



Policy on Commission and Institution Responsibilities under Title IV of the Higher Education ~~Opportunity~~ Act

The New England Commission of Higher Education expects that all affiliated institutions function in compliance with their responsibilities under Title IV of the Higher Education Act.

The Commission reviews student loan default rates, loan repayment rates, the results of financial or compliance audits, program reviews, and any other information that the [U.S. Secretary of Education](#) may provide. The Commission may ask the institution to respond to any findings or requirements imposed by the Secretary on the institution's award of federal financial aid.

Affiliated institutions must periodically affirm to the Commission that they comply with accreditation-related federal requirements under the Higher Education Act.

Because failure to comply with Title IV responsibilities may indicate impaired administrative capability and raise questions about the institution's quality of education and/or ability to meet the *Standards for Accreditation*, the Commission will take appropriate action to review such circumstances under its policies and procedures.

Also, as required by federal regulation, the Commission will [respond to requests from the Secretary of Education for information that may bear upon an accredited or candidate institution's compliance with its Title IV HEA program responsibilities, including the eligibility of the institution to participate in Title IV HEA programs](#). The Commission will also notify the Secretary of the name of an institution or program that it has reason to believe is failing to meet its Title IV HEA program responsibilities or is engaged in fraud or abuse, along with the Commission's reasons for these concerns. [Except in cases when the matter warrants a confidential report to the Secretary of Education, the Commission shall notify the institution if its name is submitted to the Secretary of Education under this provision](#).¹

¹ [Federal regulations require a case-by-case review of the circumstances surrounding the Commission's contact with the U.S. Secretary of Education and the need for confidentiality of that contact. If it is determined it is necessary to hold the contact confidential, then the institution will not be notified of the report made. Also, if the U.S. Department of Education requests a report remain confidential, then there will be no notification to the institution.](#)

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