority from the appropriate government agency or agencies, like CPE, in order to be accredited.

Accreditation is voluntary membership for institutions of higher education to an accrediting agency. Primarily, a college seeks accreditation to be eligible for participation in federal financial aid. To be accredited, a college must comply with the requirements of the accrediting agency. If an agency falls out of compliance with accrediting agency criteria, then it may not be reaffirmed for accreditation, but may still be in operation.

In contrast, licensure by CPE is required by state law in order for an institution to operate in Kentucky. Even if a college is accredited and has degree-granting authority from another state, if the college fails to meet CPE's requirements, then the college will not be licensed by CPE and shall not operate in Kentucky. If a college operates in Kentucky fraudulently or illegally without a license, then CPE has statutory authority to take action against the college.

### How do licensure and accreditation criteria compare?

In many instances, state regulators like CPE and accrediting agencies may look at some of the same areas and may have similar requirements that colleges must meet.

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<sup>3</sup> To be recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, an agency must demonstrate that it has standards for accreditation and preaccreditation, if offered, that are sufficiently rigorous to ensure that the agency is a reliable authority regarding the quality of the education or training provided by the institutions or programs it accredits. 34 CFR 602.16.

<sup>4</sup> SACS is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Latin America that award associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degrees.

For example, CPE's standards for licensure are similar to accreditation criteria, such as that of SACS, as both involve the review of:

1. Change in governance or ownership of the institution
2. Change in name of college
3. Change in location of college
4. Program length - minimum number of credit hours in degree programs
5. Financial stability and resources
6. Qualifications of administrators (officers, directors, owners)
7. Qualifications of faculty and staff
8. Sufficient number of full-time faculty
9. Facilities
10. Equipment
11. Library collection, staff, facilities, resources
12. Curriculum with systematic program of revision
13. General education
14. Program supervision and instructional support
15. Truth in advertising
16. Recruitment and enrollment procedures
17. Student affairs and support services
18. College policies

In addition, CPE has recently issued an RFP for site visit consultants who are postsecondary education experts to assist with the review of institutions.

There also are four areas where CPE currently has certain oversight that is more expansive as compared to that of accrediting agencies.

1) Coverage of unearned tuition

Unearned tuition is the excess of cumulative collections of tuition and other instructional charges in accordance with the college's refund policy.

To be licensed by CPE, a college must guarantee the refund of any unearned tuition held by the college in one of the following ways:

- (a) Maintain a surety bond which shall be executed by a surety company qualified and authorized to do business in Kentucky and shall be made payable to CPE.
- (b) Maintain an unrestricted endowment.
- (c) Provide a letter of credit.

In addition, the college shall provide to CPE a statement by an independent certified public accountant confirming the coverage.

## 2) New course and program offerings

If a licensed college wants to offer a new certificate, diploma, degree program, major, or other concentration or specialty, or a new course for college credit if the college is offering less than a full program, then the college is required to submit a supplementary application to CPE for review and prior approval.

However, accrediting agencies like SACS only require prior approval for a college to offer additional courses or programs that: (1) represent a significant departure, either in content or method of delivery, from those that were offered when the institution was last evaluated; or (2) are at a degree or credential level above that which is included in the institution's current accreditation or reaffirmation.<sup>5</sup> This is considered a substantive change under federal regulation.

## 3) New instructional sites

If a licensed in-state college wants to establish an instructional site away from its main campus for the purpose of offering courses for college credit which comprise at least 25 percent of the course requirements for a degree program, then it is required to submit a supplementary application to CPE to seek review and prior approval. If an out-of-state college wants to establish more than one instructional site in Kentucky, then it is required to submit an application for initial licensure for each site to CPE for review and approval for licensure of each site separately.

However, accrediting agencies like SACS only require prior approval for a college to establish an additional location geographically apart from the main campus at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. Again, this is considered a substantive change under federal regulation.

## 4) Consumer complaints

If a consumer has a complaint or grievance involving misrepresentation against a licensed college, then the consumer may file a written complaint with CPE. The president of CPE reviews the complaint and may intervene to bring the matter to a satisfactory conclusion through facilitation.

However, accrediting agencies like SACS have complaint procedures "for the purpose of addressing any significant noncompliance with the Commission's standards, policies, or procedures," and "the procedures are not intended to be used to involve the Commission in disputes between individuals and member institutions."<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/Substantive%20change%20policy.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/complaintpolicy.pdf>

## What is the relationship between licensure and accreditation, and transfer of credit and employment of graduates?

Neither licensure nor accreditation guarantees transfer of credit or employment of graduates. Per the U.S. Department of Education: "Accreditation does not provide automatic acceptance by an institution of credit earned at another institution, nor does it give assurance of acceptance of graduates by employers. Acceptance of students or graduates is always the prerogative of the receiving institution or employer. For these reasons, besides ascertaining the accredited status of a school or program, students should take additional measures to determine, prior to enrollment, whether or not their educational goals will be met through attendance at a particular institution. These measures should include inquiries to institutions to which transfer might be desired or to prospective employers."<sup>7</sup>

## What accrediting agencies does the U.S. Department of Education recognize?

There are 18 institutional accrediting agencies and 43 specialized accrediting agencies, all recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (see attachment).

Some institutional accrediting agencies that accredit colleges licensed by CPE include SACS, the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools,<sup>8</sup> and the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.<sup>9</sup>

Some specialized accrediting agencies include the American Bar Association, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

## **Conclusion**

The above provides information for the Council in response to the two questions it posed. CPE has the authority to accomplish significant review of institutions and programs it licenses using the standards for licensure that exist in the licensing regulation. State regulatory agencies such as CPE, accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, and other state and federal agencies that approve programs and institutions all provide checks and balances to help ensure quality postsecondary education and services are provided to students.

