

May 2021

**GEORGIA NONPUBLIC
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION**



New Minimum Standards Criteria

The newly adopted Minimum Standards Criteria took effect January 1, 2021. Now, all renewing institutions are required to maintain compliance with the new *Minimum Standards Criteria*. These Criteria are in the EDvera application portal and can also be found here on the GNPEC website: [Minimum Standards Criteria](#).

Annual GNPEC Customer Service Satisfaction Survey

We would like to extend thanks to the many institutional representatives that participated in the annual GNPEC Customer Service Satisfaction Survey. Your feedback is very helpful as we review what changes can most benefit our institutions and the students they serve.

Reduced Application Requirements

There has been a reduction in the number of required exhibits in both the Initial and Renewal of Authorization applications. The change will be reflected in all applications started as of February 26, 2021.

Staff Changes

Alyssa Yuhouse left GNPEC to pursue a new opportunity with the University of Georgia. We wish Alyssa the best of luck on her new endeavor.

We are pleased to welcome Hannah Morris as our newest contractor Regulatory Specialist. Hannah recently graduated from the University of Georgia with a Master of Public Administration. Hannah originally began as an intern with GNPEC and has enjoyed working alongside the staff and learning about the intricacies of the regulatory process. She hopes to continue to gain experience and knowledge as she steps into her new role as Regulatory Specialist. In her free time Hannah enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with her family. She will begin her training officially on May 24th and will assume Alyssa's institutional workload upon the conclusion of her training.

FY22 Legislative Changes

HB 152 was signed by Governor Kemp on May 6, 2021 and makes the following changes effective July 1, 2021:

1. Exempts from authorization institutions whose campuses are located on a military installation, even if members of the public attend said institutions.
2. Corrects an error caused by the 2015 update to O.C.G.A. § 20-3-250.3(a) concerning which schools were required to send audits to NPEC.
3. Allows the agency to conduct the annual site visit virtually for certain, qualifying institutions, as determined by the executive director. Prior to the effective date of July 1, 2021, Georgia code requires all site visits to be conducted in-person annually. GNPEC is currently in the process of revising the site visit procedures as a result of the legislative change and will make the applicable announcement in July.
4. Clarifies that if a bond is in force at the time of institutional closure, the surety will be required to remit the full-face value of the bond to NPEC. This language revision is necessary to ensure timely surrender of bonds at the time of precipitous closures.

Increases bond amounts for institutions earning over \$1 million in tuition annually to better mitigate the financial burdens for students involved in a potential closure. Increased bond amounts only apply to institutions that become initially authorized after July 1, 2021, or **any currently authorized institutions that change ownership after July 1, 2021.**

Clarifies the original intent of the law related to bond requirements in that the requirement renews following an ownership change of an authorized institution.

Reminders

Requirement of SOS Documentation

For any initial and renewal applicant that enrolls Georgia students, 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. Multiple attachments may be uploaded:

Submission Review Comments **0** Status: **Unsubmitted** History

1. Institution Information 2. Minimum Standards 3. Programs and Exhibits 4. Faculty & Staff 5. Agreements 6. Fees/Bonding/Financials

Ownership

1. How is the ownership of this institution structured?
 Sole Proprietorship Partnership S Corporation C Corporation Limited Liability Company Public Other

2. Upload both the institution's most recently filed Georgia Secretary of State issued Certificate of Authority and the Annual Registration below.
Legal Business Name

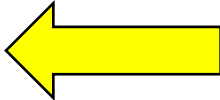
3. Indicate the legal tax status of your institution.
 For Profit Non Profit State

Owners

An Owner is an individual or entity with 10% or more ownership. Each Owner must be identified below.

Owner <input type="text"/>	Ownership % <input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="button" value="x"/>
Date Ownership Acquired <input type="text"/>		

1. Please upload any applicable supporting documentation (i.e. Purchasing Agreement)



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. 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.

Pay Fees Online

Institutions may pay fees online through the GNPEC website on the Schedule of Fees page. Avoid paying late fees- pay online instead!