



July 2024

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

NEWSLETTER

Important Notices

Payment Portal Update:

Access to the online payment portal outside of business hours has been restored. However, the ACH/Check is no longer functioning in the online system until further notice. The credit card payment option is the only function available at this time.

We apologize for any inconvenience, but be sure to plan accordingly as to not accrue late fees.

Upcoming Changes in EDvera

Program Application Updates:

GNPEC is creating separate New Program Applications and Program Change Applications for unaccredited and accredited institutions. For unaccredited institutions, new program applications will be limited to a single modality for the delivery of instruction. For each program application submitted, the Program Evaluation Fee will be required as each modality requires a separate review process. These new applications will be live in September. However, this update will only impact currently authorized programs if the institution seeks to change or update its approved programming. Non-substantive changes will not require a fee payment, but substantive changes will require the payment of the Program Evaluation Fee.

Reminders for Renewals

Institution Complaint Policy Procedure:

The complaint procedure must include the following steps for filing a complaint:

- Submission requirements;
- Institutional review process, including response times; and
- Notification of right to appeal final institutional decision to GNPEC. This must include GNPEC's contact information, including agency name, phone number, and website link for the complaint form.

Upcoming Events

August 8 at 10:00 AM Renewal Applicant Training Meeting
August 26 at 1:00 PM Quarterly Commission Meeting

Click on each event for more information.

Minimum Standard of the Month

The complaint procedure must be provided as part of the catalog and enrollment agreement.

If the institution has a website, the current catalog, with the complaint procedure, must be posted.

For institutions with physical facilities for students, the complaint procedure must be posted prominently in a public place where students congregate (i.e., student break room).

Please see Minimum Standard 14 for specific information about the Complaint Policy regulation.

Please see Minimum Standard 4 for specific information about Enrollment Agreement and Catalog regulations.

The Minimum Standards provide specific criteria for compliance with the standards set forth in Georgia law. These standards are applied equally to all institutions authorized by GNPEC or seeking to get authorized by GNPEC.

Minimum Standard 2, specifically, is where you can locate guidance on facilities and equipment. Institutions are required to have physical facilities (or online platforms) that are sufficient for the type of programs they are providing to students. This also applies to equipment and learning resources relevant to instruction. Please reach out to your Regulatory Specialist with any questions about this Minimum Standard.

Standard 2: Facilities and Equipment

Statutory Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 20-3-250.5(b)(2); 20-3-250.6(a)(2)

1. Adequate facilities and equipment must be available for instruction and education of good quality.
 - These should be based on programmatic content, number of students, instructional modality, and equipment needs.
 - Online programming, if offered, must be delivered through an adequate platform with sufficient technical support.
2. Adequate facilities must be available for supporting instruction, including administration, storage, instructional modality, and student resources.
3. Adequate and up to date equipment and materials must be available to support program content, number of students, and instructional modality.
4. The equipment, buildings, and grounds must meet all applicable federal, state, and municipal codes.
5. The institution's learning resource system (library) must include materials commensurate with the level of education provided and appropriate to the courses of study in sufficient quantity and scope to meet the educational objectives of each program. This may include resources such as the following:
 - relevant and current texts and periodicals;
 - research journals and databases;
 - standard works of reference;
 - multi-media and/or electronic resources;
 - electronic library resource technologies; and/or
 - other resource materials necessary to adequately serve students.