



**Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
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**Brian P. Kemp
Governor**

**Kirk Shook
Executive Director**

To: All Parties on the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission's Policy Making Mailing List
All Interested Parties via Publication by the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

From: Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
2082 E. Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30084

Date: August 5, 2025

The Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (NPEC) is continuing to take steps to update its currently promulgated policies to ensure that they are accurate and current. NPEC will hold its Quarterly Commission meeting on Monday, August 18, 2025 at 1pm at the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission. At that meeting, the Commission intends to take the following steps.

The Commission will vote regarding amending the following policy:

Policy 14: Permitted Programming of Unaccredited Institutions

1. Any institution that offers any degree in Georgia (including but not limited to associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees) must be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor.
 - a. An institution in candidate status or equivalent status with an accreditor recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor may offer degrees while showing substantial progress toward becoming fully institutionally accredited, in the sole determination of the Executive Director.
2. For any unaccredited institution authorized to offer a graduate-level degree in Georgia or which has submitted a materially complete application for authorization, as determined by the Commission in its sole discretion, to offer a graduate-level degree in Georgia prior to July 1, 2020, that institution will have until July 1, 2023

to obtain accreditation with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor or be a candidate for accreditation status with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor and, in the sole determination of GNPEC, showing substantial progress toward becoming fully institutionally accredited by July 1, 2024. In the event that such an institution subject to the above deadline to obtain candidacy status by July 1, 2023 was delayed in enrolling students as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission will extend the deadline for the institution to obtain candidacy status to July 1, 2025, showing substantial progress toward becoming fully institutionally accredited by July 1, 2026. To receive such an extension, the institution must apply in writing to the Executive Director on or before June 15, 2023. A plan for compliance shall be included with the written extension request for the commission to monitor the status of the timeline. The Executive Director may deny, in whole or in part, the plan for compliance or require changes prior to approving the extension.

3. For any unaccredited institution authorized to offer a degree in Georgia prior to August 29, 2022, that institution will have until July 1, 2025 to obtain accreditation with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor or be a candidate for accreditation status with an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor and, in the sole determination of GNPEC, showing substantial progress toward becoming fully institutionally accredited by July 1, 2026.
4. An accredited institution will not be permitted to offer any degree program that is not directly included as part of its institutional accreditation or other programmatic accreditation recognized by the United States Department of Education or its successor.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Kirk Shook, Executive Director, Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, 2082 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia 30084- 5305, info@gnpec.ga.gov. All written comments must be received by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 18, 2025. Interested persons may also participate in the proposed policy making by presenting comments orally at a public hearing to commence at 1:00 p.m. on August 18, 2025 at the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission at the Quarterly Commission Meeting.

Oral presentations at the hearing may be limited to five (5) minutes per person in order to afford all interested persons an opportunity to be heard. If you have a physical impairment and require assistance or have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission.

Based upon full consideration of all written and oral comments regarding the above matters, the Commission may reject or adopt the proposed policies or may make changes to the proposed policies.

The Commission intends to consider these matters at a Quarterly Commission Meeting at 1:00 p.m. on August 18, 2025 at the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission.

Direct all written correspondence to:

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