

88-28-2. Minimum requirements. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), in order to qualify for a certificate of approval, each applicant institution shall be required to meet the criteria listed in K.S.A. 74-32,169 and amendments thereto. An owner of each applicant institution or the owner's designee shall submit evidence that the institution meets the following minimum requirements:

(1) The physical space shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Be free from hazards and be properly maintained;

(B) provide learning environments appropriate for each curriculum in size, seating, lighting, equipment, and resources;

(C) be either owned by the institution or accessed through a long-term lease or other means of access that indicates institutional stability; and

(D) if the physical space includes student housing owned, maintained, or approved by the institution, meet all local standards for public health and safety.

(2) The owner or the owner's designee has received all required inspections and written reports from the local fire department and other agencies responsible for ensuring public health and safety for the current year and the previous year, which shall be maintained on-site, and with one copy shall be sent to the state board annually.

(3) The administrative personnel of the institution shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Be adequate in number to support the programs offered; and

(B) be adequately prepared for operating an institution through training, experience, credentialing, or any combination of these.

(4) The executive and academic leadership of the institution shall have qualifications that reasonably ensure that the purpose and policies of the institution are effectively maintained. The administrative responsibilities and concomitant authority of the executive and academic leadership shall be clearly specified in the institution's files.

(5) All ~~permanent educational records and~~ academic, enrollment, and financial records of the students shall be securely maintained and protected from theft, fire, and other possible loss. These records shall be kept in an accessible format for 50 years from each student's last date of attendance.

(6) All records describing the personnel related to and the development of the following operations shall be maintained for at least three years:

- (A) The administration;
- (B) the curricula;
- (C) student guidance;
- (D) instructional supplies and equipment;
- (E) the library;
- (F) the institution's physical plant;
- (G) the staff; and
- (H) student activities.

(7) The owner of the institution or the owner's designee shall submit to the state board the most recent financial statements for the institution operating in Kansas and for any parent or holding companies related to that institution. The financial statements provided to the state board shall meet at least one of the following requirements for the

most recent fiscal or calendar year or for the two most recent fiscal or calendar years combined:

(A) Demonstrate a minimum ratio of current assets to current liabilities of at least 1:1. This asset ratio shall be calculated by adding the cash and cash equivalents to the current accounts receivable and dividing the sum by the total current liabilities;

(B) exhibit a positive net worth in which the total assets exceed the total liabilities; or

(C) demonstrate a profit earned.

(8) If the institution receives any loans on behalf of a student from a private lender, the institution shall meet all of the following provisions and requirements:

(A) The loan funds may be applied to tuition, fees, or living expenses, or any combination, for a student.

(B) The institution shall not accept all loan funds up front. The funds received shall arrive in multiple disbursements, with the first arriving after the first day of classes and the second arriving at least halfway through the enrollment period. The disbursements shall be at least 90 days apart.

(C) All refunds shall be made to the bank rather than to the borrower.

(D) Upon receipt of loan funds for items to be provided by the institution to the student, the institution shall provide these items to the student, with the exception of test vouchers.

(E) The institution shall not receive any loan funds for a student before the student first attends any course or accepts any on-line materials.

(F) If providing a test voucher for a student, the institution shall not receive any loan funds for the test voucher more than 30 days before the student is scheduled to take the test.

(9) Each institution shall have a tuition refund policy and a student enrollment cancellation policy, called the “refund policy” in these regulations, that meets the following requirements:

(A) Is published in the institution’s catalog;

(B) complies with K.S.A. 74-32,169 and amendments thereto;

(C) establishes that each student will be reimbursed for any items for which the student was charged but did not receive, including textbooks and software;

(D) has no more stringent requirements than the following:

(i) All advance monies, other than an initial, nonrefundable registration fee, paid by the student before attending class shall be refunded if the student requests a refund, in writing, within three days after signing an enrollment agreement and making an initial payment; ~~and~~

(ii) for institutions collecting a nonrefundable initial application or registration fee, the student shall be required to sign a written statement acknowledging that the initial application or registration fee is nonrefundable. This statement may be a part of the enrollment ~~agreement documents~~, as described in K.A.R. 88-28-7; ~~and~~