Staff preparation by Sarah Levy

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.ed.gov/print/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation.html>

<sup>8</sup> The regional body for the accreditation of institutions in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and other locations abroad.

<sup>9</sup> The regional body for the accreditation of institutions in Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

## THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[HTTP://WWW.ED.GOV/PRINT/ADMINS/FINAID/ACCRED/ACCREDITATION.HTML](http://www.ed.gov/print/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation.html)

### NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES

The regional and national accrediting agencies linked to below are recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as reliable authorities concerning the quality of education or training offered by the institutions of higher education or higher education programs they accredit. The dates specified for each entry are the date of initial listing as a nationally recognized agency, the date of the Secretary's most recent grant of renewed recognition, and the date of the agency's next scheduled review for renewal of recognition by the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity. Unless otherwise noted in a Title IV note after the agency's name, accreditation by an agency included on the lists linked to below may be used by an institution accredited by the agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.

- [Regional and National Institutional Accrediting Agencies](#)
- [Specialized Accrediting Agencies](#)
  - [Arts and Humanities](#)
  - [Education Training](#)
  - [Legal](#)
  - [Community and Social Services](#)
  - [Personal Care and Services](#)
  - [Healthcare](#)
- [Accrediting Agencies Recognized for Their Preaccreditation Categories](#)
- [Accrediting Agencies Recognized for Title IV Purposes](#)

### REGIONAL AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITING AGENCIES

The dates specified for each entry are the date of initial listing as a recognized agency, the date of the Secretary's most recent grant of renewed recognition, and the date of the agency's next scheduled review for renewal of recognition by the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

Note: The U.S. Department of Education does not have the authority to accredit private or public elementary or secondary schools, and the Department does not recognize accrediting bodies for the accreditation of private or public elementary and secondary schools. However, the U.S. Department of Education does recognize accrediting bodies for the accreditation of institutions of higher (postsecondary) education. If an accrediting body which is recognized by the Department for higher education also accredits elementary and secondary schools, the Department's recognition applies only to the agency's accreditation of postsecondary institutions.

#### **Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools**

1969/2005/F2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions in the United States offering predominantly allied health education programs and the programmatic accreditation of medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology programs, leading to a certificate, diploma, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, or Academic Associate degree, including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding allied health education institutions and institutions that offer predominantly allied health programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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Web address: [www.abhes.org](http://www.abhes.org)

### **Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges**

1967/2005/F2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of private, postsecondary, nondegree-granting institutions and degree-granting institutions in the United States, including those granting associate, baccalaureate and master's degrees, that are predominantly organized to educate students for occupational, trade and technical careers, and including institutions that offer programs via distance education.

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Web address: [www.accsc.org](http://www.accsc.org)

### **Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training**

1978/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of institutions of higher education that offer continuing education and vocational programs that confer certificates or occupational associate degrees, including those programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only those institutions classified by this agency as "vocational" may use accreditation by the agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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Web address: [www.accet.org](http://www.accet.org)

### **Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools**

1956/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of private postsecondary institutions offering certificates or diplomas, and postsecondary institutions offering associate, bachelor's, or master's degrees in programs designed to educate students for professional, technical, or occupational careers, including those that offer those programs via distance education.

Albert C. Gray  
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer  
750 First Street, NE, Suite 980  
Washington, DC 20002-4242  
Tel. (202) 336-6780, Fax (202) 842-2593  
E-mail address: [agray@acics.org](mailto:agray@acics.org)  
Web address: [www.acics.org](http://www.acics.org)

### **Council on Occupational Education**

1969/2007/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy Status") throughout the United States of postsecondary occupational education institutions offering non-degree and applied associate degree programs in specific career and technical education fields, including institutions that offer programs via distance education.

Gary Puckett, Executive Director  
41 Perimeter Center East, NE, Suite 640  
Atlanta, Georgia 30346  
Tel. (770) 396-3898, (800) 917-2081, Fax (770) 396-3790  
E-mail address: [puckettg@council.org](mailto:puckettg@council.org)  
Web address: [www.council.org](http://www.council.org)

### **Distance Education and Training Council, Accrediting Commission**

1959/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer degree programs primarily by the distance education method up to and including the professional doctoral degree, and are specifically certified by the agency as accredited for Title IV purposes; and for the accreditation of postsecondary institutions in the United States not participating in Title IV that offer programs primarily by the distance education method up through the professional doctoral degrees.

**Title IV Note:** *Only accredited institutions that are certified by the agency as accredited for Title IV purposes may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Michael P. Lambert, Executive Director  
1601 18th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
Tel. (202) 234-5100, Fax (202) 332-1386  
E-mail address: [Detc@detc.org](mailto:Detc@detc.org)  
Web address: [www.detc.org](http://www.detc.org)

### **Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education**

1952/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy status") of institutions of higher education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, including distance education programs offered at those institutions.

Elizabeth H. Sibolski, Acting President  
3624 Market Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104  
Tel. (267) 284-5000, Fax (215) 662-5950  
E-mail address: [info@msche.org](mailto:info@msche.org)  
Web address: [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org)

### **Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools**

2004/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of institutions with postsecondary, non-degree granting career and technology programs in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands including those that offer all or part of their educational programs via distance education modalities.

