

State Uses of Accreditation: Results of a Fifty-State Inventory

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How states authorize postsecondary institutions to operate within their boundaries is one of the least well documented topics in higher education today.¹ No two states do this the same way and jurisdictional boundaries among the state agencies that perform these functions are sometimes uncertain (Goldstein, Lacey, and Janiga 2006). The role of institutional accreditation in helping to ground these decisions is equally murky. Is accreditation required to apply for authorization to operate? If so, is there a defined window of time in which an institution must obtain accreditation? Or is there no relationship with accreditation whatsoever? Similarly, for programmatic or specialized accreditation in licensed occupations such as education or the health professions, is the completion of an accredited course of study required for an individual to obtain a license to practice or to sit for a licensing examination? And is appropriate programmatic or specialized accreditation required for institutions that only teach these fields to be authorized to operate within the state?

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) wanted to shed more light on these matters on a state-by-state basis. In particular, it sought information on how states use accredited status in the decision to authorize postsecondary institutions—both newly created and existing out-of-state—to offer instruction and grant degrees in the state. At the same time, it wished to determine the various roles that state agencies play that *look* like accreditation—for example periodic quality monitoring or review through site visits or desk reviews—how these activities are described, and how they are related to institutional accreditation. Finally, CHEA wanted to determine the role that accredited status plays in state decisions about which institutions can receive state funds and how it affects an institution’s ability to have its transfer credits accepted as part of any statewide transfer or articulation policy.

To gather information around these questions, CHEA contracted the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to conduct a fifty-state inventory of how states use accreditation. This report presents the results of this study in three main sections. The first section describes the broad picture of agency regulation by noting which state agencies are responsible for what. The second section looks specifically at the role of institutional accreditation in governing decisions about authorization to operate. The third section explores state connections with professional or specialized

¹ States use many different terms to describe the act of granting legal authority to an institution to operate. Following Contreras (2009), this paper uses the term “authorize” to cover this function although this may not be the term used by any given state.

accreditation in connection with individual licenses to practice.² A brief concluding section summarizes the major implications for policy.

Methodology

To conduct the study, NCHEMS staff contacted each of the fifty State Higher Education Executive Offices (SHEEOs) in the fall of 2008 to determine the specific state agencies assigned responsibility for authorizing postsecondary institutions. In some cases this was the SHEEO agency itself but in many states, different agencies were involved. With all agencies with the appropriate responsibilities identified, NCHEMS emailed a set of questions addressing various topics about agency authorization and oversight activities, and their relationship to institutional accreditation. Follow-up email and telephone exchanges were undertaken to obtain more detail and to resolve ambiguity. NCHEMS staff also researched all available material about the processes that institutions are required to complete in order to obtain authorization to operate within each state. When all material had been collected, NCHEMS staff drafted an individual write-up for each state and returned it to the agency contact for review. Responses were obtained for one or more agencies in all fifty states. After verification by agency staff, the resulting responses were used to prepare this report.³

Pattern of Agency Oversight

Table 1 lists the agencies responsible for authorizing non-public institutions to operate across the fifty states.⁴ Public colleges and universities are governed or coordinated by statewide boards established for that purpose, but are automatically granted authorization to operate by their founding charters. As discussed later, moreover, states vary considerably with respect to whether or not public institutions are required to be accredited by statute or regulation.

² The study did not encompass the many state boards that license individuals to practice, so only a limited amount of information was collected on this topic.

³ A one-page summary of each state's responses is included as Appendix A to this report.

⁴ Note if a given institutional sector is not mentioned under "scope" for a given state, this sector is not regulated or licensed in that state. Also, the language used to describe the state role included under "scope" is that established for the particular agency by statute or regulation.

Table 1 – Agencies that Approve Private (Nonprofit and For-Profit) Institutions to Operate in Each State

State	Agency	Scope	SHEEO Involved? [See Note 5]
Alabama	Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education	All	Yes
Alaska	Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education	All	Yes
Arizona	Arizona Board for Private Postsecondary Education	All	No
Arkansas	Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board	Degree-Granting	Yes
	State Board of Private Career Education	Non-Degree	No
California	Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education	All	No
Colorado	Colorado Commission on Higher Education	All	Yes
Connecticut	Connecticut Department of Higher Education	All	Yes
Delaware	State Department of Education	Private Degree-Granting	No
	Delaware Higher Education Commission	Proprietary	Yes
Florida	Commission for Independent Education	All	No
Georgia	Non-Public Postsecondary Education Commission	All	No
Hawaii	Hawaii Department of Education	Non-Degree	No
Idaho	State Department of Education	Proprietary	Yes
Illinois	Illinois Board of Higher Education	Degree-Granting	Yes
	State Board of Education and Department of Professional Regulation	Non-Degree	No
Indiana	Indiana Commission on Proprietary Education	Proprietary	No
Iowa	Iowa Department of Education	Proprietary	Yes
	Iowa Student Aid Commission	Proprietary	No
Kansas	Kansas Board of Regents	All	Yes
Kentucky	Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education	Non-Profit	Yes
	State Board for Proprietary Education	Proprietary	No
Louisiana	Louisiana Board of Regents	All	Yes
Maine	Department of Education	Degree-Granting	No
Maryland	Maryland Higher Education Commission	All	Yes
Massachusetts	Department of Higher Education	Degree-Granting	Yes
Michigan	State Board of Education	All	No
Minnesota	Minnesota Office of Higher Education	All	Yes
Mississippi	Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation	Private Degree-Granting	No
	Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration	Proprietary	No
Missouri	Coordinating Board for Higher Education	All	Yes
Montana	Montana Board of Regents	Private Degree-Granting	Yes
Nebraska	State Board of Education	Proprietary	No
	Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education	Private Degree-Granting	Yes
Nevada	Commission on Postsecondary Education	All	Yes
New Hampshire	Postsecondary Education Commission	All	Yes
New Jersey	New Jersey Commission on Higher Education	All	Yes
	Department of Education School Approval Unit	Vocational	No
New Mexico	New Mexico Higher Education Department	All	Yes
New York	Regents of the University of the State of New York	All	Yes
North Carolina	Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina	Degree-Granting	Yes
North Dakota	North Dakota State Board for Career and Technical Education	All	No
Ohio	Ohio Board of Regents	Private Degree-Granting	Yes
	Board of Proprietary School Regulation	Proprietary	No
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education	Degree-Granting	Yes
	Department of Career and Technology Education	Non-Degree Technical	No
	Oklahoma Board of Private Schools	Proprietary	No
Oregon	Oregon Office of Degree Authorization	Degree-Granting	No
	Board of Education	Non-Degree	No
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania State Board of Education	Degree-Granting	Yes
	State Board of Private Licensed Schools	Non-Degree	No
Rhode Island	Board of Governors for Higher Education	Private Degree-Granting	Yes
South Carolina	South Carolina Commission for Higher Education	All	Yes
South Dakota	South Dakota Board of Regents	Degree-Granting	Yes
Tennessee	Tennessee Higher Education Commission	All	Yes
Texas	Texas Workforce Commission	Proprietary	No
	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	Private Degree-Granting	Yes
Utah	State Board of Regents	Degree-Granting	Yes
Vermont	Vermont Department of Education	Degree-Granting	No
Virginia	State Council of Higher Education in Virginia	Degree-Granting	Yes
Washington	Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board	Degree-Granting	Yes
	Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board	Non-Degree	No
West Virginia	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission	Above AA Degree-Granting	Yes
	West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education	AA Degree and Below	No
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Educational Approval Board	Proprietary	No
Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Education	Proprietary	No

Agency Role. One or more agencies were responsible for this function all fifty states. Fifteen states have more than one agency responsible for this function. Two main patterns are apparent where this is the case. In the first, one agency is responsible for not-for-profit institutions while another is responsible for for-profit regulation. In the second, one agency is responsible for degree-granting institutions while another is responsible for non-degree or non-credit-based institutions. Finally, one state (Oklahoma) has three agencies—one responsible for degree-granting institutions, one for other private not-for-profit vocational/career schools, and one for for-profit institutions.

In the majority of states the State Higher Education Executive Office (SHEEO)⁵ is the agency responsible for this function or one of two agencies responsible, but in fourteen states this is not the case.⁶ Frequently, this function is handled by a designated office or division within the SHEEO agency that operates semi-autonomously. In two states (West Virginia and Colorado) the state board of community colleges is designated by the SHEEO agency for this purpose. In four states (Hawaii, Iowa, Idaho, and Wisconsin) private not-for-profit degree-granting institutions are not required to be authorized, while in four others (Montana, South Dakota, Utah, and Vermont) for-profit institutions are not required to be authorized. In both situations, the law only requires that these institutions be “registered” with the state without review or oversight. In Rhode Island, on the other hand, degree-granting for-profit institutions are banned by statute.

For most of these agencies, an initial review is all that is required for authorization to operate, but several require an annual or other periodic re-application and approval. The majority of these requirements address both institutions based in the state and those based elsewhere which operate within the state. The latter also includes institutions that operate on line, though this is a difficult requirement to enforce.

Agency Terminology. States use a wide variety of terms to describe the actions that they take with respect to non-public institutions operating in their states (see Table 2).⁷

⁵ All states except Michigan have a designated SHEEO and SHEEO agency—a generic title derived from membership in the State Higher Education Executive Officers association; six states have two SHEEO agencies. SHEEO agencies vary with respect to their functions and roles in higher education, with state-level coordination, system-level governance, or state-funded financial aid programs at the core. Other functions, includes the institutional authorization roles examined in this report, are extensions of these core roles or are exercised by other state agencies.

⁶ Sometimes the involvement of the SHEEO agency in institutional authorization decisions is indirect. For example, Indiana statute requires the Chair of the Commission on Higher Education to serve as a member of the Commission on Proprietary Education and this individual is customarily given the lead voice in authorization decisions involving degree-granting institutions.

⁷ Note: If a state has more than one agency, the response provided in Table 2-5 is the response provided by the SHEEO agency or the responsible for degree-granting institutions. This occurred in a very limited number of cases.

