



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
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ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1635

Education Directorate

DoDEA Regulation 2010.1

Date July 21, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
REGULATION

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Education Activity Accreditation Program

- References:
- (a) DS Regulation 2010.1, Department of Defense Dependents Schools Accreditation Program," December 18, 1987 (hereby canceled)
  - (b) Sections 924 and 930 of title 20, United States Code
  - (c) Department of Defense Directive 1342.20, "Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)," October 19, 2007
  - (d) DoDEA Community Strategic Plan, "Communities Committed to Success for All Students 2006-2011," current edition
  - (e) Section 552.a of title 5, United States Code

1. PURPOSE. This Regulation reissues Reference (a) to update policy and responsibilities for the system-wide school accreditation program in the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). In accordance with References (b) and (c), DoDEA requires accreditation of all schools in order to provide the activity (DoDEA), the military community served by the activity, and the public at large with an external review of the quality of the educational program provided to DoDEA students.

2. APPLICABILITY. This Regulation applies to the Office of the Director, Department of Defense Education Activity; the Director, Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools and Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Cuba (DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba); the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Europe (DoDDS-E); the Director, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Pacific, and Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, Guam (DoDDS-P/DDESS-Guam); and all DoDEA District Superintendents, School Principals, Teachers, and Support Staff.

3. DEFINITIONS. See glossary.

4. POLICY. It is DoDEA policy that:

a. All DoDEA schools are required to achieve and maintain accredited status by a regional accreditation organization for elementary and secondary schools, as approved by the U. S. Department of Education and identified by DoDEA.

b. All DoDEA educators are responsible for being fully knowledgeable of the standards and procedures of the regional accrediting organization and shall actively participate in the preparation, implementation, and use of the results of the accreditation program.

c. The accreditation of schools is part of the continuous school improvement process, based on rigorous standards and protocols of a regional accreditation organization. To earn and maintain accreditation from the accreditation organization, DoDEA schools shall:

(1) Adhere to the regional accreditation organization's standards for schools.

(2) Develop and maintain a School Improvement Plan and document results of improvement efforts.

(3) Host an onsite validation visit once every five years.

(4) Communicate the visiting team's findings to the staff and the school community.

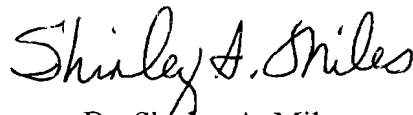
(5) Act on the visiting team's recommendations.

d. The consolidated findings and recommendations of the visiting team shall be used as one component of DoDEA's organizational decision making concerning progress toward the goals of the DoDEA Community Strategic Plan (Reference (d)).

e. DoDEA will pay the regional accreditation organizations' school membership dues which entitle the schools to research-based standards, nationally trained and certified chairpersons for the accreditation teams, resources, and ongoing professional development.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 1.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Regulation is effective immediately.



Dr. Shirley A. Miles  
Director

Enclosures

1. Responsibilities

Glossary

ENCLOSURE 1

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION (ADE), DoDEA. The ADE, DoDEA, under the authority, direction, and control of the Director, DoDEA, shall exercise overall responsibility for the implementation of this Regulation.

2. HQ ACCREDITATION PROGRAM DESIGNEE. The HQ Accreditation Program Designee under the authority, direction, and control of the ADE, DoDEA, shall:

a. Ensure that the DoDEA Accreditation Program is implemented according to this Regulation and the standards of the regional accreditation organization identified by DoDEA.

b. Review the annual summary report of the validation teams' visits and the status of school accreditation in DoDEA.

c. Serve as primary liaison to the regional accreditation agency.

d. Establish and convene the Department of Defense Dependents State Committee (DDSC) two times annually.

e. Ensure DoDEA is represented at State Directors' meetings.

f. Ensure accreditation training is provided, as needed.

3. DIRECTOR, DDESS/DoDDS-CUBA, DIRECTOR, DoDDS-E, DIRECTOR, DoDDS-P/DDESS-GUAM. The Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba; the Director, DoDDS-E; and the Director, DoDDS-P/DDESS-Guam, shall:

a. Ensure that the DoDEA Accreditation Program is implemented according to this Regulation.

b. Ensure that training is provided for all Area, district, and school employees involved in accreditation.

4. DoDEA DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS. The DoDEA District Superintendents shall:

a. Ensure that all procedures relating to the DoDEA accreditation program in their districts are implemented according to this Regulation.

b. Provide support and assistance to schools involved in self-assessment activities.

c. Provide logistical assistance to the validation teams visiting the schools.

d. Review each school's validation team report, ensure that recommendations and any citations are addressed by the school, and provide support to the school in acting upon the recommendations.

5. DoDEA SCHOOL PRINCIPALS. The DoDEA School Principals shall:

a. Ensure that all procedures relating to the DoDEA accreditation program in the school are implemented according to this Regulation.

b. Provide leadership and support to the school's improvement process.

c. Maintain a file of transcripts and certifications for all teachers and administrators assigned to the school. The files must be updated to reflect any change in teaching assignment or credits/certifications earned. Files must be maintained in accordance with section 552.a of title 5, United States Code (Reference (e)).

d. Provide professional and logistical assistance to the validation teams visiting the school.

e. Review the school's validation team report and ensure that recommendations and any citations are addressed by the school.

6. DoDEA SCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS. The DoDEA School Staff Members shall:

a. Provide:

(1) The school with a complete and legible copy of all transcripts and current certificates.

(2) Professional expertise, experience, and assistance to the school's improvement process and in the preparation and follow-up of the school's validation visit.

(3) Professional assistance to the validation teams visiting the school.

b. Assist in the preparation and implementation of the school's improvement plan.

## GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS

accreditation. Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools. Accreditation engages the entire school community in a continuous process of self-evaluation, reflection, and improvement. It invites external validation by a regional accreditation organization and welcomes the constructive feedback of a validation team of trained peers visiting the school. Accreditation is based in rigorous data and requires documentation of improvement efforts, results, and impact on student achievement. The accreditation process is based on a five-year term of accreditation.

accreditation standards. The accreditation standards of a regional accreditation agency serve as the foundation of the accreditation process. These standards and accompanying indicators are derived from research on factors that impact student learning. Accredited schools adhere to the standards and use them as a tool for ongoing self-assessment and maintain evidence of their adherence to the standards.

continuous school improvement. The commitment to continuous school improvement is demonstrated by the school's adherence to the standards of the regional accreditation organization and the implementation of a school improvement plan that yields results for student performance.

Department of Defense Dependents State Committee (DDSC). The DDSC meets two times per year to discuss the status and progress of school improvement in DoDEA and resolve issues that surfaced during the validation visits. Members include representatives from the regional accreditation agency and personnel designated from DoDEA Headquarters and Area offices.

onsite validation visit. Once every five years the regional accreditation agency conducts an onsite visit to the school. The purpose of the visit is to validate the school's adherence to the accreditation standards, assess the effectiveness of the school improvement efforts, review performance results and how these results are used to support the improvement efforts, provide feedback with clear recommendations and actionable next steps, and make an accreditation recommendation. The visit generally lasts three days.

regional accreditation organization. The U.S. Department of Education approves and certifies regional accreditation organizations or association to conduct independent reviews of schools to ensure the quality and consistency of their educational programs. The accreditation review must be conducted along clear accreditation and monitoring standards.

visiting team. The team that conducts the validation visit is led by two team chairs that are trained and certified by the regional accreditation agency. Team members are educators selected for the team by DoDEA with input from the district and Area offices to ensure that team members' expertise reflect areas of focus for the school being visited. The size of the team varies depending on the size of the school, with teams ranging from 4 to 6 members.