

Learning in CLICKS...

Not in BRICKS!

Distance Learning & Financial Aid

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[What is *Distance Learning*?]

"the process of extending learning, or delivering instructional resource-sharing opportunities, to locations away from a classroom, building or site, to another classroom, building or site by using video, audio, computer, multimedia communications, or some combination of these with other traditional delivery methods."

Instructional Technology Council (ITC)

Why Schools Are Getting Involved in Distance Learning?

- Distance education is attractive to institutions that seek to avoid large investments in new facilities and to pool resources with other institutions to minimize overhead.
- Students demand for distance courses has and continues to increase. The demand is driven by:
 - A desire to complete educational programs more economically
 - To take advantage of a richer selection of courses offerings than are available at the institutions where enrolled which are tailored to students needs

[Some Facts]

- During the 12-month 2000–2001 academic year, 56 percent (2,320) of all 2-year and 4-year Title IV-eligible, degree-granting institutions offered distance education courses for any level or audience
- Public institutions were more likely to offer distance education courses than were private institutions
- Numbers of traditional age students taking distance education courses is growing

[Before HERA]

If the total amount of telecommunications and correspondence courses at a school equaled or exceeded 50% of the total amount of all courses at the school then students enrolled in telecommunication courses at such schools were not eligible for Title IV funds.

[Telecommunications Courses]

A telecommunications course is a course offered via the application of technology including television, audio, or computer transmission (such as open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, transmission) and courses offered over the Internet.

(See section 484(l) of the HEA; 34 CFR 600.2)

[Correspondence Courses]

A correspondence course is a home study course provided by an institution under which the institution provides instructional materials, including examinations on the materials, to students who are not physically attending classes at the institution.

(See section 484(l) of the HEA; 34 CFR 600.2)

[After HERA]

Telecommunications courses in which students are enrolled at an institution of higher education where the courses are leading to a recognized certificate, associate or bachelor's degree are no longer considered "correspondence" courses and are now eligible for Title IV aid.

[Consortium vs. Contractual Agreements--Which One Applies?]

Institutions can enter into two types of written agreements:

- consortium agreements
- contractual agreements.

[Consortium Agreements]

A consortium agreement is a written agreement between Title IV eligible institutions.

[Contractual Agreements]

A contractual agreement is a written agreement between an *eligible* institution and an *ineligible* institution.

[Keys to Success]

- Communication
 - Correspondence
 - Policy
 - Institutional
 - Partnerships

Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium



www.ctdlc.org

[Other Issues]

- Students dropped for non-payment
- Communication breakdown within the Home Institution
- Communication breakdown within the Host Institution
- Verification of Enrollment, Drops & Withdrawals
- Monitoring & Compliance

Questions

- FSA Handbook: Volume 2
 - Chapter 7-Written Agreements Between Schools
 - Chapter 8-Distance Learning
- NASFAA's HERA Implementation Tools
- NASFAA Monograph #11: Constructing Written Agreements

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