Table 2 -- Terms Used in Regulation

State	Does State Do "Accreditation" of Institutions	Does State Do "Recognition" of Accreditors	Terminology
Alabama	no	no	License
Alaska	no	no	License
Arizona	no	no	License
Arkansas	no	no	Certify
California	no	no	Approve
Colorado	no	no	Approve
Connecticut	yes	no	Accredit
Delaware	no	no	Approve
Florida	no	no	License
Georgia	no	no	Authorize
Hawaii	no	no	Approve
Idaho	no	yes	Register
Illinois	no	no	Approve
Indiana	yes	no	Accredit
Iowa	yes	yes	Accredit
Kansas	no	no	Approve
Kentucky	no	no	License
Louisiana	no	no	Authorize
Maine	no	no	License
Maryland	no	no	License
Massachusetts	no	no	License
Michigan	no	no	License
Minnesota	no	no	License
Mississippi	yes	no	Accredit
Missouri	no	no	Certify
Montana	no	no	Approve
Nebraska	yes	yes	Approve
Nevada	no	no	License
New Hampshire	no	no	License
New Jersey	no	no	License
New Mexico	no	no	License
New York	yes	no	Accredit
North Carolina	no	no	License
North Dakota	no	no	License
Ohio	no	no	Authorize
Oklahoma	yes	no	Accredit
Oregon	no	yes	Approve
Pennsylvania	no	no	Certify
Rhode Island	no	no	Approve
South Carolina	no	no	License
South Dakota	no	no	License
Tennessee	no	no	Authorize
Texas	no	yes	Approve
Utah	no	no	Approve
Vermont	no	no	Approve
Virginia	no	no	Approve
Washington	no	no	Oversee
West Virginia	no	no	Approve
Wisconsin	no	no	License
Wyoming	no	no	License

Six states report that they “accredit”⁸ such institutions, fifteen “approve,” four “authorize,” three “certify,” one “oversees,” one “registers,” and the remainder “license” them. One that reports “accreditation” additionally uses the term “recognize” to describe its actions (Iowa), while the agency that reports that it “registers” institutions also uses the term “recognize” (Idaho). States using the term “accredit” appear to define it in roughly the same fashion as non-governmental accrediting organizations. For example, statutory language in Indiana reads, “applications for accreditation are carefully reviewed by the Commission staff to ensure that profit institutions meet minimum standards outlined by law...points covered by the review include financial stability, admissions standards, enrollment forms and contracts, program content, instructor qualifications, student record keeping and refund policies.” Oklahoma reports that its accreditation standards and practices for degree-granting nonprofit institutions are modeled on those of the Higher Learning Commission. Like non-governmental accreditors, moreover, state accreditation is frequently granted for a given period of time. In Connecticut, for example, this is five years, with re-accreditation timed to coincide with action by the appropriate regional accrediting organization. In Mississippi, “accreditation” occurs annually. In all six states, moreover, the state agency has the power to independently “accredit” an institution that has not received accreditation from a non-governmental institutional accrediting organization, after a process of site visit and review. Only in New York, however, is such “accreditation” recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for financial aid purposes.

Five states—Idaho, Iowa, Nebraska, Oregon, and Texas—report that they engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations. In most of these, the State Board of Education “recognizes” the accreditation of a school seeking authorization to operate with the state, not the accreditor itself. In Iowa, regulations stipulate that the state’s “accreditation process be integrated with that of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.”

Accreditation and State Approval

There are a variety of patterns across states regarding whether or not institutions of all kinds must be accredited in order to be authorized to operate (See Table 3).

Thirty states report that accreditation is required for an institution to operate and sixteen report that it is not. Four states report that accreditation is required for degree-granting institutions only. Approval to operate does not necessarily require independent review by the state through a licensing or recognition process. Most states also require institutions to inform the appropriate state agency if a change in their accredited status occurs.

⁸ The University of the State of New York is the only agency that enjoys recognition by the U.S. Secretary of Education to “accredit,” having been grandfathered into these powers because its Charter pre-dates the U.S. Constitution.

Some states have different requirements with respect to accreditation for different sectors.⁹ For example, Louisiana does not require accreditation for private trade or career schools that do not grant degrees, but has statutory requirements that demand accreditation for those institutions that grant degrees. The same situation governs approval in Minnesota, Michigan, Nevada, and Wyoming. In other cases—for example, Maryland, accreditation is required only for out-of-state institutions seeking to operate in the state. Some states do not require accreditation for some sectors by law, but do so in practice. Michigan, for example, has no legal requirement that “private educational corporations” be accredited, but the five “areas of adequacy” that the law requires them to demonstrate are based on regional accreditation standards. Sometimes, the linkage is at the discretion of the agency, determined on a case-by-case basis. In New Hampshire, for example, state evaluation teams may recommend to the Commission that accreditation be required, but will sometimes not recommend such action based on their own evaluation. Texas also allows unaccredited institutions to operate under a state-issued “Certificate of Authority” under certain circumstances for a maximum of eight years.

Policies with Respect to New and Out-of State Institutions. States generally differ in their expectations for accreditation for new institutions created within the state and already-established out-of-state institutions seeking authority to operate within the state (see Table 3).

⁹ States were not explicitly asked about such differences but reported them voluntarily. This means that there may be more states that treat sectors differentially than the examples reported in this paragraph. This condition applies throughout this report whenever the phrase “some states” is used in place of an actual count.

Table 3 -- Accreditation and Authorization Linkages

State	Private (Nonprofit and For-Profit) Institutions			
	Accreditation Needed to Operate	Accreditation Required for New Inst.	Accreditation Sufficient for Out-of-State	Accreditation Required for In-State Public Inst.
Alabama	yes	yes	yes	yes
Alaska	yes	yes	yes+auth	yes
Arizona	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
Arkansas	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
California	no	no	yes	CC only
Colorado	yes	degree only	yes+auth	yes
Connecticut	no	yes	yes+auth	no
Delaware	no	no	yes	yes
Florida	no	no	yes	yes
Georgia	no	no	yes+auth	yes
Hawaii	no	no	yes	no
Idaho	yes	yes	yes+auth	yes
Illinois	yes	yes	yes+auth	yes
Indiana	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
Iowa	yes	yes	yes	no
Kansas	yes	degree only	yes+auth	yes
Kentucky	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
Louisiana	yes	degree only	yes+auth	yes
Maine	yes	yes	yes	no
Maryland	no	no	yes	yes
Massachusetts	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
Michigan	no	no	not required	no
Minnesota	yes	degree only	yes+auth	yes
Mississippi	yes	yes	yes	no
Missouri	no	no	yes+auth	CC only
Montana	yes	yes	yes	yes
Nebraska	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
Nevada	degree only	yes	yes+auth	no
New Hampshire	yes	yes	yes+auth	no
New Jersey	yes	no	yes	yes
New Mexico	yes	yes	yes	no
New York	no	no	yes+auth	no
North Carolina	no	no	yes	yes
North Dakota	yes	yes	yes	yes
Ohio	yes	degree only	yes+auth	no
Oklahoma	yes	degree only	yes+auth	yes
Oregon	no	no	yes	yes
Pennsylvania	yes	degree only	yes	yes
Rhode Island	yes	degree only	new accred req	no
South Carolina	yes	yes	yes	no
South Dakota	yes	yes	yes	yes
Tennessee	no	no	yes+auth	yes
Texas	degree only	degree only	not required	yes
Utah	no	no	not required	yes
Vermont	no	no	yes	no
Virginia	yes	degree only	yes+auth	no
Washington	degree only	degree only	yes+auth	no
West Virginia	yes	yes	yes+auth	yes
Wisconsin	no	no	yes+auth	yes
Wyoming	degree only	yes	yes	CC only

With respect to newly-created private (nonprofit and for-profit) institutions operating in the state, twenty-three states require them to be accredited. Eleven more states have this requirement only for degree-granting institutions. Sixteen states report that they do not have such a requirement. Four states that require newly-created institutions to be accredited expect full accreditation to have been granted before the institution is authorized to operate. Ohio, for example, allows institutions to teach and grant certificates, but it cannot offer degree programs without completing the accreditation process. South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Iowa allow operations while the institution is being accredited by special authorization of the board.

Most states authorize institutions to operate while they are in the process of seeking accreditation. Arizona requires institutions to be “making reasonable or timely progress” toward accreditation. North Dakota requires “substantial good faith efforts” toward seeking accreditation. Some states establish an explicit time limit within which institutions must obtain accreditation. For example Pennsylvania allows three years; Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Wyoming allow five years; Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia allow six; New Hampshire allows seven years; and South Carolina allows eight years. Idaho, Louisiana and West Virginia allow varying periods, negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Most states also have an appeals process under which an institution can petition for more time to obtain accreditation. Finally, some states grant institutions the authority to operate in this provisional period but will not allow them to grant degrees.

With respect to authorizing out-of-state institutions to operate in the state, all but three states require these institutions to be accredited and do not require them to seek new accreditation from the regional accreditation commission associated with their state. Twenty states require nothing further of these institutions beyond proof of accredited status, though they do require them to register with the relevant state agency. Twenty-six states require accredited status, but also require the institution to engage in additional review processes in order to be authorized to operate. Three states—Michigan, Texas, and Utah have no requirement. Rhode Island, on the other hand, requires out-of state institutions to obtain accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), even if it is accredited by another regional accreditor. Some states—including Connecticut and South Dakota—include state representatives on the regular accreditation team when it visits institutions within the state. Finally, Washington requires the institution to explicitly notify its accreditor of its intent to operate in the state.

Accreditation Requirements for Public Institutions. Although public institutions are not explicitly granted authorization to operate by the state agencies charged with such decisions, states have differing requirements regarding whether or not they must be accredited (see Table 3). Twenty-four states have statutes or regulations in place that require public institutions to be accredited and three more have such requirements in place only for the state’s community colleges. The remaining states do not have such a requirement. In all cases, the accreditor in question is the appropriate regional accrediting organization for that state. In three states, one sector of public institutions is required to be accredited but not all. In Missouri and Wyoming, community colleges

must be accredited and in North Dakota, tribal colleges are not required to be accredited. Even where no explicit requirement for accreditation is in place, public institutions must be accredited as a practical matter in order to participate in federal Title IV programs. As a result, most states that do not explicitly require accreditation report that it would be a significant issue if one of their public institutions lost accreditation. And regardless of state stance, all public institutions are in fact accredited.