**Title IV Note:** *Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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3624 Market Street, 2nd Floor Annex  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-2680  
Tel. (215) 662-5603, Fax (215) 662-0957  
E-mail address: [kkastle@css-msa.org](mailto:kkastle@css-msa.org)  
Web address: [www.css-msa.org](http://www.css-msa.org)

### **New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidacy status") of institutions of higher education in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont that award associate's, bachelor's, master's, and/or doctoral degrees, including the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions. This recognition extends to the Board of Trustees of the Association jointly with the Commission for decisions involving pre-accreditation, initial accreditation, and adverse actions.

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**New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Technical and Career Institutions**

1952/2006/F2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate status") of secondary institutions with vocational-technical programs at the 13th and 14th grade level, postsecondary institutions, and institutions of higher education that provide primarily vocational/technical education at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate degree levels in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. This recognition extends to the Board of Trustees of the Association jointly with the Commission for decisions involving preaccreditation, initial accreditation, and adverse actions.

**Title IV Note:** *Any vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education and that wish to use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs must be accredited by the agency as offering education through the 13th or 14th grade level.*

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**New York State Board of Regents, and the Commissioner of Education**

1952/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of those degree-granting institutions of higher education in New York, including distance education offered by those institutions, that designate the agency as their sole or primary nationally recognized accrediting agency for purposes of establishing eligibility to participate in HEA programs.

David M. Steiner, Commissioner of Education  
State Education Department  
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**North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of degree-granting institutions of higher education in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, including tribal institutions, and the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions. This recognition extends to the Institutional Actions Committee jointly with the Board of Trustees of the Commission for decisions on cases for continued accreditation or reaffirmation and continued candidacy. This recognition also extends to the Review Committee of the Accreditation Review Council, jointly with the Board of Trustees of the Commission, for decisions on cases for continued accreditation or candidacy and for initial candidacy or initial accreditation when there is a consensus decision by the Review Committee.

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Web address: [www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org)

**North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Board of Trustees**

1974/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy status") of schools offering non-degree, postsecondary education in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and in the Navajo Nation.

**Title IV Note:** *Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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E-mail address: [nca@ncacasi.org](mailto:nca@ncacasi.org)  
Web address: [www.ncacasi.org](http://www.ncacasi.org)

**Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidacy status") of postsecondary degree-granting educational institutions in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, including the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions.

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**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges**

1952/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of degree-granting institutions of higher education in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia, including distance education programs offered at those institutions.

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Tel. (404) 679-4512, Fax (404) 679-4528  
E-mail address: [bwheelan@sacscoc.org](mailto:bwheelan@sacscoc.org)  
Web address: [www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)

**Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission**

1991/2005/F2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate" status) of postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer certificates, diplomas, and associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees, including institutions that offer distance education.

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**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of two-year, associate degree-granting institutions located in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, including the accreditation of such programs offered via distance education at these colleges.

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**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools**

1974/2006/F2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of adult and postsecondary schools that offer programs below the degree level in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

**Title IV Note:** *Only adult and postsecondary schools accredited by this agency that offer postsecondary programs below the degree level may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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Web address: [www.wascweb.org](http://www.wascweb.org)

**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities**

1952/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of senior colleges and universities in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, including distance education programs offered at those institutions.

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Web address: [www.wascweb.org](http://www.wascweb.org)

**SPECIALIZED ACCREDITING AGENCIES**

The dates specified for each entry are the date of initial listing as a recognized agency, the date of the Secretary's most recent grant of renewed recognition, and the date of the agency's next scheduled review for renewal of recognition by the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity. (Note: S = Spring meeting and F = Fall meeting)

## ARTS AND HUMANITIES

### **American Academy for Liberal Education**

1995/2007/F2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy for Accreditation") of institutions of higher education and programs within institutions of higher education throughout the United States that offer liberal arts degree(s) at the baccalaureate level or a documented equivalency.

**Title IV Note:** *Only institutions of higher education accredited by this agency may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Jeff A. Martineau, President  
1050 17th Street, N.W., Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel (202) 452-8611, Fax (202) 452-8620  
E-mail address: [jmartineau@aale.org](mailto:jmartineau@aale.org)  
Web address: [www.aale.org](http://www.aale.org)

### **National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation**

1966/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: for the accreditation throughout the United States of freestanding institutions and units offering art/design and art/design-related programs (both degree- and non-degree-granting), including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of art and design may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Samuel Hope, Executive Director  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21  
Reston, Virginia 20190  
Tel. (703) 437-0700, Fax (703) 437-6312  
E-mail address: [info@arts-accredit.org](mailto:info@arts-accredit.org)  
Web address: [www.arts-accredit.org](http://www.arts-accredit.org)

### **National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation**

1983/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: for the accreditation throughout the United States of freestanding institutions and units offering dance and dance-related programs (both degree- and non-degree-granting), including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of dance may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Samuel Hope, Executive Director  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21  
Reston, Virginia 20190  
Tel. (703) 437-0700, Fax (703) 437-6312  
E-mail address: [info@arts-accredit.org](mailto:info@arts-accredit.org)  
Web address: [www.arts-accredit.org](http://www.arts-accredit.org)

### **National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation,**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of freestanding institutions and units offering music and music-related programs (both degree- and non-degree-granting), including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of music may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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Reston, Virginia 20190  
Tel. (703) 437-0700, Fax (703) 437-6312  
E-mail address: [info@arts-accredit.org](mailto:info@arts-accredit.org)  
Web address: [www.arts-accredit.org](http://www.arts-accredit.org)

