

NOTICE FROM: Chief, DoD Voluntary Education

Subject: DoD Voluntary Education Partnership MOU (DoD MOU) and Accrediting Agencies Recognized by Department of Education (DoED)

Recently DoD received several questions concerning the application for the DoD MOU and accrediting agencies recognized by DoED. Paragraph "n" of section 1, entitled, "*TA FOR SERVICE MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS*" of Enclosure 3, Procedures, in the DoD Instruction (DoDI) 1322.25, Voluntary Education Programs, dated March 15, 2011, states the following on accreditation:

"When used for postsecondary training or education, tuition assistance (TA) shall be provided only for courses offered by postsecondary institutions accredited by a national or regional accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

This DoD policy has not changed, however the information contained in this notice will assist institutions, Education Services Specialists, and Service members to connect the verbiage used in DoDI 1322.25 and the DoED list of accrediting agencies located on the DoD MOU web page at:

<http://www.dodmou.com>. Schools eligible to sign an MOU with DoD must be accredited by one of the agencies listed on the drop down menu of accrediting agencies when completing the DoD MOU verification application.

As per DoED, there are two basic types of educational accreditation, one referred to as "institutional" and the other referred to as "specialized" or "programmatic." Institutional accreditation normally applies to an entire institution, indicating that each of an institution's parts is contributing to the achievement of the institution's objectives, although not necessarily all at the same level of quality. The various commissions of the regional accrediting agencies, for example, perform institutional accreditation, as do many national accrediting agencies.

Specialized or programmatic accreditation normally applies to programs, departments, or schools that are parts of an institution. The accredited unit may be as large as a college or school within a university or as small as a curriculum within a discipline. Most of the specialized or programmatic accrediting agencies review units within an institution of higher education that is accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies. However, certain accrediting agencies also accredit professional schools and other specialized or vocational institutions of higher education that are freestanding in their operations. Thus, a "specialized" or "programmatic" accrediting agency may also function in the capacity of an "institutional" accrediting agency. In addition, a number of specialized accrediting agencies accredit educational programs within non-educational settings, such as hospitals.

As per DoED, all of the specialized agencies accredit nationally and many of the specialized agencies serve as national institutional accrediting agencies, therefore the specialized or programmatic accrediting agencies are included in the list of national institutional accrediting agencies for the DoD MOU. The DoED list of regionally and nationally recognized accrediting agencies is attached to this notice and can be located by accessing the DoED Table of Contents with the title of "Accreditation in the United States": <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>.

Regional Accrediting Agencies Recognized by DoED:

Middle States Commission on Higher Education

Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools (Title IV Note: Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education

New York State Board of Regents, and the Commissioner of Education

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission

North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Board of Trustees (Title IV Note: Only those vocational/technical schools accredited by this agency that offer non-degree, postsecondary education may use that accreditation to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities

National Accrediting Agencies Recognized by DoED:

Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (Title IV Note: Only freestanding allied health education institutions and institutions that offer predominately allied health programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (Title IV Note: Only those institutions classified by this agency as "vocational" may use accreditation by the agency to establish eligibility to participate in the Title IV programs.)

Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools

Council on Occupational Education (formerly SACS-COEI)

Distance Education and Training Council, Accrediting Commission (Title IV Note: Only accredited institutions that are certified by the agency as accredited for Title IV purposes may use accreditation by

this agency to establish eligibility of its degree granting programs to participate in Title IV programs.)

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission

Specialized or Programmatic Accrediting Agencies:

Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (formerly NACAOM) (Title IV

Note: Only freestanding institutions or colleges of acupuncture or Oriental medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (Title IV Note: Only freestanding institutions of midwifery education may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (Title IV Note: Only freestanding law schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Board of Funeral Service Education, Committee on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of funeral service or mortuary science may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Dietetic Association, American Commission on Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (Title IV Note: Only post-baccalaureate dietetic internship programs may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Optometric Association, Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Osteopathic Association, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of osteopathic medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of podiatric medicine may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Psychological Association, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)
American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Association for Biblical Higher Education, Commission on Accreditation

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools, Accreditation Commission

Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (Title IV Note: Only freestanding institutions, colleges, or seminaries of theology may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation

Council on Education for Public Health (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs (Title IV Note: Only hospital-

based nurse anesthesia programs and freestanding nurse anesthesia institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

The Council on Chiropractic Education (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of chiropractic may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Joint Review Committee on Education Radiologic Technology (Title IV Note: Only hospital-based radiologic technology programs and freestanding radiologic technology institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Liaison Committee on Medical Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (Title IV Note: Only freestanding direct-entry midwifery educational institutions may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding Montessori teacher education schools may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts and Sciences, Inc.

National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of art and design may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of dance may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of music may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation (Title IV Note: Only freestanding schools or colleges of theatre may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (Title IV Note: Only diploma programs and practical nursing programs not located in a regionally accredited college or university may use accreditation by this agency to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)

Teacher Education Accreditation Council, Accreditation Committee (Title IV Note: Accreditation by this agency does not enable the entities it accredits to establish eligibility to participate in Title IV programs.)