Recognition by USDOE or CHEA. States vary with respect to whether or not they require the accreditor involved in decisions about authorization to operate to be recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) or CHEA (See Table 4).

Table 4 – Accreditor Recognition Requirement

State	Accreditor Recognized by USDOE	Accreditor Recognized by CHEA	Either
Alabama	yes	yes	yes
Alaska	yes	no	no
Arizona	yes	no	no
Arkansas	yes	no	no
California	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Colorado	yes	no	no
Connecticut	yes	no	no
Delaware	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Florida	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Georgia	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Hawaii	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Idaho	yes	yes	no
Illinois	yes	yes	yes
Indiana	yes	no	no
Iowa	yes	no	no
Kansas	yes	no	no
Kentucky	yes	yes	yes
Louisiana	yes	no	no
Maine	yes	yes	yes
Maryland	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Massachusetts	yes	no	no
Michigan	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Minnesota	yes	no	no
Mississippi	yes	no	no
Missouri	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Montana	yes	no	no
Nebraska	yes	no	no
Nevada	yes	no	no
New Hampshire	yes	no	no
New Jersey	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
New Mexico	yes	yes	yes
New York	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
North Carolina	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
North Dakota	yes	yes	yes
Ohio	yes	no	no
Oklahoma	yes	no	no
Oregon	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Pennsylvania	yes	no	no
Rhode Island	yes	no	no
South Carolina	yes	no	no
South Dakota	yes	no	no
Tennessee	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Texas	yes	no	no
Utah	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Vermont	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Virginia	yes	no	no
Washington	yes	no	no
West Virginia	yes	yes	yes
Wisconsin	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Wyoming	yes	no	no

All thirty-four states that require institutions to be authorized to operate require the accreditor used in authorization decisions to be recognized by the USDOE.¹⁰ Seven states require the accreditor to be recognized by CHEA as well as the USDOE. Idaho, for example, requires the institution to become accredited by a CHEA-recognized accreditor if it is currently only accredited by a USDOE-recognized accreditor. Several states that currently accept only USDOE recognized accreditation report that they are considering adding CHEA recognition as an alternative. Finally, a few states require institutions to have a particular kind of accreditation in order to be authorized. Mississippi requires institutions to be regionally accredited (national accreditation is excluded) and Rhode Island requires all institutions operating in the state to be accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Other State Uses of Accreditation

Although decisions about authorization to operate constitute the bulk of state uses of institutional accreditation, an institution's accredited status affects other dimensions of state activity. Among the most prominent of these other uses are policies related to an institution's ability to receive state funds and the role of accreditation in state transfer and articulation policies. Table 5 presents data on these two matters.

¹⁰ Four states have a policy on recognition even though they do not use an institution's accredited status as a criterion for authorization. For example, New York and Oregon requires an institution to be accredited by a recognized accreditor in order to receive state funds.

Table 5 – Other State Uses of Accreditation

State	Accreditation Required to Get State Funds	Type of State Transfer Policy	Accreditation Required in Transfer Policy
Alabama	yes	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Alaska	depends	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Arizona	depends	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Arkansas	yes	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
California	no answer	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Colorado	yes	Publics Only	no
Connecticut	yes	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Delaware	no	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Florida	yes	Publics & Privates	no
Georgia	yes	Publics Only	no
Hawaii	no	Publics Only	no
Idaho	yes	Publics Only	no
Illinois	yes	Publics & Privates	Yes & Specialized
Indiana	depends	Publics & Privates	Specialized
Iowa	yes	Publics Only	no
Kansas	no	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Kentucky	depends	Publics Only	no
Louisiana	yes	Publics & Privates	Yes & Specialized
Maine	yes	Publics & Privates	Yes
Maryland	no	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Massachusetts	yes	Publics Only	no
Michigan	yes	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Minnesota	no	Publics & Privates	Yes
Mississippi	yes	Publics Only	no
Missouri	yes	Publics & Privates	Regional
Montana	yes	Publics Only	no
Nebraska	yes	Publics & Privates	no
Nevada	yes	Publics Only	no
New Hampshire	yes	Publics Only	no
New Jersey	yes	Publics & Privates	no
New Mexico	yes	Publics Only	no
New York	depends	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
North Carolina	Not Applicable	Publics Only	Specialized
North Dakota	Not Applicable	Publics Only	no
Ohio	yes	Publics & Privates	Regional
Oklahoma	yes	Publics & Privates	no
Oregon	depends	Publics Only	no
Pennsylvania	yes	Publics Only	no
Rhode Island	yes	Publics Only	no
South Carolina	yes	Publics & Privates	no
South Dakota	yes	Publics Only	no
Tennessee	no	Publics Only	no
Texas	no	Publics Only	no
Utah	Not Applicable	Publics & Privates	no
Vermont	no answer	Institution Decides	Not Applicable
Virginia	Not Applicable	Publics & Privates	no
Washington	no	Publics & Privates	Regional & Specialized
West Virginia	yes	Publics Only	no
Wisconsin	yes	Publics & Privates	Yes & Specialized
Wyoming	Not Applicable	Publics Only	no

Receipt of State Funds. The majority of states require institutions to be accredited in order to receive state funds—either directly in the form of grants or operating funds or indirectly in the form of state student financial aid. Those that operate state student financial aid programs and allow private institutions to participate in them generally follow federal Title IV guidelines; so they require institutions to be accredited in order to participate. A few, like Missouri, place no restrictions on where a student can spend state aid dollars. Six states report that the requirement for accreditation depends on the state funding program. For example, accreditation might be required for participation in state student aid programs but not be required to operate workforce training programs funded by the state. Finally, five states do not spend public money on non-public institutions at all.

Transfer of Credit Policies. Sixteen states have statewide agreements that govern transfer of credit that affect all institutions, generally involving a transferrable general education curriculum and based on an approved list of transferrable courses. Nine of these require at least some of the institutions providing the credit to be accredited and three of these ten require regional accreditation. Twenty-two states have similar arrangements among their public institutions, primarily governing the transfer of credit from community colleges to four-year institutions. None of these explicitly require the affected institutions to be accredited.¹¹ The remaining states leave to individual institutions the decision about whether to accept transfer credits, although the sending institution’s accredited status undoubtedly plays a role in that decision. Finally, six states require transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields. Interestingly, two states (Indiana and Wisconsin) explicitly cite the CHEA *Statement to the Community: Transfer and the Public Interest* as part of their transfer policies.

State Use of Specialized or Programmatic Accreditation

The scope of the survey did not permit a comprehensive and detailed answer to the question of how states use specialized or programmatic accreditation in making licensure decisions about individuals or licensure/approval-to-operate decisions about specialized professional or career schools. Because it was sent exclusively to agencies regulating institutions and not to the myriad state boards granting licenses to individuals, only a limited amount of information could be collected about this topic.

Individual Licensure to Practice. Most state respondents reported that the answer to whether or not graduation from a program that had obtained specialized accreditation was required for an individual to be licensed to practice or to sit for a licensure examination varies by the type of program, or that “most” regulated professions had this requirement. The majority of the occupations or professions where such a connection was reported were in health care or in other regulated occupations in which a potential risk to the public was involved. But there are exceptions here. Kansas, for instance, requires most

¹¹ In practice, of course, all public institutions are expected to be accredited in any case.

such professions to be licensed or regulated but excludes surgical technicians and dental assistants. Some states reported that the requirement varies by type of degree. In Maine, for instance, graduation from an accredited program is required for certificate programs but not for trade programs.

In the majority of states, a wide range of state licensing boards governs entry into regulated professions and each board makes its own decisions about the particular role of specialized or programmatic accreditation. But in some states, this function is coordinated so there is one place to look in order to determine the relationship. The Indiana Professional Licensing Agency, for example, coordinates the licensing function for all of the state's regulated professions from acupuncture to veterinary medicine. Its website contains detailed information on how to obtain a license in any of these professions, including the requirements for accreditation of the program from which the applicant graduated. The Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing of the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation maintain a similar site. In most states, however, determining the specific linkage between specialized or programmatic accreditation and an individual licensing decision would require independently contacting each of the more than fifty state boards governing each regulated occupation or profession.

Authorization for Specialized Institutions. In some states, there is a relationship between specialized/programmatic accreditation and state decisions to authorize a given institution to operate if the institution only offers instruction in a field for which such accreditation exists. In Nevada and Pennsylvania, for example, the approval agency checks to determine whether or not such an institution has obtained the appropriate specialized or programmatic accreditation as part of the decision to authorize the institution to operate. In similar circumstances in Ohio, specialized or programmatic accreditation is "strongly encouraged." Similarly, Nebraska asks institutions seeking authorization to demonstrate that they have programmatic accreditation if that accreditation is "an essential indicator of program quality and a valid predictor of graduate employment." In Kentucky, relevant statutory language reads, "if a college's program offering is also required to be licensed or approved by another state agency as well as the Council on Postsecondary Education, the [President of the Council on Postsecondary Education] shall attempt to coordinate the licensing function with that agency."

Conclusion

This report can only begin to shed light on the complex relationship between accreditation and state government. The data it presents indicate that variation across states in language, assigned responsibilities, and behaviors is considerable. While the actual impact of this situation is unknown, it probably does not contribute to public understanding of accreditation's basic functions or its importance in providing quality assurance for higher education. Two important implications follow from this conclusion. First, greater communication between states and accreditors is called for to try to better rationalize and align the relationship between state regulation and institutional

accreditation. Second, considerably more study of this topic is warranted. CHEA can help with both.

References

Contreras, Alan L. (2009). *The Legal Basis for Degree-Granting Authority in the United States*. Boulder, CO: State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO).

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Appendix A
Individual State Summaries

ALABAMA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Private School Licensure Division of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education issues Private School Licenses to proprietary postsecondary schools interested in offering courses of instruction, whether on a resident campus or through distance learning, within the State of Alabama; based on recognized educational standards and practices.

The Private School Licensure Division
Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education
401 Adams Avenue (36104)
Post Office Box 302130
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2130
<http://www.acs.cc.al.us/departement/departement.aspx>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. US DOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES

- c. Either US DOE or CHEA? YES
- d. Both US DOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

ALASKA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education has licensure and approval authority for all institutions of postsecondary education including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. It also approves all programs and institutions enrolling students receiving veteran's benefits. ACPE's oversight does not extend to the University of Alaska. The University of Alaska System is exempted by law having a separate governing body, the Board of Regents.

