

May, Kathy

From: Delange, Heather <heather.delange@dhe.state.co.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2011 11:56 AM
To: May, Kathy
Cc: Parker, Jim
Subject: RE: obtain approval to teach distance education courses in the state of Colorado

Dear Ms. May,

Based on the degree level of your institutions programs, your technical colleges would need to abide by regulations of DPOS. However, because the institutions are public technical colleges, they meet an exemption under the DPOS. Therefore, under current regulations by either division, the 25 technical colleges in Georgia do not meet criteria for authorization in Colorado.

I hope this helps.

Heather

Heather DeLange

Academic Policy Officer

Colorado Department of Higher Education

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From: May, Kathy [mailto:KMay@tcsg.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2011 5:44 AM
To: Delange, Heather; May, Kathy; Parker, Jim
Subject: RE: obtain approval to teach distance education courses in the state of Colorado

Dear Ms. Delange and Mr. Parker

I am just checking back with you to ensure compliance with state authorization regulations. Are there any revised regulations for institutions offering 100% online education to Colorado residents?

Also, the documentation emailed stated:

DPOS authority is contained in The Private Occupational Education Act, Title 12, Article 59 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.). DPOS regulates private, for-profit schools that offer diploma programs, certificate programs, and associate level degree programs. In addition, DPOS policies can permit unaccredited institutions for operation in Colorado.

The Degree Authorization Act, found in Title 23, Article 2 sets forth policies that govern institutions offering programs at the baccalaureate level and higher. The DAA requires all private or public institution to hold accreditation by an accrediting agency or organization recognized by the USDOE as a requirement for consideration for approval by the Colorado Commission of Higher Education.

Question 1:

Since the 25 Technical Colleges in Georgia offer certificate level, diploma level, and associate degrees and do not offer baccalaureate level or higher degrees, does this mean our technical colleges need to abide by regulations of only the DPOS?

Question 2: Please See Attachment

I created a form and had each college answer (still need responses from 3 colleges) to determine if a college had a physical presence in Colorado. I expect the 3 colleges who have not answered as of yet, will answer as the other colleges and none of our 25 public technical colleges in Georgia will have a physical presence in Colorado (unless the definition of physical presence has changed). If indeed, none of our colleges have a physical presence in Colorado – what do they need to do to ensure compliance with your out of state regulations? May I do something at the system level or receive documentation that covers all of the 25 public technical colleges within the Technical College System of Georgia.

Your help and guidance is much appreciated.

Kathy T. May

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From: Delange, Heather [mailto:heather.delange@dhe.state.co.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 11:29 AM
To: May, Kathy; Parker, Jim
Subject: RE: obtain approval to teach distance education courses in the state of Colorado

Dear Ms. May,

Thank you for your email. Under current policy, degree-granting institutions must have a physical presence in the state to qualify for state authorization. The definition of physical presence under this policy is a main campus or headquarters, a branch campus, or a place of business as determined by the Department (CCHE policy, Section I, Part J). I have attached a statement that summarizes the regulations for both the degree-granting institutions and the private occupational schools wishing to operate in Colorado. Colorado has no authorization process for pure online delivery instruction. Out of state public institutions are handled in the same manner as private institutions.

Please note that the regulations for the degree-granting schools are under review and will likely change in the near future. Our recommendation to you is to check back with this office periodically to ensure compliance with the state authorization regulations. I am hoping to have the revised regulations approved by early fall. I imagine there will be a new authorization and process for institutions offering 100% online education to citizens of our state.

Please let me know if you have further questions after reading the summary. I hope this helps.

Thank you,
Heather

Heather DeLange

Degree Authorization Act Officer

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 Please consider our environment before you print this e-mail

From: May, Kathy [mailto:kmay@tcsge.edu]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 2:12 PM

To: Parker, Jim; Delange, Heather

Subject: obtain approval to teach distance education courses in the state of Colorado

Dear Jim Parker and Heather DeLange

I am sure you are aware that in October 2010, the U.S. Department of Education released regulations requiring out of state institutions offering distance education to students within another state to determine if authorization is needed by each state in which the institution is offering distance education.

In my role as Academic Affairs Coordinator (Georgia Virtual Technical Connection) for the Technical College System of Georgia, I am asking what the public 25 Technical Colleges within the State of Georgia need to do to obtain approval to teach distance education courses in the state of Colorado?

As background, the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) consists of **25 public technical colleges** offering technical certificates of credit to two year degrees. Each technical college has a president and all technical college presidents' report to the TCSG Commissioner. The Commissioner reports to the Governor of Georgia and to the Technical College System of Georgia State Board. The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia is responsible for establishing standards, regulations and policies for the operation of the Technical College System of Georgia. The 25 public technical colleges within the Technical College System of Georgia are supported by taxation from local and state funds from the state of Georgia.

All 25 technical colleges within the state of Georgia are accredited by accrediting agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education. The 25 public technical colleges in Georgia are accredited by either one or two or by both of the accrediting bodies listed below:

- 1) the regional accrediting body the **Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**
- 2) the national accrediting body the **Council on Occupational Education.**

Please provide me with direction as to the steps necessary to obtain the needed authorization from the state of Colorado or directions on the process to be exempt from authorization as courses/programs are distance education delivery. Please include all associated costs.

I am very interested in the possibility of TCSG obtaining permission from your state on behalf of all of our 25 technical colleges as opposed to each technical college seeking individual approval.

Your help and guidance is most appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely

Kathy T May

Technical College System of Georgia

Kathy T. May

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