



Guidelines for New Extended Campus Programs

CPE Contact

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The Council created the Postsecondary Education Working Group on Access to Academic Programs in May 2007. The group was charged with reviewing policies related to the Council's role in approval of postsecondary academic programs, including extended campus offerings and authorization and operation of extended campus centers.

The Council staff analyzed extended campus offerings and found that, with the exception of the University of Kentucky, there is little activity outside designated areas of geographic responsibility. Following the suggestion of the working group, the proposed new guidelines would read:

Institutions planning to offer programs outside their areas of geographic responsibility must consult with potential postsecondary partners in that region to ensure coordination and collaboration and to minimize unproductive competition. If there is opposition, the Council will decide how best to resolve the dispute.

The group also suggested that the Council work with public, independent, and proprietary institutions to develop a database accessible to postsecondary personnel and the public that allows easy access to information about academic program offerings at the regional or county level, including information on program delivery modes and accreditation status. This information will help postsecondary institutions to assess the potential unmet demand for particular programs and will help potential students evaluate the appropriateness of programs for their needs.

Furthermore, the group agreed that the Kentucky Virtual Campus should convene institutions to discuss innovative program delivery modes (e.g., online modularized courses) and ways to utilize KCTCS for lower-level courses in order to increase access to complete degree programs at extended campuses. Strategies for expanded program offerings could initially focus on targeted career pathways that are considered important to Kentucky's economy.

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