

**Guam Community College
Board of Trustees**

Distance Education Policy

WHEREAS, distance education (hereinafter referred to as DE) refers to the practice of offering educational services – either instruction or support services – to students who are not physically co-located with the individuals providing the service. DE includes the use of computer and Internet-based educational services as well as video and audio services. Institutions use Internet technologies to bring students educational programming in either synchronous (students and the service provider are interacting on line at the same time) or asynchronous modes (students and the service provider not interacting on line at the same time). Educational interactions delivered through these means may occur on campus as well as off campus, and

WHEREAS, DE can be a convenient, flexible, and effective means of providing education. Nearly half of all the college students in the country are of the age group once thought of as nontraditional. They are working adults or adults seeking first educational credentials or retraining. Many working adult students with multiple demands on their time find DE to meet their needs better than campus-based education, and

WHEREAS, DE is also an opportunity for the College and the students to contribute to environmentally friendly practices. Courses that run through DE reduce the use of paper and copying, as resources are available digitally. In addition, students commute to campus less frequently than traditional courses, lessening the use of gas and related emissions into the environment, and

WHEREAS, in addition to working adults, the traditional-aged college students come to campus with extensive experience using digital technologies in their personal and school lives. For these students, DE that involves the use of Internet, web casts, text messaging, and other digital media is comfortable and familiar. As technology continues to expand world-wide, participation in DE assists students in preparing for the workforce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this document serves as a policy for the College to support the policy on distance education and correspondence education of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) (Revised January 2010).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a manual will be developed based on this policy. The manual will include specific forms, and other detailed processes that are necessary to ensure the policy is implemented.

Adopted: July 7, 2010

Resolution No: 7-2010