**National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation**

1982/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of freestanding institutions and units offering theatre and theatre-related programs (both degree- and non-degree-granting), including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of theatre may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Samuel Hope, Executive Director  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive. Suite 21  
Reston, Virginia 20190  
Tel. (703) 437-0700, Fax (703) 437-6312  
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Web address: [www.arts-accredit.org](http://www.arts-accredit.org)

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**EDUCATION TRAINING**

**Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation**

1995/2003/S2008

Scope of recognition: The accreditation of Montessori teacher education institutions and programs, throughout the United States, including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding Montessori teacher education schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. Further, that accreditation must have been granted in conjunction with the accrediting activities of the review committees listed above.*

Gretchen Warner, Executive Director  
Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education  
524 Main Street, Suite 202  
Racine, Wisconsin 53403  
Tel. (262) 898-1846, Fax (262) 898-1849  
E-mail address: [warner@macte.org](mailto:warner@macte.org)  
Web address: [www.MACTE.org](http://www.MACTE.org)

**National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education**

1952/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of professional education units providing baccalaureate and graduate degree programs for the preparation of teachers and other professional personnel for elementary and secondary schools, including programs offering distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

James G. Cibulka, President  
2010 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-1023  
Tel. (202) 466-7496, Fax (202) 296-6620  
E-mail address: [ncate@ncate.org](mailto:ncate@ncate.org)  
Web address: [ncate.org](http://ncate.org)

### **Teacher Education Accreditation Council, Accreditation Committee**

2003/2005/S2010

Scope of recognition: for the accreditation and pre-accreditation throughout the United States of professional teacher education programs in institutions offering baccalaureate and graduate degrees for the preparation of K-12 teachers.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Frank B. Murray, President  
One Dupont Circle, Suite 320  
Washington, DC 20036-0110  
Tel. (202) 466-7236, Fax (202) 466-7238  
E-mail address: [frank@teac.org](mailto:frank@teac.org)  
Web address: [www.teac.org](http://www.teac.org)

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### **LEGAL**

#### **American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar**

1952/2007/F2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of programs in legal education that lead to the first professional degree in law, as well as freestanding law schools offering such programs. This recognition also extends to the Accreditation Committee of the Section of Legal Education (Accreditation Committee) for decisions involving continued accreditation (referred to by the agency as "approval") of law schools.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding law schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Hulett H. Askew  
Consultant on Legal Education, ABA  
321 North Clark Street, 21st Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60610-4714  
Tel. (312) 988-6746, Fax (312) 988-5681  
E-mail address: [askewh@staff.abanet.org](mailto:askewh@staff.abanet.org)  
Web address: [www.abanet.org/legaled/](http://www.abanet.org/legaled/)

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### **COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

#### **American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education**

1978/2006/F2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy") throughout the United States of clinical training programs in marriage and family therapy at the master's, doctoral, and postgraduate levels.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Victoria Matthews  
Director of Education Affairs  
112 South Alfred Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3061  
Tel. (703) 253-0459, Fax (703) 253-0508  
E-mail address: [vmatthews@aamft.org](mailto:vmatthews@aamft.org)  
Web address: [www.aamft.org](http://www.aamft.org)

**Association for Biblical Higher Education, Commission on Accreditation**

1952/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of Bible colleges and institutes in the United States offering undergraduate programs through both campus-based instruction and distance education.

Ralph E. Enlow, Jr, Executive Director  
5575 S. Semoran Boulevard, Suite 26  
Orlando, Florida 32822-1781  
Tel. (407) 207-0808, Fax (407) 207-0840  
E-mail address: [renlow@abhe.org](mailto:renlow@abhe.org)  
Web address: [abhe.gospelcom.net](http://abhe.gospelcom.net)

**Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission**

1969/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of both clinical pastoral education (CPE) centers and CPE and Supervisory CPE programs located within the United States and territories.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Teresa E. Snorton, Executive Director  
1549 Claremont Road, Suite 103  
Decatur, Georgia 30033-4611  
Tel. (404) 320-1472 fax (404) 320-0849  
E-mail address: [acpe@acpe.edu](mailto:acpe@acpe.edu)  
Web address: [www.acpe.edu](http://www.acpe.edu)

**Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools, Accreditation Commission**

1974/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Correspondent" and "Candidate") within the United States of advanced rabbinical and Talmudic schools.

Bernard Fryshman, Executive Vice-President  
11 Broadway, Suite 405  
New York, New York 10004  
Tel. (212)363-1991, Fax (212) 533-5335  
E-mail address: [BFryshma@nyit.edu](mailto:BFryshma@nyit.edu)

**Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools**

1952/2004/S2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accredited Membership") of theological schools and seminaries, as well as schools or programs that are parts of colleges or universities, in the United States, offering post baccalaureate degrees in professional and academic theological education, including delivery via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding institutions, colleges, or seminaries of theology may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Daniel O. Aleshire, Executive Director  
10 Summit Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15275-1103  
Tel. (412) 788-6505, Fax (412) 788-6510  
E-mail address: [ats@ats.edu](mailto:ats@ats.edu)  
Web address: [www.ats.edu](http://www.ats.edu)

**Commission on English Language Program Accreditation**

2003/2005/S2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree-granting English language programs and institutions in the United States.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Teresa D. O'Donnell, Executive Director  
401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 402  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Tel. (703) 519-2070, Fax (703)683-8099  
E-mail address: [todonnell@cea-accredit.org](mailto:todonnell@cea-accredit.org)  
Web address: [www.cea-accredit.org](http://www.cea-accredit.org)

