

A college or university may list courses and programs for inclusion in the *Electronic Campus* in accordance with the following criteria and review procedures defined by their state higher education entity coordinating participation in the *Electronic Campus*.

Course Criteria

Courses will be eligible for listing if the following criteria are met:

- The college or university has reviewed the *Principles of Good Practice* and certifies that the proposed course complies with the *Principles*;
- the course is accessible throughout the sixteen state SREB region;
- 51% or more of the proposed course is made available in an electronic format;
- the course carries academic credit (non-credit courses, those awarding CEU's, or other similar activities are not eligible) with the exception of remedial courses; and
- the college or university commits to providing prospective students full information on several of key topics through the institutional transitional page.

Program Criteria

The EC will accept degree programs at the certificate/diploma, associate's, bachelor's, master's, specialist and doctoral levels.

A college or university representative reviews the Principles of Good Practice and certifies that the proposed program complies with these principles and has the following characteristics:

- The proposed degree program has been approved previously by the appropriate state agency and is listed in the college or university inventory of degree programs;
- At least 90% of all didactic course work required to complete the proposed degree program is made available to prospective students in an electronic format (ACM/EC programs require 50% of all didactic course work to be available in an electronic format);
- The college or university commits to providing full information for prospective students, who will participate remotely, on a number of essential information items online;
- The proposed degree program complies with appropriate accreditation standards; and
- The college or university can assure students who are admitted, begin and are making progress in a program that they will have the opportunity to complete the degree program. (This assurance should include a strategy for "teaching out" the program if a college or university discontinues a program and should include, for example, how the student would complete the program, the form of delivery or any arrangements with other colleges or universities.)

Academic Common Market/*Electronic Campus*

SREB and member states approved the Academic Common Market/*Electronic Campus* Program in 2000 to allow distance learning programs to be included in and made available through the Academic Common Market.

The guidelines for the ACM/EC generally will follow established procedures for the Academic Common Market (ACM) and *Electronic Campus* (EC). Each state will determine its level of participation and the rules governing the programs it wishes to make available to its residents.

At this time, programs may be included in the initiative for two reasons: 1) the degree programs are not available in the student's state of residence, or 2) the delivery method is not available in the student's state of residence. The Academic Common Market/*Electronic Campus* program is conducting a pilot effort wherein states may make available in the Academic Common Market/*Electronic Campus* distance-delivered associate degree programs. SREB states may opt to participate in the pilot at their discretion.

- States will determine the availability (for purposes of the ACM and in-state tuition benefit) for its residents to any degree program listed in the ACM/EC, as they would for a traditional ACM program.
- Each state will determine which programs to make available by its institutions and which programs it will permit its residents to have access to through the ACM/EC.
- All proposed programs must be available via distance learning (technology-based). The EC requirement that 90% of the didactic hours leading to the degree be available to students via these strategies will be suspended to permit programs that offer at least 50% of the degree program in a distance mode.
- Proposed programs must be reviewed and certified against the Principles of Good Practice by the offering institution and state EC coordinator.
- Programs must be listed on the EC and meet all requirements prior to being considered for ACM/EC participation.
- Existing degree programs in the EC may be recommended by a state for inclusion in the ACM/EC.
- Institutions making available a program in the ACM/EC will commit to continuing the in-state benefit for the duration of the student's pursuit of the degree, regardless of whether a state or institution decides to withdraw access at a later date.
- Technology and other fees imposed by an institution for a degree program must apply to all students in the program, regardless of where they live.
- States may promulgate other rules for participation in the ACM/EC as needed to manage the initiative effectively.

- ACM and *EC* staff will work with state coordinators in both initiatives and with institutions to collect and share data about the number of certifications, enrollments, etc.