



Checking Accreditation of U.S. Colleges and Universities

Including Distance Learning Degree Programs

Beware! Not all colleges, universities and distance learning programs advertised in newspapers or provided in online databases are accredited by one of the regional or national accrediting associations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Therefore, when researching colleges and universities in the United States, your first step should always be to verify accreditation. To check if a school is accredited by a recognized U.S. accrediting organization, please contact an EducationUSA advisor (Riyadh 01-488-3800, x4207; Jeddah 02-667-0080, x4151; Dhahran 03-330-3200, x3044) or follow the steps below:

1. Go to the homepage of the Office of Postsecondary Education website at <http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/> and click to the right of the first paragraph, on 'click here to begin your search'

U.S. Department of Education Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs - Microsoft Inter...

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Address <http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/> Go Links

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The Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

U.S. Department of Education Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs

The accreditation database is brought to you by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education. Each of the postsecondary educational institutions and programs contained within the database is, or was, accredited by an accrediting agency or state approval agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a "reliable authority as to the quality of postsecondary education" within the meaning of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). The database does not include a number of postsecondary educational institutions and programs that elect not to seek accreditation but nevertheless may provide a quality postsecondary education.

[Click here to begin your search](#)

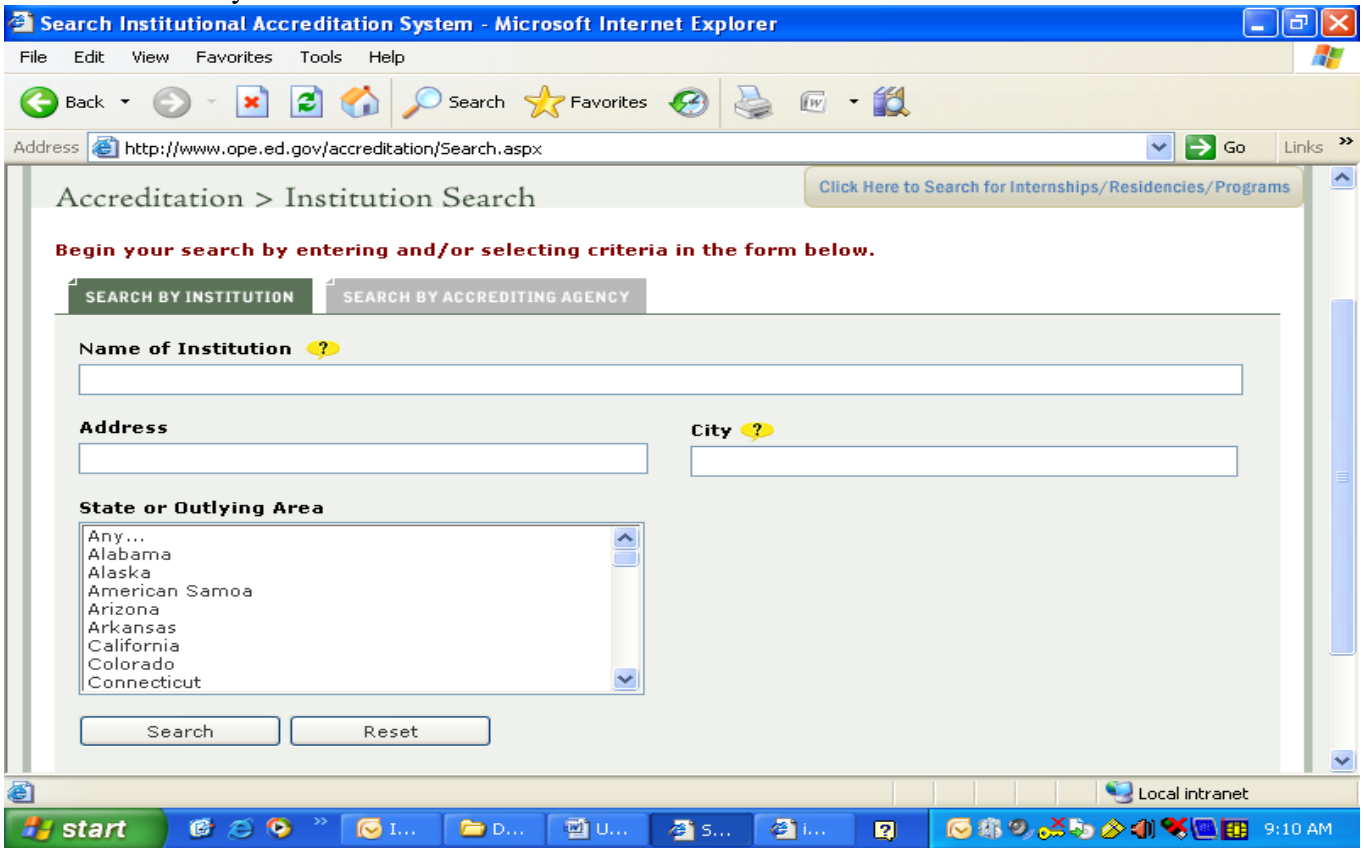
The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality. Accrediting agencies, which are private educational associations of regional or national scope, develop evaluation criteria and conduct peer evaluations to assess whether or not those criteria are met. Institutions and/or programs that request an agency's evaluation and that meet an agency's criteria are then "accredited" by that agency.

The U.S. Department of Education does not accredit educational institutions and/or programs. However, the Secretary of

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- To learn if your institution is accredited by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting organization, enter the name of the institution and then click 'search'. Be sure to spell the university name correctly.



- If the university is accredited by a U.S. Department of Education recognized accrediting organization, it will be listed on this page. Click on the university to find details of its accreditation status.