University of Alaska System
910 Yukon Drive/202-I Butrovich Bldg.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5000
www.alaska.edu/swacad
<http://alaskaadvantage.state.ak.us/>

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
P.O. Box 110505
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0505
<http://alaskadvantage.state.ak.us/page/269>.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. US DOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either US DOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both US DOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

Not necessarily... if attending a non-title IV school located in Alaska, you may still be able to borrow from the Alaska Supplemental Education Loan program provided you and your school met the eligibility criteria.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

ARIZONA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education has authority over private (both profit/non-profit) vocational and degree granting institutions. The board has 7 members appointed by the governor.

The Board licenses and regulates 240 private postsecondary educational institutions operating vocational and degree programs. These private universities, colleges, career colleges, and vocational schools annually serve approximately 343,000 students. Formerly, students were only Arizona residents, however, with e-learning; Arizona schools now provide training to students across the nation and around the world. The Board acts on license applications, determines compliance, investigates complaints and violations, takes disciplinary action, confiscates and retains student educational records from closed institutions, provides students with access to their educational records, and administers the Student Tuition Recovery Fund, which provides financial restitution to students injured by private postsecondary institutional closures.

Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education
1400 W. Washington Street, Room 260
Phoenix, AZ 85007
<http://azppse.state.az.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. US DOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either US DOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both US DOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

Depends on the state funding program.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

ARKANSAS

Licensure/Approval Agencies

Out-of-state and proprietary institutions must be certified by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board in order to offer degrees and college-credit courses. The State Board of Private Career Education has approval and licensing authority for vocational and technical programs that do not grant degrees or offer college-level courses.

Arkansas Department of Higher Education
114 East Capitol Ave
Little Rock, AR 72201
<http://www.adhe.edu/Pages/home.aspx>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. US DOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either US DOE or CHEA? NO

d. Both US DOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

CALIFORNIA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

On October 11, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill (AB) 48 (Portantino, Chapter 310, Statutes of 2009). AB 48 is known as the Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 ("Act") and establishes the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education within the Department of Consumer Affairs. The Act became operative on January 1, 2010.

Beginning **January 1, 2010**, private postsecondary schools operating in California will be under the jurisdiction of the Bureau and subject to the requirements of the Act, unless they are exempt pursuant to sections 94874, 94874.1, or 94927.5 of the Act.

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
P.O. Box 980818
West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818
www.bppve.ca.gov

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs? If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations? If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. US DOE recognized? Not applicable

- b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
- c. Either US DOE or CHEA? Not applicable
- d. Both US DOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute (specifically for community colleges).

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

No answer.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

COLORADO

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Commission on Higher Education administers the statute applied to the awarding of degrees by private institutions. Under the provisions of Colorado's Private Vocational School Act of 1975, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education serves as the approval agency for private vocational schools.

Commission on Higher Education
Division of Private Occupational Schools
1560 Broadway, Suite 1600
Denver, Colorado 80202
<http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/DegreeAuth/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES – for associate level and above. NO – for certificate/diploma programs.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

CONNECTICUT

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Board of Governors for Higher Education has licensing and program approval authority for public and independent degree-granting institutions of postsecondary education, as well as for proprietary vocational or technical schools which qualify for degree-granting status. The Connecticut Department of Higher Education has approval and licensing authority for for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools and all postsecondary private occupational schools, regardless of degree-granting status.

The Board of Governors for Higher Education
State of Connecticut
Department of Higher Education
61 Woodland Street
Hartford, CT 06105
<http://www.ctdhe.org/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES. Section 10a-34-5. Accreditation.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of the accreditation process is to ensure that continuing institutions and programs offered by such institutions comply substantially with the quality standards in Sections 10a-34-9 through 10a-34-24, inclusive, of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. Accreditation carries with it authorization to award a specified degree(s). Institutional accreditation is a prerequisite for accreditation of a program. The Board shall accept regional accreditation in satisfaction of the requirements of this section for institutions seeking reaccreditation unless the board finds cause not to rely upon such regional or national accreditation based on the criteria described in section 10a-34-6(c) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

(b) Applications. An application for accreditation or reaccreditation shall be filed in a format developed by the Commissioner. Applications shall be filed at least nine months in advance of the date that current licensure or accreditation expires. Institutions that receive reaccreditation or continuing accreditation by a commission of the New England Associate of Schools and Colleges shall notify the Commissioner within thirty days of receiving notice of such action in lieu of filing the application referred to in this subsection.

(c) Completeness. The Commissioner shall be responsible for determining whether the application is complete and for requesting from the institution any additional information required. Once an application is complete, assessment shall proceed.

(d) Quality assessment. All institutions and programs being considered for accreditation or reaccreditation, as required by the board, shall be evaluated for compliance with the approval standards in Sections 10a-34-9 through 10a-34-24, inclusive, of these regulations and in accordance with the provisions of Section 10a-34-6 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

(e) Duration of approval. Accreditation of an institution or program by the Board may be granted for a fixed term not to exceed five years. Reaccreditation by the board of regionally accredited institutions with their previously accredited programs shall be concurrent with the action of a commission of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to continue regional accreditation.

2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations? If so, how do they describe this activity?

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

Connecticut Department of Higher Education
Private Occupational School Unit
61 Woodland Street
Hartford, CT 06105
<http://www.ctdhe.org/>

In 1993 the Department of Higher Education was given statutory responsibility for the authorization of private occupational schools to operate in Connecticut. The Connecticut Commissioner of Higher Education authorizes private occupational schools to provide training at the post-secondary level. The private occupational schools in Connecticut are NOT degree granting.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or regulation?**
NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

DELAWARE

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Department of Education serves as approval authority for all private degree-granting institutions and vocational-technical institutions. The Delaware Higher Education Commission has approval and licensing authority for for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools.

State Department of Education
John G. Townsend Building
401 Federal Street
Dover, Delaware 19901
<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/default.shtml>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Policy.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
NO.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
No statewide transfer policy.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

The Delaware Higher Education Commission
John G. Townsend Building
401 Federal Street
Dover, Delaware 19901
http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/dhec/

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or regulation?**
YES – Board Policy.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
No state funds are used for our type of institutions.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

FLORIDA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Commission for Independent Education, within the State Department of Education, has approval and licensing authority for independent postsecondary institutions.

Commission for Independent Education

State Department of Education

325 W. Gaines St, Suite 1414

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

<http://www.fldoe.org/cie/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

GEORGIA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Non-Public Postsecondary Education Commission (NPEC) is a statutory board comprised of 14 members, 13 appointed from each congressional district and 1 at-large member. It has approval and licensing authority for consumer protection by regulating the operations of private degree-granting institutions, postsecondary vocation-technical programs and proprietary schools. NPEC also provides authorization for certificate-granting proprietary schools. It licenses and approves approximately 280 schools on an annual basis.

Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
2082 East Exchange Place
Suite 220
Tucker, Georgia 30084
<http://www.gnpec.org/MainMenu.asp>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
- b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

HAWAII

Licensure/Approval Agencies

Approval authority for propriety vocational and technical schools lies with the State of Hawaii Department of Education. Regarding private degree-granting institutions, Hawaii has statutory requirements relating to disclosure and prohibited practice, but not an approval/licensing law.

Accreditation & School Improvement/OCISS

Hawaii Department of Education

475 22nd Avenue, Rm. 124

Honolulu, HI 96816

<http://doe.k12.hi.us>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
NO.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

IDAHO

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Department of Education under the Board of Education functions as the licensing and approval agency for proprietary schools including for-profit/proprietary vocational technical schools. No approval agency exists for private degree-granting institutions. The Board of Education has statutory authority to maintain a register of courses and programs offered in Idaho by non Idaho postsecondary institutions. The Board also is authorized to establish operational standards for out-of-state institutions, which desire to offer courses or programs in Idaho.

State Board of Education
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0037
<http://www.boardofed.idaho.gov/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
YES. Accrediting Agencies must be recognized by both the U.S. Department of Education and by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) before the SBOE will “recognize” their accreditation of a school applying for “registration” to operate within the state of Idaho.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? YES
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Policy.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

ILLINOIS

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Illinois Board of Higher Education has authority to approve operating and degree-granting authority for private institutions. The State Board of Education and the Department of Professional Regulation serve as approval and licensure agencies for most non-degree-granting postsecondary institutions and proprietary institutions not covered by the Board of Higher Education, including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools.

Illinois Board of Higher Education
431 East Adams, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62701-1418
www.ibhe.state.il.us/

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES

c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Regulation.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES + Specialized.

This includes transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

State Board of Education
Department of Professional Regulation
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777
<http://www.isbe.net/pbvs/Default.htm>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

NO.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

NO.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| a. USDOE recognized? | Not applicable |
| b. CHEA recognized? | Not applicable |
| c. Either USDOE or CHEA? | Not applicable |
| d. Both USDOE and CHEA? | Not applicable |

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Regulation.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES, but generally a private business and/or vocational school would not receive state funding.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES + Specialized.

This includes transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

INDIANA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Indiana Commission on Proprietary Education (ICOPE) functions as the statutory licensing and approval authority for proprietary institutions. ICOPE no longer has the State Approving Agency for VA benefits.

Indiana Commission on Proprietary Education
302 West Washington Street, Room E201
Indianapolis, IN 46204
<http://www.in.gov/cpe/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
YES. Through ICOPE's accreditation process, regulated institutions are encouraged to demonstrate their commitment to the highest standards of educational conduct.
Accreditation means certification of a status of approval or authorization by the Commission to conduct business. Applications for accreditation are carefully reviewed by the Commission staff to insure that institutions meet the minimum standards outlined by law. Points covered in the review include financial stability, admissions standards, enrollment forms or contracts, program content, instructor qualifications, student record keeping, and refund policies. Institutions must be bonded and their recruiting agents licensed. Applicant status concludes with an on-site evaluation of the school's programs and physical facilities by qualified evaluators. ICOPE works closely with national accrediting bodies whenever appropriate.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

With some state government agencies ICOPE accreditation may be required. Or a determination that a school can't be regulated by ICOPE may allow the school to receive state funds

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

Specialized Only.

For transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Licensing in the state of Indiana is done by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency.

IOWA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Iowa Department of Education has approval and licensing authority for for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. The State Board of Education has been designated as the official approval agency for 2-year public postsecondary vocational-technical programs by the Office of Education. The secretary of state's office is responsible for registering all out-of-state institutions offering programs or courses of study in Iowa. In addition, the secretary of state registers for-profit/proprietary schools that pass approval by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission. No approval and licensing agency exists for private degree-granting institutions.

The Iowa Department of Education
Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation
400 E 14th St
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146
<http://www.iowa.gov/educate/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES, the State of Iowa does accredit the community colleges of Iowa. “As set forth in Iowa Code section 260.C.1, the purpose of accreditation of Iowa’s community colleges is to confirm that each college is offering, to the greatest extent possible, educational opportunities and service,

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES, the State of Iowa does engage in recognition. Iowa Administrative Rule – 24.3(260C), “Higher Learning Commission” The Higher Learning commission is the accrediting authority within the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.” Iowa Code sections 260C.47 and 260C.48 require that the state accreditation process be integrated with that of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

NO.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, examples of this would be:

- Education (Teachers) – State Board of Educational Examiners
- Nursing – State Board of Nursing
- Cosmetology – State Cosmetology Board
- Electrician (with apprenticeship) – State Electrical Union
- Plumber (with apprenticeship) – State Plumbers Union

The Secretary of State
Iowa College Student Aid Commission
200 10th Street, Fourth Floor
Des Moines, IA 50309
<http://www.iowa.gov/Education>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES for certain institutions. However, out-of-state institutions do not receive any funding from the state, either directly or indirectly.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES.

KANSAS

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Kansas Board of Regents authorizes private and out-of-state institutions to operate in Kansas with a Certificate of Approval that must be renewed annually. These schools are business enterprises offering instruction for business trade, technical or industrial occupations leading to a certificate, diploma, or academic degree. All schools operating with a physical presence in Kansas or that are actively soliciting* enrollment of prospective students in the state of Kansas must apply for a certificate of approval or an exemption

Kansas Board of Regents
1000 SW Jackson St
Topeka, KS 66612

<http://www.kansasregents.org/institutions/career/index.html>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES – degree only.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES

- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

NO.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

KENTUCKY

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Council on Postsecondary Education has the statutory authority to license all nonprofit colleges and universities, including private degree-granting institutions, which operate in Kentucky, as well as proprietary, baccalaureate degree-granting institutions. Other proprietary institutions, which award an associate degree or other non-degree credentials, are licensed by the State Board for Proprietary Education

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 320
Frankfort, KY 40601
<http://cpe.ky.gov/>

1. **Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
2. **Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
3. **Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
4. **Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
5. **If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
6. **For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
7. **If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

Depends.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

State Board for Proprietary Education
P.O. Box 1360
Frankfort, KY 40602
<http://www.bpe.ky.gov/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
It would depend on the funding source.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

LOUISIANA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Board of Regents serves as the licensing authority for postsecondary vocational/technical proprietary schools and for private and out-of-state academic degree-granting institutions.

Louisiana Board of Regents
1201 N. Third St., Suite 6-200
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
<http://regents.state.la.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs? If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations? If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES and NO. Postsecondary vocational/technical for-profit schools are not required to be accredited. Academic degree-granting institutions must hold recognized accreditation in order to operate in Louisiana. Out-of-state institutions must bring recognized accreditation while new institutions domiciled in Louisiana must demonstrate high probability of gaining accreditation in a reasonable amount of time.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES for public institutions and for private institutions, if it already exists somewhere outside of Louisiana and is coming to Louisiana. New institutions domiciled in Louisiana must demonstrate high probability of gaining accreditation in a reasonable amount of time according to the Regents set timetable.

NO for Louisiana private (nonprofit or for-profit) institutions that are defined as non-academic-degree-granting institutions. These vocational/occupational schools, by law, are not required to be accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the USDOE. Whether or not to seek accreditation is a voluntary measure on the part of the licensed schools

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

YES – State Statute and Board Policy.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

Licensed institutions do not receive state funds. All institutions which do receive state funds are accredited.

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

YES + Specialized.

Includes transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

Depends on the program/profession.

MAINE

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Education and the State Department of Education are responsible for recommending to the legislature approval of degree-granting authority for postsecondary education institutions.

Department of Education
Office of Higher Education Services
23 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

<http://www.state.me.us/education/highered/ProprietarySchools/PropSchools.htm>

1. **Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
2. **Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
3. **Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES (for in-state the institution may be in process).
4. **Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
5. **If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
6. **For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
7. **If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
YES.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
YES -- for certification of some programs.
NO -- for trade professions.

MARYLAND

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has licensing and approval authority for all public and private institutions of postsecondary education. In addition, this agency has approval responsibility for the Veterans Administration. The Division of Planning and Academic Affairs within MHEC is responsible for establishing minimum requirements for issuing certificates, diplomas, and degrees by public and nonpublic institutions of postsecondary education in the State of Maryland. It is also responsible for approving institutions wishing to operate and offer degrees and/or certificates within the State of Maryland.

Maryland Higher Education Commission
839 Bestgate Road, Suite 400
Annapolis, MD 21401
<http://www.mhec.state.md.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable

- b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Regulation.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

NO.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

MASSACHUSETTS

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Department of Higher Education has licensing authority over the approval of charters and amendments for independent degree-granting institutions in the state, both proprietary and nonprofit. The Department of Higher Education coordinates the review and approval of new academic programs at Massachusetts public colleges and universities, independent institutions chartered after 1943, and out-of-state institutions seeking to offer courses for college credit in Massachusetts. Independent institutions of higher education are not licensed by the Board; rather they are granted the [authority to award degrees](#) in accordance with the Code of Massachusetts Regulations.

The Board of Higher Education
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education
One Ashburton Place
Room 1401
Boston, MA 02108
<http://www.mass.edu/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, for certain cases.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
YES -- Commission of Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE) of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)
- a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

MICHIGAN

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Education has licensing authority for non-degree vocational-technical and proprietary institutions within the state. Such institutions outside Michigan who wish to recruit Michigan students must have their recruiters licensed in a similar manner. The Board also approves the charters for private degree-granting institutions.

Department of Labor and Economic Growth
Office of Postsecondary Services, Proprietary School Unit
Victor Office Center, 3rd Floor
201 North Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913
www.michiganps.net

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
Not required.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES. Private educational corporations only get a small amount of funds.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

MINNESOTA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Minnesota Higher Education Services Council has licensing authority over all private-degree granting, vocational-technical and for-profit/proprietary schools. The Office of Higher Education provides consumer protection for students and prospective students. Two state laws require private and out-of-state postsecondary education institutions to meet state standards to operate legally in Minnesota.

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350

St. Paul, MN 55108-5227

<http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/index.cfm>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES and NO.

We “License” non degree granting private schools as Private Career Schools, and “Register” private and out-of-state public degree granting schools as Registered Private Institutions. No accreditation is required for the “Licensed” non degree granting schools. Accreditation by a “Licensed” school does not relieve it of the obligation to obtain or renew a license.

Degree granting schools must be accredited by an agency recognized by the USDOE. The accreditation does not relieve them of the obligation to become Registered. A new school is given 5 years to obtain accreditation.

- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
Not for “Licensed” (non-degree granting) schools, but “Registered” (degree granting) schools must be accredited by a USDOE recognized agency.

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

YES – State Statute.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

Not at this time. However, changes to eligibility will take effect on 2013 and will require accreditation and participation in the PELL grant program to be eligible for state financial aid.

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

YES.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

Depends on the program/profession.

MISSISSIPPI

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA) functions as the accrediting agency for public and private academic degree-granting institutions in the state. The Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration (CPSCR) serves as the approval and licensing authority for proprietary schools. The Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning is the accrediting agency for all nursing education programs.

Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation
Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
<http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES. The commission prepares an approved list of community, junior and senior colleges and universities or other entities that offer one or more post-secondary academic degrees and are domiciled, incorporated or otherwise located in the State of Mississippi. [Post-secondary academic degrees include, but are not limited to, associate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees.] The commission is charged by statute to adopt standards in keeping with the best educational practices in accreditation and receive reports from the institutions seeking to be placed on the approved list. The community, junior and senior colleges and universities or other entities must be approved annually by the commission in order to grant diplomas of graduation, degrees or offer instruction. The commission seeks action against entities that offer one or more post-secondary academic degrees or advertise for the offering of such degrees or courses leading to such degrees without first obtaining approval by the commission.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES – at least provisional.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES – at least provisional.

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

NO.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

NO.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

YES. Public 2-year and 4-year academic degree-granting colleges and universities receive state funds. Accreditation/approval by the Commission on College Accreditation is required for all academic degree-granting institutions in the state, including 2-year and 4-year public colleges and universities. [The governing board for public universities requires that they maintain regional accreditation with SACS-COC and endeavor to acquire accreditation for all programs for which professional accreditation is available.]

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

NO.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

Depends on the program/profession.

The Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
<http://www.sbcjc.cc.ms.us/programs/>

The Commission of Proprietary Schools and College Registration is responsible for the administration of the Mississippi Proprietary School and College Registration Law, Title 75, Chapter 60, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. The purpose of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration is to establish and implement the registration process for schools obtaining and maintaining a certificate of registration, and an agent's permits.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

The answer is that the requirement for graduation from an accredited institution varies with the profession. The following trades/professions all require graduation from an accredited institution as a requisite for obtaining a license to practice:

Dental Hygiene Technology, Physical Therapist, EMT (Paramedic) in 2015, Surgical Technology, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Radiologic Technology, Health Care Assistant, Massage Therapy, Cosmetology and Barbering.

The allied health professions on this list are mostly taught through community colleges not CPSCR. Also Massage Therapy, Cosmetology and Barbering are not covered by the proprietary schools commission because they have their own state regulation group.

MISSOURI

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education has approval and licensing authority for all institutions including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. The Department of Higher Education works in conjunction with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education under the commissioner and staff.

