

January 2021

**GEORGIA NONPUBLIC
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION**



New Minimum Standards Criteria

The newly adopted Minimum Standards Criteria took effect early January 2021. Institutions are encouraged to submit the new Minimum Standards Criteria with their renewal applications, but the agency will be flexible during the first few months of 2021. Institutions with Certificate of Authorization expiration dates in the range of January 1, 2021 and March 31, 2021 may use the previous version (dated January 2019) or the new Criteria in the application submissions. However, all institutions seeking initial authorization as of January 1, 2021 or those renewing with expiration dates of April 1, 2021 or later will be required to maintain compliance with the new Minimum Standards Criteria. These Criteria will be in the EDvera application portal starting on January 1, 2021 and can also be found here on the GNPEC website: [Minimum Standards Criteria](#).

Annual GNPEC 2021 Institutional Survey

GNPEC is conducting its annual survey of authorized institutions, and your input is greatly appreciated. Please click the link below to complete this brief, anonymous nine (9)-question survey. Thank you for your participation!

[GNPEC 2021 INSTITUTIONAL SURVEY](#)

Report Unauthorized Institutions Operating in Georgia

GNPEC has launched a new service to improve the ease of reporting noncompliant institutions in Georgia. If you believe a school is operating without approval, please check the [Directory of Institutions](#) to see if the institution is either "authorized" or "complete" (exempted from authorization). If you do not see the school in the directory, please complete the [Report Unauthorized Institutions Operating in Georgia](#) form on the GNPEC website.

Reminder of the Requirement of Georgia Secretary of State (SOS) Documentation

For any nonpublic initial and renewal applicant that enrolls Georgia students in postsecondary education, both the institution's most recently filed *Georgia Secretary of State issued Certificate of Authority* and the *Annual Registration* are required to be uploaded in tab 1 of the Initial Authorization and Renewal of Authorization applications under the "Ownership" Section. To check your institution's filing history or obtain documentation, visit the [Georgia Corporations Division \(ga.gov\)](#).

Online Modality Shift

Please be advised that GNPEC has extended the deadline for online modality shift approval to the date that the federally declared emergency ends, which will align with the deadline set by the United States Department of Education (ED) to allow for continued online delivery of programs previously only approved by GNPEC for in-person instruction.

If you choose to continue to offer online instruction, no action needs to be taken at this time though should you desire permanent approval of the shift from on-ground to online programming, a Program Change Application and Program Evaluation Fee is required. Once an extended deadline has been determined by the ED, the agency will reassess the circumstances and notify all institutions of its decision regarding the deadline and what actions must be then taken.