

**PART 600—INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965, AS AMENDED**

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AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 1001, 1002, 1003, 1088, 1091, 1094, 1099b, and 1099(c), unless otherwise noted.

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**Subpart A—General**

SOURCE: 59 FR 22336, Apr. 29, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 600.1 Scope.**

This part establishes the rules and procedures that the Secretary uses to determine whether an educational institution qualifies in whole or in part as an eligible institution of higher education under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). An eligible institution of higher education may apply to participate in programs authorized by the HEA (HEA programs).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1088, 1094, 1099b, 1099c, and 1141)

**§ 600.2 Definitions.**

The following definitions apply to terms used in this part:

*Accredited:* The status of public recognition that a nationally recognized accrediting agency grants to an institution or educational program that meets the agency's established requirements.

*Award year:* The period of time from July 1 of one year through June 30 of the following year.

*Branch Campus:* A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The Secretary considers a location of an institution to be independent of the main campus if the location—

- (1) Is permanent in nature;
- (2) Offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential;
- (3) Has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and
- (4) Has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

*Clock hour:* A period of time consisting of—