

Distance Education

Higher education institutions are increasingly crossing state and international borders via distance education. Distance education initiatives implicate a range of regulatory obligations, including accreditation, state authorization, and federal student financial aid administration. Contracts with service providers require commercial and regulatory terms. We help clients navigate the legal and regulatory framework pertinent to distance education in order to achieve their related goals.

We advise clients concerning compliance with federal and state laws and accreditation standards relating to distance education. We work with relevant government agencies and accreditors to obtain necessary guidance and timely education regulatory and other approvals. We negotiate agreements with third-party "enablers" to assist institutions in launching and delivering distance education programs.

Representative experience

Assisting a technology-oriented college to structure an innovative collaboration with a for-profit company to offer online education programs.

Advising colleges and universities concerning compliance with education regulatory requirements, such the U.S. DoE's incentive payment rule, state authorization, and access for disabled students, in contracts with distance education service providers.

Advising colleges and universities concerning compliance with

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Practices

Education

Industries

Education

state education licensure requirements in other states,
including through state authorization reciprocity agreements.

Representing a higher education institution in a False Claims
Act lawsuit against it and its distance education service
provider for violation of the U.S. DoE's incentive payment rule.