Guidelines for the Review and Evaluation of Distance Education

Links to Guidelines and Policy Statements from the Regional Accrediting Commissions

wcet.wiche.edu/advance/resources

The Higher Learning Commission

New Criteria for Accreditation. See especially Criterion Three and Five both which refer to HLC’s new definition of “whenever and however programs are delivered.” (January 2013)

Glossary. See especially definition of “whenever and however programs are delivered.” (January 2013)

Middle States Commission on Higher Education

Characteristics of Excellence in Higher Education: Requirements of Affiliation and Standards for Accreditation. (March 2011)

Interregional Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education Programs (Online Learning). (2009)

Team Visits. Conducting and Hosting an Evaluation Visit. Appendices 10 and 11 contain important information about the evaluation of distance education. (October 2012)

Verification of Compliance with Accreditation-Relevant Federal Regulations. (2012)

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

Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education (On-line Learning) (July 2009)

Policy on the Review of Electronically Offered Degree Programs (July 2009)

Guidelines for the Review of Off-Campus and Distance Education Programming during a Comprehensive Evaluation (July 2009)

Guidelines for Preparing Substantive Change Reports on the Establishment of Academic Programming Offered through Distance Education (August 2011)
Policy on Student Verification and Transfer of Credit (April 2010)

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

Standards for Accreditation (2010)

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges

Distance and Correspondence Education. Policy Statement. (June 2010)

Guidelines for Addressing Distance and Correspondence Education. (December 2011)

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

Guide to Evaluating Distance Education and Correspondence Education (June 2011)

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)
Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

Protocol for the Review of Distance and Correspondence Education Programs. (March 2010)

Team Report Appendix: Distance Education Summary (February 2010)


Additional Resources from the
WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET)
Best Practice Strategies to Promote Academic Integrity in Online Education, Version 2.0, WCET, UT TeleCampus, and ITC (June 2009)