Missouri Department of Higher Education
3515 Amazonas Drive
Jefferson City, Missouri 65109-5717
573-751-2361
www.dhe.mo.gov

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute (specifically for community colleges).

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES. In Missouri, only institutions that are defined as “public” directly receive state funds. Student financial assistance is awarded on behalf of students, who are free to use those funds at any participating institution, public or private. In order for students attending non-public institutions to participate in those programs, the institution must be non-profit and accredited by a USDOE-recognized accrediting commission.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES (Regional).

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

MONTANA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

Degree-granting institutions must get the Board of Regents' approval or be accredited by 1 of 6 agencies recognized by the Board of Regents. There is no state agency in Montana that regulates, licenses or oversees proprietary schools.

Montana Board of Regents
Office of Commissioner of Higher Education
2500 Broadway Street/P.O. Box 203201
Helena, MT 59620-3201
<http://www.mus.edu/board/BORinfo.asp>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES – The Board of Regents recognizes the following accrediting agencies:
 - New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
 - North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 - Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
 - Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 - Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute and Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES.

NEBRASKA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Education has licensing and approval authority for the majority of proprietary institutions including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education approves new two- and four-year colleges and universities, in addition to out-of-state institutions operating within the state. The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education has authority to approve the establishment of private degree-granting institutions.

Nebraska Department of Education
State Board of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/stateboard/StateBoard.html>

1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?

If so, how do they describe this activity?

YES. An institution has to be licensed for two years. Then we require a self study, a site visit, a student review, and then they can receive accreditation from the “State of Nebraska, department of education” signed by the commissioner.

2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?

If so, how do they describe this activity?

YES. We review accrediting organizations that work with our schools. We participate in their review.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES – the institution must be working on the process.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES. Either through the state or the USDOE.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education
140 N. 8th Street, Suite 300
P.O. Box 95005
Lincoln, NE 68508

<http://www.ccpe.state.ne.us/publicdoc/ccpe/LegalRegs/RulesRegs.asp>

Please be aware that the Nebraska Department of Education regulates career schools, so the information I have provided does not apply to those schools unless they are regionally accredited, which places them under our jurisdiction.

1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?

If so, how do they describe this activity?

NO.

2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?

If so, how do they describe this activity?

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES. This is true as it relates to the state's financial aid program.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES.

NEVADA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Commission on Postsecondary Education serves as the approval and licensing authority for private degree-granting, for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical and proprietary institutions.

Commission on Postsecondary Education
3663 East Sunset Road, Suite 202
Las Vegas, NV 89120
<http://www.cpe.state.nv.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, only if they offer degrees.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Postsecondary Education Commission has approval and licensing authority for private and public degree-granting institutions. The Commission also approves degree granting institutions (profit and non-profit) and license career schools (non-degree proprietary schools)

Postsecondary Education Commission

Barrell Court, Suite 300

Concord, NH 03301

<http://www.nh.gov/postsecondary/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
Sometimes...
The Evaluation Team may recommend the Commission consider linking Commission approval to a US Department of Education (USDOE) recognized accrediting association that is either an institutional or specialized licensing or professional association. When approval(s) are linked to a USDOE recognized accrediting association, the executive director will review related materials and attend evaluation site visits as appropriate.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO (but may be under consideration)
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
NO.

NEW JERSEY

Licensure/Approval Agencies

Any institution (in- or out-of-state; public, independent, or proprietary) seeking to offer college credit-bearing coursework in New Jersey must be licensed by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. The State Department of Education is the approval authority for vocational-technical schools and non-collegiate proprietary schools. The School Approval Unit works in conjunction with the Department of Education's Bureau of Program Review to evaluate and approve private vocational schools, out-of-state private vocational schools and correspondence schools that wish to operate within New Jersey's workforce readiness system.

New Jersey Commission on Higher Education
P.O. Box 542
Trenton, NJ 08625-0542
<http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, the institution must be seeking accreditation.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Regulation.

9. Is accreditation required in order that a non-public institution or program to receive state funds?

YES - institutions must be seeking accreditation, which generally means candidacy status.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

The State Department of Education
P.O. Box 500
Trenton, NJ 08625-0500
<http://www.state.nj.us/education/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

NEW MEXICO

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The New Mexico Higher Education Department has authority to approve and license private degree-granting institutions and certain proprietary (career) schools operating in the state, including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical education. This authority was substantially enhanced in 1994. Regionally accredited institutions chartered in other states and operating branches or otherwise offering instruction within the state are exempt from regulation.

New Mexico Higher Education Department
2048 Galisteo Street
Santa Fe, NM 87505-2100
<http://www.hed.state.nm.us>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES. If not accredited, then it must be authorized by the state to operate and then has three years to comply with accreditation.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES. If not accredited, then it must be authorized by the state to operate and then has three years to comply with accreditation.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES

- b. CHEA recognized? YES
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES. We don't usually provide state funds to private schools. However an accreditation requirement is required, especially for degree granting programs.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

NEW YORK

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Regents of the University of the State of New York act as the agency for approval of all education institutions in the state.

The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Office of Higher Education
Education Building, 5 North Mezzanine
Albany, NY 12234-1000
<http://usny.nysed.gov/about/aboutusny.html>

1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs? If so, how do they describe this activity?

YES. The Board of Regents is the institutional accreditor for 22 New York degree-granting institutions voluntarily applying to the Board for institutional accreditation. This is separate from State authorization to operate and approval ("registration") of academic programs. The Secretary of Education recognizes "The Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education" as a Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agency, pursuant to 34 CFR Part 602, for degree-granting institutions located in New York State voluntarily choosing the Board as their institutional accreditor. The Board is the only state higher education agency recognized as a Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agency.

In addition, programs of study leading to certification to teach in the public schools are required, after initial registration, to achieve program accreditation. The Board conducts its own Regents Accreditation of Teacher Education (RATE) program that institutions may choose voluntarily as an alternative to accreditation by NCATE or TEAC. The Board has not sought recognition for RATE by the Secretary of Education.

2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations? If so, how do they describe this activity?

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO. Except with respect to certain programs leading to licensure in learned professions.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

NO.

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

NO.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| a. USDOE recognized? | Not applicable |
| b. CHEA recognized? | Not applicable |
| c. Either USDOE or CHEA? | Not applicable |
| d. Both USDOE and CHEA? | Not applicable |

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

NO.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

YES for some funds. Accreditation is not required of campuses or community colleges of the State University of New York or The City University of New York in order to receive State appropriations. However, institutional accreditation by an agency recognized by the Secretary of Education as a Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agency is one of the requirements for independent (private, not-for-profit) higher education institutions to receive aid under the "Bundy" program of State Aid to Certain Independent Institutions of Higher Education. Further, in order to participate in the State's Tuition Assistance Program of need-based grants to eligible full-time students, institutions must be eligible to participate in HEA Title IV programs, which generally require institutional accreditation.

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

No statewide transfer policy.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

NO, generally.

NORTH CAROLINA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina functions as the agency for licensing all baccalaureate degree-granting institutions that have a physical presence in the state, including proprietary institutions.

The Board of Governors
The University of North Carolina
910 Raleigh Road
P.O. Box 2688
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
<http://www.northcarolina.edu/bog/index.htm>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Policy.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Not applicable.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
Specialized Only.
For transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
This office does not have the jurisdiction to license trade or professions.

NORTH DAKOTA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board for Career and Technical Education functions as the licensing and approval authority for private degree-granting institutions and for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools and confers with the chancellor of the North Dakota University System for official approval of academic institutions desiring to offer programs or courses in the state.

North Dakota State Board for Career and Technical Education
Private Postsecondary Educational Institutions
State Capitol Building, 15th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., department 270
Bismarck, ND 58505-0610
<http://www.nd.gov/cte/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES. Institutions operating with a provisional authorization must demonstrate substantial good faith efforts towards recognized accreditation.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES. We require accreditation eventually, but an institution may operate with provisional accreditation status.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES. Institutions granting associates of arts or science, bachelors, masters or doctorate degrees (i.e., private degree granting institutions) provide evidence of accreditation by an organization recognized by the Council for Higher Education

Accreditation. Institutions granting associate of applied science degrees, diplomas or certificates (i.e. private career schools) submit evidence of accreditation by an organization recognized by the United States Department of Education.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? YES
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES, depending on the type of degree offered
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

Not applicable (the state grant program does not apply to private institutions).

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

OHIO

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Ohio Board of Regents has statutory responsibility for authorization of private, nonprofit colleges and universities to operate in Ohio. The Department of Education approves vocational schools. Proprietary schools, including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools, are approved by the Board of Proprietary School Registration.

The Ohio Board of Regents
30 East Broad Street, 36th floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3414
<http://regents.ohio.gov/>

We are currently reviewing and revising our process for program approval and institutional reauthorization. Please contact either of the individuals listed below to obtain information on program approval and institutional reauthorization and to obtain the templates for review and reporting.

Board of Regents staff coordinate the Certificate of Authorization process that all profit and non-profit private schools of higher education must obtain in order to issue degrees, offer for-credit coursework or programming. Certificates of Authorization are granted for specific degrees and courses as well as specific periods of time and are filed with the Office of the Secretary of State of Ohio.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES for degree granting.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

NO officially, but we rely on USDOE. The Chancellor's staff is exploring amending the administrative code to include this.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES (see #6)
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES. The institution/program must be approved by the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents in accordance with the standards and processes prescribed by him to receive state funds. To the best of my knowledge, all institutions approved by the Chancellor are accredited or pursuing accreditation.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES (Regional).

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools
Board of Proprietary School Registration
35 East Gay Street, Suite 403,
Columbus, OH 43215-3138
<http://scr.ohio.gov/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO. It is only required for schools seeking to offer degree level programs.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES. Institutional accreditation is required if the school is seeking to offer degree level programs.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

This agency does not administer state funds. To the best of my knowledge some funding programs do require accreditation and some do not.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES (Regional).

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

OKLAHOMA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Regents for Higher Education function as the approval and licensing agency for public and private (not for profit/proprietary) degree-granting institutions. The Department of Career and Technology Education has supervision over the vocational and technical schools. The Oklahoma Board of Private Schools licenses the operation of proprietary schools.