~~(E) for institutions not participating in federal student aid under title IV of the higher education act of 1965, as amended, meets the following additional requirements:~~

~~(i) If a student withdraws during the first week after entering an institution, the institution shall refund at least 90 percent of the tuition;~~

~~(ii) if a student withdraws during the first 25 percent of the enrollment period but following the first week after the student's entering an institution, the institution shall refund at least 55 percent of the tuition;~~

~~(iii) if a student withdraws during the second 25 percent of the enrollment period, the institution shall refund at least 30 percent of the tuition;~~

~~(iv) if a student withdraws during the last 50 percent of the enrollment period, the institution may deny a refund to the student;~~

(iii) each student who has completed 25 percent or less of a course and withdraws shall be eligible for a pro rata refund. The completion percentage shall be based on the total number of calendar days in the course and the total number of calendar days completed. After a student has attended at least 25 percent of the course, tuition and fees shall not be refundable;

~~(v) (iv) any all monies due to a student shall be refunded within 60 days from the last day of attendance or within 60 days from the receipt of payment if the date of receipt of payment is after the student's last date of attendance; and~~

~~(vi) (v) for institutions with programs consisting of fewer than 100 clock-hours, refunds may be calculated on an hourly, pro rata basis; and~~

~~(vii) in determining the official termination date and percentage of each course completed, the institution may consider the week during which the student last attended to be an entire week of attendance completed.~~

(10) All correspondence from the institution regarding the enrollment cancellation of a student, and any refund owed to the student, shall reference the refund policy of the institution.

(11) The required catalog of the institution's operation and services published electronically or in print, or both, shall include the following items:

- (A) A table of contents;
- (B) a date of publication;
- (C) a list of any approvals, including contact information for the state board, and accreditations, including contact information, affiliations, and memberships that the institution has obtained;
- (D) any requirements that students must meet to be admitted;
- (E) an academic calendar or a reference to a published calendar used by the institution;
- (F) the name and nature of each occupation for which training is given;
- (G) the curricula offered, including the number of clock-hours or credit hours for each course in each curriculum;
- (H) a description of the physical space and the educational equipment available;
- (I) the tuition and fees charged;
- (J) a description of the system used to measure student progress;
- (K) the graduation requirements or completion requirements, or both;
- (L) the institutional mission;
- (M) identification of the owner of the institution;
- (N) a list of the instructors teaching in Kansas, including their degrees held and the institutions from which their degrees were received;
- (O) the institutional rules;

(P) the institution's policies for tuition refund and student enrollment cancellation, as described in paragraph (a)(9);

(Q) the extent to which career services are available; and

(R) the institution's policies for transfers of clock-hours or credit hours and for advanced-standing examinations.

(12) The enrollment ~~agreement~~ documents shall meet the requirements of K.A.R. 88-28-7.

(13) All advertising and promotional materials shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Include the correct name of the institution that is approved by the state board;

(B) be truthful and not misleading by actual statement or omission;

(C) not be located in the employment or "help wanted" classified ads;

(D) not quote salaries for an occupation in the institution's advertising or promotional literature without including the documented median starting wage of a majority of the institution's graduates who graduated within the most recent calendar year;

(E) make no offers of institutional scholarships or partial institutional scholarships, unless the scholarships are bona fide reductions in tuition and are issued under specific, published criteria;

(F) use the word "accredited" only if the accrediting agency is one recognized by the United States department of education;

(G) not make any overt or implied claim of guaranteed employment during training or upon completion of training, in any manner; and

(H) not use letters of endorsement, recommendation, or commendation in the institution's advertising and promotional materials, unless the letters meet the following requirements:

(i) The institution received the prior, written consent of the authors;

(ii) the institution did not provide remuneration in any manner for the endorsements; and

(iii) the institution keeps all letters of endorsement, recommendation, or commendation on file, subject to inspection, for at least three years after the last use of the contents in advertising or promotional materials.

