

Recent DE-Related Regulatory Changes

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A few key changes in the distance education environment will require changes in faculty and institutional practice. These changes are summarized immediately below and excerpted at the bottom of the document. Links to original sources are provided.

1. A new federal definition of distance education in the [Code of Federal Regulations § 600.2](#) defines distance education instruction to be exclusive of non-instructional, in-person elements such as assessments, orientation, and academic support services.
2. In [California's Title 5 § 55005](#), it now specifies that we must communicate to students before enrolling in courses details about each course section taught in the [DE modality](#):
 - (1) **Synchronous elements**
 - (2) **In-person elements**
 - (3) **Technology needed**
 - (4) **Proctoring use**
3. The CCCCO will be adding a [new data element to MIS reporting](#) starting Summer 2027, requiring session-level data to indicate and clarify what type of DE-related activity is occurring in that session. The Los Rios District currently uses section-level reporting. This shift to session-level reporting (i.e. one code for each “session” of a course section vs. one code for the whole section) will require additional information to be provided in the scheduling process.

Code of Federal Regulations § 600.2

Distance education course: A course in which instruction takes place exclusively as described in the definition of *distance education* in this section notwithstanding in-person

non-instructional requirements, including orientation, testing, and academic support services.

California Ed Code

Title 5 § 55005

Publication of Course Standards

For each course offered, a community college shall make available to students through college publications all of the following facts before they enroll in the course:

- (a) Whether the course is designated as a degree-applicable credit course, a nondegree-applicable credit course, a noncredit course, or a community services offering.
- (b) Whether the course is transferable to baccalaureate institutions.
- (c) Whether the course fulfills a major/area of emphasis or general education requirement.
- (d) Whether the course is offered on the "pass-no pass" basis.
- (e) Whether the course is offered in a distance education format, and if so, include the following information:
 - (1) All online and in-person synchronous meeting days/dates and times;
 - (2) Any required asynchronous in-person activities;
 - (3) Any required technology platforms, devices and applications;
 - (4) Any test or assessment proctoring requirements.

CCCCO Online Teaching and Learning Workplan

Redesign of XF01 (MIS Instructional Method Element) —The existing XF01 element currently conflates instructional method (e.g., lecture/lab) with instructional modality (e.g., in-person, online, hybrid). A new structure will separate these concepts, creating granular codes that distinguish between:

- Fully in-person instruction
- Fully distance education (synchronous, asynchronous, or mixed)
- Hybrid courses with defined combinations of online and in-person interaction

- HyFlex models, which offer simultaneous in-person and remote attendance options