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

P.O. Box 108850

Oklahoma City, OK 73101-8850

<http://www.okhighered.org/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES. To operate as a college or university in Oklahoma and award college credit or degrees institutions must be accredited by one of the following three entities: a regional accrediting agency, a recognized national accrediting agency, or the State Regents as defined in this policy.

All public institutions and private/independent Oklahoma institutions are accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities (HLC) – Private institutions that are not currently accredited by USDOE, must then be accredited by Oklahoma. State Regents' standards, policies, and procedures for accreditation are modeled on those of HLC. Accreditation of a college or university by the State Regents means that standards and policies prescribed for accreditation by the State Regents' policy have been satisfied. Institutions accredited pursuant to this policy are encouraged to become accredited by the regional accrediting agency, HLC.

State Regents' accreditation calls for institutions to meet the HLC's ERs establish baseline benchmarks for institutions seeking accreditation as required by the Higher Learning Commission. The team explores the institution's ability to meet the HLC's ERs as Standards of Education Quality, and the HLC's Criteria for Accreditation evidenced by the institution's self-study report and the evaluation visit.

To achieve accreditation without qualification, an institution is required to meet the HLC's ERs and each State Regents' Standard of Educational Quality as well as address the HLC Criteria for Accreditation in the institutional self-study report and the evaluation visit.

2. **Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
3. **Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
4. **Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES for degree granting
5. **If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
6. **For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
7. **If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
8. **Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – State Statute.
9. **Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
10. **Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
11. **In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education
1500 West 7th Ave.
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074
<http://www.okcareertech.org/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES. For the purpose of determining eligibility for federal student assistance programs administered by the Department of Education, the Oklahoma State Board of Career and Technology Education is recognized by the United States Secretary of Education for the approval/accreditation of all public postsecondary *CareerTech* institutions and programs that are not offered for college credit or under jurisdiction of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The State Board is recognized as an institutional accreditor (state approval agency).

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES for degree granting.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

NO. This would not be applicable to the career tech system. For the Oklahoma technology centers who want dual accreditation through NCA/AdvancED, we have crosswalked the standards and do the on-site reviews jointly.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES. The State Board also is listed in the Oklahoma Statutes.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. USDOE recognized? | YES |
| b. CHEA recognized?
Board is a
or national | This has not been an option because the
state approval agency not a regional
accrediting agency. |
| c. Either USDOE or CHEA? | Not applicable |
| d. Both USDOE and CHEA? | Not applicable |

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – State Statute.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

The Oklahoma Board of Private Schools
3700 Classen Boulevard, Suite 250
Oklahoma City 73118-2864
<http://www.ok.gov/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO and YES.

Not for the institution to be licensed, but if they are offering degree programs, the school must be accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the USDOE and they must furnish proof that their accrediting body has approved them to offer that specific degree

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

NO and YES. For degree offering institutions, the school must be accredited.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES for most institutions, but private vocational schools in Oklahoma do not receive state funds.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

OREGON

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Office of Degree Authorization is the agency that authorizes all degree-granting schools originating outside Oregon, whether public or private. We also handle in-state private degree-granters that don't have regional accreditation. We are also the agency that regulates the activity of degree-school accrediting bodies. The Board of Education handles the non-degree vocational schools.

The Office of Degree Authorization
1500 Valley River Dr. No. 100
Eugene, Oregon 97401
<http://www.osac.state.or.us/oda/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
YES. State law allows and required approval of certain accreditors. See ORS 348.603 (f) and OAR 583-070 series rules. In effect, any accreditor that is not federally recognized or CHEA member required evaluation and approval to operate here and may not accredit Oregon schools without that approval.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation for Colleges/Universities.
YES – State Statute for Community Colleges.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Depends.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

The State Board of Education
The Private Career School
255 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97310-0203
<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=83>

The Private Career School office licenses private career schools and provides educational leadership, technical assistance, training, and support to over 375 private career schools in Oregon. These schools instruct students in career fields as diverse as computer technology, cosmetology, health care, real estate and business. Private career school programs provide opportunities for students who have a very specific career focus. Students beyond high school who enroll in private career schools should feel confident that they will receive the preparation they need for productive careers.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation for Colleges/Universities.
YES – State Statute for Community Colleges.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Depends.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

PENNSYLVANIA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Education regulations implemented by the Division of Program Services in the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has approval authority for all academic degree-granting institutions both for-profit and non-profit, conferring a Certificate of Authority on those higher education institutions so approved. The State Board of Private Licensed Schools regulations implemented by the Division of Private Licensed Schools in the Pennsylvania Department of Education has licensing authority over private vocational preparation and trade schools, which are primarily for-profit.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education
Division of Program Services
333 Market Street
Harrisburg PA 17126-0333
www.pde.state.pa.us

The State Board of Education regulations are established to provide protection for students and citizens of the commonwealth, guide the orderly development of postsecondary education in the state and offer direction to those intending to establish new institutions of postsecondary education in the commonwealth.

Academic degree granting institutions include state system universities, state-related universities, state-aided institutions, community colleges, two and four year private colleges, universities, graduate institutes, seminaries, and other or out of state based institutions approved to operate in Pennsylvania. In 2009 there are approximately 180 academic degree granting institutions operating in Pennsylvania. The Division of Program Services also oversees the approval process of two specialized associate degrees that are for programs of occupational preparation, which may only be granted by private licensed schools. The two specialized degrees are Associate in Specialized Technology (AST) and Associate in Specialized Business (ASB) degrees. About 85 private licensed schools are authorized to award specialized associate degrees.

Pennsylvania does not have a religious exemption; all degrees and programs leading to credit must be approved by PDE regardless of degree type or program content. Further, regulations require institutions to offer more than 50% of its programs by resident based instruction in order to be approved to operate in the state.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.

3. **Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
4. **Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES for degree granting.
5. **If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
6. **For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
7. **If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
8. **Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation.
9. **Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
10. **Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
11. **In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
By State Board of Education regulations new professional schools/programs must have professional field accreditation, such as medicine/osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, law, public health, nursing, etc. However, other Pennsylvania agencies have their own regulations, such as for nursing under the Pennsylvania

State Board of Nursing regulations or certified accountants under the Pennsylvania State Board of Accountancy.

State Board of Private Licensed Schools
Department of Education
Division of Private Licensed Schools
333 Market Street, 12 Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/private_licensed_schools/8993

The Private Licensed Schools Act, Act 174 of 1986, created a single State Board of Private Licensed Schools with the authority to license and regulate private career and trade schools. The intent of the legislation is to provide consumer protection, facilitate the investigation of complaints, provide for regulatory compliance visits, and to facilitate the collection of statistical data on private licensed schools.

The purpose of the Board's regulations is to: (1) establish minimum standards and procedures for licensing and registration of schools; (2) determine levels and forms of financial responsibility; (3) establish procedures for denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses or registrations; (4) establish qualifications for instructors and administrators; and (5) establish procedures for the imposition of penalties. The Department of Education provides administrative support to implement the Board's regulations.

As of October 1, 2008, there are approximately 296 private licensed schools in Pennsylvania and 11 registered out-of-state schools. Most of the schools offer certificate or diploma programs with 85 of these institutions authorized to grant specialized associate degrees.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Regulation.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Not applicable as private licensed schools do not receive state funding.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
Depends on the program/profession.

RHODE ISLAND

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Board of Governors for Higher Education has approval authority for private/nonprofit degree-granting institutions not specifically exempted by statute or legislative action and approval authority for proprietary schools. For-profit degree-granting institutions are prohibited from operating in the state by statute.

Rhode Island Office of Higher Education
Pastore Complex, Hazard Building
74 West Road
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920
<http://www.ribghe.org/>

These regulations pertain to all programs of any level offered by degree-granting institutions outside of the Rhode Island system of public higher education and to institutions offering only certificate programs at the post-associate level or above. With one statutory exception, for-profit institutions may not offer degrees in Rhode Island.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.

- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.

- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, in some instances...

- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
Certificate only, proprietary schools are NOT required to be accredited.

Degree granting schools seeking initial approval to operate in RI must provide evidence that they have initiated discussions with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Within five years and before receiving full approval, these institutions must be accredited by NEASC at all levels for which they are seeking RI approval.

Degree granting schools seeking to offer certificate only programs must be nationally accredited at all levels for which they are seeking RI approval.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

YES (new accreditation action required). Rhode Island requires out-of state institutions to obtain accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), even if it is accredited by another regional accreditor.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

In 1977, legislation was adopted requiring the Commission on Higher Education to license private degree-granting institutions established in the state since 1953, except for theological schools. Authority to license proprietary institutions, which do not award degrees, and to carry out approval functions required by the Veterans Administration was transferred from the State Board of Education to the Commission on Higher Education in 1991. In 1992, the General Assembly passed comprehensive licensing legislation that replaced both existing statutes; this legislation clarifies and expands the commission's authority to license institutions and to grant agent permits, allows it to set reasonable fees and provides student tuition protection.

Nonpublic Postsecondary Institution Licensing
South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
1333 Main Street, Suite 200
Columbia, SC 29201
<http://www.che.sc.gov/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES. Out-of-state institutions that award degrees must hold accreditation by a recognized accrediting agency before it applies for licensure to operate or solicit in SC. In-state degree-granting institutions must have a plan to seek accreditation from a recognized accrediting agency.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
YES. The institution would need to submit information about accreditation and the steps needed to include the new activity/facility within accreditation.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
YES.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
YES, generally.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

No agency or commission has approval and licensing authority of for-profit or proprietary schools in South Dakota. These schools file articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State. Since July 1, 2001, when a new statute became effective, any organization claiming to confer postsecondary credit or degrees must be accredited by an organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or participate in Title IV federal financial aid. A violation of this will result in a civil penalty of \$25,000.

South Dakota Board of Regents
306 East Capitol Ave
Suite 200
Pierre, SD 57501-2545
<http://www.sdbor.edu/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO

- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

TENNESSEE

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has approval and licensing authority of all postsecondary institutions operating in Tennessee. Institutions are authorized under the standards established by the Postsecondary Institutional Authorization Act of 1975 and must submit annual requests for reauthorization. The scope of the Commission includes both institutions based primarily in Tennessee, as well as out-of-state institutions offering programs or courses in the state.