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## PERSONAL CARE AND SERVICES

### **American Board of Funeral Service Education, Committee on Accreditation**

1972/2002/S2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of institutions and programs within the United States awarding diplomas, associate degrees and bachelor's degrees in funeral service or mortuary science, including the accreditation of distance learning courses and programs offered by these programs and institutions.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of funeral service or mortuary science may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Michael Smith, Executive Director  
3414 Ashland Avenue, Suite G  
St. Joseph, Missouri 64506  
Tel. (816) 233-3747, Fax (816) 233-3793  
E-mail address: [exdir@abfse.org](mailto:exdir@abfse.org)  
Web address: [www.abfse.org](http://www.abfse.org)

### **Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation**

2002/2004/S2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of institutions in the United States, that award postsecondary certificates, postsecondary diplomas, and academic Associate degrees, in the practice of massage therapy and bodywork.

Kate Ivane Henriouille  
Executive Director  
Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation  
5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440  
Washington, DC 20015  
Tel. (202) 895-1518, Fax (202) 895-1519  
E-mail address: [khenriouille@comta.org](mailto:khenriouille@comta.org)  
Web address: [www.comta.org](http://www.comta.org)

### **National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences**

1970/2006/S2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of postsecondary schools and departments of cosmetology arts and sciences and massage therapy.

Anthony Mirando  
Executive Director  
4401 Ford Avenue, Suite 1300  
Arlington, Virginia 22303  
Tel. (703) 600-7600, Fax (703) 379-2200  
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Web address: [www.naccas.org](http://www.naccas.org)

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## HEALTHCARE

### **Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine**

1988/2006/F2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy" status) throughout the United States of first-professional master's degree and professional master's level certificate and diploma programs in acupuncture and Oriental medicine, as well as freestanding institutions and colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine that offer such programs.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding institutions or colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Dort S. Bigg, Executive Director  
Maryland Trade Center 3  
7501 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 820  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Tel. (301) 313-0855, Fax (301) 313-0912  
E-mail address: [dort.bigg@acaom.org](mailto:dort.bigg@acaom.org)  
Web address: [www.acaom.org](http://www.acaom.org)

### **Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education**

1952/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation of professional degree programs in pharmacy leading to the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Peter H. Vlasses, Executive Director  
20 North Clark Street, Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602-5109  
Tel. (312) 664-3575, Fax (312) 664-46522  
E-mail address: [pvllasses@acpe-accredit.org](mailto:pvllasses@acpe-accredit.org)  
Web address: [www.acpe-accredit.org](http://www.acpe-accredit.org)

### **Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools**

1969/2005/F2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions in the United States offering predominantly allied health education programs and the programmatic accreditation of medical assistant, medical laboratory technician and surgical technology programs, leading to a certificate, diploma, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Occupational Science, or Academic Associate degree, including those offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding allied health education institutions and institutions that offer predominantly allied health programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Carol Moneymaker, Executive Director  
7777 Leesburg Pike, Suite 314N  
Falls Church, Virginia 22043  
Tel. (703) 917-9503, Fax (703) 917-4109  
E-mail address: [CMoneymaker@abhes.org](mailto:CMoneymaker@abhes.org)  
Web address: [www.abhes.org](http://www.abhes.org)

### **American College of Nurse-Midwives, Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education**

1982/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation of basic certificate, basic graduate nurse-midwifery, direct entry midwifery, and pre-certification nurse-midwifery education programs. The accreditation and pre-accreditation of freestanding institutions of midwifery education that may offer other related health care programs to include nurse practitioner programs, and including those institutions and programs that offer distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding institutions of midwifery education may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Mary C. Brucker  
Chair, ACNM Accreditation Commission  
Nurse-Midwifery Program  
8403 Colesville Road, Suite 1550  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
Tel. (240) 485-1802, Fax (240) 485-1818  
E-mail address: [jburke@acnm.org](mailto:jburke@acnm.org)  
Web address: [www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org)

**American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation**

1952/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of predoctoral dental education programs (leading to the D.D.S. or D.M.D. degree), advanced dental education programs, and allied dental education programs that are fully operational or have attained "Initial Accreditation" status, including programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Anthony Ziebert, Director  
Commission on Dental Accreditation  
American Dental Association  
211 East Chicago Avenue, 18th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Tel. (312) 440-2712, (800) 621-8099, Fax (312) 440-2915  
E-mail address: [zieberta@ada.org](mailto:zieberta@ada.org)  
Web address: [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

**American Dietetic Association, Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education**

1974/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation, within the United States, of Didactic and Coordinated Programs in Dietetics at both the undergraduate and graduate level, post-baccalaureate Dietetic Internships, and Dietetic Technician Programs at the associate degree level, and for its accreditation of such programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only postbaccalaureate dietetic internship programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Ulric K. Chung, Executive Director  
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995  
Tel. (312) 899-4872, Fax (312) 899-4817  
E-mail address: [UChung@eatright.org](mailto:UChung@eatright.org)  
Web address: [www.eatright.org/cade](http://www.eatright.org/cade)

**American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education**

1952/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of occupational therapy educational programs offering the professional master's degree, combined baccalaureate/master's degree, and occupational therapy doctorate (OTD) degree; the accreditation of occupational therapy assistant programs offering the associate degree or a certificate; and the accreditation of these programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Neil Harvison  
Director of Accreditation  
4720 Montgomery Lane  
PO Box 31220  
Bethesda, Maryland 20824-1220  
Tel. (301) 652-2682x2912, Fax (301) 652-7711  
E-mail address: [nharvison@aota.org](mailto:nharvison@aota.org)  
Web address: [www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org)

