Program Integrity Regulations - State Authorization

By: American Leadership Group, LLC

The new Department of Education regulations (program integrity) require institutions offering distance education courses to be authorized in each state where there are students receiving Title IV funds. On October 29, 2010, the Department of Education published final regulations in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 66832) regarding program integrity. The *Federal Register***,** Vol. 75, No. 209 is available online, http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/attachments/110110ProgramIntegritydated102910.pdf. A "Dear Colleague" letter (DCL ID: GEN-11-11) was published on April 20, 2011, that provides additional clarification on the program integrity regulations. The letter is available online, http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/GEN1111.html.

The deadline for complying with the program integrity regulations has been extended to July 1, 2014. However, the letter specifically states that institution must work towards: "making good faith efforts to identify and obtain necessary State authorizations before that date." "Good faith efforts" are defined as:

- *Documentation that an institution is developing a distance education management process for tracking students' place of residence when engaged in distance education.*
- *Documentation that an institution has contacted a State directly to discuss programs the institution is providing to students in that State to determine whether authorization is needed.*
- *An application to a State, even if it is not yet approved.*
- *Documentation from a State that an application is pending.*

If your institution would like assistance complying with the program integrity regulations please contact American Leadership Group, LLC (ALG) at info@americanleadershipgroup.net. To learn more about ALG visit their website, www.americanleadershipgroup.net.