



MEMORANDUM

TO: CCHE Authorized Institutions under Degree Authorization Act

FROM: Heather DeLange, Director Office of Private Postsecondary Education

DATE: March 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Instruction Modality Changes due to COVID-19

The Department of Higher Education recognizes that many institutions are responding to the current situation with COVID-19 by transitioning to online instruction. For degree-granting institutions authorized by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE), all academic programs are authorized regardless of modality and do not require approval from CCHE to change mode of delivery. However, institutions must adhere to the criteria and requirements for distance education as outlined by their accreditor.

The Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) requests that you notify us regarding any change to normal operations, including changes to online modality, course cancellations, or temporary closure. At this point, an email notification is preferred.

Institutions should make reasonable and necessary accommodations for students not able to access online resources or coursework and communicate all institutional response plans in a timely manner to their campus community.

For more information and resources regarding the Coronavirus, please refer to the following:

- Colorado Department of Higher Education: https://higher.ed.colorado.gov/Staying_informed_about_COVID-19.html
- U.S. Department of Education: <https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus>
- Higher Learning Commission: <https://www.hlcommission.org/General/changes-to-educational-offerings-due-to-the-coronavirus.html?highlight=WyJjb3JvbmF2aXJ1cyJd>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Institutions of Higher Education: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-ihe-response.html>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/>
- COVID-19: Guidance for SEVP Stakeholders: <https://www.ice.gov/sevis/whats-new>