The Division of Postsecondary School Authorization oversees and monitors private proprietary, for-profit, and not-for-profit schools offering training or education leading to a vocation, college credit or issuance of an educational credential. Authorization may be granted to both degree and non-degree granting institutions and encompasses a wide variety of schools such as: academic, trade, technical, career, professional, and out-of-state institutions with presence, advertisement, and/or recruitment practices in Tennessee.

Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Division of Postsecondary School Authorization
Parkway Towers, Suite 1900
404 James Robertson Pkwy.
Nashville, TN 37243-0830
<http://www.state.tn.us/thec/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO. Public institutions need to be accredited and the accreditor must be recognized. Moreover, if a private institution is accredited, then the accreditor must be recognized as well.

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

NO.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
- b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

NO.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

NO.

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

NO.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

Depends on the program/profession.

TEXAS

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Texas Workforce Commission is the licensing authority for proprietary institutions, including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves associate of applied science and associate of applied arts degree programs offered at public and proprietary institutions.

Texas Workforce Commission
101 E. 15th Street
Austin, TX 78778-0001
<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO. Higher education providers are regulated by the Coordinating Board.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – State Statute.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
NO. Currently career schools and colleges in Texas do not receive state funds.
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
NO.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
P.O. Box 12788
Austin, TX 78711-2788
<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

YES. Texas has a list of accrediting organizations that are “Board Recognized”
In order to grant recognition of an accreditor the Coordinating Board requires the following: 1) Recognition of the accreditor by the Department of Education, 2) Accreditor is accrediting for the degree levels for which it is recognized by Dept. of Education, 3) Accreditor’s primary activity is the accreditation of institutions for postsecondary degrees, 4) Accreditor includes initial and continuing onsite reviews as a part of its accreditation process, 5) Accreditor has rules and procedures in place to allow it to respond to information requests for the Board, and 6) Accreditor has sufficient resources to carry out its functions. There is a list of approved accreditors, please see
<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1254.PDF>

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO. However, for an institution seeking degree granting authority - accreditation is required within 8 years.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

NO. However, for an institution seeking degree granting authority - accreditation is required within 8 years.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

Not required if the accredited agency is one that we recognize.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES for institutions seeking degree granting authority.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

There is a list of approved accreditors, please see
<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1254.PDF>

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – State Statute.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

NO.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

NO.

UTAH

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Regents has approval authority for all degree programs offered in the 10 public institutions. No approval and licensing agency exists for private degree-granting and proprietary schools. Non accredited proprietary schools are required to register with the Board of Regents.

State Board of Regents
Board of Regents Building, The Gateway
60 South 400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1284
<http://www.utahsbr.edu/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO. Operation is granted by the Utah Department of Commerce - not by higher education.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO. Utah is a 'right to work' state so any business can operate here without accreditation except for the existing public system. If HEIs expect to have a relationship with the Utah System of Higher Education, they must be regionally accredited, thus recognized by CHEA and the USDOE. If we started another public HEI (credit bearing), it would have to seek regional accreditation.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
Not required.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
YES – Board Policy.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Not applicable (currently none of these types of private institutions receive state funds).
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
YES for professions.

VERMONT

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Board of Education serves as the licensing and approval authority for private institutions and also authorizes the granting of degrees. There is no approval authority for private vocational-technical institutions that do not grant degrees. The State Department of Education assists the Veterans Administration in approving programs for veterans' education.

Vermont Department of Education
The State Board of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2501
<http://education.vermont.gov/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

No answer.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

No statewide transfer policy.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

VIRGINIA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The State Council of Higher Education serves as the licensing and approval agency for private degree-granting institutions, proprietary, and for out-of-state institutions, which operate in Virginia.

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
Private and Out-of-State Postsecondary Education
101 North 14th Street, 9th Floor
James Monroe Building
Richmond, VA 23219
<http://www.schev.edu/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES for degree granting.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

Not applicable (the schools I work with are not eligible for state funding. Must be non-profit and meet other specific requirements).

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

This agency does not regulate professional license, therefore I am unable to address this question.

WASHINGTON

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Higher Education Coordinating Board administers the regulations implementing the Educational Services Registration Act for all degree-granting institutions. Private vocational schools are registered by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way SW
P.O. Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430
<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/>

In Washington, the state Higher Education Coordinating Board “authorizes” colleges and universities that offer associate, bachelors, and graduate degree programs.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board administers the regulations implementing the Degree-Granting Institutions Act (RCW 28B.85) for all degree-granting institutions. Non-degree-granting private vocational schools are licensed by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, generally. Per a July 2006 revision to statute, for those degree-granting institutions over which we have oversight, they must now either be accredited, have applied for accreditation, or been granted a waiver of the requirement for accreditation by the Higher Education Coordinating Board in order to legally operate in the state.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES. In order to seek authorization to operate in Washington State, an institution must be accredited; or have applied for accreditation; or been granted a temporary

waiver of the accreditation requirements; or been granted an exemption of the accreditation requirement.

This regulation applies only to those degree-granting private and out-of-state public institutions that fall under our oversight.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- a. USDOE recognized? YES
- b. CHEA recognized? NO
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

NO.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

NO. The institutions over which we have oversight do not receive state funds.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES (Regional and Specialized).

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

This agency does not have oversight over the licensing of professions in the state of Washington.

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
128 10th Avenue SW
Olympia, Washington 98504-3105
<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/>

The state [Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board](#) "licenses" private vocational and technical schools that offer diploma or certificate programs in the state.

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
NO.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
NO.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
NO.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
 - b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable
- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
NO.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

NO.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

YES (Regional and Specialized).

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

Depends on the program/profession.

WEST VIRGINIA

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission has licensing and approval authority for all private degree-granting institutions and for all for-profit proprietary schools or for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools. For course or program offerings limited to the associate degree level or below, authorization is provided by the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
1018 Kanawha Blvd E Ste 700
Charleston WV 25301-2800
<http://wvhepcnew.wvnet.edu/>

1. **Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
2. **Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
3. **Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES.
4. **Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
5. **If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.
6. **For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
7. **If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? YES
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? YES

d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education
1018 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Ste. 700
Charleston WV 25301
<http://www.wvctcs.org/>

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

YES.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

YES.

5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?

YES.

7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| a. USDOE recognized? | YES |
| b. CHEA recognized? | NO |
| c. Either USDOE or CHEA? | NO |
| d. Both USDOE and CHEA? | NO |

8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?

YES – Board Policy.

9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?

YES.

10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?

NO.

11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?

YES, generally.

WISCONSIN

Licensure/Approval Agencies

Wisconsin does not have a designated approval and licensing authority for private degree-granting institutions. The Educational Approval Board serves as the licensing and approval agency for proprietary schools in the state, including for-profit/proprietary vocational-technical schools, and the Wisconsin Technical College System Board has approval authority for public technical colleges. The Educational Approval Board is attached to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board for administrative purposes.

Wisconsin Educational Approval Board
30 West Mifflin Street, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 8696
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8696
<http://eab.state.wi.us/>

The Wisconsin Educational Approval Board (EAB) is a postsecondary education agency that is charged with the following responsibilities:

- Evaluating and approving private trade, technical, career, distance learning, and degree-granting schools.
- Collecting and disseminating student outcome and satisfaction information from schools.
- Performing annual reviews of schools.
- Conducting regular on-site evaluations of schools.
- Holding schools accountable for improving their performance and effectiveness.
- Supporting options for innovative and quality programs offered by schools.

**1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

**2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**

NO.

3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?

NO.

4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?

NO.

- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**

No further accreditation action is required, but authorization by the state is still necessary.

- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**

NO.

- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**

- a. USDOE recognized? Not applicable
- b. CHEA recognized? Not applicable
- c. Either USDOE or CHEA? Not applicable
- d. Both USDOE and CHEA? Not applicable

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**

YES – Board Policy.

- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**

YES – but no state funds are available to students who attend EAB-approved schools. State funds are limited to public institutions and in-state independent (non-profit) colleges/universities, which are exempt from EAB regulatory oversight.

- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**

YES + Specialized.

Includes transfer credits in specific fields of study for which specialized or programmatic accreditation is available to be from programs accredited in these fields.

- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**

Depends on the program/profession.

WYOMING

Licensure/Approval Agencies

The Wyoming Department of Education serves as the licensing and approval authority for proprietary institutions and proprietary vocational-technical schools.

Wyoming Department of Education
Private School Program
2300 Capitol Ave.,
Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82002
<http://www.k12.wy.us/>

- 1. Does the state claim to engage in “accreditation” of institutions or programs?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 2. Does the state claim to engage in “recognition” of accrediting organizations?
If so, how do they describe this activity?**
NO.
- 3. Is accreditation required in order for a private (nonprofit or for-profit) institution to operate?**
YES, if the school grants post-secondary degrees.
- 4. Is accreditation required for an institution to be newly licensed to operate as a higher education provider (in the case of private institutions) or to be authorized to operate (for public institutions)?**
YES.
- 5. If an out-of-state institution accredited by a recognized regional or national accreditor moves into your state, is any further accreditation action required of the institution in order for it to operate in your state?**
NO.
- 6. For any of the above, is the accreditor required to be recognized?**
YES.
- 7. If the accreditor must be recognized, must it be:**
 - a. USDOE recognized? YES
 - b. CHEA recognized? NO
 - c. Either USDOE or CHEA? NO
 - d. Both USDOE and CHEA? NO

- 8. Are public institutions required to be accredited by statute or policy/regulation?**
Universities, NO.
Community Colleges, YES – State Statute.
- 9. Is accreditation required in order that an institution or program to receive state funds?**
Not applicable (Wyoming does not fund private institutions).
- 10. Is an institution required to be accredited in order for its credits to transfer as part of a statewide transfer or articulation policy?**
NO.
- 11. In order to obtain a license to practice a trade or profession in your state, do students/practioners generally have to have graduated from an institution that is accredited by the relevant professional accreditor (if possible, please provide a list of particular programs/professions affected by this requirement)?**
The Department of Education monitors the compliance of private institutions. It does not have sufficient knowledge of the requirements for credentials of the professionals who practice in the state as there are licensing boards with unique requirements for trades or professions.