

ACCSCCT Alert!

Information for
our member schools

To: *ACCSCCT Accredited Institutions and Other Interested Parties*

From: *Elise Scanlon, Executive Director*

Date: *September 26, 2003*

Subject: *Amendments to the Standards of Accreditation*

The Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology has reviewed all written comments submitted by accredited institutions and other interested parties regarding the revisions to the Standards of Accreditation as proposed in the Commission's June 14, 2002 and December 31, 2002 Call For Comment. The Commission has subsequently voted to adopt the additions and revisions to the Standards of Accreditation in the following areas:

- *Revision to Section III – Faculty*
- *Revision to Section IV – Student Recruitment*

The full text of the Accreditation Alert can also be found on the Commission's website at: www.accsct.org. Go to "*Staying Accredited*" and then "*Accreditation Alert*." The revisions and additions have been incorporated into the Standards of Accreditation, a revised copy of which can be found on the Commission's website by going to "*Staying Accredited*" and then "*Standards of Accreditation*." The revised Standards of Accreditation dated September 26, 2003 should be used to replace all previous versions.

Accredited institutions and others maintaining complete, up-to-date copies of the Standards of Accreditation should add this notice to their current standards book under the Accreditation Alerts tab. For additional information related to these adopted changes, please contact Michale S. McComis, Director of Accreditation at (703) 247-4520.

REVISION TO SECTION III - FACULTY

In its recent review of the ACCSCT standards regarding faculty, the Commission took into consideration its previous requirement that the majority of hours in academic degree programs must be taught by full-time faculty. While the Commission believes that this is a sound practice in general, the Commission also believes that this requirement may not be appropriate for all program designs. The Commission has concluded that existing standards regarding faculty are adequate to ensure continuity of instruction, sufficiency of instructional staff and overall institutional performance, and therefore determined it appropriate to *delete* the following standard:

III. FACULTY

B. Faculty Qualifications

- ~~6. In academic associate and baccalaureate degree programs, the majority of hours must be taught by full-time faculty. Teaching loads and schedules will vary, but in all cases shall allow time for student advising, adequate preparation and continuing professional growth.~~

REVISION TO SECTION IV - STUDENT RECRUITMENT

The Commission reviewed its incentive compensation standard in light of recent changes in federal regulations. While the Commission believes that ensuring ethical practices in recruiting students is a paramount consideration, the Commission has determined that the Department of Education has addressed incentive compensation in regulation for schools that participate in Title IV programs. For schools not participating in Title IV federal student aid programs, the Commission determined that existing standards related to student recruitment already ensure ethical recruiting practices; that students are fully informed regarding enrollment decisions; that only truthful representations are made to students; and that schools admit only those students who are capable of benefiting from the school's training and educational programs. Accordingly, the Commission determined it appropriate to *delete* the following standard.

IV. STUDENT RECRUITMENT

A. Recruitment

- ~~20. A school may make incentive payments to its recruiters only upon the student's satisfactory completion of the program.~~