**American Optometric Association, Accreditation Council on Optometric Education**

1952/2008/F2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation in the United States of professional optometric degree programs, optometric technician (associate degree) programs, and optometric residency programs, and for the pre-accreditation categories of Preliminary Approval for professional optometric degree programs and Candidacy Pending for optometric residency programs in Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Joyce L. Urbeck, Administrative Director  
243 North Lindbergh Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63141  
Tel. (314) 991-4100, Fax (314) 991-4101  
E-mail address: [JLUrbeck@aoa.org](mailto:JLUrbeck@aoa.org)  
Web address: [www.aoanet.org](http://www.aoanet.org)

**American Osteopathic Association, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation**

1952/2006/F2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Provisional Accreditation") throughout the United States of freestanding, public and private non-profit institutions of osteopathic medicine and programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Osteopathy or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of osteopathic medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Konrad C. Miskowicz-Retz, Director  
Department of Education  
American Osteopathic Association  
142 East Ontario Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
Tel. (312) 202-8048 fax (312) 202-8202  
E-mail address: [kretz@osteopathic.org](mailto:kretz@osteopathic.org)  
Web address: [www.osteopathic.org](http://www.osteopathic.org)

**American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education**

1977/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") in the United States of physical therapist education programs leading to the first professional degree at the master's or doctoral level and physical therapist assistant education programs at the associate degree level and for its accreditation of such programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Mary Jane Harris, Director  
Department of Accreditation  
Trans Potomac Plaza  
1111 North Fairfax Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Tel. (703) 706-3245, Fax (703) 684-7343  
E-mail address: [maryjaneharris@apta.org](mailto:maryjaneharris@apta.org)  
Web address: [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)

**American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education**

1952/2006/F2010

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate Status") throughout the United States of freestanding colleges of podiatric medicine and programs of podiatric medicine, including first professional programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of podiatric medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Alan R. Tinkleman, Director  
9312 Old Georgetown Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-1621  
Tel. (301) 571-9200, Fax (301) 571-4903  
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Web address: [www.cpme.org](http://www.cpme.org)

**American Psychological Association, Committee on Accreditation**

1970/2005/F2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation in the United States of doctoral programs in clinical, counseling, school and combined professional-scientific psychology; predoctoral internship programs in professional psychology; and postdoctoral residency programs in professional psychology.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Susan Zlotlow, Director  
Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
750 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-4242  
Tel. (202) 336-5979, Fax (202) 336-5978  
E-mail address: [szlotlow@apa.org](mailto:szlotlow@apa.org)  
Web address: [www.apa.org/ed/accreditation](http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation)

**American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology**

1967/2003/S2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation (Accreditation Candidate) throughout the United States of education programs in audiology and speech-language pathology leading to the first professional or clinical degree at the master's or doctoral level, and the accreditation of these programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Patrima L. Tice  
Director of Credentialing  
2200 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, Maryland 20850-3289  
Tel. (301) 897-5700, Fax (301) 571-0457  
E-mail address: [ptice@asha.org](mailto:ptice@asha.org)  
Web address: [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

**American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education**

1952/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Reasonable Assurance") in the United States of programs leading to professional degrees (D.V.M. or D.M.D.) in veterinary medicine.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

David E. Granstrom,  
Director, Education and Research  
1931 North Meacham Road, Suite 100  
Schaumburg, Illinois 60173  
Tel. (847) 925-8070, (800) 248-2862, Fax (847) 925-9329  
E-mail address: [dgranstrom@avma.org](mailto:dgranstrom@avma.org)  
Web address: [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)

**Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education**

1970/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation throughout the United States of graduate programs in healthcare management.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

John S. Lloyd, President and CEO  
Director of Accreditation Operations  
2000 14th Street North, Suite 780  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
Tel. (703) 894-0960, Fax (703) 894-0941  
E-mail address: [jlloyds@cahme.org](mailto:jlloyds@cahme.org)  
Web address: [www.cahme.org](http://www.cahme.org)

#### **Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education**

2000/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of nursing education programs in the United States, at the baccalaureate and graduate degree levels, including programs offering distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Jennifer L. Butlin, Director  
One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036-1120  
Tel. (202) 887-6791, Fax (202) 887-8476  
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Web address: [www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation/index.htm](http://www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation/index.htm)

#### **Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs**

1955/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of institutions and programs of nurse anesthesia within the United States at the post master's certificate, master's, or doctoral degree levels, including programs offering distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only hospital-based nurse anesthesia programs and freestanding nurse anesthesia institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs*

Francis Gerbasi  
Director of Accreditation and Education  
222 South Prospect, Suite 304  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-4010  
Tel. (847) 692-7050, Fax (847) 692-7137  
E-mail address: [fgerbasi@aana.com](mailto:fgerbasi@aana.com)  
Web address: [www.aana.com](http://www.aana.com)

#### **The Council on Chiropractic Education**

1974/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of programs leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree and single-purpose institutions offering the Doctor of Chiropractic program.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of chiropractic may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Lee Van Dusen, Executive Director  
8049 N. 85th Way  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85258-4321  
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E-mail address: [cce@cce-usa.org](mailto:cce@cce-usa.org)  
Web address: [www.cce-usa.org](http://www.cce-usa.org)

#### **Council on Education for Public Health**

1974/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation within the United States of schools of public health and public health programs outside schools of public health, at the baccalaureate and graduate degree levels, including those

offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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800 Eye Street, NW, Suite 202  
Washington, DC 20001-3710  
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Web address: [www.ceph.org](http://www.ceph.org)

#### **Council on Naturopathic Medical Education**

2003/2005/S2008

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation throughout the United States of graduate-level, four-year naturopathic medical education programs leading to the Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine (N.M.D.) or Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D.).