(14) Each curriculum shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Be directly related to the institution's published mission;

(B) evidence a well-organized sequence of appropriate subjects leading to occupational or professional competence;

(C) reasonably and adequately ensure achievement of the stated objectives for which the curriculum is offered;

(D) if the curriculum prepares students for licensure, be consistent with the educational requirements for licensure; and

(E) if courses are delivered by distance education, meet the same standards as those for courses conducted on-site.

(15) The published policies for measuring student progress shall be followed.

(16) All instructional materials shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Reflect current occupational knowledge and practice applicable to the field of study and meet national standards if the standards exist;

(B) be sufficiently comprehensive to meet the learning objectives stated in the institution's published catalog;

(C) include suitable teaching devices and supplemental instructional aids appropriate to the subject matter; and

(D) be applicable to the curricula and the students.

(17) All instructional equipment shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Be current and maintained in good repair; and

(B) be used by students according to written policies for safe usage.

(18) Each faculty member shall be qualified to teach in the field or fields to which the member is assigned. Faculty responsibilities may be defined in terms of the number of hours taught, course development and research required, level of instruction, and administrative, committee, and counseling assignments.

(19) Each faculty member's minimum academic credential shall be at least one degree-level above the degree being taught, unless other credentials are typically used in lieu of the academic degree in a particular field of study. In those cases, qualifications may be measured by technical certifications, relevant professional experience, professional certifications, creative activity, training, or licensure, or any combination of these. The institution shall provide documentation that all faculty appointments meet these standards.

(20) The instructors in all programs shall maintain continuous professional experience through one or more of the following activities:

(A) Maintain membership in and participate in educational, business, technical, or professional organizations;

(B) continue their education in their professional fields; or

(C) have concurrent, related work experience.

(21) In-service training that is consistent with the institution's mission shall be provided for the improvement of both the instructors and the curricula.

(22) All students shall be given the appropriate educational credentials upon completion of the program that indicate satisfactory completion.

(23) Each certificate, diploma, or degree shall include the following information, at a minimum:

(A) The name of the graduate;

(B) the name of the program completed;

(C) the name of the institution issuing the credential; and

(D) the date on which the graduate completed the program.

(b) In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (a), an owner of the applicant institution for which degree-granting authority is sought, or the owner's designee, shall also submit evidence that the institution meets the following minimum requirements:

(1) Each degree program for which degree-granting authority is sought shall meet the criteria specified in the definition of that degree in K.A.R. 88-28-1.

(2) The library holdings maintained in a physical library or on-line, or in a combination of a physical library and on-line, shall be appropriate to each degree awarded. All of the following requirements shall be met:

(A) A professionally trained librarian shall maintain the holdings.

(B) An annual budget shall be established to maintain and improve the holdings, including the appropriate classification and inventory of the holdings.

(C) Physical holdings, on-line holdings, or a combination of these holdings shall be made available at times when students are not in class, including weekend and evening hours.

(D) The library holdings shall be up-to-date and shall include full-text titles appropriate to the degrees offered.

(E) The faculty shall be given an opportunity to participate in the acquisition of library holdings, whether physical or on-line.

(F) If the institution uses interlibrary agreements, the agreements shall be well documented, and access to other libraries' collections shall be practical for students.

(3) Each institution's governing structure shall clearly delineate the responsibility for all legal aspects of operations, the formulation of policy, the selection of the chief executive officer, and the method of succession. If the institution is governed by a board or group of officers, the following aspects of the board or group shall be clearly defined:

(A) The membership;

(B) the manner of appointment;

(C) the terms of office; and

(D) all matters related to the duties, responsibilities, and procedures of that body.

(4) The financial statements for the institution shall be audited by a CPA.

(c) If an institution has accreditation issued by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United States department of education, that accreditation may be accepted by the state board as presumptive evidence that the institution meets the

minimum requirements specified in this regulation. However, each degree program for which degree-granting authority is sought shall meet the criteria specified in the definition of that degree in K.A.R. 88-28-1. (Authorized by K.S.A. ~~2005~~ 2016 Supp. 74-32,165; implementing K.S.A. ~~2005~~ 2016 Supp. 74-32,165, 74-32,168 and 74-32,169; effective Oct. 20, 2006; amended P- _____.)