May, Kathy

From: May, Kathy
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 3:42 PM
To: 'Susan.Hood@fldoe.org'
Subject: Out of state distance education students

Dear Ms. Hood

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 of state in which the institution is offering distance education.

In my role as Academic Affairs Coordinator (Georgia Virtual Technical College) 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 Florida.

As background, the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) consists of 25 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 TCGS 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. All 25 technical colleges within the state of Georgia are accredited by accrediting agencies recognized by the United States Department of Education. The accrediting bodies in which the 25 technical colleges within the Technical College System of Georgia are accredited are 1) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and/or 2) Council on Occupational Education.

The documentation on your website, specifically Florida Statues - Title XLVIII Chapter 1005 (1005.32) mentions licensure by means of accreditation. As all 25 technical colleges within the Technical College System of Georgia are accredited by either the Southern Association of Colleges or Schools Commission on Colleges and/or the Council on Occupation Education - are they eligible to be licensed by means of accreditation? If so, please let me know the process and cost. May the Technical College System of Georgia be licensed by means of accreditation as a system as a whole or must each of the 25 technical colleges within our system apply separately?

If the Technical College System of Georgia or the 25 Technical Colleges within our system are not eligible for licensure by means of accreditation, please let me know what step we should next complete. Your help and guidance is most appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely

Kathy T May

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