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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Executive Director  
P.O. Box 178  
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Tel. (413) 528-8877, Fax (413) 528-8880  
E-mail address: [council@cnme.org](mailto:council@cnme.org)  
Web address: [www.cnme.org](http://www.cnme.org)

#### **Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology**

1974/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of higher education programs for the nuclear medicine technologist.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Jan M Winn, Executive Director  
2000 W. Danforth Road  
Ste. 130, #203  
Edmond, Oklahoma 73003  
Tel. (405) 285-0546, Fax (405) 285-0579  
E-mail address: [jrcnmt@coxinet.net](mailto:jrcnmt@coxinet.net)  
Web address: [www.jrcnmt.org](http://www.jrcnmt.org)

#### **Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology**

1957/2006/S2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of educational programs in radiography, magnetic resonance, radiation therapy, and medical dosimetry, including those offered via distance education, at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate levels.

**Title IV Note:** *Only hospital-based radiologic technology programs and freestanding radiologic technology institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2850  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3182  
Tel. (312) 704-5300, Fax (312) 704-5304  
E-mail address: [mail@jrcert.org](mailto:mail@jrcert.org)  
Web address: [www.jrcert.org](http://www.jrcert.org)

#### **Liaison Committee on Medical Education**

1952/2007/S2012

Scope of recognition: the accreditation of medical education programs within the United States leading to

the M.D. degree.

**Title IV Note:** *Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

The LCME is administered in odd-numbered years, beginning each July 1, by:

Barbara Barzanski, Interim Secretary  
Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association  
515 North State Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
Tel. (312) 464-1690, Fax (312) 464-5830  
E-mail address: [barbara\\_barzansk@ama-assn.org](mailto:barbara_barzansk@ama-assn.org)  
Web address: [www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org)

The LCME is administered in even-numbered years, beginning each July 1, by:

Dan Hunt, Secretary  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
2450 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037  
Tel. (202) 828-0596, Fax (202) 828-1125  
E-mail address: [dhunt@aamc.org](mailto:dhunt@aamc.org)  
Web address: [www.lcme.org](http://www.lcme.org)

#### **Midwifery Education Accreditation Council**

2001/2003/S2009

Scope of recognition: the accreditation and pre-accreditation throughout the United States of direct-entry midwifery educational institutions and programs conferring degrees and certificates, including the accreditation of such programs offered via distance education.

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding direct-entry midwifery educational institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko, Executive Director  
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La Conner, Washington 98257  
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E-mail address: [executivedirector@meacschools.org](mailto:executivedirector@meacschools.org)  
Web address: [www.meacschools.org](http://www.meacschools.org)

#### **National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission**

1952/2007/F2011

Scope of recognition: the accreditation in the United States of programs in practical nursing, and diploma, associate, baccalaureate and higher degree nurse education programs.

**Title IV Note:** *Only diploma programs and practical nursing programs not located in a regionally accredited college or university may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

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**ACCREDITING AGENCIES RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR PREACCREDITATION CATEGORIES**

Under the terms of the Higher Education Act and other Federal legislation providing funding assistance to postsecondary education, an institution or program is eligible to apply for participation in certain Federal programs if, in addition to meeting other statutory requirements, it is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or if it is an institution or program with respect to which the U.S. Secretary of Education has determined that there is satisfactory assurance the institution or program will meet the accreditation standards of such an agency or association within a reasonable time. An institution or program may establish satisfactory assurance of accreditation by acquiring preaccreditation status with a nationally recognized agency that has been recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education for the award of such status. According to the Criteria for Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies, if an accrediting agency has developed a preaccreditation status, it must demonstrate that it applies criteria and follows procedures that are appropriately related to those used to award accreditation status. The criteria for recognition also require an agency's standards for preaccreditation to permit an institution or program to hold preaccreditation no more than five years.

The following is a list of accrediting agencies recognized for their preaccreditation categories and the categories that are recognized:

#### Regional Institutional Accrediting Agencies

MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS--  
Commission on Higher Education: Candidate for Accreditation

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES:  
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education: Candidate for Accreditation  
Commission on Technical and Career Institutions: Candidate for Accreditation

NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS--  
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education: Candidate for Accreditation  
Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Board of Trustees

#### NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS--  
Commission on Colleges: Candidate for Accreditation

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES--  
Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges: Candidate for Accreditation  
Accrediting Commission for Schools: Candidate for Accreditation  
Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities: Candidate for Accreditation

#### National Institutional and Specialized Accrediting Bodies

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION: Candidate, Precandidate

AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR LIBERAL EDUCATION: Candidate for Accreditation

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY  
Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education: Candidacy

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE-MIDWIVES  
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education: Preaccreditation

AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION--  
Council on Optometric Education: Reasonable Assurance and Preliminary Approval (for professional degree programs);  
Candidacy Pending (for optometric residency programs in Veterans' Administration facilities)

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION--  
Bureau of Professional Education: Provisional Accreditation

AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION--  
Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education: Candidate for Accreditation

