

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

June 6, 2025

DEAC Announces Call for Nominations to Serve on the Board of Directors and on the Standards Committee

The DEAC Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that it is seeking nominations of potential candidates for election to serve on the DEAC Board of Directors which also serves as the Commission.

The committee is seeking candidates to fill two institution member positions previously held by Tracey Abell, President of American College of Healthcare Sciences and Stephen Haas, Vice-President of Crestpoint University. A special election for institution member positions will take place in late 2025. The Nominating Committee welcomes eligible institution representatives to submit their candidacy applications. More information about candidate qualifications and the significant responsibilities associated with working on the DEAC Board of Directors is available on the following pages.

The DEAC Nominating Committee is also pleased to announce that it is seeking candidates from DEAC-accredited institutions to serve on the DEAC Standards Committee. Interested candidates are invited to submit their credentials for consideration using DEAC's online submission form. The Nominating Committee will review all submissions and forward its recommendations to the DEAC Board of Directors for consideration. Please see below for the candidacy requirements and a list of the responsibilities of the Standards Committee.

The call for nominations is open now and will continue until August 30, 2025. DEAC invites interested candidates to submit their credentials for consideration using the DEAC's online submission forms. (See below.)

[DEAC Board of Directors Candidate Submission Form](#)

[DEAC Standards Committee Candidate Submission Form](#)

ABOUT DEAC

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that operates as a national accreditor of distance education institutions.

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Leah Matthews, Executive Director
(202) 234-5100
leah.matthews@deac.org

DEAC Board of Directors Candidate Qualifications

In identifying qualified candidates, the Nominating Committee seeks to assure that the composition of the Directors adheres to Article IV, Section 3 of the *Bylaws*. At least two (2) Directors must be academics defined by the Corporation as a person who works full time in an educational institution who actively teaches, delivers educational content to learners, or engages in educational research related to the institution's mission. At least two (2) Directors must be administrators defined by the Corporation as a person currently or recently directly engaged in a significant manner in the administration of an institution.

Public Member Qualifications

The DEAC is seeking public member candidates with strong skills and expertise in higher education, distance learning, non-profit governance, and federal/state regulation structures as well as general knowledge of higher education accreditation. In addition, individuals interested in candidacy for a public member position on the board of directors must minimally:

1. Have an interest in distance education and quality assurance/quality improvement.
2. Have an interest in public service.
3. Possess the capacity to receive, review and evaluate electronically prepared materials prior to and during all meetings and conference calls. The board of directors carries out all its functions using electronically prepared materials.
4. Commit to allocating time for preparations, travel requirements, and full engagement needed for board meetings.
5. Have previous committee or board experience or volunteer experience in accreditation and distance education.

Institution Member Qualifications

Individuals interested in candidacy for an institution representative position on the Board of Directors must minimally:

1. Represent a DEAC-accredited institution in good standing with DEAC as well as with any other accrediting organization or state or federal regulatory agency.
2. Represent a DEAC-accredited institution that completed at least one cycle to renew accreditation.
3. Possess at least five (5) years of experience in a senior leadership role (academic or administrative) at a DEAC-accredited institution.
4. Demonstrate experience as a DEAC evaluator
5. Demonstrate knowledge and application of learning theories, instructional design, educational technology, and outcomes-based assessment in distance education.
6. Possess the capacity to receive, review and evaluate electronically prepared materials prior to and during all meetings and conference calls. The Board of Directors carries out all its functions using electronically prepared materials.
7. Commit to allocating time for preparations, travel requirements, and full engagement needed for board meetings.

Commitment to the DEAC Board of Directors

Serving on the DEAC Board of Directors requires a significant commitment of time to effectively support the DEAC mission and the process of accreditation. The annual schedule of activities includes attendance at two (2) three-day accreditation decision meetings per year, participation in typically four (4) conference call meetings per year, and committee work in one or more of the Directors' policy and governance areas. Meetings require significant advance preparation as each member of the Board contributes to accreditation decision-making and good governance. On average, directors spend 15-20 hours per week for three weeks to fully prepare for an accreditation decision meeting. Committee responsibilities require an additional 8 to 10 hours of preparation for conference call meetings or in-person committee meetings. In addition to making meticulous preparations for meetings and calls, board members must maintain high standards of integrity, honesty, impartiality, and fidelity to the standards of accreditation in order to carry out the board's essential work. All Directors are required to comply with DEAC's conflict of interest policies.

DEAC Standards Committee Candidate Qualifications and Responsibilities

Individuals interested in candidacy for the DEAC Standards Committee must minimally:

1. Represent a DEAC-accredited institution in good standing with DEAC as well as with any other accrediting organization or state or federal regulatory agency.
2. Represent a DEAC-accredited institution that completed at least one renewal of accreditation.
3. Possess at least five (5) years of experience in a senior leadership role (academic or administrative) at a DEAC-accredited institution.
4. Demonstrate comprehensive experience in applying the DEAC accreditation standards as a volunteer evaluator during a DEAC accreditation visit (e.g., Chair, Business Standards Evaluator, Educational Standards Evaluator).
5. Demonstrate active participation in DEAC Annual Conference and Workshop events.
6. Possess the capacity to receive, review and evaluate electronically prepared materials.
7. Commit to allocating time for preparations, travel requirements, and full engagement needed for standards committee meetings.
8. Adhere to DEAC's Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policies.

Standards Committee responsibilities include reviewing and facilitating the development or revisions of DEAC standards, policies and procedures and providing insights and comments on standards that are forwarded to the Commission for consideration. The fundamental principles of the committee's work when forming its recommendations to the Commission are to:

1. Uphold the rigor and integrity of DEAC's accreditation procedures and standards.
2. Promote the value and role of the standards.
3. Commit to the best interests of the broader DEAC-accredited community.
4. Adhere to CHEA and USED recognition requirements.
5. Keep any discussions and proposed revisions held in closed session confidential.
6. Respect all contributions to the process of review.
7. Review responses to DEAC Call for Comments on proposed changes to the DEAC Accreditation Handbook.
8. Attend in-person meetings held in conjunction with the DEAC Annual Conference and Accreditation Workshop and virtual meetings held, as needed, throughout the year.