



WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies

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 \(August 2011\)](#)



WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies

[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)

[Substantive Change Manual. A Guide to Substantive Change Policies and Procedures](#) (2012) (see pp 7-8)

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 \(June 2009\)](#)