AMERICAN PODIATRIC ASSOCIATION--  
Council on Podiatric Medical Education: Candidate Status

AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION--  
Council on Academic Accreditation: Candidate Status

AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION--  
Council on Education: Reasonable Assurance

ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLICAL HIGHER EDUCATION--  
Commission on Accrediting: Candidate for Accreditation

ASSOCIATION OF ADVANCED RABBINICAL AND TALMUDIC SCHOOLS--  
Accreditation Commission: Correspondent, Candidate

COMMISSION ON ACCREDITING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS: Candidate for Accredited Membership

COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH: Preaccreditation

COUNCIL ON NATUROPATHIC MEDICAL EDUCATION: Pre-accreditation

COUNCIL ON OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION: Candidate for Accreditation

MIDWIFERY EDUCATION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL: Preaccreditation

TEACHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL  
Accreditation Committee: Pre-accreditation

TRANSNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS: Candidate for Accreditation

### **ACCREDITING AGENCIES RECOGNIZED FOR TITLE IV PURPOSES**

The following is a list of accrediting agencies whose accreditation enables the institutions they accredit to establish eligibility to participate in the Federal student financial assistance programs administered by the Department under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended.

\*ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE (FORMERLY NACAOM)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

ACCREDITING BUREAU OF HEALTH EDUCATION SCHOOLS  
(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding allied health education schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

ACCREDITING COMMISSION OF CAREER SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES  
(recognition includes distance education)

ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only those institutions classified by this agency as "vocational" may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

(recognition includes distance education)

\*AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR LIBERAL EDUCATION

**Title IV Note:** *Only institutions of higher education accredited by this agency may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, COUNCIL OF THE SECTION OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding law schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

AMERICAN BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE EDUCATION, COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of funeral service or mortuary science may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE-MIDWIVES, ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding institutions of midwifery education may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

AMERICAN DIETETIC ASSOCIATION, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION APPROVAL FOR DIETETICS EDUCATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only postbaccalaureate dietetic internship programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION, COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of osteopathic medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*AMERICAN PODIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, COUNCIL ON PODIATRIC MEDICAL EDUCATION

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of podiatric medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*ASSOCIATION FOR BIBLICAL HIGHER EDUCATION, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

\*ASSOCIATION OF ADVANCED RABBINICAL AND TALMUDIC SCHOOLS, ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

\*COMMISSION ON ACCREDITING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding institutions, colleges, or seminaries of theology may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

COMMISSION ON MESSAGE THERAPY ACCREDITATION

THE COUNCIL ON CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of chiropractic may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION OF NURSE ANESTHESIA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only hospital-based nurse anesthesia programs and freestanding nurse anesthesia institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*COUNCIL ON OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, COMMISSION (FORMERLY SACS-COEI)

(recognition includes distance education)

DISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL, ACCREDITING COMMISSION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only accredited institutions that are certified by the agency as accredited for Title IV purposes may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

JOINT REVIEW COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only hospital-based radiologic technology programs and freestanding radiologic-technology institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

(recognition includes distance education)

MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

MIDWIFERY EDUCATION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding, direct-entry midwifery educational institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in the Title IV programs.*

MONTESSORI ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding Montessori teacher education schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. Further, that accreditation must have been granted in conjunction with the accrediting activities of the review committees listed above.*

NATIONAL ACCREDITING COMMISSION OF COSMETOLOGY ARTS & SCIENCES

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF ART AND DESIGN, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of art and design may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF DANCE, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of dance may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF MUSIC, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of music may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE, COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

(recognition includes distance education)

**Title IV Note:** *Only freestanding schools or colleges of theatre may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING ACCREDITING COMMISSION

**Title IV Note:** *Only diploma programs and practical nursing programs not located in a regionally accredited college or university may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, COMMISSION ON TECHNICAL AND CAREER INSTITUTIONS  
**Title IV Note:** *Any public vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education and that wish to use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs must be accredited by the agency as offering education through the 13th and/or 14th grade level.*

NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

\*NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*NORTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
**Title IV Note:** *Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*NORTHWEST COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, COMMISSION ON COLLEGES  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*TRANSNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, ACCREDITING COMMISSION  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
(recognition includes distance education)

\*WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR SCHOOLS  
**Title IV Note:** *Only adult and postsecondary schools accredited by this agency that offer postsecondary programs below the degree level may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.*

\*WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR SENIOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
(recognition includes distance education)

\* Preaccreditation status may be used as an alternative to full accreditation by any public or private non-profit institutions accredited by this agency for the purpose of establishing eligibility to participate in Title IV programs. Please note that preaccreditation is not available as an option for establishing such eligibility by a for-profit institution accredited by this agency.

N O T E: "Freestanding" is defined as not part of a larger college or university that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency or another nationally recognized institutional accrediting agency. In general, a freestanding institution is a separate single-purpose institution that offers a specialized program of study in a particular field.

## **ACCREDITING AGENCIES RECOGNIZED FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION**

The following is a list of accrediting agencies recognized for Distance Education.

Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training

Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

American Board of Funeral Service Education, Committee on Accreditation

American College of Nurse-Midwives, Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education

American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation

American Dietetic Association, Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education

American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

Association for Biblical Higher Education, Commission on Accreditation

Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs

Council on Education for Public Health

Council on Occupational Education

Distance Education and Training Council, Accrediting Commission

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education

Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools

Midwifery Education Accreditation Council

Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation

National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education

New York Board of Regents and the Commission of Education

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities