

Overview

eLearning is an important part of Cascadia's course offerings, with many students participating in federal financial aid. Recent amendments to the Higher Education Act of 1965 include changes in regulation for State Authorization that impact online education providers like Cascadia. The relevant language includes:

*If an institution is offering postsecondary education through distance or correspondence education to students in a State in which it is not physically located or in which it is otherwise subject to State jurisdiction as determined by the State, the institution must meet any State requirements for it to be legally offering postsecondary distance or correspondence education in that State. An institution must be able to document to the Secretary the State's approval upon request.
(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1001 and 1002)*

What Cascadia is doing

Cascadia is working in cooperation with a variety of resources on-campus and throughout Washington to monitor the situation and serve existing Cascadia students. However, Cascadia is not able to serve new students living outside of the State of Washington at this time.

Complaint Resolution

If you have a complaint that you are unable to resolve through [Cascadia's complaint process](#), there are additional options for you. In compliance with the language passed in the Higher Education Opportunities Act of 2008, the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) conducted a Negotiated Rule Making Process in 2010, institutions offering distance education must provide enrolled and prospective students with contact information for filing complaints with its accrediting agency and with the appropriate state agency for handling complaints in the student's state. Below is information on Cascadia's accreditation agency, followed by a state-by-state list the agencies in each state responsible for complaints regarding out-of-state distance education programs

Cascadia's accreditation

Cascadia Community College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU, 8060 165th Avenue NE, Suite 100, Redmond, WA 98052), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and/or the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. Information regarding complaint process can be found on their [NWCCU](#) website.

Complaint resolution contacts by state

These new regulations require us to provide prospective and current students with contact information for filing complaints with the appropriate agency in the state where the student resides. Please click on your state to be connected to the contact form should you have a complaint about Cascadia.

[Alabama](#)

[Alaska](#)

[Arizona](#)
[Arkansas](#)
[California](#)
[Colorado](#)
[Connecticut](#)
[Delaware](#)
[District of Columbia](#)
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[Kansas](#)
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More information

[Program Integrity Issues; Final Rule](#)

Amendments to title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 were finalized on October 29th, 2010. Read the Final ruling by the Department of Education.

[WCET summary of requirements](#)

WCET has compiled a summary of what states and institutions need to do to meet the new Federal Regulations.