

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 14, 2014

USDE Includes Non-degree Programs in DETC Scope of Recognition

The Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council is pleased to announce the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) now includes non-degree (certificate and diploma) programs within DETC's scope of recognition for Title IV purposes. In January 2014, DETC submitted a formal request to USDE for a change of scope to include non-degree programs for Title IV purposes. USDE reviewed the request and determined only a technical change for clarification purposes was required.

Effective March 10, 2014, the scope of recognition for DETC ("the agency") listed on the U.S. Department of Education [website](#) is

The accreditation of postsecondary institutions in the United States that offer degree and/or non-degree programs primarily by the distance or correspondence education method up to and including the professional doctoral degree, including those institutions that are specifically certified by the agency as accredited for Title IV purposes.

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 and/or non-degree programs to participate in Title IV programs.*

The change to DETC's scope comes just as accredited institutions serving military service members prepare for anticipated changes to the Department of Defense Memorandum of Understanding. Changes that would require Title IV certification to participate in military service member tuition assistance programs are expected to take effect in the coming months.

"We are very pleased with the USDE's determination that the inclusion of non-degree programs was a simple, technical amendment to DETC's scope," stated Dr. Leah Matthews, DETC Executive Director. "We will make every effort to work with those institutions interested in engaging in the DETC review process that prepares institutions to apply for participation in Title IV programs."

ABOUT DETC

The Distance Education and Training Council (DETC) Accrediting Commission is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that operates as a national accreditor of distance education institutions. DETC's goal is to ensure a high standard of educational quality in the distance education institutions it accredits and a quality education for the more than two million students who annually study at its accredited institutions.

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