Petition for Comprehensive Distance Education Approval
for consideration by the ATS/COA Board of Commissioners

All fields marked with * are required and must be filled.

Commission-accredited schools must petition for comprehensive distance education approval whenever the number of online* courses they plan to offer could constitute at least half the credits required for any approved degree (per Policies and Procedures IV.F.1).

This approval is needed only once, after which it applies to all approved degrees the school may wish to offer online—partially or totally.^ Schools with comprehensive distance education approval under the pre-2020 Standards do NOT need to seek this approval again. Schools offering online courses that constitute less than half a degree do not need this approval. In completing this form, please include links to additional documentation as requested or as deemed helpful. Your Commission staff liaison will contact you if there are any questions regarding this petition.

*Hybrid courses that have both onsite and online components are considered to be online courses only if at least half of the instruction occurs online, i.e., where the instructor and students are not in the same physical location (per Policies and Procedures IV.F).

^Standard 5.15 also requires a petition for an experiment to offer more than half the coursework for the PhD online, unless already approved to do so. Schools with any questions should consult their Commission staff liaison.

i. Name of school: *

Click to select from menu

ii. Contact information for person submitting this form: *

Prefix    First Name (MI)    Last Name    Suffix
iii. Title: *

Position title of person submitting this form

iv. Email: *

A copy of your form will be sent to this address

1. Have you offered any online courses prior to this petition? *
   
   ○ No**
   ○ Yes^^

   **If NO, proceed to Prompt #2

   ^^If YES ("online courses prior"), indicate approximately how many courses this year and how many years total (1a-1b):

1a. Number of courses this year: ex: 8

   (i.e., unique courses offered online within the past 12 months)

1b. Number of years total: ex: 16

2. Describe how your current and planned online offerings are appropriate to your school's MISSION and CAPACITIES, per Standard 3.6(a): *

   Include links to any helpful documents (e.g., budgets for technology personnel and resources)

3. Describe what online products or tools you have been using and/or plan to use, and whether your online offerings are (or will be) delivered synchronously or asynchronously or both: *
4. Describe how your online offerings (will) address academic rigor and, as applicable, spiritual and vocational formation (per Standards 3.1-2): *

Include links to at least TWO online course syllabi

5. Describe how your online offerings (will) demonstrate sound pedagogy and a collaborative approach to student learning and formation (per Standards 3.6-7): *

6. Describe how instructors and students (will) have appropriate training and resources, including library and student services support (per Standard 3.8): *
7. Describe how you (will) ensure "regular and substantive interaction between qualified instructors and students and among students" (per Standard 3.9): *

8. Describe how you (will) verify the identity and protect the privacy of online students, notify them in advance of any added costs for online courses, and ensure compliance with any required state authorizations for students enrolled out of state: *

See Policies and Procedures IV.F.3

9. Describe briefly how you (will) evaluate your online offerings (per Standards 2.5-7): *
All fields marked with * are required and must be filled.

When finished, please submit this petition to the ATS Director of Commission Information Services by hitting the "submit" button below. You can expect an automated confirmation email within a few minutes. There is no fee for this (or any) Commission petition. Please do not send any paper copies or any emailed attachments; submit only this completed, online form (including any links to additional information requested).

NOTE: Petitions for comprehensive distance education approval are typically decided by the Board of Commissioners within a few months (see submission deadlines on ATS petitions and notifications webpage).

ATS Commission Staff Liaison Email *

CEO Email (optional)

CAO Email (optional)

ALO Email (optional)
PDF attachment (optional)

Choose File No file chosen
If submitting multiple documents, consolidate these as one (bookmarked) PDF file

Additional comments

Submit