

CERTIFICATION RESOURCES

CERTIFICATION INFORMATION FOR CONNECTICUT EDUCATORS



ACCREDITATION 101

In order to meet Connecticut certification requirements, all required coursework must result in credit awarded on the official transcript of a **regionally accredited** college or university. What does this mean?

There are many accrediting agencies in the United States. These agencies develop criteria for evaluating postsecondary institutions to ensure they meet basic quality standards. But there are many types of accreditation. For coursework or degrees to meet Connecticut requirements, accreditation by one of six important regional accrediting agencies (see box) is required pursuant to Connecticut statute. It is important to note that accreditation by national and/or state level accrediting bodies accepted by the US Department of Education is not sufficient and cannot be accepted to meet Connecticut certification requirements. Information about a school's accreditation is usually found in the school catalog.

Several online resources can help you determine whether a school is appropriately accredited.

- **The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)** maintains a searchable database of institutions accessible to the public at www.chea.org. Entering the name of a school delivers a list of all bodies accrediting the institution. You must then check that list to be sure the appropriate regional agency is listed.
- **College Source Online** maintains a similar online database at www.collegesource.org. Once you have located the institution, click on the profile icon. This database includes a separate category for regional accreditation, making it easy to determine if the school holds appropriate accreditation.

If you have questions about the appropriateness of coursework to obtain or advance a Connecticut certificate or earn an additional endorsement, please contact us at teacher.cert@ct.gov.

U.S. REGIONAL ACCREDITING AGENCIES

Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, PA, PR, US
Virgin Islands
www.msche.org

New England Association of Schools and Colleges

CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
www.neasc.org

Higher Learning Commission

AZ, AR, CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, MI,
MN, MO, NE, NM, ND, OH,
OK, SD, WV, WI, WY
www.hlcommission.org

Northwest Commission

on Colleges and Universities
AK, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA
www.nwccu.org

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC,
TN, TX, VA
www.sacs.org

Western Association

of Schools and Colleges CA,
HI, Guam, Samoa, Palau,
Micronesia, Mariana and
Marshall Islands

www.acswasc.org

